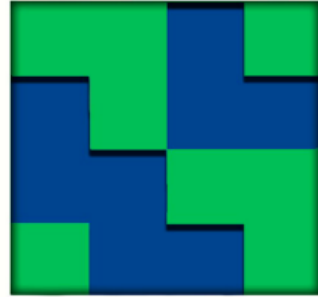


**SOUTH LAKELAND  
COMMUNITY  
SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP**



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**ANNUAL STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**PRIORITIES 2011 / 2012**

**OCTOBER 2010**

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## 1. Introduction

South Lakeland Community Safety Partnership (SLCSP), formerly South Lakeland Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, is made up from a mixture of organisations and voluntary groups who work together with a common aim to reduce crime and disorder and re-offending 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 SLCSP and these are South Lakeland District Council, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Constabulary, Cumbria Primary Care Trust, Cumbria Police Authority, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service and Cumbria Probation Trust.

SLCSP has a duty to review local community safety and crime priorities every year and this is known as the Strategic Assessment. The information is used to develop a 3 year Partnership Plan that clearly sets out how we will tackle key priorities, identified through community and partner consultation.

This Executive Summary 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 Partnership always seeks to focus on what added value it can bring to addressing identified priorities. For 2011/12, this will involve a review of the current task group structure and may mean that we target effort on a particular issue that has the greatest impact across a range of problems.

## 2. 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 2009 – March 2010, 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
- ❖ South Lakeland District Council
- ❖ British Crime Survey
- ❖ ACORN data (see page 5)
- ❖ Census data
- ❖ Public Consultation surveys
- ❖ Home office IQUANTA Performance Management data

A PESTELOG assessment was undertaken, looking at political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal, organisational and geographical issues that may have an impact upon the strategic analysis of crime and disorder.

### 3. 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 2009 – 2010, the Interim Place Survey 2009 results and the Community Voice Community Safety Survey 2010.

#### Interim Place Survey 2009 / Community Safety Survey 2010

Respondents to the Interim Place Survey (IPS) conducted in 2009 and the Community Safety Survey (CSS) 2010 gave us the following information:-

- ❖ Only **9%** think the level of crime in South Lakeland should be a priority for improvement although **53%** think the level of crime is important in making somewhere a good place to live (IPS)
- ❖ **98%** feel safe out and about in their local area during the day and **80%** feel safe out and about in their local area after dark, significantly above the Cumbria average (CSS)
- ❖ **10%** think anti social behaviour is a problem in South Lakeland, compared to 15% in Cumbria (IPS)
- ❖ **36%** think the police and other services are dealing effectively with anti social behaviour and crime (IPS)
- ❖ **50%** think parents take responsibility for their children, compared with 39.5% in Cumbria (IPS)
- ❖ **15%** think drunk or rowdy behaviour is a problem, a 5% decrease compared with 2008 (IPS)
- ❖ **16%** think drug use or drug dealing is a problem, a decrease of almost 4% compared with 2008 (IPS)

#### Crime statistics 2009 – 2010

- ❖ Overall crime levels **reduced** by 4% (188 offences)
- ❖ Anti social behaviour **reduced** by 11% (589 incidents)
- ❖ Criminal damage **reduced** by 17% (230 offences)
- ❖ Assault with injury rate (NI20) **reduced** by 12% (55 offences)
- ❖ House burglary **increased** by 31% (36 offences)
- ❖ Theft from a vehicle **reduced** by 8% (21 offences)
- ❖ Theft of a vehicle **reduced** by 1% (1 offence)

### 4. Context

#### 4.1 Local Picture

South Lakeland covers an area of 1,534km<sup>2</sup>. In 2009 the estimated population was 104,400 people with a population a density of 68 people per square kilometre. South Lakeland has a working population of 56% and the average house price is £260,586. Meanwhile the average household income is £31,113.

The table below (Fig 1) shows the estimated percentage population by broad ethnic group from mid 2007. 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	Cumbria	England
White	98.2%	97.9%	97.9%	98.2%	98.3%	97.4%	97.9%	88.2%
Mixed	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	1.7%
Asian or Asian British	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	1.0%	0.6%	0.9%	0.7%	5.7%
Black or Black British	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	2.8%
Chinese or Other	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.5%

## 4.2 ACORN data

ACORN provides classifications of residential neighbourhoods for the entire UK population. By analysing statistics, significant social factors and consumer behaviour, it provides information and understanding of the different types of consumers across the country. There are 56 ACORN codes, which are aggregated into 17 sub-groups and then 5 main categories. The table below (Fig 2) shows percentages for each main category in Cumbria.

