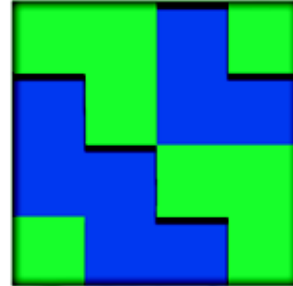


SOUTH LAKELAND  
**CRIME & DISORDER**  
REDUCTION  
PARTNERSHIP

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**ANNUAL STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**PRIORITIES 2010 / 2011**

OCTOBER 2009

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## 1. Introduction

South Lakeland Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) is made up from a mixture of organisations and voluntary groups who work together with a common aim to tackle crime and disorder in the area and to maintain South Lakeland's position as one of the safest districts in the North West.

Some partners have a legal responsibility to work with the CDRP and these are South Lakeland District Council, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Constabulary, Cumbria Primary Care Trust, Cumbria Police Authority and Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service. From April 2010, Probation will change from co-operating body to a statutory partner and this reflects the CDRP's changed remit to include reducing re-offending.

The CDRP has a duty to undertake an annual Strategic Assessment of local community safety and crime priorities. The information is used to develop a 3 year Partnership Plan that clearly sets out how the Partnership will tackle key priority crime types, identified through community and partner consultation.

This document considers changes in the level and pattern of crime, disorder and substance misuse over the last year, why these changes may have occurred and makes recommendations for future priorities.

The full Strategic Assessment can be viewed on [ADD link](#)

## 2. Headline statistics

The Strategic Assessment has highlighted the following key findings which paint a very positive and reassuring picture for South Lakeland residents. A range of information sources have been used, but these are mainly Cumbria Constabulary crime statistics for 2008 – 2009 and the national Place Survey 2008 results.

The Place Survey gathers information from residents on their views, perceptions and experiences of where they live. The results are used by local public services to make sure their policies provide what people want.

### Place Survey 2008

Respondents to the Place Survey gave us the following information:-

- ❖ **10%** think the level of crime in South Lakeland should be a priority for improvement, the lowest in Cumbria
- ❖ **96%** feel safe during the day and **80%** feel safe after dark, the highest percentage compared to other areas in Cumbria
- ❖ **10%** think anti social behaviour is a problem in South Lakeland, compared to 20% nationally
- ❖ **30%** think the police and other services are dealing with anti social behaviour and crime, compared with 26% nationally
- ❖ **42%** think parents take responsibility for their children, compared with 30% nationally
- ❖ **30%** think their views are sought on anti social behaviour and crime, compared to 25% nationally

- ❖ **20%** think drunk or rowdy behaviour is a problem, compared with 29% nationally and 32% across the north west
- ❖ **19%** think drug use or drug dealing is a problem, compared with 31% nationally and 35% in the north west

### Crime statistics 2008 – 2009

- ❖ Overall crime levels **reduced** by 7.9% (407 offences) compared to the previous year
- ❖ Anti social behaviour **reduced** by 16% (1029 incidents) and youth disorder reduced by 17% (404 incidents)
- ❖ Criminal damage **reduced** by 15% (246 offences)
- ❖ Violent crime **reduced** by 12% (121 offences)
- ❖ House burglary has remained **stable** at 114 offences
- ❖ Drug offences **reduced** by 18% (41 offences)
- ❖ Vehicle crime breaks down into 2 categories, Theft from a motor vehicle and Theft of a motor vehicle. Although thefts from a vehicle have **increased** slightly by almost 3% (7 offences) the number of thefts of a vehicle have **reduced** by 17% (18 crimes)
- ❖ The number of repeat victims of domestic violence **reduced** by 3.8%, the number of incidents **reduced** to 621 (44 less incidents)

## 3. Methodology

Data from a range of sources was considered in order to inform the Strategic Assessment. The time frame for the data is from April 2008 – March 2009, unless otherwise stated, but some comparisons are made to previous financial years. Data sources include:

- ❖ Cumbria Constabulary
- ❖ Cumbria Intelligence Observatory
- ❖ Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service
- ❖ Cumbria Drug & Alcohol Action Team
- ❖ Cumbria Primary Care Trust
- ❖ British Crime Survey
- ❖ ACORN data \*
- ❖ Census data
- ❖ Place Survey 2008
- ❖ Home office IQQUANTA Performance Management data

A PESTELO assessment, looking at political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal, and organisational issues that may have an impact upon the strategic analysis of crime and disorder, has also been completed.

## 4. Context

### 4.1 Local Picture

South Lakeland covers an area of 1534km<sup>2</sup>. In 2007 the estimated population was 104,900 people with a population a density of 68 people per square kilometre. South Lakeland has a 58% working population and the average house price is £253,893. Meanwhile the average household income is £32,156.

The table below (Fig 1) shows the estimated percentage population by broad ethnic group from mid 2006. This data was sourced from the Office of National Statistics.

