

Blackpool Community Safety Plan 2026–2029



Working together to make a difference



Contents

Foreword	01	Supporting National Priorities – Counter Terrorism	16
Introduction	02	Reducing Reoffending	17
B Safe and it's Responsibilities	03	Partnership and Accountability	18
Our Vision and Strategic Priorities	04	Governance and Delivery	19
Community Engagement	05	Monitoring and Evaluation	20
Blackpool Community Safety Profile	06	Data, Evaluation and Continuous Improvement	21
Our Strategic Priorities 2026–2029	10	Partner Support	22
<i>Priority 1: Violent Crime</i>	11		
<i>Priority 2: ASB and Priority Crime</i>	12		
<i>Priority 3: Vulnerability and Exploitation</i>	13		
<i>Priority 4: Substance Use and Related Harm</i>	14		
<i>Priority 5: Community Confidence</i>	15		

Foreword

Blackpool is a town with enormous strengths, shaped by resilient communities and a shared commitment to creating a safer, stronger future for everyone who lives, works, and visits here. Yet we continue to face significant and evolving challenges, many of which have a profound impact on our most vulnerable residents. This Community Safety Plan sets out how, together, we will respond to those challenges with determination, partnership, and purpose.

Our local priorities are grounded in the evidence presented in Blackpool’s Strategic Assessment, which highlights the issues causing the greatest harm across our town. These include domestic abuse, violence against women and girls, serious violence, criminal and sexual exploitation, organised crime, road safety, public transport and anti-social behaviour. These challenges do not occur in isolation, they intersect with wider deprivation, health inequalities, and social vulnerability, all of which remain key concerns for Blackpool.

This plan reflects our commitment to addressing these priorities head-on. It outlines our ambition to reduce harm, safeguard those at risk, and tackle the root causes of crime and disorder. It also reinforces the importance of strong multi agency collaboration – between the Council, police, health partners, fire and rescue services, probation, the voluntary and community sector, and local residents through the BSafe Community Safety Partnership.

We recognise that creating safer communities is not solely about enforcement; it is also about prevention, early intervention, and supporting individuals and families before issues escalate. That means focusing on what our residents tell us matters most – anti social behaviour, exploitation, domestic abuse, sexual violence, serious and organised crime, and road safety issues repeatedly raised during local engagement and priority setting consultations.

As an elected member, I am proud to endorse this plan. It represents our collective ambition for a Blackpool where every person feels safe, protected, and able to thrive. By continuing to listen to our communities, share intelligence across partners, and deliver evidence-based action, we can make meaningful, lasting change for our town.



Councillor Paula Burdess
*Cabinet Member for Community Safety,
Street Scene and Neighbourhoods*

Introduction

Community Safety Partnerships are a requirement of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Blackpool's partnership is made up of representatives from Lancashire Police, Blackpool Council, Lancashire Fire and Rescue (LFRS), Integrated Care Board (ICB), and The National Probation Services (NPS). These are known as the 'responsible authorities'. Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is an amalgamation of the Drug Action Team (DAT) and CSP and known as BSafe Blackpool. The responsible authorities have a legal obligation to work collaboratively to problem solve crime, disorder, substance misuse, reduce reoffending and serious violence. As well as work together to protect our local communities and help them feel safer. They work together to manage local issues including antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol use, and re-offending. The CSP work together with local residents, businesses and partners to agree local priorities.

Partners in Blackpool have worked creatively to develop more robust and transparent community safety and safeguarding arrangements. Some Blackpool communities

are still experiencing high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and there is more to do, to reduce re-offending, support those experiencing drug or alcohol-related harms, improve the life chances of young people as well as continue to prevent, detect and disrupt crime appropriately. BSafe Blackpool will continue to work together collaboratively using a public health approach to design out priority crime. Effective, efficient and impactful partnership working will be central to the successful delivery of Blackpool's Community Safety Strategy. The BSafe Strategic Board gives clear governance over the operational delivery groups.

Partners in Blackpool are committed to maximising the integration of safeguarding and community safety by adopting a whole system public health approach to addressing vulnerability and exploitation. The new partnership arrangement promotes a shared commitment to work together and is designed to embed joint working, consistency and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.



B Safe and it's Responsibilities

The Blackpool Community Safety Partnership (CSP) - B Safe is a statutory consortium of organisations that collaborate to develop and implement strategies aimed at combating crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, and reducing re-offending in Blackpool. The partnership is dedicated to delivering community safety priorities as part of a comprehensive strategy for integrated care, health, and wellbeing.

The Partnership is responsible for producing a Community Safety Plan, which is integrated within a strategic framework that includes the Children and Young People's plan and the Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Board strategic plan. This plan also complements the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's, Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire, outlining the strategy that partners will adopt to address community safety challenges in Blackpool from 2026 to 2029.

The priorities established in this plan aim to tackle those crimes that most significantly affect our local communities, such as anti-social behaviour and violent crime. It seeks to support and protect victims of abuse, serious violent crime, including violence against women and girls, youth crime, and county lines. We encourage you to join us in our mission to turn the objectives outlined in this plan into reality, ensuring that Blackpool remains a place where people feel safe and valued.