**Fig 2 ACORN main category data for Cumbria**

Category Name	Allerdale	Barrow	Carlisle	Copeland	Eden	South Lakeland	Cumbria
Wealthy Achievers	28.5%	10.5%	21.3%	22.0%	48.6%	33.4%	26.6%
Urban Prosperity	1.4%	1.3%	3.8%	1.0%	3.2%	6.2%	3.0%
Comfortably Off	23.5%	25.3%	29.5%	23.4%	27.3%	36.4%	28.2%
Modest Means	20.8%	45.6%	20.7%	23.4%	11.5%	11.6%	21.7%
Hard-Pressed	25.2%	17.2%	24.4%	30.1%	8.8%	11.6%	20.1%
Unclassified	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	1.0%	2.6%

## 4.3 Vulnerable Locality Index

Cumbria Police have developed a new tool to assess priority areas called the Vulnerable Locality Index (VLI) The VLI score is calculated by combining the scores of the following 6 locality statistics, with a score of over 200 requiring priority attention.

- Burglary Dwelling – 2009/10 financial year
- Criminal Damage to a Dwelling – 2009/10 financial year
- Income Deprivation – from Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007
- Employment Deprivation - from Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007
- Education Statistics (those with less than 5 GCSE's) – from census 2001
- Demographic Statistics (those aged 15-24) – from census 2001

Significantly, there are no South Lakeland wards scoring over this level.

## 4.4 Related Strategies

SLCSP not only works to identify its own priorities for South Lakeland, but contributes to a range of local and county-wide strategies and indicators in relation to crime and community safety. The current 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
- ❖ NHS Cumbria Plan
- ❖ Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan
- ❖ Cumbria County Council Plan

## 5. SLCSP Structure

SLCSP 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 4 operational task groups of partners who develop action plans to tackle identified priorities. This structure will be reviewed following the consultation process and is likely to reflect different ways of addressing agreed priorities.

The Partnership is supported and managed by an officer employed by South Lakeland District Council.

## 6. Current South Lakeland Priorities

The priorities for South Lakeland CSP in 2010/11 are:

- ❖ Anti-social Behaviour, including youth disorder
- ❖ Criminal Damage
- ❖ Acquisitive Crime, including burglary and vehicle crime
- ❖ Domestic Violence
- ❖ Violent Crime

## 7. Data and analysis

### 7.1 Anti Social Behaviour

South Lakeland saw a 10% decrease in anti-social behaviour (ASB) during 2009/10 compared to 2008/09, from 5587 to 4997 incidents (Fig 3). The most common type of ASB reported was rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour (3483 incidents, 70%) and wards with the highest levels of ASB were Kendal Fell, Kendal Highgate and Windermere Bowness South. ASB accounted for almost 20% of all incidents reported to the police and consistently features in responses to locality Streetsafe surveys.

**Fig 3 Table showing Anti Social Behaviour incidents in South Lakeland from 2007/08 to 2009/10 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Incident Type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Antisocial Behaviour	6617	5587	4997

In 2009/10, youth disorder reduced by 18% compared to the previous year (Fig 4) with rowdy inconsiderate behaviour the highest incident category (1454, 90%). Wards with the highest level of youth disorder were Ulverston Central, Kendal Underley and Kendal Fell.

**Fig 4 Table showing Youth Disorder incidents in South Lakeland from 2007/08 to 2009/10 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Incident Type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Antisocial Behaviour	2334	1971	1615

SLCSP believes this reduction is based on work completed by both the police and partners; including the impact of successful operations, a wide range of diversionary activities, for example the Multi Use Games Area project and a co-ordinated approach at specific times of the year, for example Halloween and Bonfire nights, that historically cause a problem.

Although a Designated Public Places Order was made in 2005 to help prevent the consumption of alcohol in public places, we know that this remains a problem for some communities. We also know that young people will gather in groups, both for personal safety and as part of their social development. This can be intimidating for some and the Partnership has funded a project led by Age UK to consider how we can address differing perceptions across generations.

Despite positive Place Survey results in 2008, an ongoing decrease in anti social behaviour incidents of over 24% over the last 3 years, and most significantly, an overall decrease of 30% in youth disorder incidents over the same period, ASB continues to be a community concern. This is highlighted in the Cumbria Community Voice Community Safety Survey 2010, when 58% said the lack of crime or ASB incidents in their community was a key factor in influencing their level of confidence in both the police and local councils.

‘Sreetsafe’ is the name for a method of face to face 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, anti social behaviour including dog fouling, litter and youth disorder continue to be an issue in many South Lakeland communities, both in urban and rural locations.

Cumbria Police introduced Safer Stronger meetings in 2009 and these are held every month in each neighbourhood policing team area. They provide the public with an opportunity to raise concerns and to directly influence local policing priorities. Overall, anti-social behaviour, drinking and youth disorder feature regularly as community concerns.

In 2009/10, deliberate fire incidents accounted for 32% of all South Lakeland fires, a decrease of 9% compared to the previous year, with Kendal Underley ward reporting 23 incidents. The number of deliberate fires has remained fairly constant, with a very small increase of 2 in 2009/10, from 138 to 140 incidents and these were mainly refuse fires (Fig 5).