**Fig 1 Estimated percentage population by broad ethnic group in Cumbria**

Ethnic group	Allerdale	Barrow-in-Furness	Carlisle	Copeland	Eden	South Lakeland	England
White	98.4	98.3	98	98.2	98.5	97.7	88.7
Mixed	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.6
Asian or Asian British	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	5.5
Black or Black British	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	2.8
Chinese or Other	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.4

\* ACORN provides classifications of residential neighbourhoods for the entire UK population through analysis of significant factors. There are 56 ACORN codes, which are aggregated into 17 sub-groups and then 5 main categories. In South Lakeland 41.8% are classed as Wealthy Achievers and 34.4% as Comfortably Off. Less than 10% are Hard Pressed, compared to the Cumbria average of 18.6%

#### **4.2 Related Strategies and National Indicators**

The CDRP not only works to identify priorities for South Lakeland, but must also take account of how and what we contribute to a range of local and county wide strategic documents and National Indicators in relation to crime and community safety. The strategic documents include:

- ❖ The Local Area Agreement for Cumbria
- ❖ South Lakeland Sustainable Community Strategy
- ❖ SLDC's Corporate Plan 2009 – 2012
- ❖ Cumbria Police Authority Policing Plan 2009 - 2012
- ❖ Cumbria Sustainable Community Strategy
- ❖ Cumbria PCT Plan
- ❖ Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan 2006 -2010
- ❖ CCC corporate plan

#### **5. CDRP Structure**

The CDRP works within an agreed Constitution and Terms of Reference to deliver its statutory responsibilities. The Executive Group provides the strategic direction for the Partnership, agreeing annual priorities for the Partnership Plan and overseeing the allocation of resources. Priorities are established through consultation with partners and community groups.

Reporting to the Executive Group are operational task groups of partners who develop action plans to tackle identified priorities. There are currently 6 task groups and this will be reviewed as part of this consultation process. Anti social behaviour and criminal damage are addressed together through the Respect task group.

The partnership is supported and managed by a Co-ordinator employed by South Lakeland District Council.

## 6. Current South Lakeland Priorities

The current priorities for South Lakeland CDRP are:

- ❖ Anti-social Behaviour, including youth disorder
- ❖ Criminal Damage
- ❖ Acquisitive Crime, including burglary and vehicle crime
- ❖ Domestic Violence
- ❖ Public Reassurance
- ❖ Prolific and Priority Offenders
- ❖ Substance Misuse
- ❖ Violent Crime

## 7. Data and analysis

### 7.1 Anti Social Behaviour

South Lakeland saw a 16% decrease in anti social behaviour incidents during 2008/09 compared to 2007/08, from 6617 to 5588 incidents (Fig 2). The areas with the highest level of incidents were Kendal (3198) and Ulverston (1535).

**Fig 2 Table showing Anti Social Behaviour incidents in South Lakeland from 2006/07 to 2008/09 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Incident Type	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Anti-Social Behaviour	7344	6617	5588

Specifically, Youth Disorder accounted for 34.5% of all anti social behaviour incidents in 2008/09 compared to 35.3% in 2007/08. The areas with the highest level of Youth Disorder were Kendal (981) and Windermere (399).

Overall, calls about anti social behaviour, including youth disorder, accounted for 19.8% of all incidents in 2008/09 a reduction from 21.1% in 2007/08. The most prevalent were Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour (4011 Incidents, 71.8%), Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours (435, 7.8%) and Nuisance/Inappropriate Use of Vehicles (359, 6.4%).

Possible reasons for this reduction include work completed by both the police and partners, the impact of successful operations and a co-ordinated approach to specific times of the year that historically are a problem.

Linked to the reduction in incidents, are positive Place Survey results that show only 10% of respondents think anti social behaviour is a problem in South Lakeland, compared to 20% nationally. In addition, 30% think the police and other services are dealing with anti social behaviour and crime, compared with 26% nationally.

Despite these reductions, the Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey 2008 for South Lakeland highlights anti social behaviour on the street as the number one concern and priority for the police in 2009. It should be noted that only 5% of respondents were aged under 35 years and over 50% were aged between 55 and 74 years.

'Streetsafe' is the name for a method of engagement used in specific locations to get people's views and opinions on local issues through the completion of a questionnaire. Neighbourhood Policing Team Key Individual Network (KIN) surveys are another way we can find out specific local concerns. When we look at responses from both these forms of consultation, youth disorder continues to be an issue in many South Lakeland communities.

In 2008/09, deliberate fire incidents accounted for 42% of all South Lakeland fires, with Kendal Underley ward reporting 23 incidents. The number of deliberate fires increased 2% in 2008/09, from 135 to 151 incidents and these were mainly refuse fires (Fig 3).

**Fig 3 Table showing deliberate Fires in South Lakeland from 2006/07 to 2008/09 – data supplied by Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service**

Incident Type	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Fires (Deliberate)	135	135	151

Refuse fires continue to be a challenge, with spikes in activity related to Halloween and Bonfire night. It is expected that close partnership working and raised awareness to ensure the swift removal of rubbish will help to reduce these numbers.

