

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –

TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2023

Report of the Head of Regulatory and Community Safety Lead Member: Executive Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods

Part A

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Purpose of Report

To ensure that the statutory responsibility to scrutinise the Community Safety Partnership, at least every 6 months, is undertaken effectively and to ensure the continued monitoring of incidences of crime in Charnwood.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the report.

Reason

Finance and Performance Scrutiny has been allocated the statutory responsibility to ensure that effective scrutiny of the work of the Community Safety Partnership takes place in the absence of Directorate Scrutiny Committees.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

There are no risks directly associated with this report.

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Caring for the Environment	Yes/No (*delete as appropriate)
Healthy Communities	Yes/No (*delete as appropriate)
A Thriving Economy	Yes/No (*delete as appropriate)
Your Council	Yes/No (*delete as appropriate)

Key Decision: N

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Part B

Introduction:

Charnwood Community Safety Partnership

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships are a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This was amended in 2009 to become a statutory Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The Charnwood CSP is a multi-agency partnership, working with the collective objective of making 'Charnwood a safer place to live and work'.

Its membership is drawn from a range of key agencies and organisations, some of which are required by law to be involved. The statutory agencies forming Charnwood Community Safety Partnership are:

- Leicestershire Police
- Charnwood Borough Council
- National Probation Service
- Health Service
- Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service

The above responsible authorities in forming the Community Safety Partnership, are required by statute law, to discharge the following statutory duties within Charnwood:

- The reduction of crime
- The reduction of anti-social behaviour
- The reduction of re-offending
- Tackling of substance misuse
- The reduction of serious violence

The Community Safety Partnership is also supported by non-statutory strategic partners in the execution of its duties. Examples of such agencies are Loughborough University/College, The Falcon Centre, Loughborough Business Improvement District (BID), Turning Point, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and agencies from the voluntary sector.

It is also a statutory requirement for each Community Safety Partnership to undertake an annual Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA) and to implement a three-year Community Safety Partnership plan.

For context, the Partnership Strategic Assessment identifies any emerging threat risk and harm related issues that may have relevance within Charnwood. It is this strategic assessment that shapes the priorities within the CSP's three-year plan.

On 20th April 2023, the partnership, following detailed analysis, adopted a new three-year strategic plan. In researching the evidential framework for the 2023-2026 Community Safety Partnership plan, the following aggravating factors were identified as prominent features in respect of the commissioning of crime and disorder offences within Charnwood:

- Mental Health/Vulnerability
- Substance Misuse
- Violence

With due diligence and sound professional judgment, based upon the evidential framework, the Charnwood Community Safety Partnership set the following strategic priorities for 2023-2026:

Theme 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent Offences

Theme 2: To reduce the harm caused by Youth ASB and Youth Crime

Theme 3: To reduce Criminal Exploitation

This scrutiny report will highlight the Community Safety Partnership's performance in delivering positive action against each of the above strategic priorities, during Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of the 2023/24 performance year. Hence, the relevant review period for this paper is: 1st April 2023 – 30th September 2023.

Under each strategic theme there is analysis of each priority, demonstrating the positive actions the CSP has commissioned to achieve its goals. To aid scrutiny, there is evidence of what has worked well, under each thematic and commentary on what additional development work is required throughout the rest of the performance year.

As stated earlier, the Community Safety Partnership completes an annual Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA) with the aim of reviewing the previous twelve months performance and identifying emerging areas of threat, risk and harm. The PSA is written in consultation with Leicestershire Police and other key partners, and ultimately prioritises resources for the partnership and shapes the Community Safety Plan.

For context, there are 300 Community Safety Partnerships operating across England and Wales. The Home Office places each of the Community Safety Partnerships into a league table of 15 comparable CSP's, which are collectively known as a Most Similar Family Group (MSFG).

Most Similar Family Groups (MSFGs) are used with the aim of making effective and meaningful peer comparisons. The Home Office uses areas with very similar geographical, demographic and socio-economic situations that have been shown to have reasonably comparable levels of crime and disorder.

Charnwood's Community Safety Partnership's Family Group is as follows:

- Hampshire – Eastleigh,
- Hertfordshire - North Hertfordshire,
- Thames Valley – Wycombe,
- Hertfordshire – Hertsmere,
- Sussex – Arun,
- Essex – Chelmsford,
- Essex - Epping Forest,
- North Yorkshire – York,
- Kent – Maidston,
- Kent - Canterbury,

- Avon and Somerset – Bath and North East Somerset,
- Avon and Somerset – South Gloucestershire,
- Hertfordshire – Dacorum
- Warwickshire – Rugby

Charnwood Community Safety Partnership Crime Profile: Qtr 1 – Qtr 2: 2023/24

Figure 1 below illustrates the Charnwood Community Safety Partnerships performance set against nine key crime domains during Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2023/24, compared to the same review period in the previous year (2022/23).

