

Strategic Assessment & Partnership Plan

Headline: These two documents are a statutory requirement under the Police & Justice Act 2006. Based on the evidence from Lincolnshire County Council, and consultation, the 2008-11 priorities are anti-social behaviour, drugs & alcohol, violent crime, prolific & priority offenders and business crime.

What's the East Lindsey Community Safety Partnership?

A Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a virtual partnership. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 made it a legal obligation for local partners to work together reducing crime and disorder.

Who's involved?

The statutory partners who are required to be involved by law are East Lindsey District Council (ELDC), Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), Lincolnshire Constabulary, Lincolnshire Police Authority, Lincolnshire Primary Care Trust and Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue Service.

In addition, a large number of other local organisations are involved, such as Connexions, and the probation service. These organisations provide expert advice and project support.

Why Strategic Assessments?

The need for a more sophisticated strategy was highlighted internally as part of a Corporate Improvement Project following the poor result from the Audit Commission's Community Safety Inspection in 2005.

However, this was taken over by a change in law. All CSPs originally produced three-year strategies but The Police and Justice Act 2006 replaced them with Strategic Assessments and Partnership Plans. This is the first year this duty has been in place, and the primary responsibility for writing them falls to ELDC and LCC, again as a legal obligation.

What is a Strategic Assessment, or a Partnership Plan?

A Strategic Assessment reviews the success of the CSP to date. It also contains an analysis of local crime and disorder patterns. This evidence was put together by LCC for each district so that all district councils are working to evidence from the same source.

It is on this evidence, and on partner and public consultation that priorities were chosen. Due to the size of the document and its sensitive content, the Strategic Assessment will be kept confidentially between partners.

A Partnership Plan is the delivery plan, detailing how each priority will be tackled, including what targets have been set and how each target will be measured. It is a three-year document and will be revisited on a yearly basis to ensure its relevance. This is the shorter document that will be professionally designed and released to the public.

Executive Summary: Strategic Assessment

Based on the priorities set within the Community Safety Strategy 2005-08, there are areas in which targets were not completely met, these are:

- The British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Crimes reduction target of 20%. Currently, East Lindsey is likely to see a reduction in BCS offences of 10.8% at the end of 2007/08, compared to the 2003/04 baseline.
- Common Assault, Theft of Vehicle, Theft from Vehicle, Theft of Cycle and Criminal Damage are offences unlikely to achieve their 20% reduction target by 2007/8.

However, the following areas saw success:

- Wounding, Domestic Burglary and Theft from Person are offences estimated to achieve their 20% reduction targets by 2007/8.

In 2005 - 2008 East Lindsey Community Safety Partnership undertook a number of initiatives, for example...

- The launch of a district-wide 24-hour CCTV monitoring scheme on 10/07/06.
- The launch of ELDC's Neighbourhood Management in Mablethorpe, Trusthorpe and Sutton on Sea, and police neighbourhood beat teams.
- An increase of 28 Police Community Safety Officers (PCSO) from 6 in 2003 to 34 in 2007.
- The introduction of a district council Anti-Social Behaviour Officer.
- The launch of the Extreme Sports Centre in Skegness as a key diversionary and community facility.
- The introduction of Safe Zones throughout the district.

Based on the Strategic Assessment, the Community Safety Partnership is recommended to prioritise the following areas:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour** (including criminal damage & arson)
- **Drugs & Alcohol** (including young people & related hospital admissions)
- **Prolific & Priority Offenders** (there are 15 living within East Lindsey, based on a Police scoring system, and the Chair of the CSP is legally responsible for implementing the national PPO strategy)
- **Violent Crime** (including sexual violence, domestic abuse, wounding & common assault)
- **Business Crime** (including CCTV, ShopWatch and non-domestic burglary)

In addition to the five priority areas, there are two crossing cutting themes to be considered as high priority in all of the partnership's work, these are the seasonal nature of crime in East Lindsey, and fear of crime.

It is also recommended that the partnership implements a restructure, to ensure it is able to deliver on these priorities, including new thematic groups and the introduction of a robust performance management framework. The partnership must also commit to maintaining a visual presence in the district, and to communicate the projects and progress which it is contributing to.

The five priority areas were chosen to the reasons highlighted below:

Anti-Social Behaviour

- 19% of all anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Lincolnshire Police occurred in East Lindsey in 2006/07.
- Between 2004/5 and 2006/7 there has been an increase of 65.4% in the number of reported incidents, equal to 3014 more incidents.
- Criminal damage offences accounted for 24.9% of all recorded crime in East Lindsey in 2006/07.
- Anti-social behaviour is a key public concern, highlighted in all of our public consultation.

Drugs & Alcohol

- Drugs Offences accounted for 3.6% of all recorded crime in East Lindsey in 2006/07, however many acquisitive crimes are committed to fund the purchase of drugs.
- Between 2003/04 and 2006/07 drug offences have increased by 104.7% (equating to 202 more offences).
- Alcohol offences accounted for 7.1% of all recorded crime in East Lindsey in 2006/07.
- However, violence against the person, domestic abuse and sexual violence offences are often alcohol-related.
- Drugs and alcohol remain a key public concern.

Violent Crime

- Accounted for 19.9% of all recorded crime in East Lindsey in 2006/7.
- Since 2003/4 violence against the person offences have increased by 5.3% (equating to 108 more offences).
- The number of sexual violence offences reported in East Lindsey is a similar level to that of the City of Lincoln.
- Domestic abuse and sexual violence are both significantly under-reported crimes.

Prolific & Priority Offenders (PPOs)

- There are 15 living within East Lindsey, based on a Police scoring system, and the Chair of the CSP is legally responsible for implementing the national PPO strategy, therefore PPOs fall naturally under the remit of the Community Safety Partnership.

Business Crime

- Local businesses have traditionally been under-engaged with the Community Safety Partnership to date.
- The implementation of district-wide CCTV has particularly highlighted the potential to work much more closely with local businesses in reducing crime and disorder.
- Business Crime is largely under-reported, so the aim of this priority area will be more of an investigation, to find the true picture of business crime.

These priorities have been put out to consultation with a wide range of partners and no challenge has been made.