### **Current Partnership work**

- Detached youth work through Young Cumbria, directed to identified locations through the "tasking package" process
- Implementation of Operation SMART, through Cumbria Constabulary working with partners to target youth disorder in identified locations through diversion, preventative and enforcement work
- Straightline Stars worker (formerly Prevent & Deter) working 1 to 1 with young people on a voluntary basis and offering a broad range of engagement options
- Road Awareness Training run by Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service, which included targeting anti social young drivers
- Expansion of the "Streetsafe" concept to South Lakeland secondary schools
- A range of diversionary activity, including the roll out of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) project to Ulverston and Windermere
- Support youth disco project in Kendal, Windermere and potentially Ulverston to become sustainable and self financing, providing a response to an identified gap in youth service provision
- Target licensed premises and under age alcohol sales through specific police and Trading Standards test purchase operations
- Support Junior Citizen scheme aimed at Year 6 pupils across South Lakeland
- Multi agency support for 2 community groups in Kendal to tackle anti social activity
- School exclusion sweeps are regularly conducted by the police and Education Welfare Officers, who have the option to issue Parenting Orders and Contracts
- DVD produced for schools and social networking web sites to highlight dangers of alcohol abuse in young people
- Multi agency strategy to target priority areas and clear potential flammable objects prior to Halloween and Bonfire night
- Positive Youth engagement by Fire & Rescue Service through Young Firefighters, StreetCage Soccer, Road Awareness Training, Junior Citizens, Setpoint and the FACE (Fire Awareness Child Education) programme.

## Conclusion

Anti social behaviour is predicted to decrease further over the next year and there are positive responses in the Place Survey on both perceptions of anti social behaviour and how this is dealt with. The anticipated peaks are during school holidays and at Halloween and Bonfire night, particularly in relation to deliberate fires, with resources and specific initiatives planned for these times.

Positive Youth engagement initiatives should remain a priority. Although actual outcomes may be difficult to measure, by all partners, through analysis of data, this should not detract from the benefits linked to public reassurance and community cohesion from active partnership work.

There is a strong emphasis on statutory agencies to improve public confidence and although the Place Survey results are encouraging, anti social behaviour remains the main area of concern for many communities and neighbourhood policing teams.

## Recommendation

**Anti social behaviour, including youth disorder to remain a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## 7.2 Criminal Damage

Criminal damage accounted for 28.7% of all crime in 2008/09 compared to 30.8% in 2007/08. The two areas with the highest levels of criminal damage were Kendal (568) and Windermere (316).

The number of offences has decreased over the last 3 financial years. In 2008/09 there was a reduction of 15% (246 Offences) and this followed a reduction of 12% (212 Offences) between 2006/07 and 2007/08 (Fig 4).

**Fig 4 – Criminal damage offences for South Lakeland 2006 / 07 to 2008 / 09 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime Type	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Criminal Damage	1809	1597	1351

Although there have been year on year decreases in criminal damage, when we compare South Lakeland CDRP performance to others in the Most Similar Group using the Home Office IQUANTA performance management tool, it is slightly higher than average and we rank 8 out of 15 CDRPs.

The Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey 2008 for South Lakeland highlights criminal damage and vandalism as the 5<sup>th</sup> most important neighbourhood priority.

## Current Partnership work

The CDRP includes criminal damage with anti social behaviour in the work of the Respect task group. Projects are listed on pages 6 and 7.

## Conclusion

Although we are optimistic that criminal damage will continue to decrease next year, based on this data, a side effect of the current economic climate is likely to be an increase in vacant properties through repossessions and bankruptcy. This would increase the opportunity for a range of offences, including criminal damage and arson.

In addition, performance against similar CDRPs using the IQUANTA performance management tool shows that this crime type is also decreasing in other areas. Further work is required to maintain the decrease locally and to match performance against the most similar grouping.

## Recommendation

**Criminal damage remains a priority for South Lakeland CDRP, to be considered with anti social behaviour by the Respect task group**

## 7.3 Acquisitive Crime (Burglary and Vehicle Crime)

**Domestic burglary** accounted for 2.4% of all crime in 2008 /09, a slight rise from 2.2% in 2007 / 08, although the number of crimes were the same, 114 (Fig 5). The area recording the highest number of burglaries was Kendal (44)

**Fig 5 Burglary data for South Lakeland 2006 / 07 to 2008 / 09 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

<b>Burglary Dwelling</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2007/2008</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>
<b>Number of crimes</b>	98	114	114

Although the number of household burglaries has increased since 2006/2007, it has remained static the last 2 years. In addition, when we compare South Lakeland CDRP with the most similar group of CDRPs, South Lakeland's performance is 2<sup>nd</sup> best out of 15 and considerably better than the average. It is a similar picture when we compare performance against all North West CDRPs

Despite these positive figures, burglary has remained a priority for the CDRP due to the high impact on victims of this crime. When Cumbria Constabulary conducted the annual Public Consultation Survey 2008, being a victim of crime inside your home ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in a list of 19 neighbourhood priorities for South Lakeland residents.