This group includes the statutory responsible authorities, as outlined within the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, as amended by the 1999 Youth Justice & Criminal Evidence Act, the 2000 Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing Act), the 2001 Anti-Terrorism, Crime & Security Act, the 2002 Police Reform Act, the 2006 Police Justice Act, the 2009 Policing and Crime Act and the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour Crime & Policing Act, the 2015 Serious Crime Act, the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act, and the Serious Violence Duty.

Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership – B Safe is responsible for a vast range of activities, but the statutory obligations are to:

- set up a strategic group to direct the work of the partnership (Community Safety Partnership Board);
- regularly engage and consult with the community about their priorities and the progress in achieving them;
- set up protocols and systems for sharing information;
- analyse a wide range of data, including crime levels and patterns, in order to identify priorities in an annual strategic assessment;
- set out a partnership plan and monitor progress; and
- commission Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs).

Delivering safer communities through effective partnership working is essentially the purpose of the group. Partners will work collectively so people living in Blackpool both feel safe and are as safe as possible from the impact of crime and anti social behaviour in our communities. Fear of crime impacts on people's quality of life and harms communities. This document sets out the proposal for how the partners in Blackpool intend to co-ordinate their community safety and safeguarding agendas to protect and keep Blackpool residents and our communities safe.

This partnership plan outlines our primary strategic community safety objectives for Blackpool. We will conduct an annual review of these priorities to ensure they align with the needs of our residents and communities, tackling emerging issues.

By collaborating with residents, businesses and partners, our strategy in Blackpool emphasises prevention and early intervention. By leveraging shared knowledge, expertise, and intelligence, we can avert issues or address them promptly to prevent escalation into broader community safety concerns.

Residents of Blackpool have the right to live, work, and study in communities that are safe and of which they can be proud. We will continue to enhance the existing strengths of the partnership and improve the quality of life for those who live, work, study, or visit Blackpool.

Our Vision and Strategic Priorities



To make Blackpool a safer, healthier, and more resilient town by reducing crime, protecting the vulnerable, and increasing community confidence through collaborative, evidence-based action.

Blackpool aims to be a community where individuals feel secure, with crime and anti-social behaviour being the exception rather than the norm. It will also serve as a place where everyone can participate and feel included in a manner that suits their needs, fostering mutual understanding and respect among individuals, while communities actively engage in decisions that impact them. We will strive to connect directly with an even greater number of residents and businesses to comprehend and address the issues that matter most to them.



Community Engagement

Every three years CSPs are required to do a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) and district profile to identify the issues that are causing the most harm. As part of this process consultation takes place across partners and community groups. This includes face-to-face consultation through local business and community groups such as PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings.

In relation to the community safety plan, the consultation identified the draft priorities for consideration. 122 people responded to the public consultation, with the strongest consensus seen for anti-social behaviour (100%, 121), serious and organised crime (98.4%, 120), violent crime (98.3%, 120) and road safety (96.7%, 117), which is based on the combined 'very important' and 'important' ratings within the survey.

Community involvement and engagement is essential:

- Individuals knowledgeable about crime and violence include local government officers, faith-based organisations, service professionals, and academics;
- Those impacted by crime and violence encompass victims, community members, leaders, local government representatives, educators, youth workers, and counsellors;
- People from diverse cultures, nationalities, languages, and interest groups;
- Individuals with special needs include those with disabilities, the elderly, youth, children, and women; and
- Professionals working in the field of crime include police officers, probation officers, representatives from the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Voluntary and Community Sector Forum (VSCF).

Identifying our Priorities

To identify the key areas of focus and priorities as a partnership, a comprehensive evaluation of crime and anti social behaviour had taken place which highlighted local trends and allowed comparison with Lancashire as a whole. Additionally, certain types of crime have been prioritised that inflict considerable harm. These prioritised crimes encompass acts of violence and offenses directed at individuals, regardless of whether they occur in public spaces or within the home.

While primarily designed to address and anticipate the local crime and anti-social behaviour priorities, they align closely with those set out by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the Lancashire District. This alignment will enable us to maintain close collaboration with county partners, capitalising on opportunities for joint initiatives and access to additional resources.

It is a known fact that outcomes do not always align with our expectations. However, by anticipating potential emerging issues, we can respond and mitigate so as to minimise impact.

Risks and challenges, along with potential solutions, were highlighted by the data shared during a Partnership development day in May 2025, this enabled BSafe partners to consider priorities, which was subsequently discussed at additional meetings. A final workshop meeting was held in January 2026 where statutory partners were invited to comment and contribute to the final priorities. It is also important to note that the Council's Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee carried out a scrutiny review in relation to the priorities in November 2025.



Blackpool Community Safety Profile

Blackpool is a unitary authority consisting of 21 wards and has ten times the number of people per square kilometre when compared with the England and Wales average. It is estimated that there will be little change in the population throughout the next 10 years.

Health

Health varies compared with the England average. Blackpool is the most deprived district in the Index of Multiple Deprivation against all local authorities in England. Approximately 32.9% (8,237) of children live in relative low-income families.

