

Leicestershire County Council

Safer Communities Plan

2009 - 2012

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FOREWORD

Councillor Byron Rhodes, Cabinet Lead Member for Community Safety

This Safer Communities Plan sets out the County Council's aims for ensuring that our county is a safe environment for all the people who live, work and visit Leicestershire. We have already achieved much in partnership to improve the quality and safety of people's lives and this Plan gives us the opportunity to do more.

We will play our part in delivering the priorities identified in the Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy, in the second Local Area Agreement, the Leicestershire Safer Communities Agreement as well as local Community Safety Plans.

The Sustainable Community Strategy outlines the things that local people see as a priority and our Local Area Agreement sets out how we will tackle the most important of these issues. We will ensure that priority is given to the contribution of County Council services in the delivery of the safer communities outcomes in the Local Area Agreement, particularly in respect of increasing the confidence of local people in the way that crime and anti-social behaviour is dealt with in their areas and in reducing re-offending.

Our priorities include making communities stronger and more effective, reducing serious violent crime, acquisitive crime, and reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol, We also need to ensure that residents actually feel reassured by the efforts that we are making through partnership working to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

I am looking forward to working with all our partners to deliver against the targets set within the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement. I welcome the new challenges and opportunities which lie ahead. This Plan will inevitably develop further as we progress, but the overall aim will be to achieve safer communities and improve the quality of life for those who live, work and visit Leicestershire.

Byron Rhodes Leicestershire County Council

Introduction – Making Leicestershire Safer

- 1. Crime & Disorder can have a devastating effect on the lives of victims, offenders, families and communities and low levels of crime and disorder are identified by Leicestershire residents as one of the most important factors that make somewhere a good place to live. Leicestershire is a relatively safe place to live and the likelihood of being a victim of crime is lower than both the rest of the East Midlands and England and Wales. Nonetheless, we need to make it still safer.
- 2. People's confidence in the organisations working to reduce crime and disorder plays a key part in their feelings of safety and quality of life. Working to build Safer Communities therefore continues to be a high priority for the County Council and our partner agencies, as identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy, Local Area Agreement and Safer Communities Agreement.

Purpose of the Safer Communities Plan

- 3. This Plan describes the work of the County Council with its partner agencies to reduce crime and create safer and stronger communities across Leicestershire by:
 - Identifying priority community safety issues and geographical areas based on our strategic assessment.
 - Working in partnership with other organisations
 - Communicating with and involving people in Leicestershire to address the issues that matter most to them.
 - Mainstreaming community safety activity and incorporating delivery of the Safer Communities Agreement priorities within the County Council's departmental service plans.
 - Leading and supporting the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board in delivering the top priorities for safer communities in Leicestershire, as contained in the Safer Communities Agreement.
 - Supporting the delivery of the seven district-based Community Safety Plans.
 - Working as part of a wider sub regional approach to safer communities through the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Community Safety Programme Board.

Community Safety Partnership Arrangements

Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) / Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs)

4. Across Leicestershire there are seven district-based CSPs. Since their establishment in 1998, CSPs have been proactive in engaging key partners across Leicestershire and have made a significant contribution to improving community safety across the County. The County Council is an active member of each of the CSPs and is committed to support and contribute to the implementation of each Partnership's Community Safety Plan. The current Plans cover the period 2008 to 2011.

Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (LSCSB)

5. The Safer Communities Strategy Board is the county strategy group for Leicestershire, which gives countywide strategic direction and co-ordination to community safety across the county and oversees the production and delivery of the Leicestershire Safer Communities Agreement, which sets out the key priorities for Leicestershire including the safer communities elements of the LAA. The Board is made up of chairs of District CSPs, as well as senior officers from the Police, Probation Service, Fire Service and County Council and is chaired by the Deputy Leader of the County Council.

Leicestershire Drug Action and Alcohol Team (DAAT)

6. Hosted and managed by the County Council, the DAAT is a multi-agency partnership body whose primary role is to ensure the local implementation of the National Drugs Strategy and to commission appropriate services for problematic drug users. Because of the close links between illegal drug misuse and crime, particularly acquisitive crime, the DAAT is required to have close working relationships with CSPs.

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Community Safety Programme Board (CSPB)

7. The Community Safety Programme Board comprises chief officers and elected members from the main community safety and criminal justice partner agencies in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The CSPB co-ordinates the community safety and criminal justice agenda across the sub region.

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Criminal Justice Board

8. The Criminal Justice Board has a shared responsibility with CSPs for a number of areas of common interest such as the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy, Domestic Violence and Community confidence as well as its own specific criminal justice

system priorities and objectives. The Board is made up of chief officers of the Police, Probation Service, Youth Offending Services, Crown Prosecution Service, HM Courts Service, HM Prisons Service, Criminal Defence Service and Victim Support.

Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Reducing Re-offending Board

9. This Board brings together agencies and partnerships to co-ordinate efforts to reduce re-offending, recognising the impact this has on the community reporting to the CSPB.

Leicestershire Together

10. Leicestershire Together is the Local Strategic Partnership for Leicestershire and includes all of the organisations and partnerships that deliver public services in the County. Its aim is to improve the quality of life for the people of Leicestershire and make Leicestershire the best possible place to live and work for everyone. It is the "partnership of partnerships" and leads and co-ordinates all partnership activity across Leicestershire, including the delivery of the Local Area Agreement and the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Key Priorities for 2009 - 2012

- 11. The Safer Communities priorities for Leicestershire County Council are those identified within the Leicestershire Safer Communities Agreement.
- 12. The Leicestershire Safer Communities Agreement (SCA) draws together the community safety priorities across Leicestershire from the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), second Local Area Agreement (LAA2), and District & Borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The agreement is made between all CSPs and relevant partners.
- 13. The Safer Communities Priorities for Leicestershire are:
 - The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend (LAA2)
 - People feel and are safer from violence (LAA2)
 - Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and is being tackled effectively (LAA2)
 - The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities (LAA2)
 - Building community confidence (SCA LAA2)
 - Domestic Violence (SCA SCS)
 - Reducing Acquisitive Crime (SCA CSPs)

Local Area Agreement 2 (April 2008 - March 2011)

- 14. Leicestershire's second Local Area Agreement (LAA2) contains the highest priorities for Leicestershire of those identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 15. Within this agreement there is a stronger emphasis on cross-cutting and shared outcomes, and Safer Communities outcomes are found within more than one theme:
 - Improved life chances for vulnerable people and places
 - A safe and attractive place to live and work
 - A healthier Leicestershire.
- 16. The Safer Communities outcomes are as follows:

The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend (LAA 1.3)

- NI 18: Reduce offending by adults under probation supervision
- NI 19: Reduce rate of proven re-offending by young people

People feel (and are) safer from violence (LAA 3.1)

• **NI 20**: Reduce the rate of assault with less serious injury (also a proxy indicator for reducing the harm caused by alcohol, given the level of alcohol related assaults)

Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and is being tackled effectively (LAA 3.2)

- NI 21: People feel that the police and local authority deal effectively with the ASB and crime issues that matter to the community.
- LI 7: Increased satisfaction with the way that the police and councils have dealt with ASB (This is a local indicator based on the old NI 24).

The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities (LAA 6.2)

- **NI115**: Young people and substance misuse (CYPS Theme)
- LI 11 (NI 40): Increase the number of drug users in effective treatment (local indicator)
- NI 20: Assault with injury (see above)
- 17. The targets for these can be found at appendix 1. The main ways in which the County Council will contribute to achieving the outcomes are outlined below.

Outcome 1 – The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend (LAA2 outcome 1.3) (Outcome Lead – Probation and Youth Offending Service)

Performance measures:

- NI 18: Reduce offending by adults under probation supervision
- NI 19: Reduce rate of proven re-offending by young people
- 18. This outcome is led by the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Reducing Re-offending Board and Youth Offending Service (YOS) management board.
- 19. The focus of the outcome is on making work with offenders and those at risk of offending an integral part of our approach to reducing crime and disorder. Offenders and those at risk of offending can be very vulnerable individuals and have a variety of complex needs.
- 20. The Civic Alliance Demonstration Project in Leicestershire identified good practice in work between the criminal justice service and local authorities to reduce re-offending, including a number of areas in which Leicestershire County Council can contribute to this through its mainstream services.
- 21. In 2008 Leicestershire County Council gained Beacon status for reducing re-offending, in partnership with Leicester City Council and the Borough Council's of Melton, Hinckley & Bosworth and Oadby & Wigston. The work towards this outcome will build on the current progress.
- 22. Leicestershire County Council's areas of contribution to this outcome include:
 - Direct work with young offenders and young people at risk of offending through the YOS.
 - Supporting complex needs of vulnerable people, including offenders and those at risk of offending through social care services and family intervention projects.
 - Corporately providing training and employment opportunities for offenders, such as work placements.
 - Providing training & skills opportunities for offenders and ex-offenders through education and library services.
 - Education and positive activities for and empowerment of young people.
- 23. Departmental actions are contained in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Outcome 2 – People feel (and are) safer from violence (LAA2 outcome 3.1) (Outcome Lead – Police)