Distraction burglary and purse thefts have also been an issue in South Lakeland. Although these account for only a small number of reported crimes, the perpetrators tend to target elderly, more vulnerable victims. Crime prevention advice has been issued, through press releases, home visits, Streetsafes and public meetings e.g. Neighbourhood Forums. The CDRP launched 2 high profile crime prevention campaigns, the “Lock it or Lose it” sticker campaign aimed at securing property and the “Keep it Safe” campaign, targeting victims of purse thefts.

There is an expectation that the current economic climate is likely to have an adverse impact on acquisitive crime, including burglary, theft and shoplifting and initial signs confirm this. The situation is monitored by the Acquisitive Crime task group, who will respond to changes as necessary.

**Current Partnership Work**

- The CDRP launched the Lock it or Lose it campaign, to raise awareness about insecure properties. This campaign continues
- The Keep it Safe campaign and purse bells initiative to target purse thefts through awareness raising and crime prevention advice
- The Business Against Crime South Lakeland Partnership (BACSLP) is supported by CDRP and operate a radio link scheme for local shops and licensees and manage the bar watch and shop watch schemes in Kendal.
- Targeted Streetsafe operations to build public reassurance and raise awareness of simple crime prevention techniques
- Increased use of Voice Connect system to pass messages from partners and raise awareness of prevention measures
- Development of new Neighbourhood Watch schemes through the work of Neighbourhood Policing teams
- Door handle alarms provided to reduce burglaries at vulnerable properties and increase levels of safety

**Vehicle crime** covers both theft *from* and *of* a motor vehicle. During 2008/09, there was a slight increase in theft from a motor vehicle of 2.8%, 7 offences (Fig 6). The types of property stolen included bags, money and tools. However, over the same time line thefts of vehicles reduced by 17% (18 offences) Kendal and Windermere were the main target areas for both types of vehicle crime.

As this crime type has seen relatively low levels of offences, the CDRP undertakes a monitoring role, but does not currently put in additional resources to tackle vehicle crime other than through the ‘Lock it or Lose it’ crime prevention campaign. The police have utilised the Smartwater vehicle and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) as part of tactical deployment.

**Fig 6 Vehicle crime comparison from 2006/07 to 2008/09 - data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime Type	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	244	249	256
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	90	105	87

## Current Partnership Work

- The CDRP undertakes a monitoring role, but does not currently put in additional resources to tackle vehicle crime

## Conclusion

Comparing data over the last 3 years, burglary peaks are predicted between April and June and August and October. There is an anticipated increase in theft *from* a vehicle between June and September and theft *of* a vehicle is expected to peak in August.

Improved vehicle security is making it harder for offenders to steal vehicles and this increases the potential for offenders to use alternative measures, such as burglaries to take car keys.

Figures for both burglary and vehicle crimes are well below the IQUANTA Most Similar Group average, but have shown slight increases overall since 2006/07. Crucially, the impact of the economic recession has not yet have been fully felt in South Lakeland and this has to be considered in future planning.

## Recommendation

**Acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime remain a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## 7.4 Domestic Violence

In line with the Cumbria Domestic Violence Strategic Board Business Plan, South Lakeland CDRP has worked closely with Barrow CDRP to support a range of new developments across south Cumbria to improve domestic violence services. There remains an expectation that these services will deliver the same impact on domestic violence statistics as experienced in north Cumbria, through the work of the Let Go project. There is increasing confidence in domestic violence service provision and it is expected that this will lead to more victims coming forward and reporting incidents.

Domestic Violence data included in this assessment is provided by Cumbria Constabulary. Compared to 2007/08, reported incidents during 2008/09 have fallen, whilst the percentage level of arrests resulting from these incidents has been maintained (Fig 7).

**Fig 7 Domestic Violence data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2007/08	2008/09
Number of Incidents	665	621
Arrest percentage	30.6%	30.1%
Percentage of Repeat Victims	46.9%	43.1%

It is worth noting that not all incidents lead to arrest, but police officers will take positive action in all cases where there is power to arrest.

### **Current Partnership Work**

- Weekly Specialist Domestic Violence Courts sit in Kendal and Barrow
- 2 Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), managed by Victim Support and based in Barrow, take first line referrals from a range of agencies. SLCDRP allocated funding to provide administration support to enhance IDVA service delivery
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) are established in South Cumbria, targeting those most at risk
- A Domestic Violence awareness campaign through posters on toilet doors, including key service numbers for IDVAs and Cumbria Police continues in 2009
- Funding provided for 4 mobile domestic violence alarms for those at high level risk of violence
- South Cumbria Rape and Abuse Service are leading a project to provide personal safety workshops in South Lakeland schools and awareness raising in the area of sexual abuse linked to domestic violence
- A range of security options continue to be fitted in the homes of domestic violence victims and headcams continue to be effective in recording evidence at a domestic violence scene.