Life expectancy for both men and women are lower than the England average. There are also inequalities within the district between the most deprived areas and the least deprived – 13.8 years lower for males and 11.8 years lower for women.

Alcohol related hospital admissions have remained similar and are significantly higher than both the regional and England average.

Hospital admissions for intentional self-harm are decreasing but are higher than the regional and national average. Suicide rates are also above the national average.

Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) are significantly higher than the region and national statistics and are the 3rd highest across Lancashire when looking at rate per population.

Crime and ASB headlines

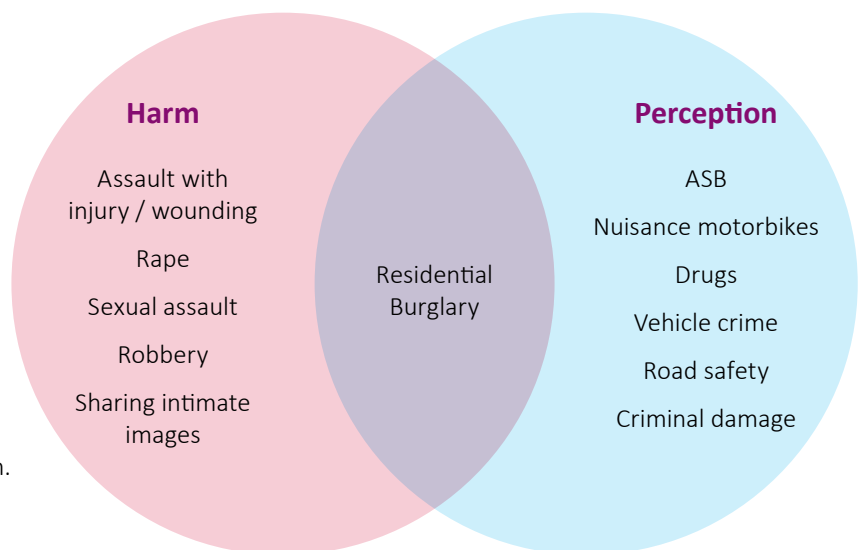
- There had been a 0.5% reduction in all crime from 2021 to 2024.
- Blackpool had the highest rate of all crime per 1,000 population across the county in 2024.
- There had been a slight increase in burglary. Blackpool had the highest number of burglaries by volume, and the highest rate across the county in 2024.
- Blackpool had the peak volume and rates across Lancashire for robbery, vehicle crime, and violent crime. The reoffending rate for all crime was 29.3% and was above the national rate of 26.3%.
- Anti-Social Behaviour incidents – Blackpool had the peak volume and rate per 1,000 population across Lancashire in 2024.

Harm and Perception

Office for National Statistics crime severity tool was used to calculate the level of harm of crime in Blackpool.

Lancashire Talking provided an indicator of the public's perception of the crime and community safety issues important to Blackpool.

Residential burglary is of concern to the public and results in a high level of harm.



Risks and Threats

A threat assessment undertaken by Lancashire Constabulary using the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement methodology found that the following crime types and issues were the highest risk across the Lancashire area:

- Anti-Social Behaviour;
- County Lines / violence related to drug supply;
- Cyber crime;
- Domestic abuse;
- Exploitation of young people – child criminal exploitation;
- Fraud;
- Gang crime;
- Homicide;
- Knife Crime;
- Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking;
- Road Safety; and
- Violence Against Women and Girls.

Serious Organised Crime

As part of Operation Genga (partnership approach to tackling organised crime) the following were highlighted as key issues of Serious Organised Crime for Blackpool:

- County Lines OCGs (Organised Crime Groups) supplying Class A drugs;
- Utilisation of E-bikes to deal drugs from;
- Exploitation of the vulnerable – to deal drugs;
- OCG violence including the use of weapons; and
- Sexual exploitation.

Road Safety

- The number of collisions (all severities) have remained similar in recent years with the exception of lower totals in 2020 (n=245) and in 2023 (n=279). There were 325 collisions in 2024; with
- 96% of all casualties were involved in collisions on roads with speed limits of 30mph or less;
- 62% of all casualties were male, 38% female;
- The peak age groups for casualties were 15-24 years;
- 16% (n=20) of all killed or seriously injured (KSI) casualties in Blackpool during 2024 were cyclists, which is above the Lancashire rate of 11%;
- 20% (n=25) of KSI casualties in Blackpool were pedestrians, which is above the Lancashire rate of 18%; and
- The peak months for collisions were March, June, November, and December.

Victim Profile

- Where gender details were recorded 51% of all victims of crime were female and 49% were male.
- 78% of all victims were aged under 50 years old.
- The most prevalent group of victims were White British, aged 25-39 years.
- Domestic Abuse was a factor in 18% of all recorded crime.
- Assault with injury and assault without injury were the most common recorded offence type for both males and females.
- There is an overrepresentation of male victims of violent crime aged 10-49 compared to the overall male population breakdown for those age groups.
- A greater disproportionality can be seen amongst female victims of violent crime aged 10-49 compared to the overall female population breakdown for those age groups.
- The elderly are less likely to be victims of crime.