The table also highlights the direction of travel in respect of its Most Similar Family Group. A red arrow indicates a declining direction of travel, whilst a green arrow highlights an improving performance against its peer group. An amber arrow highlights a static position.

Figure 1: Overview Crime Performance from the 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2023 compared to 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022

Crime Type	Performance to Date	Total Crime as at 30th Sept 2022	Total Crime as at 30th Sept 2023	Difference	Family Group Position Sept 2023
All Crime	-4.5%	7475	7142	-333	12/15 ↑
Violence with Injury	+6%	815	864	+49	14/15 ↑
Burglary – Residential	+5.8%	241	255	+14	N/A*
Burglary – Business	-7.4%	149	138	-11	13/15 ↔
Theft of Vehicles	-2.2%	185	181	-4	8/15 ↓
Theft from Vehicles	-17.3%	365	302	-63	12/15 ↑
Robbery	-30%	40	28	-12	2/15 ↓
Cycle Theft	+9.2%	184	201	+17	14/15 ↔
Shoplifting	+42.6%	383	546	+163	6/15 ↔

It is pleasing to report that overall reported crime in Charnwood has fallen by -4.5% during Quarter 1 – Quarter 2. This reduction is as a result of a targeted approach aimed at tackling persistent and prolific offenders who have been committing crime within Charnwood, particularly in respect of substance misuse and County Lines.

Figure 1 highlights further reductions in the following crime domains:

- Burglary Business: -7.4%
- Theft of Motor Vehicles: -2.2%
- Theft from Motor Vehicles: -17.3%
- Robbery: -30%

Unfortunately, Violent Offences, Burglary Residential, Shoplifting and Cycle Theft continue to be challenging crime categories to reduce within Charnwood.

For context, on a national picture, Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) have changed in respect of crime recording. The Home Office is clear that it wants increased ethical standards and transparency in respect of crime recording. In keeping with this vision, at a local level, Leicestershire Police have created a Crime Registrar, who ensures each crime is recorded in an ethical manner. Whilst this approach is welcomed and adds to community confidence, the CSP has seen an uplift in the recording of certain criminal offences eg Burglary Residential and Violent Offences, that would previously not have been recorded as crimes.

To offer scrutiny an enhanced picture of recorded crime at a local level within Charnwood, Leicestershire Police have provided the data set listed in **Figure 2** below.

This data illustrates the crime trends across the ten police beats that form the borough of Charnwood. Unfortunately, these beats are not exclusively co-terminus with the electoral wards within the borough. This has been a long-standing issue and is the same across all Community Safety Partnerships within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR). To assist scrutiny – officers have added key geographical locations that each police beat covers.

An examination of the crime data clearly illustrates that there are two key locations in relation to volume crime in Charnwood:

- Loughborough Central: Police Beat 62
- Loughborough East: Police Beat 65

The above two beats have consistently delivered high volumes of crime and disorder. 62 Beat has the Loughborough Town Centre with all the challenges of a vibrant night-time economy, retail crime and an annual uplift in its populous of 19,000 students.

Beat 65 encompasses areas of significant deprivation and houses a large proportion of persistent and prolific offenders.

To mitigate the risks posed by both locations, the Community Safety Partnership as part of its target delivery model has created the Loughborough Central Delivery Group (LCDG) and the Loughborough East Delivery Group (LEDG). Both forums are created with membership from all partner agencies focused on tackling crime and disorder within their geographical locations. It is noted that there is a -5% reduction in recorded crime in both locations during Quarter 1 – Quarter 2.

The locations that have seen an increase in overall crime during this relevant review period are:

- Police Beat 56 (Woodhouse Eaves, Newtown Linford, Cropston, Rothley & Quorn) with a 5% increase, which is 23 more crimes.

- Police Beat 60 (Birstall/Wanlip) with a 33% increase, which is 100 more recorded crimes.

Appendix A is included within this report to highlight to scrutiny the Target Operating Model (TOM) that the Charnwood Community Safety Partnership has implemented to address the risk of crime and disorder as highlighted within both Figure 1 and Figure 2.

As can be viewed in that model, beneath the CSP Executive Board there is a tiered approach to delivering effective performance aimed at reducing crime and disorder within Charnwood. The Joint Action Group (JAG) is a multi-agency forum focused upon tackling high risk cases and emerging threats across the borough. However, due to both the volume and risk posed within Charnwood – there are a number of thematic and location-based delivery groups sitting beneath the JAG.

Of note are the Youth Joint Action Group (YJAG) and the Adults At Risk Group (AARG). Both these groups are once again a multi-agency forum focused upon protecting the most vulnerable within our communities. These delivery groups are key in the CSP's risk management strategy.