**Fig 5 Table showing deliberate Fires in South Lakeland from 2007/08 to 2009/10 – data supplied by Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service**

Incident Type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Fires (Deliberate)	135	138	140

Refuse fires continue to be a challenge, with spikes in activity related to Halloween and Bonfire night. We have developed close partnership working and raised awareness at these times, to ensure the swift removal of rubbish will help to reduce these numbers.

### **Current Partnership work**

- Monthly multi agency ASB panel meetings to address specific ASB cases and provide support to individuals and families
- It's Your Choice programme
- Reducing the number of young people getting a criminal record through restorative interventions
- Intergenerational programme run by Age UK to challenge the perceptions younger and older people have of each other
- Development of the Safer Schools project with all S Lakeland schools
- Youth work programmes through Young Cumbria, directed to locations identified by CSP
- 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 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 and those most at risk of being involved in a road traffic accident
- A range of diversionary sports activity based at Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) in Kendal and Ulverston
- Target licensed premises and under age alcohol sales through police Operation Siskin and Trading Standards test purchase operations
- Support Junior Citizen scheme aimed at Year 6 pupils across South Lakeland
- School exclusion sweeps are regularly conducted by the police and Education Welfare Officers, who have the option to issue Parenting Orders and Contracts
- 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, but with anticipated peaks during school holidays and particularly at Halloween and Bonfire night, in relation to deliberate fires. Specific initiatives and the allocation of resources will continue to be planned for these times, with ongoing work to further develop positive youth engagement activities, which remain a priority for the partnership.

At a local level, we believe the effect of alcohol misuse continues to impact on the levels of anti-social behaviour and is an ongoing concern, both for communities and partner organisations. This is reflected in responses to a range of consultation surveys. SLCSP led the development of an Alcohol Action Plan for South Lakeland and it is crucial that this work continues into 2011.

Nationally, the Coalition Government has already indicated that the structure of policing will change but the emphasis on localism will remain. The set of national standards that made up the Policing Pledge and the single joint police and local authority Public Confidence target have been withdrawn. Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), which were a key part of the previous government’s strategy to combat anti-social behaviour, may not be retained.

In these uncertain times for public sector services, partnership working and making best use of limited resources will be crucial to maintain a continued and lasting decrease in incidents of ASB.

### Recommendation

**Addressing the causes of anti social behaviour, including youth disorder to remain a priority for South Lakeland CSP**

## 7.2 Criminal Damage

Criminal damage accounted for almost 25% of all crime in South Lakeland in 2009/10 compared to 28.7% in 2008/09. The wards with the highest levels of criminal damage were Kendal Fell, Kendal Mintsfeet and Ulverston Town.

The number of offences has decreased over the last 3 financial years. In 2009/10 there was a reduction of 17% (228 offences) and this followed a reduction of 245 offences between 2007/08 and 2008/09 (Fig 6).

**Fig 6 – Criminal damage offences for South Lakeland 2007/08 to 2009/10 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Criminal Damage	1598	1353	1125

Although there have been year on year decreases in criminal damage, when we compare South Lakeland CSP performance to others in our Most Similar Group using the Home Office IQUANTA performance management tool, it is slightly higher than average and we rank 7 out of 15 CSPs, a 1 place improvement on the previous year. This means that other CSPs are also experiencing similar decreases in criminal damage.

The vast majority of known offenders are male and in the 18-30 age group and alcohol is almost certainly a contributing factor. The wards covering Kendal and Ulverston town centres, Kendal Fell and Ulverston Town, experience the highest levels of criminal

damage, along with Kendal Minstfeet ward. The environmental impact of criminal damage can also influence perceptions of levels of crime in an area and overall feelings of safety.

The Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey 2009 for South Lakeland highlights criminal damage and vandalism as the 6<sup>th</sup> most important neighbourhood priority.

### **Current Partnership work**

The CSP includes criminal damage with anti social behaviour in the work of the Respect task group. Projects are listed on pages 7 and 8.

### **Conclusion**

Over the last 3 years, criminal damage has been addressed with anti-social behaviour by the Respect task group, as we believe they are closely linked. Alcohol consumption can be a significant factor in criminal damage, often with incidents occurring on known routes home from town centres.

Although we are optimistic that based on this data, criminal damage will continue to decrease next year, a side effect of the economic climate may be a further increase in vacant properties, with potential opportunity for a range of offences, including criminal damage and arson.

In addition, performance against similar CSPs 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**

**Addressing the causes of criminal damage to remain a priority for South Lakeland CSP**

## **7.3 Acquisitive Crime (Burglary and Vehicle Crime)**

**Domestic burglary** accounted for just over 3% of all crime in 2009 /10, with a significant increase of 31% (36 offences) on the previous year (Fig 7).

