

Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for South Lakeland District

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1 Local Context

1.1 ACORN profile

- South Lakeland has by far the greatest proportion of Affluent Achievers (ACORN Category 1); 40.2% vs. 20.3% for Cumbria.
- The proportion of residents in South Lakeland living in postcodes belonging to ACORN Category 5 (Urban Adversity) is 3.7%, less than a third of the county average (12.7%).

1.2 Geography

- South Lakeland is Cumbria's second largest district, covering 1,534 square km.
- Average population density of 67 people per square km,
- More sparsely populated than both the county and national average (Cumbria 74 people per square km, England and Wales 380 people per square km).
- 61% of the district's residents live in rural areas (54% across Cumbria and 18% across England and Wales)

1.3 Demography including Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups and migration

- Resident population of South Lakeland was estimated to be 103,300 persons as at mid-2014; a decrease of 400 persons (-0.4%) since mid-2004.
- The greatest proportional decrease was seen in Hawkshead ward (-14.8%) while the greatest proportional increase was seen in Kendal Fell ward (+22.8%).
- Compared to England and Wales, South Lakeland has an older age profile; with lower proportions of residents in each of the three younger age groups and higher proportions of residents in the oldest four age groups. South Lakeland's age profile is also older than the county average.
- Age profiles vary across wards. Kendal Kirkland ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 0-15 (Kendal Kirkland 22.9%, South Lakeland 15%, Cumbria 16.5%, England and Wales 18.9%). Inversely, Grange South ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 65+ (Grange South 46.9%, South Lakeland 26.2%, Cumbria 22.2%, England and Wales 17.4%).
- 4,569 (4.4%) residents in South Lakeland are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups (Cumbria 3.5%, England and Wales 19.5%). Across the district's wards, the proportion of residents from BME groups ranged from 1.7% in Low Furness ward to 13.3% in Windermere Bowness South ward.
- Between mid-2004 and mid-2014, internal migration (to and from other parts of the UK) and other changes (i.e. changes in prisoners, armed forces personnel etc.) accounted for a net increase of 1,400 persons in South Lakeland, while international migration (to and from overseas) accounted for a net increase of 1,700 persons.
- 5,009 residents in South Lakeland were born outside of the UK (4.8%).

1.4 Housing

- The median house price in South Lakeland was £201,800 in 2015. This was higher than the county average of £139,900 and the national (GB) average of £175,100.
- House prices varied considerably across the district's wards; Ulverston East ward had the lowest median house price (£109,000), while Hawkshead ward had the highest (£366,700).
- The median house price in South Lakeland was 7.3 times the median annual household income in 2015. This ratio was higher (less affordable) than the median affordability ratios for the county and nationally (GB); where median house prices were 5.5 and 6.1 times the median annual household income respectively.
- Ulverston East ward had the lowest median affordability ratio (4.7).
- Windermere Applethwaite and Troutbeck ward had the highest median affordability ratio (13.2).

1.5 Labour market and economy

- The median household income for South Lakeland was £27,500 in 2015. This was higher than the county average (£25,300) but lower than the national average (£28,700).
- The median household income varied from £20,000 in Kendal Kirkland ward to £37,800 in Whinfell ward.
- 12.1% of households in South Lakeland had an annual income of less than £10k in 2015 (Cumbria 13.8%, GB 12.2%).
- Kendal Kirkland ward had the greatest proportion of households with annual incomes of less than £10k (19.3%) while Whinfell ward had the smallest proportion (6.2%).
- During 2013, a total of 48,500 people were in employment in South Lakeland.
- Main employment sector is accommodation and food services with 8,600 employees, 17.7% of the district's workforce.
- 6,300 people work in the retail sector (13.0%), 6,000 in health (12.4%) and 5,100 in manufacturing (5,100%).
- In the quarter to July 2015 there were 1,447 job postings in South Lakeland, 21.0% of the county's total.
- In August 2015 there were 339 people claiming either Jobseeker's Allowance or Universal Credit (those not in employment) in South Lakeland. The claimant rate is 0.6%, the lowest (along with Eden district) of all the districts, and 1.3 percentage points lower than the national (GB) rate of 1.9%.