Risk management and risk mitigation are a repeating theme that runs through all levels of the Target Operating Model. Within the Joint Action Group (JAG) and the four subgroups, identified perpetrators of crime and disorder are risk assessed in three core criteria:

- Risk of Re-offending
- Risk of Harm to others
- Risk of Harm to self

Based upon the levels of identified risk, appropriate measures are implemented eg civil order restrictions to control the offending of a perpetrator's behaviour. Effective risk management is key in delivering the Community Safety Partnership's vision of making Charnwood a safer place to live, work and visit.

Figure 2: Police Crime Performance Data by Beat from the 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2023

Beat Area	All Crime			Burglary- Residential			Theft from Motor Vehicle			Theft of a Motor Vehicle		
	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2022	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2023	% Variance	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2022	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2023	% Variance	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2022	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2023	% Variance	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2022	Crime as at 30 th Sept 2023	% Variance
Charnwood Borough												
Beat 56 Covers, Woodhouse Eves Newtown Linford, Cropston, , Rothley and Quorn	435	458	+5%	10	27	+170%	21	14	-33%	15	16	+7%
Beat 57 Mountsorrel	299	278	-7%	7	11	+57%	10	4	-60%	6	8	+33%
Beat 58 Anstey	259	232	-10%	13	5	-61%	4	18	+350%	8	13	+63%
Beat 59 Covers Wymeswold, Hoton, Burton on Wolds, Barrow Upon Soar, Sileby, and Seagrave	595	560	-6%	16	20	+25%	24	12	-50%	15	8	-47%
Beat 60 Covers Birstall and Wanlip	305	405	+33%	4	20	+400%	16	23	+44%	10	10	0%
Beat 61 Covers, Queniborough, Syston, Thurmaston, Barkby, Beeby and South Croxton	1203	1123	-7%	43	22	-49%	69	53	-23%	21	30	+43%
Beat 62 Covers Ashby Road Estate, Loughborough University, Storer Road Area, Loughborough Town Centre and Loughborough College	1508	1428	-5%	52	46	-12%	60	44	-27%	36	28	-22%
Beat 63 Covers Nanpantan, The Outwoods and Shelthorpe	635	571	-10%	12	41	+242%	47	26	-45%	15	13	-13%
Beat 64 Covers Hathern, Shepshed and the Dishley Road Estate	1006	942	-6%	46	37	-20%	55	41	-25%	31	28	-10%
Beat 65 Covers Bell Foundry Estate, Warwick Way estate, Parts of Alan Moss Road, Meadow Lane, Sparrow Hill, Pinfold Gate, Leicester Road	1248	1181	-5%	38	26	-32%	59	67	+14%	29	27	-7%

Charnwood Community Safety Partnership Plan (2023-2026):

As stated earlier, the Community Safety Partnership is under a statutory duty to undertake an annual Partnership Strategic Assessment and to implement a three-year strategic plan.

On 20th April 2023, Charnwood adopted its new 2023-2026 Community Safety Partnership plan, highlighting the need to address three key strategic priorities:

Theme 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent Offences

Theme 2: To reduce the harm caused by Youth ASB and Youth Crime

Theme 3: To reduce Criminal Exploitation

Scrutiny is provided with the following evidence in respect of the Community Safety Partnership's performance set against the three core priorities in its newly adopted strategic plan. The review period for the following evidence is 1st April 2023 – 30th September 2023.

Theme 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent Offences

The following priorities will be tackled under this theme:

- Violence Against Women and Girls is Prevented
- To tackle Night-Time Economy: violence related offences
- A reduction in Serious Violent offences
- To raise awareness of the consequences of knife crime

Context

Historically domestic abuse and sexual abuse has been an under-reported crime and organisations have found it difficult to measure the true extent of domestic abuse within Charnwood. An increase in reporting of both domestic abuse and sexual abuse is seen as a positive indicator of a community's confidence in the statutory services. By encouraging victims to report incidents, the partnership will be in an informed position and be more effective in supporting victims and developing further services.

Crimes of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) are many and varied. They include rape, other sexual offences, stalking, domestic abuse, 'honour based' abuse (including female genital mutilation and forced marriage and 'honour' killings), 'revenge porn' and 'up skirting', as well as many others.

Analysis in the 2022/23 Partnership Strategic Assessment highlights that violent offences accounted for 49% of all recorded crime during Qtr. 1 -Qtr. 3 (2022/23). The below dataset of recorded violent offences in Charnwood, highlights this:

- Violence with Injury offences: 1,185 recorded offences
- Violence without Injury offences: 2,517 recorded offences
- Public Disorder: 1,333 recorded offences

Furthermore, the 'Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill 2021: Serious Violence Duty' requires Local Authorities, the Police, Fire Service, specified criminal justice agencies and Health authorities, to work collaboratively in partnership, to tackle serious violence within their CSP boundary. Hence, the Serious Violence Bill, has added a further statutory duty to the CSP's terms of reference and responsibilities.

