



**Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council**

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community
Safety Partnership (CSP) Joint Scrutiny Commission

19 February 2025

Wards affected: All wards in Blaby District and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough

**Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership (CSP)
Annual Update**

Report of: Community Services and Safeguarding Manager (Hinckley and Bosworth)
Community Services Manager (Blaby)

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To update Scrutiny on the current focus, performance, achievements and challenges of the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.2 This is the annual report from the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership (CSP) as required by the terms of reference for the CSP.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Scrutiny notes the content of this report.
- 2.2 That the CSP continues to provide the joint Scrutiny Commission with annual Community Safety Partnership update reports.
- 2.3 That scrutiny notes the work that has taken place which has enabled the Community Safety Partnership and the local authorities to successfully ensure compliance with the Serious Violence Duty, which came into force in January 2023.

3. Background to the report

- 3.1 The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 provides the framework for the establishment of Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's). Membership must include the "Responsible Authorities" as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The responsible authorities on the local CSP are Blaby District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service, Integrated Care Boards and Probation.

- 3.2 The CSP has a current 3-year Community Safety Strategy 2023-26 which is available at *Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth CSP Strategy 2023_26*. The priorities in the strategy have been developed using information and data about crime and disorder issues across the district and borough and take into account the issues local people consider to be of most concern.
- 3.3 Action plans are developed and refreshed annually to ensure delivery of the Community Safety Strategy. The action plans for 2024-25 are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 External funding to assist in the work of the CSP primarily comes via the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner's (OPCC) Partnership Locality Fund. The Partnership Locality Fund (PLF) is currently confirmed by the OPCC on an annual basis. This enables the partnership to commission and recommission services and initiatives that enable it to meet objectives set in the Community Safety Strategy and contribute to the aims of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland *Police and Crime Plan*.
- 3.4.1 The current funding awarded for 2024-25 to the CSP is £104,104 the split per district and borough is as follows; Hinckley and Bosworth £51,217, Blaby £52,887. Due to LLR wide underspends last year the CSP has received a one off additional £7839 per district/borough for 2024-25.

4. Areas of Focus for the Partnership

- 4.1 The Community Safety Partnership continues to deliver a wealth of work around three key areas of focus within the Community Safety Strategy:

Protecting and Supporting People
Reducing Offending and Re-offending
Preventing and Reducing Serious Violence.

- 4.2 The partnership focusses on using evidence-based approaches in our strategic and operational work and has prevention at the core of its work. The partnership works actively in specific locations at specific times, targets known offenders, proactively identifies and supports vulnerable people and works with local people to build confidence and satisfaction with the way we deal with crime and anti-social behaviour.

- 4.3 The Serious Violence Duty, a legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence, commenced in early 2023, with duty holders given 12 months to 31st January 2024 to meet the duty.

Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act (PCSCA) 2022 requires specified authorities to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing, and reducing serious violence in the area. The specified authorities are defined as: Police (Chief Officers of Police), Fire and Rescue Authorities, Integrated Care Boards, Local Authorities (including 'youth offending teams') and Probation Services.

Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) was also amended to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, and they have a strategy in place to explicitly tackle serious violence.

The CSP has, over the last 3 years, worked hard to ensure it is well placed to meet the duty and have local plans and initiatives that will help to prevent and reduce serious violence in the district and borough. The partnership has a dedicated serious violence plan in place, at Appendix 1.

- 4.4 The Domestic Abuse Act received royal assent in April 2021. The partnership and local authorities continue to work to ensure that we meet the requirements of this Act and continue our proactive work and commitment to providing support to all victims and survivors of domestic abuse.
- 4.5 The CSP has effective partnership structures to enable effective problem solving to tackle issues relating to offending and reoffending. Partnership structures include monthly Joint Action Groups (Hinckley and Bosworth), People and Places Forum (Blaby) and Tactical Groups in both areas. These structures identify emerging threats and put in place solution focussed and holistic actions for individuals and place. The partnership works to tackle issues from a prevention perspective and uses a tiered approach for anti-social behaviour. Actions are taken to ensure individuals have appropriate support and powers and tools are used where appropriate to tackle issues. Early intervention work has continued to be a key part of the Partnership's role ensuring that, wherever possible, vulnerabilities of individuals are identified and addressed early before escalation occurs. Work with vulnerable victims, witnesses and perpetrators takes place daily, appropriate referrals are made and close work with partner agencies has helped to ensure appropriate support is in place.
- 4.6 The partnership continues to focus on ensuring active communication and engagement with communities and services users.

