



PENNINE LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

2026-2029



Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary	3
2. Introduction	4
This strategy responds to emerging challenges and prioritises evidence-based interventions.....	4
3. Strategic Context and Legal Framework.....	5
4. Partnership Vision and Objectives	6
5. The past three years – innovation and partnership achievements.....	7
6. Establishing our priorities.....	8
7. Priority Areas and Strategic Approach	9
7.1 Anti-social Behaviour and Neighbourhood Crime	9
7.2 Prevention of Root Causes (Drugs, Alcohol, Early Intervention, Prevention Inputs).....	11
7.3 Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)	13
7.4 Serious Violence.....	15
8. Conclusion	17

1. Executive Summary

The Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (PLCSP) Strategy 2026–2029 outlines a focused and collaborative approach to tackle the most pressing safety concerns in our communities. Guided by national legislation and local intelligence, the PLCSP aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime, address underlying causes such as substance misuse through early intervention, provide robust responses to domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, and prevent serious violence.

This strategy prioritises multi-agency partnership working, community engagement, and data-driven decision-making to ensure resources are deployed effectively and outcomes are maximised. Through targeted enforcement, education, victim support, and prevention programs, PLCSP will create a safer, more resilient Pennine for all residents.

2. Introduction

The Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership is a strategic partnership established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, working to reduce crime and offending. The partnership comprises statutory and non-statutory partners, who formulate and implement strategies to tackle crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour across the Pennine area.

Statutory partners

- Lancashire Constabulary
- Lancashire Fire and Rescue
- Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board
- Local authorities (Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn and Rossendale)
- Lancashire Probation Service

Non-statutory partners

- Drug and alcohol services (Inspire Lancashire)
- Domestic Abuse Services (The Wish Centre, Safenet and Lancashire Women)
- Child and Youth Justice Services
- Changing Futures
- Housing Associations (Together Housing and Calico)
- Child Action North West
- Office for the Police and Crime Commissioners' Office

This strategy responds to emerging challenges and prioritises evidence-based interventions.

3. Strategic Context and Legal Framework

The strategy aligns with key legislation:

- **Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014** — streamlines powers to tackle ASB.
- **Domestic Abuse Act 2021** — strengthens protection for victims and offenders.
- **Crime and Disorder Act 1998** — mandates Community Safety Partnerships.
- **Serious Violence Duty (Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022)** — requires partnerships to collaborate on serious violence reduction.
- **Children Act 1989/2004** — emphasises safeguarding and early intervention.
- **The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006** — addresses knife crime and serious violence.

4. Partnership Vision and Objectives

Vision:

In unity, we are creating safer communities by addressing the underlying causes of harm, confronting violence and abuse, and collaborating to prevent crime before it begins.

Objectives:

- Reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime.
- Address root causes, including substance misuse, through early intervention.
- Provide robust responses to domestic abuse and gender-based violence.
- Prevent and reduce serious violence through multi-agency collaboration.

5. The past three years – innovation and partnership achievements

Moto nuisance

Force wide response to address the nuisance caused by E-machines. This effort has led to the introduction of a new fleet, which helps us tackle the issue effectively. Since the start of this initiative, we have experienced a 350% increase in seizures of E-machines. Additionally, there have been no E-machine-related road deaths in the past 12 months. This project also emphasises education for both riders and police officers.

Illicit vapes

This project began by exploring the root causes of youth antisocial behaviour (ASB), revealing that most youth offenders possessed a vape. In partnership with the University of Bath, the Pennine CSP implemented a process for schools to seize and test vapes. We tested over 250 vapes in phase one, finding nearly one-third to be illicit, including those containing Spice. Through extensive education efforts about vaping risks, we are now in phase two, with youth-related illicit vaping decreasing to about 10%.

ASB Case Reviews

Currently, we have held 18 over the last 12 months with 17 of those being at BwD Council. We are working to address this imbalance as we see the importance of ASB reviews both for victims and organisations. One of the highest-intensity callers to the Police was put through a review, and we managed to turn 50+ calls for service per month into zero. Reviews are important to ensure the right agency is dealing with the problem, as not all ASB is Police-led.