Performance measures:

- NI 20: Reduce the rate of assault with less serious injury
- 24. Although Leicestershire is a relatively safe place, violent crime in particular has not reduced over the past few years. It is also a crime that can have a very high impact on individuals and communities, their safety and their perceived safety. Violent Crime has been identified as a specific priority for Leicestershire, particularly linked to alcohol.
- 25. Domestic Abuse is an important element of this priority, and makes up around a third of Assault with less serious injury offences. The British Crime Survey estimates that only 40% of domestic abuse incidents are reported to the police.
- 26. Leicestershire County Council's areas of contribution to this outcome include:
 - Leading and co-ordinating strategy and action on domestic abuse and the Hate Incident Monitoring project,
 - Empowerment and education work with young people to prevent violent crime.
 - Work to prevent underage sales, particularly of alcohol and knives.
 - Supporting vulnerable people including potential victims and perpetrators of violent crime, and those affected by domestic abuse.
 - Supporting development of safer town centres.
 - Sensible Measures Leicestershire Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy
- 27. Departmental actions are contained in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Outcome 3 – Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and is being tackled effectively (LAA 3.2) (Outcome Lead – Police / Community Safety Partnerships)

Performance measures:

- NI 21: People feel that the police and local councils deal effectively with the ASB and crime issues that matter to the community. (Building Confidence)
- LI 7: Increased satisfaction with the way that the police and councils have dealt with ASB (local indicator).
- 28. This outcome aims to build upon and continue to improve the work across the county to tackle the low-level crime and disorder in communities that has a significant effect on the quality of life and fear of crime of individuals and communities as a whole. It also focuses on building confidence in the agencies that are working to tackle these issues.

- 29. Leicestershire County Council's areas of contribution to this outcome include:
 - Work with partners to stamp out illegal under-age sales of alcohol, fireworks, knives, aerosol paint sprays cans and butane gas lighter refills.
 - Development of and support for No Cold Calling Zones.
 - The prevention and early intervention work of the Youth Offending Service including the IMPACT team and Youth Inclusion and Support Panels.
 - Co-ordinating ASB strategy and action
 - Co-ordinating play strategy and provision
 - Work with vulnerable people at risk of being victims or perpetrators of anti-social behaviour.
 - Services to reduce anti-social use of vehicles including parking wardens and Community Speedwatch
 - Education and empowerment work with young people.
 - Engaging and informing the community through a variety of channels and mechanisms to involve communities in solutions and build confidence.
- 30. Departmental actions are contained in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Outcome 4 - The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities (LAA 6.2) (Outcome Lead – Leicestershire PCT / Leicestershire DAAT)

Performance measures:

- NI115: Young people and substance misuse (CYPS Theme)
- NI 40: Increase the number of drug users in effective treatment (local indicator)
- NI 20: Assault with injury
- 31. Misuse of Drugs & Alcohol has a large impact on all of our safer communities priorities, as well as other priorities in Leicestershire. Drugs misuse is linked to re-offending, particularly regarding acquisitive crimes, such as burglary and vehicle crime, as well as antisocial behaviour.
- 32. Alcohol misuse has been identified as one of the most common factors increasing offenders' risk of re-offending in Leicestershire. It also contributes to violent crime and anti-social behaviour. An Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy has been developed for Leicestershire, which drives plans to use prevention, enforcement and treatment work to reduce the harm caused by alcohol in the county.
- 33. This outcome has three main strands; increasing the numbers of problematic drug users in effective treatment, reducing alcohol harm, particularly violent crime, and reducing substance misuse by young people.

- 34. Leicestershire County Council's areas of contribution to this outcome include:
 - Education and supporting of healthy schools to prevent substance misuse.
 - Work to prevent under-age sales of alcohol and solvents.
 - Social care work with children, families and vulnerable adults.
 - Commissioning drug treatment services, including oversight of the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP)
 - Supporting the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy Group and action.
 - Education and empowerment work with young people.
- 35. Departmental actions are contained in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Other Priorities within the Safer Communities Agreement

Acquisitive Crime

- 36. Acquisitive Crime has been identified as a priority by all Community Safety Partnerships in Leicestershire in the 2009 refresh of their Community Safety Plans. Acquisitive crime is crime carried out in order to acquire money or items of value, and includes burglary, vehicle crime, and robbery. Work to reduce re-offending is an important strategy in reducing acquisitive crime
- 37. Leicestershire County Council's areas of contribution to this outcome include:
 - Securing county council premises to reduce the opportunity for acquisitive crime.
 - Securing items that may be targets for acquisitive crime.
 - Work to prevent offending and reduce re-offending.
- 38. Departmental actions are contained in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17

39. Through delivery on these priorities and the day to day work of the Council that impacts upon other areas of crime and disorder, the County Council is delivering against its duties under section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (S17) which requires the Council to take into account the need to reduce crime and disorder in its area when carrying out its functions. This Plan therefore also incorporates actions required in support of its Section 17 responsibilities as part of the Action Plan in Appendix 2.