The CSP continue to increase promotion of its successes and key messages via its *CSP Newsletters* in Hinckley and Bosworth and via social media platforms in both areas. Neighbourhood link continues to be used as a

communication method with the community. There are now 11,229 users across the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth neighbourhood policing area.

The partnership consults annually with the public to gain their views on crime and anti-social behaviour. Our annual consultation took place from early December 2024 until end January 2025.

The partnership has recently developed a Community Partnership Framework and action plan to further strengthen our community involvement approaches.

- 4.7 In 2023, as part of Leicestershire Police force wide changes to deployment there was a move to more local management. For the Hinckley and Bosworth and Blaby Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA) this meant that there is now one Inspector for Blaby District (Inspector Mat Allingham) and one Inspector for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough (Inspector Neil Whittle). The NPA remains as one NPA, with both Inspectors covering each other for leave and absence. This has been in place now for over a year and has allowed greater focus on issues specific to each local authority area and focus of neighbourhood policing resources. This tighter geographical management structure has improved partnership working and multi-agency problem solving.

5.0 Performance

- 5.1 The effectiveness of the CSP is measured against performance indicators around crime and antisocial behaviour and against the partnership action plans. Data is both quantitative and qualitative in nature. Performance is also fed back to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for all the projects and initiatives in the action plans that receive funding from the OPCC.

All of the partnership action plans are reported on to the Community Safety Executive Board on a quarterly basis.

- 5.2 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Statistics

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough									
Time Period	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	5 year Trend	2023/24 to date	2024/25 to date	Yr to Date Trend
Total Crime	6950	6441	7153	7763	7516	↑	6139	5839	↓
Violent Crime	2199	2565	2813	3009	2864	→	2333	2209	↓
Domestic Abuse	1191	1566	1701	1299	1350	↓	1104	979	↓
Domestic Burglary	413	205	212	331	328	→	257	289	↑
Burglary (Business)	240	89	104	98	122	→	99	105	↑
Vehicle Crime - Theft From	677	326	273	339	351	→	270	282	↑
Vehicle Crime - Theft of	204	163	141	268	257	↑	217	184	↓
ASB sentinel				517	488		406	387	
Antisocial Behaviour calls								2933	
Hate Crime	93	122	178	193	144	↓	118	102	↓

Blaby District									
Time Period	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	5 Year Trend	2023/24 to date	2024/25 to date	Yr to Date Trend
Total Crime	5988	5473	6385	6849	6853	↑	5707	5214	↓
Violent Crime	1795	2104	2424	2390	2263	→	1906	1687	↓
Domestic Abuse	1053	1369	1469	1122	1133	→	948	831	↓
Domestic Burglary	425	241	258	413	381	↓	321	347	↑
Burglary (Business)	150	73	64	78	91	↓	70	43	↓
Vehicle Crime - Theft From	740	406	371	353	399	↓	326	261	↓
Vehicle Crime - Theft of	164	113	147	187	185	→	154	136	↓
ASB sentinel				294	202		176	203	
Antisocial Behaviour calls								2826	
Hate Crime	86	129	150	157	132	→	110	117	→

Points of note:

There is a decreasing trend of violent crime offences over the last two years. This is positive and the wealth of work undertaken by the CSP around serious violence is included in this report.

Some increases are currently being seen for burglary and vehicle crime offences but the long-term trends are static or reducing. More information on burglary and vehicle crime work is covered in section 6.3.

Leicestershire anti-social behaviour data shows a downward trend over a two-year period for both districts.