### **Conclusion**

Incidents have decreased whilst arrests have maintained their levels and it is predicted that the current levels will be maintained over the coming months. People who have lost their jobs due to the economic downturn are spending more time in the family home. This factor, plus further financial pressure, may lead to an increase in domestic abuse.

In conclusion, whilst incidents have fallen, the percentage of arrests has been maintained with every indication that these levels will continue over the next financial year. Repeat victimisation has seen a small decrease of 4% with further decreases expected as the Implementation of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts, the Introduction of independent Domestic Violence Advisors and the impact of MARAC conferences become more established. It is expected that these measures will also contribute in the short term to an increased level of reporting.

Domestic Violence remains a national priority and one of the Local Area Agreement targets.

### **Recommendation**

**Domestic Violence to remain a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## 7.5 Public Reassurance

South Lakeland CDRP Executive Group agreed that the Perception of Crime task group should be renamed the Public Reassurance task group in 2008. This was considered to be a reflection of the broad range of work undertaken by the group and also the target audience. The group aimed to reassure South Lakeland communities and to try and influence the view that crime is rising, when in fact, overall it continues to fall. The work of this group has been varied, but the main objectives have been to:-

- ❖ Promote the work of the CDRP and inform local residents of the range of agencies involved in tackling crime and disorder in the district
- ❖ Raise awareness of the low levels of crime in South Lakeland and promote the area as a safe place to live work and visit
- ❖ Provide information on the different projects commissioned through CDRP to add value to existing services

The results from the 2008 Place Survey show that only 10% of residents think the level of crime in South Lakeland should be a priority for improvement, the lowest in Cumbria. We have the highest percentage of residents who feel safe after dark (80%) and during the day (96%) compared to other areas in Cumbria.

### Current Partnership work

- The third Community Safety Day was held in Sedbergh in May 2009
- Streetsafe campaigns continue and include schools and local supermarkets
- Lock it or Lose it and Purse theft crime prevention campaigns are currently running
- Media work continues, with every effort to engage local media in positive stories
- Positive stories on CDRP projects featured in all 4 editions of the South Lakeland News in 2008 and partner newsletters
- 2 Locality groups established with local residents and partners

### Conclusion

Although these positive results are reflected in other responses, for example, only 10% think anti social behaviour is a problem in South Lakeland, the CDRP is very aware that there is further work to do improve perceptions of safety and to reassure residents that South Lakeland is a safe place to live, work and visit. It is feasible for this to be addressed by each task group and therefore not necessary to have a separate public reassurance group.

### Recommendation

**Public Reassurance to remain a priority for South Lakeland CDRP, to be addressed within the work of individual task groups**

## 7.6 Prolific Offenders

Joint agency work to target prolific and priority offenders (PPO) is an acknowledged national priority. CDRPs have the lead responsibility to ensure that mechanisms are in place in their locality to support this joint agency work, based on a national strategy. The strategy has 3 separate strands, Catch and Convict, Rehabilitate and Resettle and Prevent and Deter.

The award winning Scafell Project in Cumbria is a model that tackles the rehabilitate and resettle element of the strategy, based on offender management and is resourced by police officers, probation officers and outreach workers. Nationally this model is considered best practice, leading the way on the reduction of offending by PPOs.

The Scafell Project began its multi-agency approach to tackling “Prolific and Priority Offenders” on the 1st April 2007 and is part funded through the Safer and Stronger Communities Thematic Partnership, Cumbria Constabulary and Cumbria Probation Service. Teams deliver intensive monitoring, support and supervision to prolific and priority offenders, with the specific intention to reduce crime and the impact on victims, as well as making the best use of local resources

At 31 March 2009, there were 70 offenders on the scheme in the whole of Cumbria, and although the South Cumbria Scafell team manage 20 offenders, only 2 of those had residential addresses in the South Lakeland area.

Measured at 31 March 2009, South Cumbria had seen a 79.6% reduction in re-offending by prolific and priority offender clients.

### Conclusion

A small percentage of offenders commit a disproportionate number of crimes. By targeting these offenders and providing support on release, we can have a positive impact on the levels of crime and harm in the community.

Although prolific and priority offending is a priority for South Lakeland CDRP, there are no plans to duplicate the current effort or resources attached to the Scafell Project, by addressing this issue separately.

### Recommendation

**Prolific offending to remain a priority of South Lakeland CDRP, addressed through the South Cumbria multi agency Joint Action Group**

## 7.7 Substance Misuse

South Lakeland has seen an overall decrease in drug offences over the last 3 years, with an 18% reduction in 2008/09 compared to 2007/08 (Fig 8). The highest number of offences were in the Kendal area. 80% of all offences (152) were for possession, with 57% (109 offences) related to cannabis and 15% (29 offences) to cocaine.

South Lakeland performance is 5<sup>th</sup> out of 15 in the most similar group.