Performance Management

- 40. An enhanced Performance Management Framework is being developed as part of the LAA process. This will cover many aspects of this Plan, due to the alignment of the Plan with the Safer Communities Block of the Local Area Agreement.
- 41. Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board will oversee performance management of the Safer Communities Agreement indicators and delivery plans.
- 42. The County Council's Corporate Community Safety Group also has a key role in performance managing the progress of this Community Safety Plan.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 43. A joint Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on this plan and the Safer Communities Agreement, which is summarised below.
- 44. There are still gaps in information regarding victims, offenders, and service users, particularly regarding sexual orientation, religion and disability.
- 45. Meeting specific needs of women offenders has been identified as an area for development by the Reducing Re-offending Board. Women are also under-represented in drug treatment.
- 46. Young people who are Black or Black British or of Mixed ethnic origin are over-represented in the Youth Justice System.
- 47. There is an over representation of BME victims for violence against the person when compared to the population overall. Individuals of White British background aged 29 years and under are more likely to be victims of assault with less serious injury when compared to other types of violence against the person.
- 48. There are gaps in accessibility of some information and services particularly regarding ASB for those for whom English is not their first language.
- 49. The full Equality Impact Assessment can be found at http://www.leics.gov.uk/cex_eia.htm
- 50. Equality Improvement Actions for the Council are incorporated and highlighted in the Action Plan at Appendix 2.

Appendix 1

LAA Safer Communities Priorities and targets

LAA Priority Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	LAA Im	provemen	t Target
			08/09	09/10	10/11
1.3 – The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend	NI 18: Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	May 2007 to June 2008	0%	No Required Target	-9.64%
	NI 19: Rate of proven re- offending by young offenders	Frequency rate of 1.29 offences per young offender (Jan-March 2005 cohort)	1.29 offences per young offender	1.26 offences per young offender	1.21 offences per young offender
3.1 - People feel (and are) safer from violence	NI 20: Assault with injury crime rate	Rate of 6.03 crimes per 1,000 population in 2007/08. Rate of 5.40 crimes per 1,000 population in 2008/09.	5.85 (-3% from the 2007/08 baseline)	5.24 (-3% from the 2008/09 baseline)	5.08 (-6% from the 2008/09 baseline)
3.2 - Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and is being tackled effectively	NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police	25.1% (2008 Place Survey)	25% (2008 Place Survey)	No Required Target	33% (2010 Place Survey)
	Local Indicator LI 7: Satisfaction with the way the police and local	To be established in October 2009 based			

LAA Priority Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	LAA Im	provemen	nt Target
			08/09	09/10	10/11
	council dealt with anti-social behaviour	upon data for April – September 2009.			
6.2 – The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities	NI 115: Substance misuse by young people	14.3% (2008 TellUs 3 Survey)	14.3% (2008 TellUs 3 Survey)	12.6% (2009 TellUs 4 Survey)	11% (2010 TellUs 5 Survey)
	Local indicator LI 11 – Number of drug users recorded as being in effective treatment (based on NI 40)	1084	1136 (+5%)	1150 (+6%)	1161 (+7%)

Appendix 2

Safer Communities Action Plan

<u>Leicestershire County Council Community Safety Plan – Action Plan 2009-12</u>

Key Actions	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Leicestershire County Council C	ommunity Safety Core A	ctivities	_
Support development of effective community safety partnerships in line with Home Office guidance.	Head of Youth Justice and Safer Communities (YJ&SC) / CST	March 2010	
Develop Training programme for Community Safety Partnership Chairs (RIEP)	CX – Community Safety Team Manager	December 2009	
Produce Partnership Strategic Assessment document with key partners.	CX – Research Team Leader	September 2009	Completed
Equalities considerations to be embedded within Partnership Strategic Assessment. (EIA)	CX – Research Team Leader	September 2009	Completed
Incorporate Community Safety Considerations into tender contract framework	Resources – Head of Procurement	March 2010	
Incorporate community safety in guidance and documents produced by Human Resources. This could include:	Resources – Head of Strategic Human Resources	March 2010	
Job descriptions & person specifications			
o Appraisals			
∘ Personal development & training			