5.3 Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) Statistics

Blaby District - April 2023 to March 2024

Ref	Key Corporate Indicator	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Tot
Incidents Attended														
1.1	Total incidents	54	63	68	53	67	64	59	54	57	50	66	49	704
1.2	Fire incidents	13	15	22	19	21	12	10	11	15	5	13	12	168
1.2a	Primary fire incidents	10	6	9	8	10	6	7	6	12	4	12	8	98
1.2b	Secondary fire incidents	3	8	13	11	11	6	2	5	3	1	1	3	67
1.2c	Chimey fire incidents	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
1.3	Fire false alarms	17	18	27	17	24	26	23	13	13	13	21	11	223
1.3a	Due to apparatus	6	9	10	6	9	9	9	3	7	5	13	3	89
1.3b	Good intent	10	8	17	10	15	17	14	10	4	8	8	8	129
1.3c	Malicious (attended)	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5
1.4	Non-fire incidents	24	30	19	17	22	26	26	30	29	32	32	26	313
1.4a	Non-fire false alarms	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	8
1.4b	Special service	21	29	19	16	22	24	26	30	29	32	31	26	305
-	Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	4	6	7	3	4	8	3	12	11	6	7	5	76
-	Assist other agencies	3	10	3	2	2	2	7	7	6	7	12	8	69
-	Medical Incident - Co-responder/First Responder	2	3	1	1	2	2	0	1	7	3	1	2	25
-	Effecting entry / exit	2	3	2	3	4	3	3	4	1	3	1	2	31
-	Flooding	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	9	4	1	21
-	Suicide/attempts	1	1	0	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
-	-suicides	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2.1	Fatalities in fires	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.2	Non-fatal casualties in fires	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2.3	Fatalities in non-fire incidents	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	4	11
2.4	Non-fatal casualties in non-fire incidents	2	10	5	5	4	2	7	6	8	5	5	4	63

Hinckley & Bosworth District - April 2023 to March 2024

Ref	Key Corporate Indicator	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Tot
Incidents Attended														
1.1	Total incidents	56	58	89	75	75	86	84	55	51	51	55	56	791
1.2	Fire incidents	10	12	27	8	18	19	17	11	12	7	3	8	152
1.2a	Primary fire incidents	5	5	17	5	13	14	14	7	7	3	2	6	98
1.2b	Secondary fire incidents	3	7	10	3	5	5	3	3	4	2	1	2	48
1.2c	Chimey fire incidents	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	6
1.3	Fire false alarms	21	14	21	28	25	37	38	19	16	13	24	12	268
1.3a	Due to apparatus	5	4	5	3	11	18	22	4	11	1	11	5	100
1.3b	Good intent	15	10	16	25	14	19	16	14	5	12	13	6	165
1.3c	Malicious (attended)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
1.4	Non-fire incidents	25	32	41	39	32	30	29	25	23	31	28	36	371
1.4a	Non-fire false alarms	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	3	1	2	13
1.4b	Special service	25	31	41	38	32	29	26	25	22	28	27	34	358
-	Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	6	8	17	13	12	8	6	11	4	5	8	11	109
-	Assist other agencies	4	6	7	5	7	5	8	4	8	10	6	7	77
-	Medical Incident - Co-responder/First Responder	4	2	5	1	2	3	0	3	2	2	0	3	27
-	Effecting entry / exit	3	5	4	6	2	2	3	5	3	0	3	2	38
-	Flooding	1	1	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	2	5	2	17
-	Suicide/attempts	3	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	9
-	-suicides	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.1	Fatalities in fires	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2.2	Non-fatal casualties in fires	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	7
2.3	Fatalities in non-fire incidents	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	2	10
2.4	Non-fatal casualties in non-fire incidents	6	7	8	5	7	5	4	9	4	4	3	11	73

Based on previous year:

Overall Blaby and Hinckley & Bosworth have seen the total number of incidents decrease. The significant point from this data is that fire incidents have seen the biggest decrease. This decrease can be attributed to the volume of fire safety education initiatives and increased number of home safety checks completed over the year.

There has been an upward trend in the number of fire false alarms and non-fire incidents (primarily Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) please refer to section 6.5) despite an increase in fire safety audits and working with premises to reduce false alarms. Numerous road safety initiatives have been held to promote safer driving and fatal four.

5.4 Serious Violence

The CSP has an excellent working relationship with the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Violence Reduction Network (VRN) and have worked effectively to ensure compliance with the Serious Violence Duty that came into force on 31 January 2023. Our readiness as a CSP was assessed via a local self-assessment, which was completed internally and then reviewed with a member of the VRN team. The self-assessment showed both local authorities and the CSP to be in an excellent position to meet the duty.

Specified authorities, including Hinckley and Bosworth Borough and Blaby District Councils, and the VRN participated in a national readiness assessment commissioned by the Home Office and undertaken by Crest Advisory. This concluded that our partnership across LLR is 'Mature, Demonstrating Best Practice' in relation to the duty requirements reflecting our work so far through the VRN and CSP. This is the highest rating possible.