The Community Safety Partnership aims to achieve the following over the next three years.

- To increase the reporting of Domestic Abuse offences and Sexual Abuse within the borough by 2.5% (baseline 2022/23 reported offences)
- To raise awareness of Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse and the support services available in Charnwood
- Victims are more confident reporting their experience and are satisfied with the response they receive.
- Victims of Abuse and Violence are supported to cope and recover.
- A year on year reduction in Serious Violent Offences (baseline 2022/23 reported offences)
- To reduce Night-Time Economy related Violence Offences (baseline 2022/23 reported offences)
- To raise awareness of the consequences of Knife Crime within educational establishments in Charnwood – with a specific focus on individual 25 years old and younger

Theme 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent Offences – What has worked well:

Charnwood Community Safety Partnership continues to support Operation Lexical in support of our University Town. This operation is focused upon tackling crimes and anti-social behaviour in respect of students within Loughborough town centre.

An aggravating factor in these offences is alcohol, which in many cases makes an individual vulnerable in terms of their personal safety. The partnership under the banner of Operation Lexical, is working closely with Loughborough University and the licensed premises through the 'Pub Watch' scheme. There is a real focus on educating residents and students in respect of their personal safety, particularly following the consumption of alcohol.

The partnership continues to co fund, alongside Loughborough University, the Student Street Support Scheme. This initiative is focused upon offering pastoral support to vulnerable individuals, particularly females on key nights of the night-time economy. The scheme deploys a number of security officers on a Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night in areas of high footfall. They seek to engage with vulnerable individuals and ensure they are not targeted whilst making their way home.

Living without Abuse, who are a non-statutory strategic partner of the Community Safety Partnership, provide additional community-based adult services for both male and female survivors of domestic abuse. This service will provide help and advice over the phone and in person in a variety of ways, including practical support, security measures, support with the legal system and resettlement.

The Charnwood Community Safety Partnership has allocated £20,000 to Living Without Abuse (LWA) in support of strategic priority 1. The extra funding will provide 1-1 support for a minimum of 64 newly referred adults within Charnwood that have been victims of Domestic Abuse. Whilst this service will only be for adults, our service provider, Living Without Abuse also deliver services for victims of Sexual Abuse, and family services.

Loughborough town centre has a vibrant night-time economy which brings in much needed income and revenue for businesses. However, as with all night-time economies, there are real challenges in terms of alcohol fuelled disorder and violent offences. Moreover, as a university town, the population has an annual increase of 19,000 students throughout the academic year.

To mitigate the risk of violent offences, the Community Safety Partnership has a bi-weekly multiagency Night-Time Economy meeting. This group collates and reviews incidents and offences reported in or near to licensed premises. These premises are graded: Red – Amber – Green. Any licensed premises that are graded as Red are identified as an emerging risk. A meeting is convened with the Designated Licence Holder and an action plan implemented to reduce both the risk and the number of violent offences being committed at or near to that premises.

The Community Safety Partnership has had a Public Space Protection Order in place since October 2017. This civil order operates within a designated zone in Loughborough Town Centre. Whilst the PSPO does not create an alcohol-free zone, it offers the partnership powers to curb the behaviour of individuals consuming alcohol who are believed to be engaging in, or likely to engage in anti-social behaviour.

A PSPO by law can only remain in situ for a period of three years, at which point it must either be reviewed with a view to an extension or set aside. The Charnwood CSP is pleased to report that during Qtr 2 a public consultation process took place with a view to extending the PSPO. The consultation was successful and the PSPO has now been extended for an additional three years up until October 2026.

Theme 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent Offences - Areas for Development

At the recent Community Safety Partnership meeting, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner presented the locality based Serious Violence Profile for Charnwood. The aim of this strategic assessment is to support members of the partnership in developing its Serious Violence Reduction Action Plan. This action plan needs to be in place by 31st January 2024. The highlights of this report are:

- In 2022/23, Leicestershire Police recorded 4,540 serious violence offences in Charnwood which is a decrease of 5.7% compared to the previous financial year (2021/22).
- Looking at the breakdown of offences, 'Stalking and Harassment' shows the highest rate, followed by 'Violence with Injury', making up 43.1% and 35.3% respectively by volume of the total number of serious violence offences across Charnwood.
- 30% of all serious violence is flagged as domestic-related (April 22 – March 23)

- Sexual offences make up 10% of all serious violence (April 22 – March 23)
- 5% of serious violence offences involved a knife or sharp object (April 22 – March 23)
- 18% of offences were flagged as involving alcohol and 9% were flagged as involving drugs (April 22 – March 23)

The Community Safety Partnership will need to utilise the Violence Reduction Network's detailed strategic assessment and ensure that it implements a robust violent crime reduction strategy with a deadline of 31st January 2024.