**Fig 7 Burglary data for South Lakeland 2007/08 to 2009 /10 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Burglary Dwelling	113	115	151

The wards with the highest levels of domestic burglary were Kendal Fell, Kendal Oxenholme and Lakes Ambleside. Over **60%** of burglaries were opportunistic and due to

insecure properties where doors or windows had been left unlocked or open. The burglaries in Kendal Fell ward were due to one offender, who was apprehended and is now in prison. The area has also been subject to travelling criminals from other parts of the north west due to the excellent motorway and rail links. The offender profile shows that all known offenders, except one, were male, and mainly under 40 years of age.

Importantly, data from 1 April – 31 August 2010 shows a massive reduction in burglaries of 23%, compared to the same period last year. In addition, when we compare South Lakeland CSP with the most similar group of CSPs, South Lakeland's performance is 3<sup>rd</sup> best out of 15 and considerably better than the average. It is a similar picture when we compare performance against all North West Community Safety Partnerships.

Despite these positive figures, burglary has remained a priority for SLCSP due to the high impact on victims of this crime. When Cumbria Constabulary conducted the annual Public Consultation Survey 2009, burglary was the second most important local concern for South Lakeland residents.

Distraction burglary and purse thefts continue to remain an issue in South Lakeland, even though they account for only a small number of reported crimes. We believe many go unreported and perpetrators tend to target elderly and more vulnerable victims. Trading Standards have set up 'No Cold Calling' zones in South Lakeland in an effort to prevent bogus callers and distraction burglaries.

Crime prevention advice has been issued, through press releases, home visits, Streetsafes and public meetings, including Safer Stronger Community meetings and Neighbourhood Forums. Two 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 continue to run and the CSP also ran a Christmas Crime prevention campaign. The key message in these campaigns is how we can prevent ourselves being a victim of crime.

Last year, we anticipated that the economic climate was likely to have an adverse impact on acquisitive crime, including burglary, theft and shoplifting and this proved to be the case. Although performance so far this year has seen reductions in burglary, the situation continues to be monitored by the Acquisitive Crime task group, and they will respond to changes as necessary.

### **Current Partnership Work**

- The Lock it or Lose it campaign, to raise awareness about insecure properties continues
- The Keep it Safe campaign to target purse thefts through awareness raising and crime prevention advice. Over 5,000 purse bells have been distributed across the district
- The Business Against Crime South Lakeland Partnership (BACSLP) is supported by CSP. The Business Crime Manager oversees a radio link scheme for local shops and licensees and manages the bar watch and shop watch schemes across South Lakeland. The bar watch scheme links directly to the night time economy and is crucial to maintaining a safe environment for everyone to enjoy South Lakeland
- Targeted Streetsafe operations to build public reassurance, address concerns 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

- Maintenance of existing and development of new Neighbourhood and Community Watch schemes
- Door handle alarms provided to reduce burglaries at vulnerable properties and increase levels of safety
- Provision of bike marking kits to enable stolen bikes to be returned to their owners
- Crime prevention advice campaigns on the reverse of SLDC car park tickets, including messages relating to burglary and vehicle crime

**Vehicle crime** covers both theft *from and of* a motor vehicle. During 2009/10, there was a decrease in theft from a motor vehicle of 8%, 21 offences (Fig 8). The types of property stolen included bags, money and tools. Over the same time line, theft of vehicles also reduced by 2% (2 offences). Generally, Kendal and Windermere were the main target areas for both types of vehicle crime.

**Fig 8 Vehicle crime comparison from 2007/08 to 2009/10 - data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Theft from a motor vehicle	250	254	233
Theft of a motor vehicle	106	86	84

We compare favourably with our Most Similar Group for thefts from a vehicle, 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest figures out of 15 CSPs and better than average. We do not compare as favourably on theft of vehicles, 8<sup>th</sup> out of 15, but still better than average. Known offenders for both categories are almost all male, in the 18 – 30 age group. Victims are mixed, both for gender and age

As this crime type has seen relatively low levels of offences, the CSP mainly undertakes a monitoring role, with some additional resources to tackle vehicle crime through the ‘Lock it or Lose it’ crime prevention campaign and advice to drivers on the reverse of car park tickets. The police have utilised the Smartwater vehicle and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) as part of tactical deployment.

### Current Partnership Work

- Targeted crime prevention work in Lakes and rural car parks and beauty spots through Operation Trice
- Crime prevention advice campaigns on the reverse of SLDC car park tickets
- The Lock it or Lose it campaign, to raise awareness about insecure vehicles continues

### Conclusion

Comparing data over the last 3 years, burglary peaks are predicted between April and June 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 consistently makes 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. This tactic has already been used in South Lakeland.

When we look at performance against our IQUANTA Most Similar Group average for the 12 month period Sept 2009 – 31 August 2010, we have the lowest figures for vehicle

crime, just over 3 offences per 1,000 population and a better than average burglary rate of 2.7 crimes per 1,000 household. Ongoing crime prevention advice and education help to make burglaries preventable and these messages will remain a key part of police work.