The CSP is focused on ensuring continuous improvements in our responses and the self-assessment has enabled us to further strengthen areas of our work. Examples include the creation of a Community Partnership Framework and action plan to further strengthen our community involvement approaches; and to some upcoming training in early 2025 on the 'Theory of Change' model to enable us to better evidence outcomes.

Our most recent Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment (2023-24) shows a decreasing trend across the area in serious violence compared to the previous year. Our strategic needs assessment has informed our Serious Violence Plan provided at Appendix 1. We continually use data to inform our operational responses. Dedicated police patrols in serious violence and anti-social behaviour hotspots are taking place with local officers deployed on foot in high visibility uniform for maximum reach. Funding has recently been secured to provide additional youth outreach work in these key hotspot locations in Hinckley town centre at key times until April 2025.

Op Sceptre is a national police operation supported by Leicestershire Police and the CSP and an ongoing approach to tackling knife crime. There were two dedicated weeks of action last year in May and November with successful arrests, knife sweeps at local parks and knives surrendered to amnesty bins. Op Sceptre work continues throughout the year to tackle violent crime and knife crime, including knife arch deployments in schools and in the nighttime economy, providing education and engagement using the message of the 'We Don't Carry' campaign, continued test purchasing operations to ensure stores in our communities are robust with regards to the sale of knives and ensuring there is a high and visible presence of officers in hotspot areas.

5.5 Domestic Abuse

The partnership continues to work to support victims and survivors of domestic abuse. The Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth council's domestic abuse outreach services provide emotional and practical support for adult victims/survivors of domestic abuse. The services work on a one-to-one basis with service users and via group programmes which help to enable survivors to move on from their experiences. Therapeutic work is also delivered with children and young people who have been affected by domestic abuse.

	1 st April 23 – 31 st March 24	1 st April 24 – 30 th Sept 24
Victims/ Survivors supported via outreach service	226	135
Number of domestic abuse group programmes completed	12	8
Number of children affected by domestic abuse receiving therapeutic support	90	32

It is imperative that our outreach services remain survivor led. Giving survivors a voice, listening to the needs and wishes of survivors and then using this to shape the service has led to changes that have ensured better outcomes for survivors. Service users are supported in sharing decision making and goal setting to put in place a plan of action they need to move forward. Recent projects that have been completely survivor led are the survivor coffee mornings and a survivor art project.

The CSP leads a Domestic Abuse Forum which brings together key stakeholders across the borough and district to ensure wider partners are working together, enabling collaboration, forward planning, and networking to improve responses to domestic abuse. Key partners attend including social care, public health, local legal services, housing, community safety, Department of Work and Pensions and the police. The CSP holds a successful annual domestic abuse networking event to highlight this collaboration and partnership response.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) provides funding to county councils and district councils to support their work in the duty placed on them via the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. District and borough councils receive in the region of £33K each per annum. Housing plays an important role in domestic abuse, where housing uncertainty can be used by perpetrators to control and coerce survivors. A lack of safe, secure and high-quality housing can put people experiencing domestic abuse at risk of homelessness and therefore hesitant to speak out. Locally Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and Blaby District Council use their MHCLG funding to provide a specialist domestic abuse post within their housing options teams. The posts work on domestic abuse related housing options cases to enable survivors of domestic abuse to access specialist support services and to access safe accommodation. This ensures that survivors who

may find themselves homeless and need access to secure accommodation are supported by an officer who has knowledge around domestic abuse to support them effectively. The officer works closely with our Domestic Abuse Outreach Services ensuring a streamlined service around practical and emotional support for survivors.

The CSP set up a new scheme in late 2024 to provide target hardening packs for domestic abuse survivors. This target hardening is used alongside appropriate risk assessments. The packs include items such as window alarms, personal alarms, solar lights, alarmed door wedges etc. There is also access to ring doorbells for appropriate cases.

Domestic abuse is a local policing priority; daily scrutiny is provided of live demand and suspects outstanding. This is then fed through to dedicated officers to progress enquiries. The Domestic Abuse Resolution Team (DART) is a central police resource working with local policing. Key areas of business include the creation of problem management plans and identification of high threat relationships. Individuals that are suitable are signposted to local outreach teams through this process. Supervisors provide additional scrutiny in the following areas: domestic abuse demand, outstanding suspects, arrest rates, investigative positive outcomes and local training.