Domestic Abuse

- Females accounted for 73% of victims of domestic abuse (DA) and males 27%.
- The peak age group was 25-39 years.
- Victims were predominantly White British (95%).
- 28% of domestic abuse offences were alcohol related.
- Assault without injury, assault with injury, and stalking were the most reported DA crime types in Blackpool.
- The highest number of offences were reported in the Bloomfield ward, followed by Claremont, Talbot, and Brunswick wards.

In Blackpool, 55% of all domestic abuse victims fell within the “Urban Adversity” category (ACORN, Jan 2022-Dec 2024), which key characteristics include:

- Age 25-34;
- House – flat or terraced;
- Children at home – 1+;
- House tenure – social renting; and

This is disproportionate when compared to the Blackpool district population, where 35% make up this category. Therefore, showing an over representation of DA victims within the Urban Adversity category compared to the district population.

Reoffending

The reoffending rate for Blackpool is 29.3%, which is above the Lancashire rate of 28.1% and the national rate of 26.3%. (MoJ release Jan 25). Previous cohorts have shown that the gender split is 85% male, 15% female – this has remained similar in recent years. Males have a higher repeat rate than females. The ethnicity of 95% of repeat offenders is white. The repeat rate for white ethnicity is higher than other ethnic backgrounds. Peak age groups are between 25-39 years – over half of all reoffenders are within this age range. Peak crime types fall within the theft and violence against the person categories.

Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) features as one of the primary concerns for the people of Blackpool in the Lancashire Talking Survey. Annual totals of reported ASB have been reducing in recent years.

In 2024, the wards with the highest volume of ASB reported were Bloomfield, Claremont, Talbot, and Waterloo – these wards account for 49% of ASB across the district, with

- 19% of incidents were noise nuisance;
- 15% of incidents were neighbour disputes;
- 19% of incidents were youth related;
- 7% were motor nuisance related.

Peak locations include in and around the hospital, fast food restaurants, local parks, and railway station.

Substance Use

In 2024/25 there were 204 young people aged under 25 accessing treatment in Blackpool, 65% and 35% female. Fifty three percent of young people were aged 18-24, with 47% aged under 18. The main presenting issues included cannabis and alcohol, however, there had been an increase in the number of young people presenting with ketamine-related harm.

In 2024/25 there were 2,020 adults (18+) accessing treatment, 67% male and 33% female with 56% of adults in treatment being aged 30-49 years, and a further 31% aged 50+ years.

Fifty one percent of adults were in treatment for opiates and / or crack, 40% for alcohol only or non-opiates and alcohol and 9% for non-opiates. Polydrug use is being seen more frequently within treatment services and as a risk factor for deaths from drug use. This includes the use of both illicit drugs and prescribed medication, with drugs such as benzodiazepines and gabapentinoids increasingly seen alongside heroin and other opiates. Of the adults that required substance use treatment following release from prison, 77% successfully engaged in community-based structured treatment, compared to the national average of 57%.

In 2024/25 36% of people in treatment showed substantial progress in their treatment – compared to 38% for the England average.

Social and Demographic Inequalities

- Health and deprivation are determining and interlinking factors in community safety.
- Blackpool is the most deprived district in England.
- Life expectancy in Blackpool is lower for males and females than the UK average.
- The rate of employment (62.0%) has decreased over the last 5-year period and is lower than both the region (73.2%) and national rate (75.7%).
- Blackpool has the 4th highest rate of claimant count (6.0%) across Lancashire and is higher than the North West (4.4%) and UK (4.1%) rate. This count includes people on Universal Credit who are required to seek work and be available for work (2024).

- Homelessness – households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act is highest across the country (2023/24) and increasing.

**This profile forms part of the output of the 2022-25 Pan-Lancashire Strategic Assessment – it is accompanied by 13 other profiles covering the Lancashire district authorities and unitary authorities, along with a strategic overview at a pan-Lancashire level. Analysis in this profile is underpinned by the strategic threat matrix, developed on a Lancashire wide footprint, and highlighting some of the key threats at a local level. Existing Partnership Intelligence Assessments and local analytical products have been used to provide supporting evidence. Consultation with local stakeholders has taken place through local area Consultation Workshops (June 2024). The data parameters for analysis within this profile (unless otherwise stated) is within the last 3-year period.*



Our Strategic Priorities 2026–2029

Priority 1: Violent Crime

- Violence Against Women and Girls (Nighttime economy)
- Serious Violence Duty
- Domestic Abuse

Priority 2: ASB and Priority Crime

- Anti-social behaviour
- Environmental Crime
- Road Safety

Priority 3: Vulnerability and Exploitation

- Contextual Safeguarding
- Modern Slavery / Trafficking
- Cuckooing / Prevent
- Scams and Rogue Traders

Priority 4: Substance Use and Related Harm

- Mental Health and Associated harm
- Substance Use and Related Harm
- Alcohol Related Crime

Priority 5: Community Confidence

- Community Engagement
- Consultation and Campaigns
- Increase Public Safety / Reduce Fear of Crime
- Victim Focused Outcomes

Priority 1: Violent Crime

Objective: Reduce the incidence and harm caused by violent crime, including domestic abuse, knife crime, and serious assaults

Violent crime remains one of the most pressing challenges facing Blackpool, with significant impacts on individuals, families, and communities. From domestic abuse and serious assaults to youth violence and organised crime, the consequences of violence are far-reaching affecting physical and mental health, economic stability, and public confidence.