Key Actions	Lead	Timescale	Progress
plans			
Review current input given to new starters as part of their induction and incorporate community safety requirements.	Resources – Head of Strategic Human Resources	March 2010	
Establish, develop and maintain formal links between Safeguarding Board, Adult Protection Boards, Learning Disability Partnership Board and CSPs	ASC – Assistant Director - Adult Services	December 2009	
Develop actions to contribute to Hate Incident Reduction Strategy	ASC – Assistant Director - Adult Services	March 2010	
Establish a link between Road Safety Forums and Community Safety Partnerships	CX / HTWM – Community Safety Team Manager / Road Safety Team Manager	December 2009	
Preventing and reducing offending	าต		
Develop employment and training opportunities for offenders and those at risk of offending	All Departments		
Set up Youth Crime Family Intervention Project	CX – Deputy Head of Youth Offending Service	December 2009	
Deliver Youth Justice Plan Equality Improvement Actions (EIA)	CX – Head of Youth Offending Service	As per Improvement plan	
Reducing Violent Crime			
Develop and publicise a Domestic Abuse Employers Policy	Resources	March 2010	
Build knowledge of community safety and in particular domestic abuse and hate crime work within Contract Services and Supported Living services	ASC - Older & Disabled People's Service Manager (J Dabrowska)	March 2010	
Review provision of supported living for	ASC – Service Manager	March 2010	

Key Actions	Lead	Timescale	Progress
survivors of Domestic abuse Supporting People & Housing Carry out a test purchase project on knives Work with Partnerships to deliver local equality actions identified regarding Supporting People & Housing Community Services Material CX – Community Safety Team Manager			
	Community Services	March 2010	
· ·	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	March 2010	
Building Confidence & Tackling A	Anti-Social Behaviour		
Develop website on home safety	ASC - Business Support Manager & Home Safety Action Group	March 2010	
Produce Home Safety calendar for 2010	ASC - Business Support Manager & Home Safety Action Group	December 2009	
Expand 'First Contact' pilot across the County	ASC - Business Support Manager & Home Safety Action Group	December 2009	
Develop, where appropriate, joint projects with local schools to build relationships between older and young people.	ASC - Assistant Director Older & Disabled People's Services	December 2009	
Transport administered by the Passenger Transport Unit	ASC – Assistant Director Adult Services – in consultation with Group		
a) Require all drivers and escorts to be trained to 'basic' standard which includes disability awareness and good customer care.	Manager PTU		
b) Taxi licencing authorities requesting NVQ level 2 in taxi driving			

Key Actions	Lead	Timescale	Progress
c) CRB and ISA – contract taxi drivers and escorts to become a regulated occupation from October 2009		From July 2010 new drivers and escorts will need to be ISA registered before they can work on Council contracts. By July 2015 all contract drivers and escorts will need to be ISA	
		registered	
Implement expanded IMPACT project	CX – Deputy Head of Youth Offending Service	March 2010	
Four local beat surgeries to take place at County Hall.	CR – Internal Communications Officer (JJohnson)	March 2010	
Implement Play strategy	CYPS – Parenting Strategy Commissioner	March 2010	
Evaluate the effectiveness of No Cold Calling Zones	Community Services	December 2009	
Work with Partnerships and Police to identify how equality data regarding ASB can be better collated.	CX – Community Safety Team Manager	March 2010	
Reducing the Harm caused by Dr			
Implement multi-agency Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy	CX – Alcohol Strategy Officer	March 2010	
Develop joint approach to underage and proxy sales with City Council	Community Services – Head of Regulatory Services	March 2010	
Intelligence led alcohol enforcement to achieve a 85% compliance rate for test purchasing exercises.	Community Services – Head of Regulatory Services	March 2010	

Key Actions	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Produce and distribute new advice / educational material for Age Restricted Sales. Ensure content and format is accessible to Leicestershire businesses, particularly for those with limited understanding of English. (EIA)	Community Services - Trading Standards	December 2009	
Deliver Drug Treatment Plan Equality	CX – DAAT Manager	As per Improvement	
Improvement Actions (EIA)	_	plan	
Reducing Acquisitive Crime			
Four local beat surgeries to take place	CR – Internal	March 2010	
at County Hall.	Communications Officer (JJohnson)		

Glossary of Abbreviations

YJ & SC
YISP
SCA
S17
RIEP
PSA
099
PCSO
Z
MAPPOM
HSP
LSCSB
LCJB
LCC
LAA
MWTH
EIA
DV/DA
DAAT
CYPS
CX
CST
CSPB
CSP
CR
CDRP
CDA 98
CCTV
ASC
ASB