5.6 Children and Young People

The CSP continues to engage with high numbers of young people via prevention and awareness work in schools and other young people settings. Work has been delivered on topics such as exploitation, substance misuse, safe driving, knife crime, mental health, diversity, anti-social behaviour, and healthy relationships. In 2023-24 the partnership engaged with over 4000 young people via their awareness and prevention work in educational and other young people settings. Between 1st April 24 – 31st Dec 24 we have already engaged with 2802 young people in Hinckley and Bosworth and delivered 24 school workshops in Blaby. Workshops are adapted in line with emerging trends such as a hate crime input last year in a primary school, a series of domestic abuse/healthy relationship workshops at both primary and secondary schools and being part of a wellbeing event at a secondary school.

The partnership continues to commission specialist youth outreach and diversionary provision via Streetvibe Young People's Service. In 2023- 24 Streetvibe had 1779 positive engagements with young people in hotspot areas for anti-social behaviour and between 1st April 24 – 30th Sept 24 have had 710 engagements.

Work has continued with Leicester City in the Community who continue to deliver a sports outreach project, running weekly from Green Towers and Brockington College. Police attend sessions to build positive relationships with young people and there are other enrichment activities such as tournaments and visits to the Space Centre. 178 young people benefited from attending the sessions in 2023-24 and from 1st April - 30th Sept, 115 young people have

attended sessions. One participant was selected to represent Leicester City in the Premier League Kicks regional and national tournaments. Several participants were upskilled to take a referee course, providing them with leadership development and practical qualifications. Through this achievement, they have begun officiating local games, earning payment for their time, and building a sense of responsibility and pride in their work.

Mentors in Violence Programme (MVP) is a peer mentoring programme run by the Violence Reduction Network that gives young people the chance to explore and challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin violence and bullying. It addresses a range of behaviours and uses a 'by-stander' approach where individuals are not looked on as potential victims or perpetrators but as empowered and active bystanders with the ability to support and challenge their peers in a safe way. The MVP is currently being delivered in 2 schools in Hinckley and Bosworth and Blaby.

The YEO (Youth Engagement Officer) is a key member of the neighbourhood policing team. They act as the police lead for the Youth JAG to ensure all local partners are aligned with regards to policing activity. In quarter 3 alone, they delivered 19 school workshops, reaching over 1660 students. These include key topics such as online awareness, knife crime awareness and county lines. They also complete lunch time drop-in sessions, children's home visits and various partnership and cadet events across the policing area.

5.7 Prevent

The Prevent Duty was established by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and places a duty on specified authorities to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.'

The Prevent Duty guidance assists statutory partners to understand how to comply with the Prevent Duty. This duty guidance has been updated to reflect several recommendations of the Independent Review of Prevent published in February 2023.

Section 5 of the Prevent Duty guidance (2023, as amended in January 2024), subsection 85 states, "It is important for specified authorities to identify and consider opportunities to disrupt those who seek to radicalise others into conducting terrorism-related activity or supporting terrorism, or who perpetuate extremist ideologies linked to terrorism. This may mean having policies in place that, where appropriate, limit radicalising influences (including online), or ensure that facilities are not used inappropriately." Both local authorities have put in place venue hire policies and guidance during 2024 to respond to this guidance.

Both local authorities have refreshed their local Prevent plans in 2024 and have robust training plans. Some updated face to face front-line officer training has recently been released by the Home Office and both authorities will start delivery of this training during 2025.

5.8 Hate Crime

Hate Crime is an area of crime that is under reported and has a significant impact on the victim. The CSP works hard to raise awareness of hate crime and to ensure that people are aware of how to report it. Regular promotion of services available for hate crime has taken place to encourage people to report and seek help.

The CSP delivered enhanced hate crime awareness during national hate crime awareness week in October 2024, with social media campaigns, launch of the Blaby Youth Council Hate Crime Video and workshops on diversity in schools.

Both areas are engaged in work to develop a LLR Hate Crime Hub, this hub will look to provide a central repository for information and guidance regarding hate crime for professionals and the community.

The police have dedicated hate crime supervisors on the local policing area ensuring all hate crimes and incidents are monitored daily. To aid compliance and satisfaction, 7 and 28 day supervisory call-backs are now factored in.

5.9 Night-time Economy

The CSP has continued a wealth of work to make the night-time economy safer. We have robust structures to partnership manage any issues relating to the night-time economy. These include effective operational work between CCTV, Police and licensees, effective Pubwatch schemes and the use of night-time economy marshals at key times. Last year the CSP provided night-time economy marshals to work alongside the police to deescalate issues and keep people safe on key nights during the World Cup and over the Christmas period.