In 2011, SLCSP's role would be to provide a flexible response to acquisitive crime and monitor trends. If there was a significant increase in burglary or vehicle crime, partners would consider what contribution could be made to add value to, but not duplicate, existing initiatives and partner core business.

## Recommendation

**Acquisitive crime including burglary and vehicle crime do not remain a priority for South Lakeland CSP**

## 7.4 Domestic Violence

In line with the Cumbria Domestic Violence Strategic Board Business Plan, South Lakeland CSP has worked closely with Barrow CSP to support a range of new developments across south Cumbria to improve domestic violence services and provide a consistent and equitable level of service to everyone. As services have improved, victim confidence has increased, leading to more victims coming forward and reporting incidents. In addition, partners are more focussed on dealing with and reducing the number of repeat victims.

Domestic Violence data included in this assessment is provided by Cumbria Constabulary. Over the last three years, reports of domestic violence incidents have risen from 653 to 772 (Fig 9) and this increase is very positive. Although the percentage of repeat incidents has dropped, this was well outside the target of 31%. The new target for 2010/11 is 28% and improvements need to be made in order to meet this target.

**Fig 9 Domestic Violence data from 2007/08 to 2009/10 - supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

South Lakeland	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Incidents</b>	653	650	772
<b>Repeats</b>	47.8%	42.2%	43.8%
<b>Arrests</b>	31.2%	29.5%	28.4%

It is worth noting that not all incidents lead to arrest, but police officers take positive action in all cases where there is power to arrest. Body worn surveillance in the form of head cams are used to provide indisputable evidence of injuries or to capture violent or drunken behaviour at a domestic violence incident.

We cannot under estimate the impact of alcohol misuse when we look at domestic violence incidents.

In a seven month period, from 1 March 2010 to 31 September 2010, there were 360 incidents reported in South Lakeland and alcohol was a factor in 170. This statistic is borne out in a national study entitled Safety in Numbers, the first large scale, multi site evaluation of Independent Domestic Violence Advisor services. The study followed the cases of 2,500 women over a two year period. In over half of these cases, the perpetrator misused alcohol.

### **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. A further IDVA is due to be appointed and will cover S Lakes and Eden
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) are held every 4 weeks in South Cumbria, targeting those most at risk, with referrals to the IDVAs for support
- 4 mobile domestic violence alarms continue to be distributed to those at high level risk of violence
- The Birchall Trust, formerly 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
- A poster and beer mat campaign ran during the World Cup targeting domestic violence through licensed premises
- Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action team appointed a part time worker to deal with alcohol and drug referrals linked to domestic violence

### **Conclusion**

Incidents have increased whilst the level of arrests and repeats has reduced slightly. It is anticipated that these trends will continue during 2010/11, but the end of year repeat victim figure is not expected to meet target. The economic situation, including loss of employment and financial pressure, does not appear to have adversely affected domestic violence figures, as was anticipated last year.

The implementation of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts, the introduction of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors and the impact of MARAC conferences have all had a positive impact. However, these services are subject to funding being committed beyond March 2011 and the loss of these services would have a major impact on users.

South Cumbria is still coping with the loss of the SAFE project in Barrow, after NSPCC withdrew locally based service centres as part of a restructure and this is a significant loss for the area. Domestic Violence, as part of the Violence against Women and Girls strategy remains a national priority.

### **Recommendation**

**Addressing the causes of Domestic Violence to remain a priority for South Lakeland CSP**

## **7.5 Reducing Re-offending**

Joint agency work to target prolific and priority offenders (PPO) is an acknowledged national priority. Since 2007, CSPs have the lead responsibility to ensure that mechanisms were 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.

In Cumbria, the award winning Scafell Project 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. It is 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.

From the 1 April 2010, all CSP statutory partners, now including Probation Services and Trusts, have an additional duty to reduce re-offending. Early discussions have taken place in Cumbria through a newly formed Reducing Re-offending sub group and an Integrated Offender Management (IOM) pilot scheme is due to start in West Cumbria in October. In South Cumbria, both Barrow and South Lakeland CSPs will monitor progress closely in order to develop and deliver an appropriate and sustainable IOM model for the area.

At 31 March 2010, there were 23 prolific offenders managed by the Scafell team in South Cumbria. Only three of these were resident in South Lakeland. During 2009/10, the monthly average of PPOs living in South Lakeland was four.

Measured at 31 March 2010, South Cumbria had seen a reduction in re-offending by prolific and priority offender clients of almost 75%.

### **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 reducing re-offending is a priority for South Lakeland CSP, there are no plans to duplicate the current effort or resources attached to the Scafell Project, by addressing this issue separately. We will monitor the progress of the IOM pilot in West Cumbria and use lessons learned to develop a sustainable model for South Cumbria

### **Recommendation**

**Re-offending to remain a priority in South Lakeland, addressed through the existing South Cumbria multi agency Joint Action Group**

## 7.6 Substance Misuse

This section looks at data in relation to drug crime, including possession and trafficking. The majority of the data is provided by Cumbria Constabulary. Data is also provided by the Home Office iQuanta system when comparing Most Similar CSP's.