**Fig 8 Drug offences from 2006/07 – 2008/09 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime Type	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Drug Offences	207	231	190

The impact of drug dealers and users on the local community and the anti-social nature associated with Class A drugs, has been highlighted in several surveys. British Crime Survey results for Cumbria as a whole show that over 25% of people asked thought that people using or dealing drugs was a problem in their area. The Place Survey 2008 asked a similar question and 19% of South Lakeland residents perceived people using or dealing drugs a problem. The Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey results for 2008 showed that drug dealing was considered 4<sup>th</sup> in the top ten list of neighbourhood priorities for the police in South Lakeland.

Data from Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action Team (CDAAT) highlights the numbers of South Lakeland residents accessing drug and alcohol treatment services. Whilst this provides a valuable profile, it only captures information on those in treatment and therefore is not a full picture of drug use in South Lakeland.

According to CDAAT data, most of those in adult treatment are heroin addicts, who will take several years in and out of treatment before they are pronounced clean. However, the system operated in Cumbria is making significant progress and drug mis-users are more likely to recover if they have wider support, other than treatment, to rebuild their lives. For example accommodation, employment or training prospects, social and family networks.

CDAAT is working with other agencies to make this happen and there are now funded drugs co-ordinators in every Job Centre Plus district, one of which works with CDAAT to help drug users on benefits into treatment.

Over the next 2 years the DAAT will be exploring innovative and flexible ways to better support drug users and by removing barriers to funding, aid local partners to choose how best to deliver effective outcomes for service users.

A full treatment profile has been provided by CDAAT, plus an updated Drug Intervention Programme profile that includes information on age and gender of clients, drug(s) of choice, type of treatment and structured support they are engaged in and the outcome for all those leaving treatment. South Lakeland has a care plan or treatment completed rate of 52%.

## Current Partnership Work

- Support for the use of passive drugs dogs throughout South Lakeland to reduce the amount of illegal drug use in the night time economy continues

Whilst substance misuse is an important issue for the area, it has been difficult to establish how the CDRP can add value to existing work carried out by key partners, in particular Cumbria Police and Cumbria Primary Care Trust (PCT). We will continue to work with partners and engage with Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) to determine what value can be added to this area of work.

## Conclusion

Historically, the volume of drug offences remains reasonably constant, with some peaks and troughs and outcomes mainly dependent on the level of police activity. This situation is not expected to change. Whilst drug offences have reduced and performance is below the Most Similar Group average, this does not necessarily mean there are fewer drugs in South Lakeland or fewer offenders. In order to show that drug enforcement is effective, the volume of offences needs to be higher and this would correspond with a decrease in the number of drugs in circulation.

These crime types also link to acquisitive crime, particularly theft and shop lifting.

## Recommendation

**Continue to work with partners and engage with Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) to determine what value can be added to this area of work**

## 7.8 Violent crime, including alcohol related assaults

There was an overall decrease in violent crime of 12% in 2008/09 (Fig 9) following a trend from the previous 2 years. However, the number of violent offenders under the influence of alcohol has risen over the same period and account for 37% of all offences. Over the same period, there was a 100% increase (16 offences) in serious violent crimes and 44% of these were committed under the influence of alcohol. Despite this, South Lakeland compares favourably in relation to others in the Home Office Most Similar Grouping and is one of the top 3 performing CDRPs

**Fig 9 Violent crime data 2006/07 to 2008/09 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Total Violent Crimes	1098	1082	961

## Of which:

Year	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
<b>Offences Against the Person</b>	1042	1024	908
<b>Robbery</b>	8	11	5
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	48	47	48
<b>Grand Total</b>	1098	1082	961

## Number of these crimes involving offender under the influence of alcohol:

Year	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
<b>Offences Against the Person</b>	278	335	358
<b>Robbery</b>	1	0	0
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	9	8	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	288	343	362

It was acknowledged in the last Strategic Assessment that alcohol was an issue that impacted on a range of crimes. In South Lakeland, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and CDRP have worked together to produce an alcohol action plan, based on the 4 outcomes of the Cumbria Alcohol Strategy. The Executive Groups of both partnerships have devolved actions to respective LSP and CDRP task groups. In South Lakeland, these currently are the Violent Crime and Respect task groups.

Binge drinking is a national and local issue and much of the work of both LSP and CDRP groups is centred on this. Both partnerships have recently taken part in a national consultation on a Code of Practice for Alcohol Retailers. Much work has been done by SLDC, as the Licensing Authority, Police and Trading Standards to ensure that licensed premises are well managed and sell responsibly. However, national research suggests that many people drink at home, prior to going out, often alcohol purchased at discount from supermarkets. There is no control over the amount drunk in this way and therefore difficult to assess the number of units consumed.

Looking at the South Lakeland Profile of alcohol related harm, published annually by the North West Public Health Observatory and Liverpool John Moores University, the Binge drinking (synthetic estimate) puts South Lakeland significantly worse than the England average.

Alcohol remains a major cross cutting issue for South Lakeland's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and CDRP.