The CSP have visited establishments across Hinckley and Bosworth promoting anti-spiking, the don't drink drive campaign, Ask for Angela and domestic abuse support during December 2024. More than 30 premises were visited across Hinckley and Bosworth. A talk was also given to Pubwatch to raise awareness.

During 2024 the 'Ask for Angela Scheme' has been refreshed, and all participating venues have been contacted to ensure they are still active members of the scheme and are training staff appropriately. This scheme enables people who might feel uneasy on a date or night out to discretely approach staff and request assistance. Staff at participating venues have been trained to recognise the discrete safe word, 'Angela', alerting them to a problem. The member of staff can then offer to call a taxi, provide a safe place whilst people contact a friend, or help people to leave the venue if they are feeling unsafe due to someone else's actions, words, or behaviour. We now have 50 participating venues across the borough and district. More

information and details on venues taking part in the scheme can be found on www.leicestershire.gov.uk/AskforAngela

5.10 Rural Crime

The Rural Policing Team continue to tackle issues that matter most to the rural community. They link in with local neighbourhood policing teams for knowledge and support and they are in regular contact with the local National Farmers Union and members of the rural community via the dedicated rural WhatsApp groups. The WhatsApp groups continue to be well thought of, not only allowing participants to share information regarding suspicious incidents, but they also allow Police to share team results and reach out for information to resolve live incidents such as loose livestock in the road.

The team continue to hold Hub meetings throughout the year with multiple partner agencies such as the RSPCA and Environmental Agency, of which countywide CSP's are invited and attend, and the team continue to work closely with those partner agencies outside of the meetings to carry out warrants and deal with local issues. Over recent months a number of hare coursing incidents have been reported with damage to gates and crops and other wildlife offences in relation to bats which has led to joint work being carried out with ecologists and Natural England. Incidents of fly-grazing of horses has also begun to increase and although not a Police matter, advice and support is being provided. Each week the team join a regional meeting with other forces to keep sight of emerging threats and results. The recent team recovery of a tractor stolen from our neighbouring force Warwickshire was gratefully received.

5.11 Retail Crime

Local police, the borough council and Hinckley Business Improvement District (Hinckley BID) have been working closely with partners and businesses to reduce crime in Hinckley Town Centre. Retail crime has been a focus. The use of retail radios, the DISC system (which allows timely sharing of information between police, CCTV and businesses), town centre policing, CCTV cameras and close working with businesses has yielded excellent results with arrests and property recoveries. This approach has resulted in high success rates in the detection of retail theft; well above the Leicestershire Police average. Over the last year, with support from partners, the police have been able to deal with a large number of retail thefts in Hinckley, putting a number of offenders in prison and recovering a large amount of stolen property. Counterfeit electronics and other illegal goods have also been removed from sale in Hinckley town centre. A quantity of illegal items has been recovered this year, including counterfeit smartwatches and earphones, which are unsafe and not manufactured to correct safety standards. A large amount of illicit tobacco and illegal vapes were also recovered by the Police and colleagues from the Borough Council's licensing team. This year the CSP has provided funding, via the Police and Crime Commissioner's funding, to continue the use of the DISC system, which now has 139 registered users.

A Hinckley shop which sold illegal cigarettes to undercover Trading Standards officers on eight occasions and had more than 1,800 packets of illegal tobacco seized during four enforcement visits has been closed down for three months. Easy Shop in Regent Street must close until 15 April 2025 under the terms of an order granted at Leicester Magistrates Court on Wednesday 15 January, following a joint operation by Leicestershire County Council's Trading Standards service and Leicestershire Police.

The police have continued to run regular pro-active police operations in Hinckley Town Centre which involve high visibility and plain clothed patrols.

A small, dedicated team of officers assigned to spree offenders have been, in part, responsible for an increase in positive outcomes achieved. This approach of using a dedicated team targeting policing of spree and repeat offenders in areas of high crime has seen outcomes across a number of crime areas, in the first year this has included 600 crimes solved, 84 arrests and 63 individuals charged and remanded. The spree crime team has worked actively with the community, encouraging residents to report suspicious activities, and fostering a partnership that enhances public safety improving the way businesses report crime and improving evidential quality. The operation has implemented a retail crime package for local businesses with annex documents that streamline the investigative process and makes a positive outcome in court much more likely.