Theme 2: To reduce the harm caused by Youth ASB and Youth Crime

The following priorities will be tackled under this theme:

- Vulnerable locations of youth anti-social behaviour and crime are identified.
- Sustainable solutions are found.
- The impact of youth crime and ASB is reduced.
- A range of diversionary activities adopted to deter and prevent young people becoming perpetrators of youth ASB and Crime

Context

The partnership wholly accepts that incidents of anti-social behaviour have a negative impact upon the quality of life of the residents within Charnwood. Vulnerable and repeat victims of anti-social behaviour present the highest levels of risk, threat, and harm. For this reason, it is critical that aggravating factors and the cumulative impact of anti-social behaviour are considered as part of the partnership's risk assessment and mitigation.

The partnership recognises that there has been an emerging issue of youth offending within Charnwood, which has involved large groups of young people aged between 11 and 17, engaging in both crime and antisocial behaviour within our residential, commercial, and open spaces. This offending behaviour has resulted in a several ASB Case Review (Community Trigger) activations within recent years.

Other concerning behaviours involving this cohort of young people include:

- Theft of vehicles - particularly motorcycles, which are driven erratically within our neighbourhoods and open spaces
- Riding mopeds underage, unlicensed and without helmets which is being promoted by the young people on social media:
- Association with urban street gangs and county lines (police intel)

It is evident from analysis of police data, multi-agency data, intelligence and community insights, that the groups involvement in anti-social behaviour has increased post-pandemic and that their offending is escalating in terms of increasing involvement in crimes including violent offences. Most concerningly, intelligence suggests that the cohort of young people migrate in a group from one area to another, and in doing so, draw in more local children to anti-social behaviour. Several children who had not previously engaged in anti-social behaviour are being drawn into the offending cohort.

The Community Safety Partnership aims to achieve the following over the next three years:

- Vulnerable and repeat locations will be identified via intelligence analysis and raised to the Joint Action Group for positive action to be taken to reduce the harm index of these locations.
- A multi-agency approach will be adopted in these high demand locations, to implement a medium to long term solution focused upon preventing crime and disorder
- Repeat and vulnerable victims are identified at an early stage and appropriate risk mitigation is put in place.
- A range of enforcement powers are utilised, and high-risk situations are managed through court or legal restrictions where necessary.
- To provide a range of diversionary activity to deter and prevent young people becoming perpetrators of youth ASB and youth crime

Theme 2: To reduce the harm caused by Youth ASB and Youth Crime - What has worked well:

Issues emerging over Quarter 2 of 2023/24 have been fewer than anticipated. Expected spikes in youth ASB in former hotspots including Lodge Farm playing fields, Gorse Covert and the Park Road area have not materialised. The temporary CCTV asset which was deployed near to Lodge Farm has been removed due to a lack of activity.

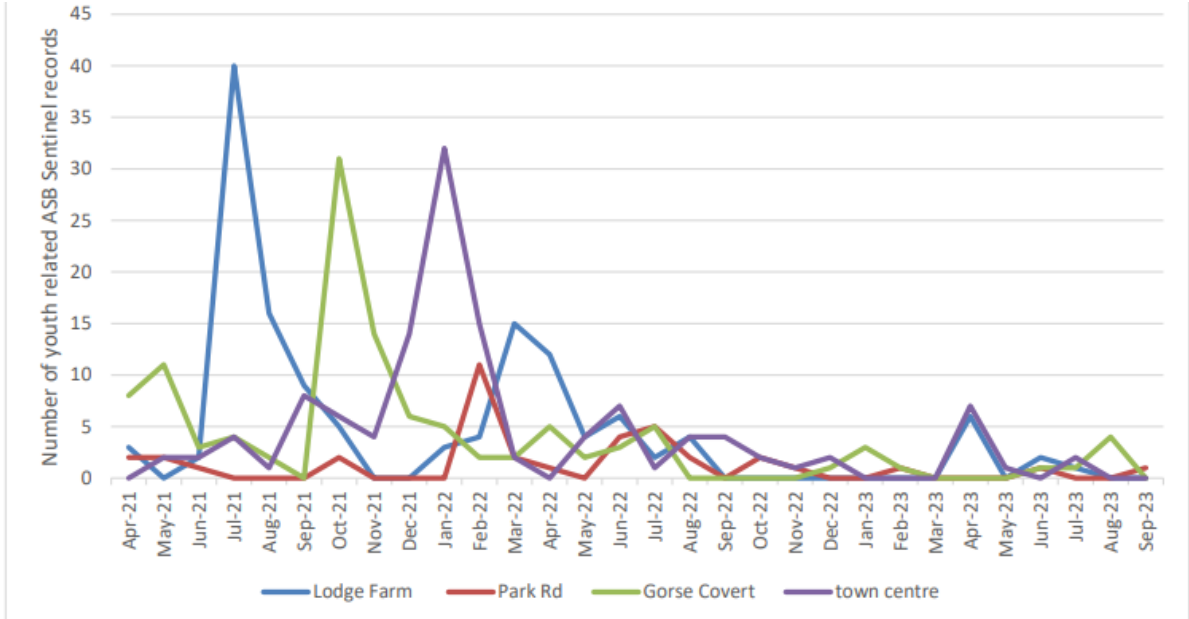
There have been reports of youth ASB in the Ling Road area. Detached Youth Workers from local delivery partner, Go Getta, remain deployed and include this location in their activities to identify and engage young people involved in or at risk of involvement in ASB.