The BSafe Community Safety Partnership is committed to a proactive, multi-agency approach to tackling violent crime. This priority focuses on prevention, protection, and enforcement, with a strong emphasis on early intervention and support for victims. In addition, we will have a focus on violence against women and girls, particularly in the night-time economy, where we will seek 'Purple Flag' Status; Excellence in the Night-Time Economy Management.

We will continue to strengthen our response to domestic abuse, ensuring that victims receive timely, trauma-informed support and that perpetrators are held accountable. Through partnership with specialist services, we will improve pathways to safety and recovery.

Youth violence and gang-related activity will be addressed through targeted outreach, mentoring, and diversion programmes. We will work closely with schools, youth services, and families to identify risk factors early and provide positive alternatives for young people.

In collaboration with Lancashire Constabulary, we will support operations to disrupt serious organised crime, including drug trafficking and weapons offences. Intelligence-led policing and community engagement will be key to identifying and addressing emerging threats.

We also recognise the importance of supporting victims, not just through justice, but through recovery. Services will be expanded to offer mental health support, housing assistance, and advocacy, ensuring that those affected by violence are not left behind.

By taking a holistic and coordinated approach, we aim to reduce the incidence and harm of violent crime, improve outcomes for victims, and create safer spaces for all who live, work, and visit Blackpool.

Also, it is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnership to conduct and oversee DHRs, which will establish lessons to be learnt from domestic homicides, applying these, helping to prevent domestic violence and homicide and improve service responses, better understanding and sharing good practice.

Priority 1 will address violent crime including, domestic abuse, violence against women and girls and the serious violence duty by:

- Prevention and early intervention to address domestic abuse and violence through providing education and resources;
- Creating safer environments for women and girls, especially in the night-time economy;
- Strengthening multi-agency collaboration and responses through the BSafe Partnership;
- Providing visible and accessible support for vulnerable individuals;
- Proactively identify and pursue perpetrators of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls; and
- Promote trauma-informed services for victims of violence.

Measures of Success:

- Reduction in violent crime rates per 1,000 population;
- Increased successful prosecutions for violent offences; and
- Improved victim satisfaction and support outcomes.

Priority 2: ASB and Priority Crime

Objective: Tackle ASB and neighbourhood crime to improve quality of life and community cohesion

Anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood crime have a profound impact on the day-to-day lives of Blackpool's residents, affecting feelings of safety, community cohesion, and overall wellbeing. From persistent nuisance behaviour and vandalism to theft and public disorder, these issues can erode trust in public spaces and services.

The BSafe Community Safety Partnership recognises that tackling ASB and crime requires a balanced approach of enforcement, prevention, and community engagement. This priority aims to reduce incidents, improve perceptions of safety, and empower communities to take an active role in shaping their environments.

We will continue to deliver targeted interventions in ASB hotspots, working closely with Lancashire Constabulary and Blackpool Council, and in particular working closely with Business and Tourism Improvement Partnerships. Initiatives such as Pubwatch, Shopwatch, and town centre patrols will be expanded to further address disorder in the night-time and retail economies.

Prevention is key, investing in early intervention programmes, particularly for young people at risk of offending or disengagement. By working with schools, youth services, and families, we aim to divert individuals from harmful behaviours and promote positive choices.

We will also strengthen community-led solutions, supporting residents to report concerns, participate in local safety forums, and co-design improvements to public spaces. Environmental design such as improved lighting, CCTV, and green space management will play a role in deterring ASB and enhancing community pride.

Data sharing and partnership working will be central to our approach, by improving how agencies collaborate and respond, we can ensure that enforcement is swift, proportionate, and informed by local intelligence.

Ultimately, this priority seeks to create cleaner, safer, and more inclusive neighbourhoods, where residents feel confident, respected, and supported.

Priority 2 will tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime by addressing the following concerns:

- Drug-related nuisance (e.g. cannabis use, dealing from homes);
- Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour;
- Harassment and vehicle nuisance;
- Malicious communications;
- Noise complaints and neighbour disputes;
- Animal-related issues (e.g. dog fouling, barking);
- Fly-tipping, graffiti, and abandoned vehicles;
- Deliver targeted enforcement and prevention operations in ASB hotspots;
- Improve data sharing and reporting mechanisms across agencies; and
- Support community-led initiatives and environmental design to deter ASB.

Measures of Success:

- Reduction in ASB incidents reported;
- Increased community engagement in local safety initiatives; and
- Enhanced perception of safety in public spaces.