1.6 Poverty and deprivation

- 18 communities across South Lakeland rank amongst the 10% most deprived in England in relation to geographical barriers to services; with nine of these communities falling within the 3% most deprived in the country for this measure (these communities are located in the Whinfell, Hawkshead, Low Furness & Swarthmoor, Broughton, Staveley-in-Cartmel, Sedbergh, Lyth Valley, Crooklands and Coniston wards).
- 7.6% of children (0-19 years) living in South Lakeland are living in poverty, below national levels of 18.6% for England. This increases to 21.9% for children living in the ward of Kendal Underley.
- 11.6% of households in South Lakeland are in fuel poverty, above national levels of 10.4% for England. This increases to 20.7% in some communities across the district.

1.7 Health and wellbeing

- Average life expectancy for men is 80.8 years, significantly better than the average for England (79.4 years)
- Average life expectancy for women is 83.9 years, significantly better than the average for England (83.1 years)
- Life expectancy is 6.0 years lower for men and 5.6 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of South Lakeland than in the least deprived areas.
- 17.4% of Year 6 children and 22.1% of adults are classified as obese (rates for England are 19.1% and 23.0% respectively)
- 5.8% of people on GP surgery lists 2013/14 have diabetes, significantly lower than the England average (6.2%)
- Alcohol specific mortality rates 2011/13 (all ages, directly standardised rate per 100,000 population) for men (12.3) and women (4.1) are lower than the rates for England (16.6 for men; 7.5 for women)
- Alcohol specific hospital admission rate (crude rate per 100,000 population) for under 18 year olds 2011/12 – 2013/14 (78.8) is higher than the rate for England (40.1)

2 Crime and Community Safety Information for South Lakeland

Different aspects of crime and community safety are explored in the following sections to provide an overview of issues that affect South Lakeland district. An overview is provided for the following: all crime; acquisitive crime; violent crime; other crime; offending and reoffending; drug and alcohol misuse; road safety; and a summary of crime rate statistics. Unless stated otherwise, crime data has been provided by Cumbria Constabulary via the *Crime and Disorder Dashboard* to 31 March 2015.

2.1 All crime

South Lakeland district has the lowest overall crime rate per 1,000 population of all the county's districts (33.5 per 1,000). 13.9% (3,457) of the county's crimes were committed in South Lakeland. The trend for total recorded crime appears to be stable.

The following sections provide more detail regarding individual categories of crimes.

2.2 Acquisitive crime

Acquisitive crimes are those in which an offender acquires or takes items from another person, and it therefore covers a number of different offence types. The following sections look at theft from a motor vehicle, theft of a motor vehicle, domestic burglary and other burglary.

2.2.1 Theft from a motor vehicle

Thefts from motor vehicles fell by -39.5% (-58) compared to the previous year, represented the lowest rate per 1,000 population of all the county's districts (0.9 per 1,000) and continued a downward trend over a three year period.

2.2.2 Theft of a motor vehicle

Vehicle thefts in South Lakeland remain relatively stable in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. There were 41 thefts in 2014/15 compared to 40 in 2013/14. The overall trend over a three year period is towards a reduction in thefts (-10.9%, -5).

2.2.3 Burglary (dwelling)

Domestic burglaries rose in South Lakeland during 2014/15 by +40.0%, an increase of 26 recorded incidents. In terms of rates per 1,000 population, South Lakeland along with Eden district, still has the lowest domestic burglary crime rate of all districts at 0.9 per 1,000 population.

2.2.4 Burglary (other)

Burglary (other) reported crimes reduced by -17.7% (-51) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, and continue a downward trend over a three year period.

2.3 Violent Crime

Violent crime is a crime in which an offender uses or threatens force upon a victim. The following sections look at various aspects of violent crime: violence against the person; alcohol related offences; domestic abuse; and sexual offences.

2.3.1 Violence against the person

The number of reported “violence against the person” crimes in South Lakeland rose by +22.8% (+165) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, less than the average for the county. The district has the second lowest crime rate per 1,000 population of all Cumbria’s districts (8.6 per 1,000).

Increases are thought to reflect changes in police recording practices rather than an actual rise in violent crime (*Office for National Statistics, 2015a*).

2.3.2 Alcohol related offences

During 2014/15, there were 514 recorded instances of alcohol-related crimes in South Lakeland district. This represents 14.9% of all recorded crimes in the district, and makes up 37.2% (331) of violence against the person offences, and 12.2% (18) of sexual offences. Alcohol-related recorded crimes have increased by +12.2% (+56) compared to the previous year, and by +2.0% (+10) over a three year period. The crime rate of 5.0 per 1,000 population is the second lowest in the county.