There have recently been some reports of youths climbing up on scaffolding around the shops on Wordsworth Road and onto the roof of Lloyds Bank, Loughborough Town Centre. These incidents have been captured on Town Centre CCTV. Information is shared with Police and via the Youth Joint Action Group (YJAG).

As part of the Safer Streets Project Officer work to review and monitor all youth ASB related Police Problem Management Plans (PMPs), the project has supported a recommendation for Impact Team deployment in Shepshed to address low-level youth ASB issues in the area. The Project met with the new Impact Team Coordinator and Impact workers on the 30th of August 2023 to discuss the issues and strengthen connections with the team. Impact remains active in Shepshed and are working to connect young people with positive interventions to reduce the risk of ASB and poor outcomes.

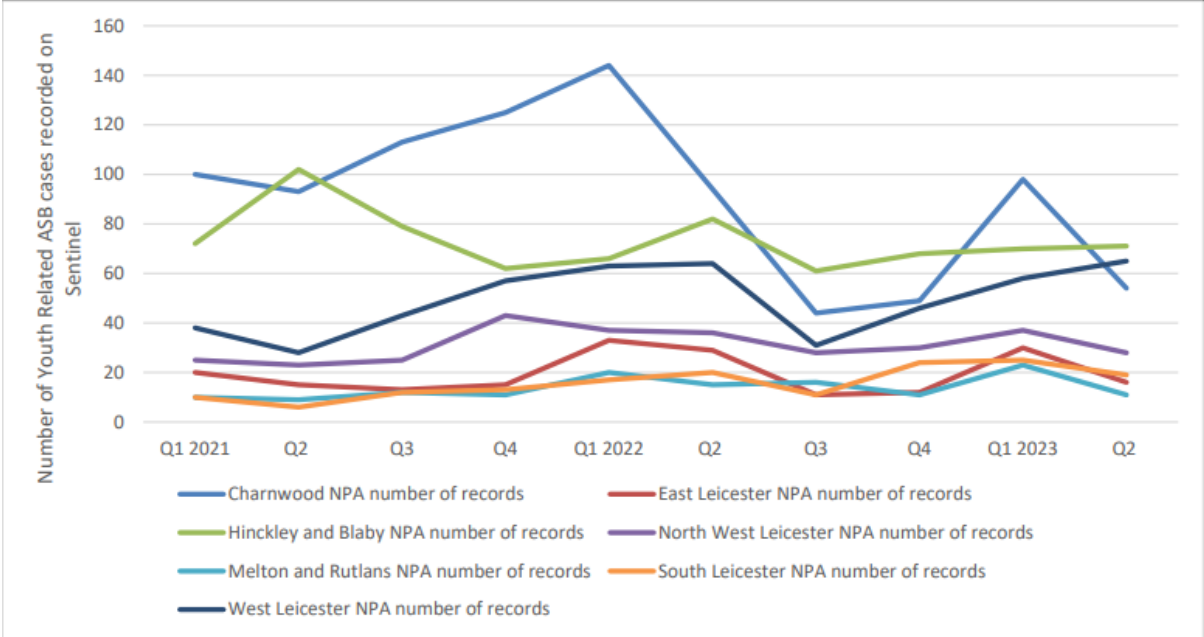
Charnwood as a whole, has also seen a reduced number of Youth related ASB incidents recorded on Sentinel since Quarter 1, with forty-four fewer records recorded in Q2. This means fewer victims of Youth related ASB and reduced demand for partners.

Figure 3 – Youth ASB Incidents Recorded on Sentinel in the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) identified for the Safer Street Project



It is evident that Charnwood had the highest levels of recorded youth related ASB between Quarter 3 of 2021 and Quarter 2 of 2022. Charnwood saw a spike in Quarter 1 of 2023 before reducing in Quarter 2 of 2023. As highlighted in **Figure 4** below, Charnwood now has the third highest recorded levels of Youth ASB within LLR and Charnwood’s levels showed the sharpest reduction since Quarter 1.