Op Shore - Ketamine

This is an Op which addressed the rising issue of Ketamine use amongst young people across a particular ward area in Burnley. A multi-agency approach to tackle this issue through intervention, education and enforcement. This has now been recognised as best practice and will be rolled out force-wide in 2026.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

There have been nine Domestic Homicide Reviews over the last strategy period. A report collating the themes and learning from seven reviews was shared widely and highlighting key areas for our reviews.

Civil Orders

Over 800 civil orders across East Division applied, varying from Community Protection Warnings/Notices, Closure Orders and Criminal Behaviour Orders.

Non-Fatal Strangulation Conferences

The Pennine CSP coordinated two conferences to raise awareness of the risks of non-fatal strangulation, highlighting guidance, lived experiences, and medical expertise.

Clare's Law Conference

Humraaz organised a conference in partnership with Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Blackburn Rovers Community Trust. A day designed around domestic abuse amongst minority ethnic communities, with a particular focus on Clares Law.

Youth IAGs

Two new Youth Independent Advisory Groups have been established in East Division. Their purpose is to amplify the voices and perspectives of young people, helping us better understand and respond to their needs while continuously improving how we work.

6. Establishing our priorities

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are tasked with identifying and addressing the issues that significantly impact the safety, well-being, and quality of life in local communities. The process of developing priorities is structured and involves combining evidence, consultation, partnership work, and statutory responsibilities. This ensures that local resources are directed towards areas of greatest need and risk.

In establishing our priorities, we employed various forms of consultation along with detailed analyses and assessments. We also considered our statutory obligations, current legislation, and pertinent local and national strategies and plans. This comprehensive approach guarantees that our priorities are evidence-based, informed by the community, and aligned with broader strategic objectives.

The development of priorities within the PLCSP is a thorough and evidence-driven process that incorporates:

- Strategic analysis
- District Needs Assessments
- Strategic Threat Assessments
- Community consultation and engagement
- Partner intelligence and expertise
- Statutory responsibilities
- Local and national strategies
- Police and Crime Commissioner priorities

By integrating data, professional insights, and community feedback, the PLCSP can pinpoint the issues that pose the greatest risk and impact to local residents. This method helps ensure that partnership resources are utilised effectively, that community voices are heard, and that services collaborate to reduce crime, protect vulnerable individuals, and enhance feelings of safety throughout the district.

7. Priority Areas and Strategic Approach

7.1 Anti-social Behaviour and Neighbourhood Crime

Context:

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) harms quality of life, causing distress and undermining community cohesion. The PLCSP acknowledges the diverse nature of ASB, including noise nuisance, neighbour disputes, and moto nuisance.

Legislative Basis:

- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Civil injunctions, community protection notices, dispersal powers.

Our research, consultation and analysis has told us that:

- “Alcohol remains a significant factor in crime and ASB in Lancashire. Alcohol-related hospital admissions are...double the national average in Blackburn with Darwen.” (Lancashire Strategic Assessment 2025)
- ASB features as one of the primary concerns for our districts in the Lancashire Talking Survey.
- Peak locations include in and around the hospital, bus station, fast food restaurants, supermarkets and parks.
- ASB is more common among adults than among young people.

Strategic Objectives:

- Continue and build on partnership approaches such as Op Centurion and Community Alcohol Partnerships (CAP)
- Enhance community confidence in reporting ASB.
- Strengthen multi-agency response to hotspot areas.

Methods:

- **Targeted Enforcement:** Use of ASB tools, including Community Protection Notices, Civil Injunctions, and Closure Orders. The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 has streamlined the response to ASB to provide better protection for victims and communities through new tools such as ASB Case Reviews to provide their input into how the partners respond to reports. Ultimately, these methods will renew the focus on victims and communities in the prevention and response to ASB.
- **Problem-Solving Partnerships:** Multi-agency tasking groups will be responsible for resolving hotspot issues. In 2022, Lancashire became a pilot area for hotspot policing, receiving £2m over the following 2 years. Furthermore, Operation Centurion will continue to encourage extra police patrols in anti-social behaviour hotspots across the County. The partnership will continue to pursue an intelligence-led approach by mapping crimes, antisocial behaviour, locations and times to utilise the partnership's resources most effectively.
- **Environmental Design:** We will collaborate with local authorities on 'Designing Out Crime' initiatives. This involves changes to the design and layout of residential housing, such as limiting access, maximising surveillance and ensuring that car parking is within the boundary of each property. These initiatives also extend to improved street lighting, enhanced CCTV and the maintenance of public spaces. Maximising surveillance has been proven to limit crime. This will also have the effect of improving our partners' internal policies, granting extra staff resources and robust evidence to base key decisions and strategies on. These measures will also help to identify areas where ASB is underreported to help communities build trust with our partners.
- **Community Engagement:** We will implement a variety of tools to engage and empower communities. These will include resident forums, youth engagement programs, and public awareness campaigns to inform people on how they can report crime and anti-social behaviour. This will also allow the partners to engage with the community to learn about the barriers to reporting and how they can foster an environment that facilitates safe and accessible reporting mechanisms for all.
- **Restorative Justice:** Where appropriate, we will facilitate restorative approaches between perpetrators and victims. As a consequence of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, our approach will continue to centre the protection of victims and platform their involvement in the partners' proceedings in ASB cases.

7.2 Prevention of Root Causes (Drugs, Alcohol, Early Intervention, Prevention Inputs)

Context:

Substance misuse is a significant driver of crime and disorder. Early intervention can prevent escalation to offending and victimisation.

Legislative Basis:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998: Duty on CSPs to reduce crime and disorder, including substance misuse.
- The Public Health Act 2016: Addressing health-related causes of crime.

Our research, consultation and analysis has told us that:

- Across all of the local and unitary authorities in pan-Lancashire, the rate of children in care is higher than the England average. (*Lancashire Violence Reduction Network Annual Report 2025*).
- The risk and threat of polydrug use remains significant and indicates an overall upward trend.
- Increase ketamine use and for those requiring treatment
- Challenge to access services when there is a dual diagnosis
- Burnley and Hyndburn has higher admission rate for intentional self-harm
- BwD and Burnley has a higher admission rate for alcohol-related conditions

Strategic Objectives:

- Share learning with commissioners to ensure that commissioning agreements are relevant to our local risks
- Deliver targeted early intervention for vulnerable groups.
- Collaborate and increase awareness of identified local risks and harms

Methods:

- **Integrated Substance Misuse Services:** We will enhance collaboration between treatment providers, healthcare, and criminal justice. This action will support the national strategy 'From Harm to Hope', which works to break drug-supply chains and increase the availability of treatment and recovery services to save lives and reduce crime. In alignment with this strategy, we will strengthen the care pathways from prison to the community, through residential services and increase the uptake of these collaborative services.
- **Early Identification:** We will implement training for schools, healthcare, and community staff to identify at-risk individuals as part of our preventative approach. This includes our own training to maintain up-to-date knowledge of new and emerging drugs to ensure that we remain ahead of emerging trends.
- **Education and Awareness:** We will implement school-based prevention programs to address drug and alcohol harms. This is a cost-effective tool for improving public health and for making incremental progress in efforts to manage issues surrounding mature addictions, as well as managing public views of emerging drugs.
- **Family Support:** We will implement parenting programs and family interventions to mitigate risk factors. This will involve understanding where our high-risk areas are and improving the enforcement of preventative measures through a comprehensive collaboration between voluntary, community, health and council services to develop emotional resilience, social skills and positive aspirations.
- **Diversionary Activities:** We will develop a variety of activities directed at young people, such as youth clubs, sports, arts, and mentoring, to reduce their vulnerability to addiction and related behaviours. These spaces will particularly engage young people who are more vulnerable by providing secure, accessible spaces that protect local young people outside of school hours.
- **Data Sharing and Risk Mapping:** We will continue to support multi-agency district and strategic meetings to improve the sense of safety within communities. The use of data analytics will allow us to identify trends and deploy resources effectively, creating more targeted and personalised pathways to treatment. This collaboration on data analytics will allow us to reduce unnecessary demand on our services, through an engaging and preventative approach.