2.3.3 Domestic abuse

Instances of recorded domestic abuse fell by -1.4% (-11) in South Lakeland in 2014/15 when compared to the previous year. However, the numbers involved in this decrease are relatively small, and it is considered that this does not necessarily reflect a downward trend. However, there has been a decrease in the number of repeat incidents (-10.5%). Repeat victims account for 29.4% of all South Lakeland’s reported domestic abuse incidents in 2014/15, a decrease of -3.0 percentage points compared to the previous year.

2.3.4 Sexual offences

Reporting of sexual offences increased by +105.6% (+76) in the South Lakeland district in 2014/15; this is the highest increase of all the county’s districts. Alcohol-related sexual offences accounted for 12.2% (18) of the total, lower than the average for the county.

The increase in reported crimes is generally attributed to the increased willingness of victims to come forward, in addition to improved recording of crimes (*Office for National Statistics, 2015a*).

2.4 Other crime

The following sections look at other areas of crime not captured in other sections. The following aspects are covered: business crime; anti-social behaviour; criminal damage; deliberate fires; and hate crime.

2.4.1 Business crime

Business crime has increased in South Lakeland by +18.6% (+110) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. Shoplifting makes up 38.6% (271) of the total business crime in South Lakeland. Criminal damage and all other theft offences account for 24.8% (174) and 17.8% (125) respectively.

2.4.2 Anti-social behaviour

Recorded anti-social behaviour incidents and youth anti-social behaviour incidents fell by -12.1% (-384) and -11.6% (-74) respectively in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. Crime rates for anti-social behaviour and youth anti-social behaviour in South Lakeland district are lower than the average for the county.

2.4.3 Criminal damage

South Lakeland district saw a large increase in the number of recorded criminal damage (including arson) crimes in 2014/15 compared to the previous year (+20.8%, +120). All other districts (with the exception of Eden) saw a decrease. Arson crimes accounted for 2.6% (18) of the total, lower than the average for the county.

2.4.4 Deliberate fires

Deliberate fires increased in South Lakeland in 2014/15 by +57.1% (+24), the highest increase of all the districts. The number of all fires increased by +25.2% (+57) over the same period. A total of 66 deliberate fires occurred in South Lakeland wards in 2014/15; this is 11.7% of the county's total. There were 9 deliberate fire incidents in Kendal Fell ward, and 7 each in Kendal Mintsfeet and Lyth Valley (*Cumbria County Council, 2015b*).

2.4.5 Hate crime

Reported hate crimes increased by +14.8% (+4) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. However, the numbers involved are relatively small, and it is therefore not considered to be a significant change. South Lakeland district has the lowest hate crime rate in the county (0.3 per 1,000) along with Eden district. Over half of hate crimes were racially motivated (51.6%; 16) with a further 25.8% (8) motivated by sexual orientation.

2.5 Offending and reoffending

2.5.1 Offending

Robbery and violence account for 31.3% (61) of all offences committed by offenders managed by the Kendal office of the Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company. Public order offences account for 10.8% (21), slightly higher than the county average, whilst drug possession and / or supply make up 9.2% (18) of offences. Drink driving offences are higher than the county average, 7.7% (15) compared to 4.7% for the rest of Cumbria (*Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, 2015*).

2.5.2 Reoffending

Ministry of Justice proven Reoffending data (2012/13) shows that 21.8% (145) of offenders in the South Lakeland district went on to reoffend, an increase of +1.9 percentage points compared to the previous year. The average number of re-offences per reoffender is the lowest of all Cumbria's districts at 2.7, but is still an increase of +9.4%. The average number of re-offences per offender is 0.6 representing an increase of +19.9% (*Ministry of Justice, 2015*).

2.6 Drug and alcohol misuse

The consequences of drug and alcohol misuse across the district are serious and wide ranging. The following sections explore trends relating to: drug possession and supply; alcohol specific mortality; and rates of alcohol specific hospital admissions, including admissions for under 18 year olds.

2.6.1 Drug possession and supply

Reported drug crimes decreased overall in South Lakeland in 2014/15 compared to the previous year (-8.9%; -15) continuing a downward trend. Drug possession decreased by -14.2% (-21). The overall drug offence crime rate for the district is the lowest of all the county's districts at 1.5 per 1,000 population.

2.6.2 Substance misuse

During 2014/15, 399 service users in South Lakeland came into contact with Unity (the provider of statutory drug and alcohol services in Cumbria), a slight decrease of -2.4% (-10) compared to the previous year. The majority of clients (52.1%; 208) use the service for alcohol related issues; 47.9% (191) for drug related issues. Heroin is the primary drug for 30.6% of drug users in South Lakeland. Men account for 60.4% of all service users; almost half (46.1%) of all service users are aged from 30 to 44; and 24.6% of all service users have children living with them (*Unity, 2015*).