A sharp rise in shoplifting reports from 2 particular shops in Blaby District led to a problem-solving plan being put in place. Police close liaison with the retail units has had a positive impact on shoplifting offences. Fosse Park has also benefitted from extra resources including high visibility and plain clothed patrols. We have recently secured grip funding for ASB patrols at Fosse Park, given the amount of footfall and some of the issues there this funding has allowed us to put extra patrols in place. This has not only seen very positive comments from Fosse Park management but also a sharp increase in detected crimes as well as a flattening of the usual Christmas spike in theft person on that beat. This has worked mainly by officers being present when offences are occurring and was particularly useful in the run up to Christmas. The funding has now finished however the police continue to complete patrols as part of this work.

5.12 ASB enforcement

	Active cases April 1 st 24- end Dec 24	ASB Enforcement April 1 st 24- end Dec 24
Blaby People and Places Forum	9	1 Closure order 3 warning letters
Hinckley and Bosworth:		
Adult Joint Action Group (JAG)	18	3 Closure orders 1 Ext of Closure Order
Youth Joint Action Group	13	4 Community Protection Warning letters 10 Anti-social behaviour contracts

Note: active case figures above are only for cases at our JAG / People and Places structures which manage the highest risk cases.

A project was launched in 2024 with funding from the OPCC to purchase 30 smart doorbell cameras to give out to those who are the high-risk victims of ASB/crime. This helps reduce risk, increases feelings of safety and provides potential evidence. Referrals to the scheme are managed via the above partnership structures.

5.13 Campaigns

The CSP successfully delivered 25 campaigns in 2023-24 which focussed on raising awareness, increasing reporting, reducing offences of emerging threat and seasonal crime trends, and ensuring people know how to access support. A similar amount of campaign work will be delivered during 2024-25. The CSP has also attended a variety of community events, such as local patch walks, events with high footfalls such as motor shows and Christmas events and cost of living events.

In 2024 the CSP has delivered a number of geofencing campaigns. Geofencing allows us to target messages to people in a particular area. This has meant that we have been able to better ensure our campaign messages are reaching the right audience. These campaigns have had high reach numbers and are a mechanism that will be increasingly used by the CSP.

6.0 Current Challenges and Emerging Threat

6.1 In summary the CSP faces the following performance challenges:

6.2 Rising costs of food, fuel and housing have seen a national increase in shop theft and other acquisitive crime. The significant amount of work taking place to tackle shoplifting is detailed in 5.11.

6.3 Burglary and vehicle crime continues to be a challenge. There have been significant arrests which have impacted on reductions of offences, but the road network makes Hinckley and Bosworth and Blaby particularly susceptible to cross border criminality which can be difficult to plan for or to predict. The local neighbourhood police work closely with Warwickshire Police to tackle cross border criminality. The CSP have also funded burglary target hardening packs which are distributed to victims of burglary and those in the near vicinity of a burglary. Packs include things such as window and door alarms, CCTV stickers, light timers etc

6.4 County Lines continues to be an ongoing threat. Local Police working in partnership with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Blaby District Council and Leicestershire Police Intelligence Services continually monitor and respond to disrupt any county lines that may impact on our area.

6.5 Road Traffic Collisions

The total number of road traffic collisions attended by LFRS have increased based on a 3-year average. Multiple initiatives focusing on road safety reduction have taken place to educate the community on the fatal four (speeding, driving under the effects of drugs or alcohol, not wearing a seatbelt and mobile device use) and safer driving habits. However, with this upward trend - non fire fatality figures remained similar to the previous year. Please note that the current year to date has seen a further upward trend increase in serious RTC incidents. The police continue to run road safety operations including Fatal4 Operations and a dedicated road safety operation, Operation Flux, to focus on certain locations.

LFRS data on RTC incidents is shown below:

Hinckley and Bosworth 2023/24:



Blaby 2023/24:



6.6 Currently dedicated funding for the work of the Community Safety Partnership comes from the Police and Crime Commissioner in the form of a Partnership Locality Fund. Funding is agreed on an annual basis which does not facilitate long term planning and commissioning. The funding landscape could be subject to changes in future years.