Figure 4- A Comparison between Neighbourhood Policing Areas (NPA) of the Number of Youth Related ASB Records Recorded on Sentinel



The Youth JAG, as highlighted in the Target Operating Model (Appendix A) in an integral part of the CSP’s response to tackling youth related anti-social behaviour and crime. Meeting every 6 weeks this multi-agency group identifies emerging trends in

respect of youth offending. Each child is risk assessed in terms of reoffending, harm to others and harm to self. During Qtr 1 – Qtr 2 (2023/24) 12 children have been referred to the Youth JAG – 2 of which have been deemed to be High Risk with the remaining sitting at Medium Risk.

Control plans and intervention measures are adopted to curb the offending of that child. The Youth JAG is very much focused upon taking a trauma informed approach when discussing a child's case and considers any adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) that maybe contributing to the individual's behaviour.

The partnership, in a recent incident have successfully obtained a civil injunction from the County Court against a known youth offender. This civil order has several control measures attached – which include an exclusion zone, non-association clauses to prevent the youth from meeting with other known offenders and a condition that prevents him using a motorcycle. Alongside this civil injunction, support agencies and youth justice workers will work with the individual to deter him away from reoffending.

Theme 2: To reduce the harm caused by Youth ASB and Youth Crime - Areas for Development

The partnership is mindful that the Home Office funding for the Safer Streets Project has ceased as at the end of September 2023. With funding secured from government, this project was able to focus on 4 key Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), which were experiencing high levels of youth related anti-social behaviour and crime. Those LSOAs contained the following locations:

- Lodge Farm – Loughborough
- Gorse Covert – Dishley, Loughborough
- Park Road – Loughborough
- Town Centre - Loughborough

This project has been a great success – as highlighted by Figure 3 above. It will now be important for the CSP to take the learning from this initiative and to adopt the business discipline and best practice acquired, across the whole of the borough. The CSP has received assurances from Leicestershire Police, that the project co-ordinator, who has been a seconded police officer, will remain attached to the Community Safety Team in order to deliver further work against the CSP's strategic priority 2.

Furthermore, Leicestershire Police have identified an Urban Street Gang (USG) known locally as the 'LE11 Twockers'. This gang is made up of young offenders who are stealing motorcycles and committing both criminal offences and acts of anti-social behaviour within our communities. Whilst this offending is predominately taking place within Loughborough, police data highlights that this group are also offending in other areas of the borough.

Moving forward, it will be important for the partnership to adopt a multiagency control strategy in respect of these offenders with a focus on preventing such offences, taking

positive action against identified perpetrators and increasing community confidence in hot spot locations.

Theme 3: To reduce Criminal Exploitation

The following priorities will be tackled under this theme:

- To identify adults/youths at risk of exploitation
- All high-risk victims receive support
- Multi-agency intelligence sharing
- Communities are supported and engaged

Context

Protecting the most vulnerable individuals within our communities lies at the heart of the partnership's ethos. Charnwood has been identified as having the highest number of recorded cuckooing offences within the county and currently has several County Lines operating within the Borough.

Protecting adults/youths at risk of criminal exploitation has been identified as a priority in the 2022/23 Partnership Strategic Assessment, which has led to the continued development of the Youth JAG Group and the Adults at Risk Group.

Criminal exploitation is the exploitation of a person to commit a crime for someone else's gain. For example, victims could be coerced into shoplifting, pickpocketing, entering into a sham marriage, benefit fraud, begging or drug cultivation such as cannabis farming.

County lines is a form of criminal exploitation. It is when criminals befriend children, either online or offline, or manipulate them into drug dealing. The 'lines' refer to mobile phones that are used to control a young person who is delivering drugs, often to towns outside their home county.

Cuckooing is a practice where people take over a person's home and use the property to facilitate exploitation. There are different types of cuckooing:

- Using the property to deal, store or take drugs.
- Using the property to sex work
- Taking over the property as a place for them to live
- Taking over the property to financially abuse the tenant.
- The most common form of cuckooing is where drug dealers take over a person's home and use it to store or distribute drugs.

The partnership's intelligence highlights that a significant proportion of crime is linked to substance misuse - from acquisitive crime to serious violent offending and organised gang crime linked to drug markets. Tackling substance misuse within Charnwood will be an important theme within this priority, and partners will work collaboratively to

support Leicestershire Police in their overarching operation – Operation Gizmo, which seeks to reduce criminal exploitation across the LLR region.