The aim of the Constabulary is to increase the number of drug offences and hopefully reduce the number of drugs in circulation.

In 2009/10, possession made up 74% (208) of all offences. Supply made up 25% (71). Drug Offences accounted for 6.2% of all crime in 2009/2010 compared to 4.5% of all crime in 2008/09.

In the 3 years between 2007/08 and 2009/10, the number of drug offences increased by 18.6%, and this takes account of a reduction in 2008/09 (Fig 10) The three wards with the highest level of drug crime are Kendal Highgate, Kendal Fell and Windermere Bowness South .

Comparing South Lakeland performance with our most similar CSP group, we have the highest level of drug offences, with performance better than average. This means that we have detected more drug offences, though not necessarily that there are more drugs available in the district. However, an increase in detections increases the number of drugs removed from circulation.

**Fig 10 Drug Offences in South Lakeland from 2007/08 to 2009/2010 – data supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Type of drugs offence	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Drugs (Other Offences)	4	1	1
Drugs (Possession)	203	172	208
Drugs (Trafficking)	29	37	71
All drug offences	236	210	280

When we look at the offender profile, the vast majority of drugs offenders were male (90%), and predominately age 18 –30 years

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.

Key statistics on drug users in treatment during 2009/10 are:-

- ❖ **69%** (1228) were male
- ❖ **31%** (557) were female

- ❖ **96%** were white British
- ❖ **86%** were age between 20 and 44 years
- ❖ **24%** were age between 30 and 34 years, the highest number
- ❖ **75%** were using heroin as the main drug

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. Looking at results from the 2009 Interim Place Survey, 16% of South Lakeland respondents perceived that drug use or drug dealing was a problem, a reduction of almost 4% from the Place Survey 2008. However, this conflicts with the Community Voice Community Safety Survey 2010, when 29% thought drug use or dealing was a problem.

These surveys are based on perceptions and there is clearly more work to do to both reassure communities and advise them of the excellent work that continues to increase detections.

## **Conclusions**

Currently, drugs offences are on an upward trend and the year end prediction is for the number of drug offences to increase, based on the 12 month rolling total has risen consistently over the last 12 months. The number of offences is always dependent on specific targeted police operations. These crime types also link to acquisitive crime, particularly theft and shop lifting.

There are also a number of external factors to consider, including the fact that the use of some drugs is socially acceptable, some drugs can be sourced on the internet, the banning of mephadrone and other 'legal high' substances may increase the number of crimes in the area. (The Home Office has announced that Naphyrone – often advertised as 'NRG1' – and its related compounds are banned and made Class B drugs as of 23 July 2010, under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971).

Substance misuse remains an important issue for the area, with excellent existing work carried out by key partners, in particular Cumbria Police and NHS Cumbria, formerly 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 extra value can be added to this area of work.

## **Recommendation**

**Substance misuse remains a priority in South Lakeland. The issue will continue to be addressed through the Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and key partners**

## 7.7 Violent crime, including alcohol related assaults

There was an overall decrease in offences against the person of 14% between 2007/08 and 2009/10 (Fig 11), but this crime type still accounted for over 19% of all crime in South Lakeland in 2009/10. This performance is average compared to our Most Similar Group of CSPs.

**Fig 11 Offences against the person data 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
<b>Offences against the person</b>	1028	899	885

The wards with the highest levels of offences against the person are Kendal Fell, Windermere Bowness South and Ulverston Town. They are also the wards with the highest number of alcohol related offences against the person, even though this offence type has decreased by 32 offences (9.5% ) since 2007/08 (Fig 12) It is no coincidence that these wards include town centres and have the highest density of licensed premises.

**Fig 12 Alcohol related Offences against the person data 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
<b>Alcohol related Offences against the person</b>	338	356	306

Known offenders are predominantly male and highest number of offenders are in the 18 – 30 age group. The same applies to victims, but there was a significant number of female victims in the same age group, 104 females compared to 165 males.

It was acknowledged in the last Strategic Assessment in 2009, that alcohol was an issue that impacted on a range of crimes. In South Lakeland, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and CSP worked together to produce an alcohol action plan, based on the 4 outcomes of the Cumbria Alcohol Strategy. The Executive Groups of both partnerships devolved actions to respective LSP and CSP task groups. The Alcohol Action Plan has been refreshed for 2010-2011, the final year of the plan.

Binge drinking is a national and local issue and both LSP and CSP initiatives are centred on this. 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 alcohol at home, prior to going out, often purchased at discount from supermarkets. This is referred to as 'pre loading'. There is no control over the amount drunk in this way and therefore difficult to assess the number of units consumed.