6.7 Community and Cultural Tensions

Franklin Park:

After the tragic death of Bhim Kohli on Franklin Park, Braunstone Town Leicestershire Police's Murder Investigation Team (MIT) has been working on the case, charging two people for their involvement, they are awaiting trial. The local team at the NPA has been working with the community to deal with any incidents that occurred in the run up to this murder, a precis of the work done by the CSP is shown below:

- We recognised that there was some community concern about ASB in the area of Franklin Park over the summer leading up to the murder of Bhim Kohli.
- We saw from our data that we had not had a lot of reporting of ASB in the area but also considered that we may have an element of under reporting.
- We decided to carry out a survey of the local people to check for issues they faced. We checked this with our LIAG and the victim's family prior to starting it.
- We mapped the area to target houses with a view of the park and on Bramble way, compiling a spreadsheet of addresses and surveyed 40 addresses.
- We then carried out a drop in event at the civic centre (very close by) the following week. We advertised this by leaflet. These leaflets also featured details on how to report crime/asb. We did this as a mop up session for those people who maybe didn't want to speak to us at the door.
- MIT and local police reviewed the various reports highlighted to MIT that did not fall into their remit for the murder itself but could be considered ASB or crime.
- Youth workers have been to the park to engage with the park users.
- A gradual reduction in police presence has seen a return to normality

We have charged 2 youths with a racially aggravated offence committed in the weeks prior to the murder, they are not the same youths charged or arrested for the murder. We await their court date.

UTACS summary:

UAV Tactical Systems (UTacS) is a company based in Blaby District which is involved in the manufacture of unmanned drone equipment. The site has been the target of regular protests for several years. These issues have calmed since the large-scale protest we saw towards the end of summer 2024. The regular, less violent protests have also lessened, where they were

around twice a month, they have reduced to an 'every now and again' occurrence. We expect these to pick up again in the summer and already have plans in place to deal with them. As always, we need to facilitate reasonable and peaceful protest, but prevent serious disruption to the community, businesses or crimes such as criminal damage.

Southport:

After the tragic deaths in Southport in 2024 we saw country wide disorder last summer, however Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland did not see protests on such scale, nor did we see this disorder. LLR saw one gathering in Leicester City centre however this passed with very little incident. We put this down to the policing presence we have in communities and the extra policing we put in place in certain areas but also the messaging done by community leaders around the issues. Officer's duties were changed, and we were put onto public order duties during this time, not only to deal with any potential incidents in LLR but also to respond to calls for extra officers from other forces, who were required on occasion.

6.8 CSP partners continue to see high demand for services.

6.9 The Community Safety Partnership continues to work in partnership to tackle a wide variety of issues and has increasing statutory responsibilities via the new Serious Violence Duty.

7. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

7.1 To be taken in open session.

8. Financial implications [CS]

8.1 Total funding from the OPCC to the Community Safety Partnership for 2024-25 is £104,104. This is split as follows: Hinckley and Bosworth £51,217, Blaby £52,887. Due to County wide underspends in 2023-24, the CSP has received one-off additional funding of £7,839 per district/borough for 2024-25.

8.2 Additionally for 2024-25, Hinckley & Bosworth received £35,188 and Blaby £35,791 from MHCLG for Domestic Abuse.

9. Legal implications [ST]

9.1 None

10. Corporate Plan implications

10.1 This report relates to priority ambitions of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Corporate Plan 2022-25, namely:
- People
- Place

11. Consultation

11.1 Relevant partners and stakeholders were consulted in the formulation of this report.

11.2 The CSP consult with the community annually to inform their work.

12. Risk implications

12.1 It is the council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

12.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

12.3 The following significant risks associated with these report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (net red) risks

Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Performance Risks identified as challenges under Section 6 of this report	Performance risks are managed on a regular basis via tactical groups and action plans are in place.	RB/RH

13. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

13.1 The Community Safety Partnership delivers robust consultation with the community, partners, and stakeholders in the formulation of its strategy and plans.

13.2 The Community Safety Partnership uses data and intelligence to inform its work.

13.3 The impact on rural areas of the borough and district has been addressed within the Partnership's action plans 2024-25.

14. Climate implications

14.1 Work will be delivered to limit carbon impact where possible, for example virtual methods of engagement and paperless systems.

15. Corporate implications

15.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community safety implications
 - Environmental implications
 - ICT implications
 - Asset management implications
 - Procurement implications
 - Human resources implications
 - Planning implications
 - Data protection implications
 - Voluntary sector
-

Background papers: Appendix 1 –CSP Action Plans 2024-25

Contact officer: Rachel Burgess 01455 255746
Rebecca Holcroft 0116 272 7537

Executive member: Councillor M Mullaney (Hinckley and Bosworth)
Councillor L Phillimore (Blaby)