The Community Safety Partnership aims to achieve the following over the next three years:

- To identify adults/youths at risk of exploitation and put in place appropriate referrals to support services.
- To continue the development of the Adults at Risk Group and Youth JAG Group with a focus on preventing cases of criminal exploitation.
- To ensure that front line staff are sufficiently knowledgeable about the subject enabling appropriate levels of support and referrals are submitted.
- To support the Police Operation - Operation Gizmo aimed at preventing criminal exploitation.
- Engage with support agencies to meet the needs of Cuckooing victims.

Theme 3: To reduce Criminal Exploitation - What has worked well:

The CSP supports a zero-tolerance approach in relation to County Lines, and Charnwood Police are conducting regular enforcement warrants across the borough with the aim of breaking supply channels of illegal substances coming into Charnwood. The partnership is developing and using intelligence to identify, locate and convict drug dealers from outside of Charnwood and the County.

However, the CSP feel that it is paramount that we do not ease back from this investment, and we widen the use of civil powers such as partial or full closure orders, which will ensure that we are reducing exploitation by protecting vulnerable residents from those who they fear, by removing the environment for dealers to operate in.

In terms of quantifiable performance, the police have recovered more drugs during operations this year in Charnwood, than previously. There has been some very strong sentencing from the judicial system which had made national news. Intelligence also tells us that illicit drugs value has risen in Charnwood, due to the work that partners have undertaken.

Falcon Services, a non-statutory strategic partner of the Community Safety Partnership, is in receipt of a grant of £20,000 from the partnership. This funding provides a 'Recovery Navigator' within Charnwood. The post assists getting clients into treatment and supports access for recovery pathways. This is complemented by two 'Assertive Outreach Workers,' who operate across Charnwood, with the aim of identifying those who are homeless, who they seek to support and build trust with – in order to gain a treatment opportunity. They will work as a single entity, but also hook into other services such as police, Turning Point, homeless outreach as appropriate.

The Adults At Risk Group (AARG) is an integral part of the partnership's response in reducing criminal exploitation. This multi-agency forum meets every 6 weeks and aims to identify those individuals who are most vulnerable within our communities. Effective risk assessments are completed, detailing safety measure that must be implemented to reduce the harm factors and to protect the adult most at risk. There is also a focus

upon the perpetrators who are committing criminal offences – with partners ensuring positive action is taken to address any future targeting of adults at risk.

As stated earlier, Charnwood has been highlighted as a locality that has had the highest number of cuckooing offences within the Leicestershire County. This pattern is intrinsically linked to the drugs market passing through Charnwood. For context, the CSP's non- statutory strategic partner Turning Point, have assessed the drug market within Loughborough as having an annual value of approximately £27 million. Furthermore, Charnwood is an importing locality and presently, there is no evidence to suggest that there are drug lines exporting illegal substances out of Charnwood.

With due regard to the impact of substance misuse, the partnership is heavily focused upon protecting those individuals most at risk within our communities. The Adult At Risk Group is central to the CSP's strategy and has been held up as best practice during a recent safeguarding audit. A review of Qtr 1 -Qtr 2 data highlights that the Adults At Risk Group have received 12 referrals of vulnerable individuals, 10 of which have been deemed to be of a High-Risk status. Currently the meeting is operating with 5 High-Risk adults.

Finally, in respect of the risk posed by County Lines, the CSP can report that in the past twelve months, 5 County Line operations have been targeted by Leicestershire Police and closed down. Presently there are 7 Couty Line operations active within Charnwood.

Theme 3: To reduce Criminal Exploitation - Areas for Development

As stated above and earlier in this report, the CSP are aware that substance misuse is an aggravating factor in the commissioning of a number of crime domains within Charnwood and this is mirrored across many of the other partnerships listed within our Most Similar Family Group.

This has been recognised as a threat nationally and the Government, as part of its 10-year plan ('From Harm to Hope') aimed at combating illicit drugs, has introduced 'Combatting Drugs Partnerships' (CDP's) in 2022. The aim of the CDP is to ensure that there is greater coordination amongst partner agencies in tackling the supply and demand for illegal drugs, whilst focusing on effective treatment.

It has been decided by the LLR Strategic Partnership Board that a Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) will be created at a LLR level as opposed to at a CSP level. This CDP will be chaired by the Head of Public Health in the LLR region. The Charnwood Community Safety Partnership needs to ensure that the themes begin developed by the Combatting Drugs Partnership cascade down to the work being carried out by the partnership on a quarterly basis. Moreover, a locality based strategic needs profile will soon be delivered to all CSPs within LLR highlighting the local issues in respect of substance misuse within that given location. Upon receipt of this dataset, Charnwood CSP will need to consider in detail the risks identified and ensure that the partnership's response and delivery model is able to mitigate those risks.

Appendix A: Charnwood Community Safety Partnership Target Operating Model (TOM)