Priority 3: Vulnerability and Exploitation

Objective: Protect vulnerable individuals from exploitation, abuse, and neglect

Protecting vulnerable individuals from exploitation, abuse, and harm is a central pillar of Blackpool's Community Safety Strategy. Vulnerability can take many forms, poverty, homelessness, mental ill-health, substance misuse, or exposure to violence and often intersects with criminal exploitation, trafficking, and radicalisation.

This priority focuses on early identification, safeguarding, and multi-agency intervention to support those at risk and disrupt exploitative networks. The BSafe Community Safety Partnership is committed to creating a town where vulnerable people are not only protected but empowered to thrive.

We will continue to strengthen the work of specialist teams such as Awaken, which leads on tackling child sexual and criminal exploitation. Through improved data sharing, contextual safeguarding, and trauma-informed practice, we aim to identify risk earlier and respond more effectively.

Our approach includes supporting missing children, care leavers, and those at risk of county lines exploitation, ensuring that pathways to safety and support are clear, accessible, and coordinated. We will also work with housing, health, and education partners to address the root causes of vulnerability.

As part of our statutory duties under the Prevent strategy, we will safeguard individuals from radicalisation and extremism. This includes training frontline staff to recognise signs of radicalisation, strengthening referral pathways to Channel panels, and promoting community resilience against extremist narratives.

We will also focus on modern slavery and human trafficking, working with national and regional partners to identify victims, disrupt perpetrators, and raise awareness across sectors.

By embedding safeguarding into all aspects of community safety, we aim to build a system that is responsive, compassionate, and effective—ensuring that no one in Blackpool is left behind or exposed to harm.

Priority 3 aims to address vulnerability and exploitation, contextual safeguarding including child criminal exploitation and adults vulnerable to exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery by:

- Increasing our awareness and understanding of contextual safeguarding;
- Working to prevent exploitation; ensuring our interventions support and protect children, young people and adults at risk of exploitation;
- Increasing our success in respect of detection, disruption and prosecution; working to support those known to be exploited;
- Working alongside and within our communities to tackle exploitation;
- Strengthen capacity to respond to sexual and criminal exploitation;
- Improve safeguarding pathways for those at risk of trafficking; and
- Deliver training to frontline staff on contextual safeguarding.

Measures of Success:

- Reduction in exploitation-related incidents;
- Increased referrals and successful interventions by BSafe partners; and
- Improved outcomes for children and families receiving early help.

Priority 4: Substance Use and Related Harm

Objective: Reduce drug and alcohol-related harm through prevention, treatment, and enforcement

Substance Use continues to be a significant driver of harm in Blackpool, contributing to poor health outcomes, crime, exploitation, and community disruption. The town faces complex challenges linked to drug and alcohol use, including high rates of drug-related deaths, hospital admissions, and associated criminal activity.

This priority focuses on a whole-system approach, combining prevention, treatment, enforcement, and recovery to reduce the impact of substance use on individuals, families, and communities.

We will build on the foundations of the Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy, working with partners across health, policing, housing, and the voluntary sector to deliver coordinated interventions. Our aim is to reduce harm, save lives, and support recovery.

Key to this approach is improving access to evidence-based treatment services, including trauma-informed care and mental health support. We will expand the availability of Naloxone and raise awareness of emerging threats such as synthetic opioids.

Through initiatives like Project ADDER, we will strengthen enforcement against drug supply networks while ensuring that vulnerable individuals are diverted into support rather than criminalisation. This includes tackling county lines exploitation, where young people and vulnerable adults are coerced into drug trafficking.

We will also invest in prevention and education, targeting schools, families, and communities with information and support to reduce the risk of substance misuse. Peer-led recovery programmes and lived experience networks will be central to building resilience and long-term change.

By addressing substance misuse as both a public health and community safety issue, we aim to create a safer, healthier Blackpool—where individuals are supported to recover, and communities are protected from harm.

Priority 4 will address substance misuse and its related harms. The majority of this work is led through public health and its commissioned services. The BSafe partners will support this priority through:

- Prevention and early intervention through targeted education and awareness campaigns to reduce risk-taking behaviours;
- Support individuals vulnerable to radicalisation and substance use, use trauma-informed approaches and whole-family support models;
- Treatment and recovery through expansion of high-quality treatment services. Integration of mental and physical health services to support recovery and reduce harm with lived experience groups to inform service design and delivery;
- Disruption of supply and enforcement through Operations like Op Centurion to target organised crime and drug supply chains;
- Expand access to treatment and recovery services, including trauma-informed care;
- Increase distribution of Naloxone and awareness of synthetic opioids; and
- Support Project ADDER and other multi-agency enforcement efforts.

Measures of Success:

- Reduction in drug-related deaths and hospital admissions;
- Increased successful completions of treatment programmes; and
- Decreased drug-related crime and exploitation.

Priority 5: Community Confidence

Objective: Build trust in policing and community safety services through transparency, engagement, and responsiveness

Community confidence is the cornerstone of effective community safety. In Blackpool, we recognise that trust in local services, particularly policing, enforcement, and safeguarding is essential to building resilient communities and encouraging active public participation in crime prevention.