2.6.3 Alcohol specific mortality

The alcohol specific mortality rate for males in South Lakeland district for 2011-13 (12.3 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is better than the regional average (23.3 per 100,000) and not significantly different to the average for England (16.6 per 100,000).

For females, the rate (4.1 per 100,000) is also better than the regional average (11.4 per 100,000) and again not significantly different to the average for England (7.5 per 100,000).

The male mortality rate has increased by +51.4% compared to the previous period (2010-12), the highest increase of any district. Female mortality rates have decreased by -43.8%. South Lakeland has the lowest female alcohol specific mortality rate of all the districts. In total, 20 males and 8 females lost their lives from alcohol specific causes in 2011-13 (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

2.6.4 Hospital admissions – alcohol specific (all)

The rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions in South Lakeland in 2013/14 for all persons and all age groups (333.9 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is better than the county and regional average (425.0 and 559.4 per 100,000 respectively). It is also significantly better than the average for England (373.8 per 100,000). However, admissions have increased by +19.2% compared to the previous year (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

2.6.5 Hospital admissions – alcohol specific (under 18 year olds)

The rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions in South Lakeland during 2011/12 to 2013/14 for young people aged under 18 years (78.8 per 100,000 population, crude rate) is worse than the regional average (60.4 per 100,000) and significantly worse than the average for England (40.1 per 100,000). South Lakeland is the only district where alcohol specific hospital admissions are increasing. There were 45 admissions during 2011/12 to 2013/14. Rates have increased by +11.3% compared to figures available for 2010/11 to 2012/13 and by +12.8% compared to 2009/10 to 2011/12 (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

2.7 Road Safety: Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) statistics

South Lakeland has the highest number of people killed or seriously injured on its roads. Throughout 2014, 56 people were killed or seriously injured. This is 13 less than in 2013, representing a decrease of -18.8% (*Cumbria Road Safety Partnership, 2015*). The Public Consultation Survey carried out in 2013 by Cumbria Constabulary highlighted the main concern of South Lakeland's residents as speeding vehicles followed by dangerous driving.

2.8 References

A full list of references is provided in the *Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Cumbria*.

3 Appendices

3.1 Appendix: Crime rate statistical summary for South Lakeland district with county comparison

Indicator	South Lakeland			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
Total crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2014/15	3,457	33.5	No change	24,803	49.8	Up
Acquisitive crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Theft from a motor vehicle	89	0.9	Down	737	1.5	Down
Theft of a motor vehicle	41	0.4	No change	293	0.6	Down
Burglary (dwelling)	91	0.9	Up	717	1.4	Up
Burglary (other)	237	2.3	Down	1,226	2.5	Down
Violent crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Violence against the person	889	8.6	Up	6,558	13.2	Up
Alcohol related offences	514	5.0	Up	2,212	4.4	Up
Domestic abuse	783	7.6	No change	7,046	14.2	Up
Sexual offences	148	1.4	Up	701	1.4	Up
Other crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Business crime	702	6.8	Up	4,533	9.1	No change
Anti-social behaviour	2,793	27.0	Down	20,201	40.6	Down
Anti-social behaviour involving young people	566	5.5	Down	3,792	7.6	Down
Criminal damage (including arson)	697	6.7	Up	4,948	9.9	Down
Deliberate fires	66	0.6	Up	565	1.1	Down
Hate crime	31	0.3	No change	338	0.7	Up
Reoffending (re-offences / rate per reoffender) 2012/13	397	2.7	No change	4,146	3.1	Up

Indicator	South Lakeland			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
Drug and alcohol misuse						
Drug possession and supply (per 1,000 population, 2014/15)	154	1.5	Down	1,383	2.8	Down
Alcohol specific mortality: males (all ages, DSR, per 100,000 population 2011-13)	20	12.3	Up	119	15.4	No change
Alcohol specific mortality: females (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2011-13)	8	4.1	Down	62	7.7	No change
Alcohol specific hospital admissions: all persons (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2013/14)	345	333.9	Up	2,100	425.0	Up
Alcohol specific hospital admissions: under 18 year olds (crude rate per 100,000 population 2011/12-2013/14)	45	78.8	Up	195	68.0	Down
Road Safety: Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) statistics (rate per 1,000 population) 2014	56	0.5	Down	226	0.5	Down

(DSR: directly standardised rate)