### Current Partnership work

- Successful Barwatch schemes operate across South Lakeland, managed by the Kendal Business Against Crime Manager
- Operation Sapphire targeted the early evening night time economy, with high visibility police patrols as an early intervention tactic and utilising head cams
- Christmas alcohol campaigns running as part of the Home office alcohol funding allocation, raising awareness of the potential impact of too much alcohol, with press coverage, promotional materials and radio campaign

- Joint licensing and enforcement work between SLDC and Cumbria Police to target those premises with poor management
- 1 to 1 work with young people where alcohol misuse is a contributory factor to behaviour (either personal or parental)
- Supplying ultra violet lights to door staff and bar staff to help detect fraudulent ID cards in pubs and clubs
- Training provided for bar staff and premises licence holders on responsible selling of alcohol
- Intervention and Brief Advice training for front line staff to signpost on to alcohol services

Whilst nationally alcohol misuse has a high profile and the CDRP has a range of initiatives planned, respondents to the Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey 2008 placed Alcohol misuse 9<sup>th</sup> in the top ten worries and priorities. Under age drinking came 6<sup>th</sup> in the same survey

## **Conclusion**

Overall, the trend for a decrease in violent crime figures is expected to continue. Peaks in offenders under the influence of alcohol are expected in August and December. The ongoing consultation over mandatory conditions covering alcohol retailers may have an impact in the future, while the current economic climate may encourage more people to drink at home.

Performance compares favourably with the Home Office IQUANTA Most Similar Group of CDRPs, with some of the lowest numbers of crimes. However, both serious violent crime and violent crime have seen an increase in the number of offenders under the influence of alcohol.

## **Recommendation**

**Violent Crime, including alcohol related assaults to remain a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## **7.9 Burglary Other**

Burglary Other offences accounted for 6% of all crime during 2008 /09, a slight reduction from 2006/07. This offence type includes burglary from non domestic dwellings, for example garden sheds, pubs and shops. The area with the highest levels of Burglary Other offences in 2008 / 09 was Kendal and across South Lakeland as a whole, there were 280 recorded offences in 2008 /09, compared to 309 in 2006 /07, a decrease of 29 offences.

Comparing performance to our Most Similar CDRP Group, South Lakeland is well placed with figures below the group average for January – March 2009.

## **Current Partnership Work**

Although Burglary Other is not a current priority for South Lakeland CDRP, the Lock it or Lose it crime prevention campaign did raise awareness of making sure that all personal property, including homes, vehicles and sheds were secured.

## **Conclusion**

Based on the last 3 years data, a decrease is predicted for 2009 / 10. This does not take account of the economic downturn that has not been fully felt in South Lakeland. This crime type is not a current CDRP priority, but can be addressed through the Acquisitive Crime task group.

## **Recommendation**

**Burglary Other is not considered a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## **7.10 Business crime**

The business crime section considers offences where the victim of a crime is an organisation or business. In 2008 / 09, business crime accounted for over 28% of all crimes, compared to 24% in 2007 / 08. There has been an overall decrease since 2006 / 07 and the main types of offence included in the business crime category are theft, criminal damage and fraud and forgery.

## **Current Partnership Work**

- Financial contribution to support the Business Against Crime Partnership to expand shop watch and bar watch schemes across South Lakeland

## **Conclusion**

Business crime has seen a reduction over the last 3 years, though remained static over the last 2, due to a significant decrease in criminal damage matched by an increase in theft. Based on previous evidence, these types of crime, notably theft, are likely to increase during an economic recession.

## **Recommendation**

**Business crime is not considered an issue for South Lakeland CDRP but is addressed through the existing Business Against Crime South Lakeland Partnership**

## 7.11 Prevent and Counter Terrorism Strategy

**CONTEST** is the national counter terrorism strategy and has 4 principal elements

- **Pursue** – stopping terrorist attacks
- **Protect** – strengthening protection against attack
- **Prepare** – mitigating the impact of attacks
- **Prevent** – stopping people becoming terrorists / supporting violent extremism

The **PREVENT** element, is a key part of the counter terrorism strategy and has 5 objectives:-

- Undermine extremist ideology and support mainstream voices
- Disrupt those who promote violent extremism and strengthen vulnerable institutions in the UK
- Support individuals who are vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists
- Increase the resilience of communities to engage with and resist violent extremists
- Effectively address grievances which are exploited by ideological extremists

A partnership approach with local authorities and relevant agencies is considered crucial to progressing the Prevent element of the strategy, with Neighbourhood Policing initiatives key to facilitating the identification of possible radicalisation within communities, supported by partners.

It is acknowledged that existing and established partnerships, such as Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and CDRPs need to consider what contribution they can make to reducing the risk of terrorist attack.

### Conclusion

Undoubtedly responding to violent extremism is a very high national priority and within Cumbria, is a high priority for Cumbria Constabulary. Within South Lakeland, the response to violent extremism has not featured as a local priority in consultation completed in the last 12 months.