The South Lakeland Profile of Alcohol Related Harm is a document published annually by the North West Public Health Observatory and Liverpool John Moores University. In 2009, it placed South Lakeland's binge drinking (synthetic estimate) as significantly worse than the England average. Although the profile for 2010 indicates that this has improved to

better than average for the north west, alcohol still remains a major cross cutting issue for South Lakeland's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and CSP.

### **Current Partnership work**

- Successful Barwatch schemes operate across South Lakeland, managed by the Business Against Crime Manager for South Lakeland
- Operation Sapphire targeted the early evening night time economy, with high visibility police patrols as an early intervention tactic and utilising head cams
- Operation Siskin targeting under age alcohol sales, checking visibility of appropriate signage and door staff
- Joint licensing and enforcement work between South Lakeland District Council's Public Health & Licensing team, Cumbria Constabulary and Trading Standards to target those premises with poor management, including under age sales
- 1 to 1 work with young people where alcohol misuse is a contributory factor to behaviour (either personal or parental)
- Intervention and Brief Advice training for front line staff to signpost on to alcohol services
- Improving the collection and sharing of alcohol related intelligence between partners to better inform targeted work
- Development of accurate data collection through the Trauma & Injury Intelligence Steering Group (TIIG) means that hospital Emergency Departments will provide alcohol related data that can be used by the partnership to help inform future work

Whilst nationally alcohol misuse has a high profile and SLCSP has a range of initiatives planned, respondents to the Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation Survey 2009 placed drunk and rowdy behaviour 9<sup>th</sup> in a list of 23 most important local concerns with selling / giving alcohol to underage persons 12<sup>th</sup> in the same survey.

### **Conclusion**

Alcohol related offences continue to cause concern, with performance slightly above our Most Similar Group average. Currently offences against the person, either with no injury or less serious injury, are on the upward trend, due to early intervention tactics and before serious assaults are committed.

Over the last three years, a number of successful initiatives have been completed through both South Lakeland LSP and CSP, linked to outcomes in the Cumbria Alcohol Strategy. Both partnerships understand that alcohol misuse and the long term effects on our communities will not be resolved overnight. This is a national, not just a local issue, with far reaching consequences that we can only estimate.

South Lakeland CSP is committed to addressing alcohol misuse and harm reduction. We will continue to work with South Lakeland LSP to deliver the Alcohol Action Plan, which will be reviewed for 2011/2012.

### **Recommendation**

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

## 7.8 Non- Domestic Burglary

Burglary Other offences accounted for 7% of all crime in South Lakeland during 2009 /10, with a year on year increase from 2008/9 to 2009/10 of 14.3% (40 offences). This offence type includes burglary from non domestic dwellings, for example garden sheds, pubs and shops. The wards with the highest levels of Burglary Other offences in 2009 / 10 were Windermere Applethwaite, Kendal Mintsfeet and Kendal Fell.

Comparing performance to our Most Similar CSP Group, South Lakeland is well placed with figures below the group average for January – March 2010. In South Lakeland as a whole, there were 319 recorded offences in 2009/2010 compared to 279 in 2008 /09 (Fig 13).

**Fig 13 Burglary other data 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Crime type	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Burglary Other	310	279	319

Offender data shows that almost all offenders were male, with the predominant age group 18 –30 year olds. The majority of victims were aged 41 – 50 years.

### Current Partnership Work

Although Burglary Other is not a current priority for South Lakeland CSP, several crime prevention campaigns covered all types of burglary, with the specific intention to raise awareness of making sure that all personal property, including homes, vehicles and sheds are secured.

- The Lock it or Lose it campaign, to raise awareness about insecure properties continues
- Christmas Crime menu leaflets, providing tips on how to protect property and valuables during the festive season, based on a restaurant menu
- Vehicle and property crime prevention on the reverse of SLDC car park tickets. This crime prevention

### Conclusion

Based on the last 3 years data, a further decrease is predicted during 2010 / 11. This does not take account of potential impacts due to economic changes. It is worth noting patterns of crime and it is possible to anticipate an increase in this type of offence during April and May. It is also worth noting that the wide spread of internet use had led to changes in patterns of crime and how thieves operate.

This crime type is not a current CSP priority, but is monitored through the Acquisitive Crime task group.

### Recommendation

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

## 7.9 Business crime

The business crime section considers offences where the victim of a crime is an organisation or business. In 2009 / 10, business crime accounted for 18% of all crimes, compared to almost 24% in 2008 / 09. There has been an overall decrease over the last 3 years and the main types of offence included in the business crime category are theft, criminal damage and fraud and burglary other (Fig 14)

**Fig 14 Business crime data 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Offence	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Burglary Dwelling	4	1	1
Burglary Other	143	113	90
Criminal Damage	433	350	259
Fraud & Forgery	64	69	27
Offences Against the Person	0	0	2
Sexual Offences	0	1	0
Theft	434	536	402
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	30	34	21
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	8	13	6
Grand Total	1116	1117	808

**(Please note that all instances of Burglary Dwelling are where a Business owns the dwelling that has been targeted).**

### Current Partnership Work

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

### Conclusion

Business crime has seen a reduction over the last 3 years, due to a significant decrease in criminal damage and 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 CSP but is addressed through the existing Business Against Crime South Lakeland Partnership**

## 7.10 Road Safety

One of the existing 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 15) and there has been an ongoing reduction across all categories over the last 3 years of almost 16%.