Over recent years, national and local trends have shown that public perceptions of safety can be influenced as much by visibility and communication as by actual crime rates. In response, the BSafe Community Safety Partnership is committed to strengthening relationships between residents and the agencies that serve them.

This priority focuses on transparency, accessibility, and engagement. We will ensure that residents know who their local officers are, how to report concerns, and what action is being taken in their neighbourhoods. Through initiatives like the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, we will provide named officers for every ward, ensuring consistent and visible presence in the community.

We will also expand opportunities for community dialogue, including PACT (Partners and Communities Together) meetings, public forums, and digital engagement platforms. These will allow residents to shape local priorities, share feedback, and hold services accountable.

Importantly, we will monitor and respond to public sentiment through regular surveys and feedback mechanisms. This data will inform service improvements and help us celebrate successes while addressing areas of concern.

By fostering a culture of openness and responsiveness, we aim to increase reporting of crime and anti-social behaviour, improve satisfaction with local services, and ultimately make Blackpool a place where people feel safe, heard, and empowered.

We need to work alongside and with our communities to co-produce solutions and reduce the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods. Priority 5 aims to enhance community resilience and confidence, and to improve trust and confidence:

- Measure trust and confidence through public feedback at PACT meetings;
- Improve communication and how we feedback to our communities;
- Reviewing complaints data and outcomes;
- Undertaking regular visible engagement events, such as Weeks of Action, community forums where communities can engage with service providers;
- Working with partners across sectors, listening to and co-produce and co-design solutions with local communities;
- Capture the voice of victims and communities to direct our work;
- Increase visibility and accessibility of police and community safety teams;
- Promote community engagement through PACT meetings and local forums; and
- Monitor and respond to public perceptions of safety and trust

Measures of Success:

- Improved public confidence scores in local surveys;
- Increased reporting of crime and ASB; and
- Enhanced community-police relationships.

Supporting National Priorities – Counter Terrorism

Counter Terrorism: The 4 Ps and Martyn's Law

The UK's Counter Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST, aims to reduce the risk from terrorism so people can live freely and with confidence. It is structured around four key strands, known as the 4 Ps:

- Prevent – Stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism through early intervention and safeguarding;
- Pursue – Detect, investigate, and disrupt terrorist activity to stop attacks;
- Protect – Strengthen security measures to safeguard public spaces, infrastructure, and communities; and
- Prepare – Ensure resilience and readiness to mitigate the impact of an attack and recover quickly.

Blackpool Council and partners have a statutory duty under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This includes working with Lancashire Prevent teams, local agencies, and communities to identify risks and provide support.

Martyn's Law – Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025. Following the Manchester Arena attack, Martyn's Law introduces a legal requirement for certain public premises and events to implement proportionate security measures. The Act strengthens the Protect and Prepare strands of CONTEST by requiring:

- Standard Tier (200–799 capacity) – Basic preparedness measures such as staff training, awareness, and simple actions to reduce harm (e.g., locking doors, identifying safe routes);
- Enhanced Tier (800+ capacity) – More detailed risk assessments, security protocols, and physical measures where reasonably practicable; and
- A regulator within the ****Security Industry Authority (SIA)**** will oversee compliance. Guidance will be published during the implementation period to support venues and event organisers.

Why This Matters for Blackpool

Blackpool is a major visitor destination, hosting millions of tourists annually and large-scale events at venues such as the Winter Gardens, Blackpool Tower, and the seafront. High footfall areas and iconic attractions make the town a potential target for terrorism. Implementing Martyn's Law and embedding the 4 Ps locally ensures:

- Safer public spaces for residents and visitors;
- Increased resilience for businesses and event organisers; and
- Stronger partnership working between the council, police, and community groups to identify and mitigate risks.

Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership will:

- Embed Prevent principles across safeguarding and community engagement;
- Support local venues and event organisers to prepare for Martyn's Law requirements;
- Work with Lancashire Police and Counter Terrorism Policing to share intelligence and deliver training; and
- Promote public awareness and reporting through campaigns and partnerships.

Reducing Reoffending

Reducing Reoffending and Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

Reducing reoffending remains a core priority for Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership. Persistent offending not only impacts victims and communities but also places significant strain on local services. To address this, Blackpool adopts the national Integrated Offender Management (IOM) approach, which brings together key partners – including Probation, Police, and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) – to manage offenders in a coordinated and proactive way.

IOM focuses on those individuals who cause the most harm through repeat offending, ensuring they receive tailored interventions that address the root causes of their behaviour, such as substance misuse, mental health issues, and housing instability. By combining enforcement with rehabilitation, IOM seeks to break the cycle of crime and support offenders in making positive changes. This approach aligns with the OPCC's priorities for safer communities and victim protection, and it complements Probation's statutory role in supervising offenders and delivering rehabilitative programmes.



Partnership and Accountability

Partnership and Accountability

The Blackpool Community Safety Partnership works closely with the OPCC to ensure that local IOM delivery reflects regional priorities and funding streams, while maintaining strong links with Probation for case management and compliance monitoring. This multi-agency model enhances accountability and ensures that interventions are swift, proportionate, and evidence-based. Through shared intelligence, joint planning, and co-location of services where possible, partners can respond effectively to emerging risks and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.