7.3 Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Context:

Domestic abuse and VAWG have profound impacts on individuals and communities. PLCSP supports a victim-centred approach and robust offender management. As of 2026, domestic abuse accounted for 19% of all crime across Lancashire. However, this is undoubtedly an underestimation due to the often coercive nature of this abuse and a lack of trust in local authorities to protect victims of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse can be largely hidden, but it is a significant problem for all services involved in the partnership as it increases throughout our communities.

Legislative Basis:

- Domestic Abuse Act 2021: Expanded definitions, new protection orders, local authority duties.
- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- The Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy (HM Government, 2021).

Our research, consultation and analysis has told us that:

- The majority of our victims are predominantly White British
- 22-23% of domestic abuse offences were alcohol related
- There is an over-representation in all districts for DA victims that fall within the “Urban Adversity” category
- The peak age group was 25-39 years

Strategic Objectives:

- Increase reporting and support uptake by victims.
- Improve multi-agency responses and safeguard victims by embedding learning from reviews
- Promote reporting from our marginalised communities

Methods:

- **Multi-Agency Risk Reduction Assessment Conferences (MARRACs):** We will enhance information sharing and joint action through a dedicated multi-agency domestic abuse forum between statutory and non-statutory agencies. Through this, we aim to enable the sharing of information and the development of an action plan to increase the safety of victims and their children and hold perpetrators accountable for their behaviour. An evaluation of the MARRAC pilot showed a reduction in repeat victimisation, with 40% of survivors suffering no further abuse a year after their MARRAC referral (Safe Lives Org, June 2024). Not only does this approach provide more comprehensive and tailored support for survivors of domestic abuse, but it will also encourage reporting through increasing public confidence in domestic abuse support.
- **Specialist Services:** We will ensure the widespread availability of specialist services to help individuals receive the most suitable care depending on their circumstances. This will include support from independent domestic violence advisers (IDVA) to support victims of domestic abuse through the development of personal plans for protection. Furthermore, we will fund further safe accommodation to ensure that all survivors of domestic abuse are protected by directing the available funds towards specialist refuges. This support will also address the psychological, social and financial implications of domestic abuse through facilitating contact with counselling and legal services.
- **Perpetrator Programs:** To challenge harmful ideologies and behaviours, we further our engagement with offenders. Rather than merely enforcing prosecutions of perpetrators, our provision of behaviour change programs will encourage long-term transformation and prevention of re-offending.
- **Training and Awareness:** We will provide comprehensive training for frontline staff. We recognise that the issue of domestic violence is not limited to a few services. Therefore, we intend to expand our training to ensure that all services are well-equipped to identify the various forms of domestic violence and effectively support those impacted.
- **Community Campaigns:** We must challenge cultural norms and raise awareness. Our data suggests that most of our victims are predominantly White British, but this underrepresentation of other ethnic groups indicates barriers towards reporting domestic abuse amongst a variety of communities. This points to a need to deepen our cultural sensitivities to better understand these barriers and how we can dismantle them to both prevent and tackle domestic violence.

7.4 Serious Violence

Context:

The PLCSP is committed to understanding and addressing the root causes of serious violence, including knife crime. Together, we can develop targeted interventions to prevent and minimise the impact of violence in the Pennine area.

Legislative Basis:

Serious Violence Duty, Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: Imposes a duty on partners to collaborate on serious violence prevention. The partners will collaborate to formulate an evidence-based analysis of the problems associated with serious violence in the area, to produce a strategy detailing how they will respond to those issues. This legislation will emphasise early intervention as part of a preventative approach to prevent individuals from becoming targets or perpetrators of serious violence.

Our research, consultation and analysis has told us that:

- Across Lancashire, there is a higher than national average rate of first-time entrants to the youth justice system (*Lancashire Violence Reduction Network Annual Report 2025*).
- Across all the local and unitary authorities in pan-Lancashire, there is a higher rate of hospital admissions for violence than the national average (*Lancashire Violence Reduction Network Annual Report 2025*).
- Collaboration to address higher levels of low-income families, domestic abuse within households with children, deprived households and homelessness.
- Focused interventions on reducing the rate of poor mental health, alcohol and substance misuse.