The resources of the CDRP are used to add value to existing services, where a specific need has been identified through intelligence and analysis of data. The results of this consultation on local priorities will determine the CDRP role in the Prevent strategy

### Recommendation

**Counter terrorism is not considered a priority for South Lakeland CDRP**

## 7.12 Road Safety

One of the Local Area Agreement indicators and also part of the National Indicator set relates to the number of people Killed or Seriously Injured (KSIs) in road traffic accidents. The data relating to KSIs in South Lakeland is shown below (Fig 10) and there has been an ongoing reduction in the number killed.

**Fig 10 KSI data from 2006/07 to 2008/09 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
<b>Killed</b>	16	10	7
<b>Seriously Injured</b>	76	72	77
<b>Total</b>	92	82	84

### Current Partnership Work

South Lakeland CDRP acknowledges road safety is an important aspect of community safety and considerable work is undertaken by the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership to improve road safety, build respect among road users and ultimately to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Cumbria roads.

Financial contributions were made to 2 initiatives in 2009

- Road Awareness Training run by Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service, targeting young people and anti social driving
- Roadside signage to target anti social driving

### Conclusion

The South Lakeland area has seen a decrease in KSIs since 2006/2007 and the trend suggests a further reduction on the current 2008/2009 levels will be achieved through the work of existing partnerships.

### Recommendation

**Road safety remains an issue to be addressed through the existing Cumbria Road Safety Partnership**

## 7.13 Hate Crime

This section considers data in relation to hate crime provided by Cumbria Constabulary and includes those crimes given a hate crime interest marker by police officers.

In South Lakeland, 1% of all crimes had a hate crime interest marker in 2008/2009, compared to 0.6% in 2007/2008. The areas with the highest level of hate crime in 2008/2009 were Kendal and Ulverston.

The breakdown of hate crime offences over the last 3 years is shown below (Fig 11). Despite a reduction in 2007/2008, there was a 43.8% rise in 2008/2009. Racially motivated offences were highest type of hate crime across all 3 years.

**Fig 11 Breakdown of hate crime in South Lakeland 2006/07 to 2008/09 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

type of hate crime	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	Grand Total
Homophobic	8	3	4	15
Racial	39	29	41	109
Racial & Homophobic	0	0	1	1
Grand Total	47	32	46	125

It is recognised that hate crime is under-reported, despite the introduction of ten 3<sup>rd</sup> party hate crime reporting centres in 2008. These include South Lakeland House and Kendal and Windermere libraries.

### **Current partnership work**

South Lakeland CDRP is not currently involved in any additional activity directly related to hate crime.

### **Conclusion**

Hate crime is not a current CDRP priority. However, levels of hate crime are reported to the South Lakeland Equality and Diversity Partnership on a quarterly basis, when current trends are assessed. Any concerns or potential projects where the CDRP could add value are notified.

### **Recommendation**

**Hate crime remains an issue to be considered by the South Lakeland Equality and Diversity Partnership**

## **8. Conclusion & Recommendations**

Based on the results of a recent Strategic Assessment, recommendations for South Lakeland CDRP priorities in 2010 / 2011 are listed below. Crime data will be monitored on a regular basis by all task groups, however the acquisitive crime group will monitor the impact of the current economic climate on burglary, vehicle crime and retail crime figures.

The current CDRP structure involves the facilitation and support for a number of task groups. The Executive Group reviewed the level of support and agreed to maintain specific focus on identified and agreed high priorities next year.

The following are recommended priorities for year 3 of the South Lakeland CDRP 3 year rolling Partnership Plan, addressed within the existing task group structure and approved by the Executive Group on 30 October 2009.

- ◆ Anti social behaviour, including youth disorder and criminal damage to be addressed by the Respect task group
- ◆ Acquisitive Crime, including theft of and from motor vehicles and burglary dwelling
- ◆ Violent Crime, including alcohol related assaults
- ◆ Domestic Violence to be addressed by the existing South Cumbria Domestic Violence task group

Substance Misuse (Drugs) to remain an issue for South Lakeland CDRP, with further work to be completed with Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) to determine the role and remit of the CDRP

Prolific and Priority Offenders to be addressed through the South Cumbria Joint Action Group

Public reassurance to be addressed in the action plans of individual task groups and take account of any work undertaken by other partnerships, for example, the Criminal Justice Board

Road safety to be addressed through the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership

Business crime to be addressed through the Business Against Crime South Lakeland Partnership

Hate Crime to be considered by the South Lakeland Equality and Diversity Partnership

The Safer and Stronger Communities Thematic Partnership be advised of the South Lakeland CDRP priorities for 2010 /2011

Issues or concerns discussed by any of these existing partnerships can be raised at either CDRP Task Group level or with the Executive Group.

## **9. Acknowledgements**

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## **10. Contact details**

Further copies of this document are available from the South Lakeland District Council website [www.southlakeland.gov.uk](http://www.southlakeland.gov.uk) or from the Strategy and Performance Unit, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4UQ. ☎ 01539 733333 or e mail [policy@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:policy@southlakeland.gov.uk)