**Fig 15 KSI data from 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Year	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
<b>Killed</b>	10	7	6
<b>Seriously Injured</b>	72	77	63
<b>Total</b>	82	84	69

South Lakeland CSP 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.

In the Annual Public Consultation Survey 2009, both speeding and dangerous driving are identified as important local concerns by those who responded. Anti-social driving, for example, car drivers congregating in certain areas and driving round late at night in 'high performance' noisy vehicles is also a problem. Linked to this is the fact that when a car engine performance is improved, the safety features, such as brakes and suspension are not always upgraded. This is a concern for partners, in particular the Fire & Rescue Service, who work with local schools to raise awareness.

### **Current Partnership Work**

- Road Awareness Training sessions run by Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service, targeting young people and anti social driving at Kendal College and local secondary schools
- Road safety message included in the 2010 Junior Citizen scheme delivered to 800 year 6 pupils in 35 schools across South Lakeland
- First gear driving programme run by Young Cumbria across South Lakeland
- Roadside signage to target anti social driving

### **Conclusion**

The South Lakeland area has seen a decrease in KSIs since 2007/08 and the trend suggests a further reduction on the current 2009/10 levels will be achieved through the work of existing partnerships. SLCSPP acknowledges the work of the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership and seeks to add value, but not duplicate, effort or resources

### **Recommendation**

**Road safety remains a priority in South Lakeland and will continue to be addressed through the existing Cumbria Road Safety Partnership**

## 7.11 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, less than 1% of all crimes had a hate crime interest marker in 2009 / 2010. The wards with the highest level of hate crime in were Windermere Bowness South, Cartmel and Kendal Mintsfeet.

The breakdown of hate crime offences over the last 3 years is shown below (Fig 16) with a slight decrease of 5 offences in 2009/10 compared to the previous year. Racially motivated offences have consistently had the highest rate.

**Fig 16 Breakdown of hate crime in South Lakeland 2007/08 to 2009/10 – supplied by Cumbria Constabulary**

Hate Crime	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010
Racial	28	42	31
Homophobic	3	4	10
Racial & Homophobic	0	1	1
Grand Total	31	47	42

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. Further work is needed to determine if alcohol is a contributing factor to these types of crime.

Results from the Annual Public Consultation Survey 2009 indicate that hate crime was not considered an important local concern by those who responded.

### Current partnership work

A number of South Lakeland CSP partners have been involved in multi cultural activities including

- An Open Day to celebrate Windermere's multi cultural community was held at Windermere fire station, attended by over 100 people and also resulted in referrals for home fire safety visits and library membership

### Conclusion

Hate crime is not a current SLCSPP 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 SLCSPP could add value are notified.

### Recommendation

**Hate crime remains a priority for South Lakeland and will continue to be considered by the South Lakeland Equality and Diversity Partnership**

## 8. Conclusion & Recommendations

Based on the results of the Strategic Assessment 2010, recommendations for South Lakeland CSP priorities in 2011 / 2012 are suggested below.

The full extent of changes in legislation relating to CSPs is not yet known. However, based on an early round of consultation, it is expected that CSPs will be retained, with the continuing involvement of current responsible partners, but with some legislative requirements repealed. The production of a Strategic Assessment to identify local priorities and a subsequent Partnership Plan, outlining how priorities will be addressed, are expected to remain.

The current CSP structure involves the facilitation and support for 4 priority theme task groups. Public sector budget cuts and an anticipated review of the Local Strategic Partnership delivery will almost certainly require changes to that structure.

The following are recommended priorities for South Lakeland CSP in 2011/12, to be included in the Partnership Plan and addressed within an agreed delivery structure.

- ◆ Anti social behaviour, including youth disorder and criminal damage
- ◆ Violent Crime, including alcohol related assaults
- ◆ Domestic Violence

When we examine the underlying causes relating to these priorities, there is one common underlying issue; the impacts from the negative use of alcohol.

To avoid duplication of both effort and resource, the existing partnership groups listed below will continue to address the following:-

Prolific and Priority Offenders to be addressed through the South Cumbria Joint Action Group, with ongoing work to reduce re-offending with another identified cohort of offenders through the Integrated Offender Management model

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

Any issues or concerns discussed by these existing partnerships can be raised with the CSP Executive Group.

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

The Safer and Stronger Communities Thematic Partnership be advised of the South Lakeland CSP priorities for 2011 /2012

## 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 Partnerships and Communities Team, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4UQ. ☎ 01539 733333 or e mail [policy@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:policy@southlakeland.gov.uk)

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