Governance and Delivery

Governance

The strategy will be delivered by the BSafe Community Safety Partnership, with oversight from Blackpool Council, Lancashire Constabulary, and other statutory and voluntary partners. Progress will be monitored through quarterly performance reviews and annual public reporting.

Strategic Delivery Groups

The oversight and delivery of the CSP priorities will be through strategic delivery groups (SDG), task and finish groups and area-based multi-agency partnership groups as required. The purpose of the CSP themed groups is to support a life course system approach which also addresses root causes. Partner organisations will work together to share skills, knowledge, and resources to effectively deliver our ambitions and make Blackpool a safer place to live in, work in, and visit. Ongoing insight regarding the effectiveness of activity across the community safety system will be monitored via the outcomes framework and supported by the multi-agency conversations between partners and stakeholders to account for their practice and performance in delivering the priorities and strategies.

The operational delivery of the partnership's ambitions joint is driven by our strategic delivery groups:

- Domestic Abuse Board;
- Women's Safety Group (VAWG);
- Contextual Safeguarding (Exploitation);
- Lived Experience Group (Voice of children, adults and communities);
- Workforce development (Training and awareness); and
- Audit and Assurance (Data / KPI's / Monitoring and Evaluation).

There are additional groups that will support the delivery on the CSP priorities and have not all been listed within this plan.

Each delivery group is required to update and own their own terms of reference that the BSafe Board will have sight of. Each group may appoint or remove members according to business needs. The strategic subgroups will have an agreed annual work programme to support the delivery of Blackpool's community safety priorities and track impact using the community safety outcomes framework. The strategic sub-groups will keep abreast of all national, regional and local safeguarding and community safety agendas and policies, linking with other partnership meeting and boards functioning outside the joint partnership arrangements, to maintain an oversight as to their impact on Blackpool. The delivery groups will horizon scan for external funding opportunities as well as support policy development in relation to new national, regional and local developments.

Members of the strategic delivery groups will be accountable and responsible for reporting and raising tactical and operational issues that need unblocking, identifying risks, sharing best practice and providing data to meet the BSafe community safety partnership outcomes. Members of the groups will be responsible for sharing and cascading information through their own agency as appropriate. Task and finish groups will be commissioned by the strategic delivery groups as and when required to deliver specific and timely pieces of work.

The chairs of the strategic delivery groups are responsible for providing progress reports to the BSafe board on the delivery of CSP priorities flagging any challenges or risks. BSafe deals with resolving partnership operational and tactical challenges and performance concerns and is responsible for escalating information to the Partnership Executive Board, as and when appropriate.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Community Safety Partnership Strategy priorities in Blackpool will be monitored and evaluated, ensuring transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. Each priority will be monitored using a mix of quantitative and qualitative indicators, including:

Priority 1: Violent Crime

- Number and rate of violent offences (e.g. assaults, domestic abuse);
- Victim satisfaction and support outcomes;
- Repeat victimisation rates; and
- Prosecution and conviction rates.

Priority 2: ASB and Priority Crime

- Volume of ASB reports and neighbourhood crime incidents;
- Community perception of safety (via surveys);
- Enforcement actions taken (e.g. warnings, dispersals); and
- Engagement in local safety initiatives.

Priority 3: Vulnerability and Exploitation

- Number of safeguarding referrals and successful interventions;
- Exploitation-related incident trends (e.g. CSE, county lines);
- Prevent referrals and Channel outcomes; and
- Training completion rates for frontline staff.

Priority 4: Substance Use and Related Harm

- Drug-related deaths and hospital admissions;
- Treatment engagement and outcomes;
- Naloxone distribution data; and
- Arrests and disruptions linked to drug supply.

Priority 5: Community Confidence

- Community confidence scores from local surveys;
- Community engagement levels (PACT meetings, forums);
- Complaints and feedback trends;
- Visibility and accessibility of local policing.

Data, Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

Data Sources:

- Lancashire Constabulary crime and ASB data;
- Blackpool Council service data (housing, youth, safeguarding, public health);
- Health and treatment service reports;
- Community surveys and consultation feedback; and
- Multi-agency dashboards and intelligence sharing platforms.

Evaluation Methods:

- Quarterly Performance Dashboards: Summaries of progress against KPIs;
- Annual Impact Reports: Narrative and statistical review of strategy outcomes;
- Community Feedback Loops: Regular consultation with residents and stakeholders; and
- Peer Reviews and Audits: External validation of strategy delivery and effectiveness.

Continuous Improvement:

- Use of real-time data to adapt interventions;
- Learning from domestic homicide reviews, case studies and best practice;
- Responsive updates to strategy based on emerging trends; and
- Integration of lived experience into service design and evaluation.

Partner Support

Partnership working is at the core of the Community Safety Partnership. All statutory partners must work together to agree on outcomes and actions in order for the process to run effectively and for the priorities to be addressed.



How to contact the Community Safety Team



Email: communitysafety@blackpool.gov.uk