

Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

Plan 2017 – 2019



Vision

Everyone has the right to be free from being a victim of crime and anti social behaviour, to feel safe and to choose their own lifestyle.

Everyone also has the responsibility to take reasonable steps to avoid becoming a victim of crime, not to cause harassment or distress to others and to respect differences in others.



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Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act 1988 places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare a Community Safety Plan. The plan is updated annually and sets out how the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) will deliver locally within the available resources.

This plan will cover the two year period from 2017-2019 and will be refreshed annually to reflect any changes complemented by regular monitoring of partnership activity and detailed analysis that explores key and emerging problems. This process helps the CSP direct its resources so they remain focussed on the main priorities, adapt to new issues and are delivered in a manner that gets to the root causes of crime and anti social behaviour (ASB).

The Bracknell Forest Council Plan for 2015 - 2019 contains six strategic themes. One of these is 'strong, safe, supportive and self-reliant communities. In order to keep Bracknell Forest safe, with some of the lowest recorded crime in Berkshire and the Thames Valley, the council maintains a Community Safety Team to work closely with the Police, other partners and the community. The council also hosts the CSP which includes the Council, Police, Health, Fire Service, Probation, businesses and voluntary sector. The plan produced by the CSP has supported continual reduction in overall levels of crime over the last 10 years.

We have conducted a detailed analysis of crime and ASB to determine our focus for this year.

This plan follows several years of sustained crime reduction within Bracknell Forest and an increase in the feeling of safety within the community. However the partnership is not complacent and will continue to strive to find new and innovative ways to tackle crime and ASB within the borough.

The Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan for the Thames Valley. Each Thames Valley CSP is required to consider this plan when compiling their Community Safety Plan. The 2017 - 2021 PCC Plan contains strategic priorities which include vulnerabilities – managing demand, prevention and early intervention, reducing re-offending, serious and organised crime and terrorism. The priorities in the Bracknell Forest CSP Plan will complement those of the PCC Plan.

In the first three quarters of 2016/17 we have seen an 11% rise in overall recorded crime, equating to 379 crimes in Bracknell Forest compared to the same period last year. Thames Valley as a whole saw an increase in crime of 6%, though the numbers recorded in Bracknell Forest remain among the lowest for any CSP in the Thames Valley area.

Other rises have been recorded for violent crime which has had a 17% increase and is made up of 150 crimes and is the second lowest in Berkshire. Criminal damage has seen a 17% increase, totalling 77 crimes which is the lowest in Thames Valley. Shoplifting has seen an 8% increase, a total of 35 crimes which is the lowest in Berkshire and second lowest in Thames Valley. The number of burglaries remains the lowest of any area within Thames Valley with a small rise of 4% equating to 4 crimes. There has been a reduction in the number of thefts from motor vehicles and theft of motor vehicle and Bracknell has the lowest number of recorded crimes for these offences in the Thames Valley area. Public order offences have seen an increase of 29 additional offences but we are the second lowest in the whole of the Thames Valley. Sexual offences have seen a 7% decrease equating to 12 crimes and the low number of recorded rapes stayed the same.

Whilst Bracknell has seen an increase in some crime types we do have some of the lowest numbers in the Thames Valley area. We have not included all of the increases we have seen in crime types within our plan as strategic priorities as the numbers of these crime types remain low in comparison to our Berkshire authorities and Thames Valley.

The Community Safety Team has developed an advanced system which collates and analyses reports of ASB which enables the partnership to understand what ASB themes are occurring and where and when, which allows suitable responses to be put in place. Also, legislative changes were enacted in October 2014 which gave practitioners a new toolkit to robustly tackle ASB; another factor which has contributed to a continued overall reduction in ASB. CSP members will lead on the delivery of our priority areas but we cannot work alone. We hope that partners, stakeholders, businesses, residents and communities will take responsibility and make a real contribution to help realise our vision.

The Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Plan is managed by the CSP and its Executive. The CSP and its Executive meet quarterly to oversee and bring together community safety and criminal justice partners to ensure local priorities are joined up to reduce crime and disorder.

Successful delivery of the CSP Plan is dependent not only on support from our members but also working with our public, community and voluntary groups, which are vital to reduce crime and disorder.

The CSP has an important role in protecting local communities from crime and to help vulnerable people feel safe. The CSP benefits from excellent communication arrangements with all partners and benefits from its positive relationships with all agencies within Bracknell Forest.

The continuing success of the CSP can be attributed to its effective partnership relationships which allows it to benefit from reductions in the level of crime and disorder and to help victims of crime and ASB in Bracknell Forest.