Priorities (Lancashire Violence Reduction Strategy)

- Prevention - To prevent and reduce violence and its social determinants.
- Enforcement - To reduce serious violent crime and the opportunity to commit serious violent crime within Lancashire
- Cultural transformation and workforce development - To develop Lancashire into a trauma-informed county, entitled 'Trauma-Informed Lancashire'
- Evidence, data and evaluation - To capitalise on the use of evidence, theory, data and evaluation to reduce violence and serious violence within Lancashire.

Methods:

- **Violence Reduction Network (VRN):** Continued collaboration with our Lancashire VRN.
- **Data-led Policing:** We will utilise intelligence tools to target gangs, hotspots, and offenders. Through crime data analysis, we can identify violent crime hotspots for which police officers can then coordinate patrols. This high-visibility policing ensures a consistent presence in areas and at times where communities are most vulnerable to violent crime. This police visibility will often lead to long-term problem-solving to address the root causes of violence.
- **Knife Crime Prevention:** Beyond policing, we will work closely with partners, schools, and communities to address knife crime. We will support tailored educational workshops, often delivered by individuals with lived experience of knife crime, to help young people understand the risks and consequences of carrying knives. Additionally, we will continue with the 'Bin the Knife' campaign to encourage the safe disposal of weapons without the risk of prosecution.
- **Community Outreach:** We will work with young people at risk, including mentoring and alternative activities. By collaborating with communities to identify priorities and targeted interventions, we will build on local strengths and address the broader implications of serious violence.
- **Partnership with Health Services:** We will use hospital data to inform violence prevention strategies. Our research shows that serious violence cannot be tackled in isolation. The main reasons people commit violence relate to poverty, parenting, purpose and hope. Our public health approach means that we tackle the root causes of violence as well as the immediate symptoms.
- **Environmental Controls:** We will invest in CCTV, improved street lighting, and safe transport routes to take an intelligence-led approach by mapping serious violence hotspots. From this, we can direct partnership activity and resources more effectively in the prevention and response to violent crime.
- **Check 25:** These checks will be carried out by Trading Standards or the police to check adherence to the Check 25 policy. This means that anyone who appears under 25 should be asked for proof of ID in retail and licensed premises to purchase a knife or alcohol. This ensures that local businesses participate in our multi-agency approach by maintaining a responsible retail ethos and playing their part to prevent violence across our communities.

8. Conclusion

The *Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2029* sets out a clear and coordinated approach to improving safety and wellbeing across our communities. Focused on four key priorities—**anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime, prevention of root causes, domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, and serious violence**—this strategy reflects our shared commitment to both immediate action and long-term change.

By addressing visible crime, tackling underlying causes, supporting victims, and disrupting serious violence, we aim to create safer, more inclusive neighbourhoods. Achieving this will require strong partnerships, active community involvement, and a continued focus on prevention, protection, and progress.

Together, we will build a Pennine Lancashire where everyone feels safe, supported, and empowered to live free from harm.

Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership

 <p>ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL</p>	 <p>Lancashire childandyouthjusticeservice</p>	 <p> Burnley.gov.uk</p>	 <p>CHANGING FUTURES LANCASHIRE</p>	 <p><i>inspire</i></p>
 <p>YJS YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN</p>	 <p>the calico group</p>	 <p>Probation Service </p>	 <p>LANCASHIRE WOMEN</p>	 <p>Change Grow Live</p>
 <p>HM Prison & Probation Service</p>	 <p> Lancashire Constabulary police and communities together</p>	 <p> Community ^{CVS}</p>	 <p> Hyndburn Borough Council</p>	 <p> safenet</p>
 <p>CLIVE GRUNSHAW LANCASHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER</p>	 <p> BLACKBURN with DARWEN BOROUGH COUNCIL</p>	 <p>NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board</p>	 <p> CANW</p>	 <p> LACVS EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES</p>
 <p>Lancashire County Council </p>	 <p> the wish centre</p>	 <p> LANCASHIRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION NETWORK</p>	 <p>together housing</p>	 <p> Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service</p>