Key Priorities

Each year the Bracknell Forest CSP undertakes a strategic assessment which considers the priorities of the PCC, statutory partners, views of residents and the business community through consultation as well as current trends, volumes of crime and ASB and future projections to identify the key crime, disorder and ASB issues that affect the borough. It also identifies areas for improvement or change that can be fed into strategic discussion across the partnership. It forms a key part of the intelligence used by the partnership to help tackle crime and disorder and improve community safety. With the broad range of information that has been used the following priorities have been identified and agreed by the CSP to form the core of the 2017-2019 CSP Plan;

2017-2019 Strategic Priorities



1. Protection of Vulnerable People

What is our aim?

- To work in partnership to support victims of domestic abuse.
- To raise awareness of child sexual exploitation (CSE) through our business, charity and voluntary sector partners.
- To reduce the negative impact of ASB on vulnerable individuals and communities.

How will we measure success?

- We will monitor the effectiveness of our multi agency response to domestic abuse by gathering service user feedback on a regular basis.
- We will gather data on the number of business, charity and voluntary sector partners who receive awareness raising training on CSE.
- Data on levels of ASB will be monitored by the CSP.

What will we aim to achieve?

- Hold monthly multi-agency meetings to coordinate the support and response for repeat and/or high risk victims of domestic abuse.
- Aim to support our business, charity and voluntary sector partners to equip their staff to spot signs of CSE.
- Work with our partners to monitor and limit the impact of the launch of the Lexicon on levels of ASB in the town centre.
- Work with our partners to seek resolutions to neighbour disputes within our communities.

2. Violence and Serious Organised Crime

What is our aim?

- To reduce the harm caused to our residents, businesses and our community from the impact of violence against the person crimes.
- Raise awareness of serious organised crime with our partner agencies and encourage information sharing to improve the safeguarding of vulnerable people.

How will we measure success?

- The CSP and Partnership Problem Solving Group will monitor data and identify hotspots in relation to violence against the person crimes .
- Gather data on serious organised crime to ensure better oversight of activities to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable people.

What will we aim to achieve?

- To work with our partners to respond to problem locations where violence against the person crimes are causing disruption to residents, businesses and our community.
- Better engagement and information sharing between partner organisations supporting vulnerable people within our communities.

3. Reduce Reoffending

What is our aim?

- Increase the number of successful treatment completions as a proportion of criminal justice clients of all in treatment.
- Maintain the low level of criminal justice clients who successfully complete treatment and re-present within 6 months.
- Work with perpetrators of domestic abuse to reduce levels of repeat victimisation.
- Support local businesses and prevent a significant increase in shoplifting once The Lexicon opens.

How will we measure success?

- The CSP will monitor data regarding criminal justice clients in treatment, repeat victimisation levels for domestic abuse and shoplifting (and other acquisitive crime when required).

What will we aim to achieve?

- Safeguard the health and wellbeing of drug and alcohol users to build recovery and reduce the harm caused to themselves and the risk they pose to people and communities around them.
- Maintain low levels of repeat victimisation for domestic abuse.
- Hold regular multi-agency offender management meetings to bring together organisations to prioritise intervention with offenders who commit the most crime and cause most harm to the community.

4. Prevention and Early Intervention

What is our aim?

- Build on our success in reducing the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system.
- Reduce the negative impact of ASB on individuals and communities.
- Raise awareness and increase understanding of the responsibility to safeguard individuals and vulnerable people from exploitation from extremists.

How will we measure success?

- Data on the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system and number of ASB complaints monitored quarterly by the CSP.
- Monitor referrals made to the Channel Panel.

What will we aim to achieve?

- Maintain a low level of first time entrants into the youth justice system
- Work with our partners to identify those young people who may be at risk of offending.
- Maintain high numbers of ASB complaints that are closed with a successful resolution.
- Deliver regular workshops on preventing violent extremism.
- Hold monthly Partnership Problem Solving Meetings and Prevent Strategy Group Meetings.

5. Bracknell Town Centre

What is our aim?

- To keep Bracknell town centre a safe and attractive place for the whole community.
- Develop a sense of inclusiveness of all ages and backgrounds.

How will we measure success?

- Thames Valley Police and Bracknell Regeneration Partnership to provide high visibility patrols within the town centre.
- Record and monitor all reports of crime and ASB within the town centre.
- Development of the Bracknell Businesses Against Crime (BBAC) initiative within Bracknell town centre.
- CCTV provided within Bracknell town centre.

What will we aim to achieve?

- Bracknell Forest Council to maintain a DPPO / PSPO to control alcohol use within the defined town centre area. Other behaviours to be considered for inclusion where there is evidence of requirement.
- Bracknell town centre to be a place to be safely enjoyed by all sections of the community and a place where ASB and business crime remains low.

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