

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Paolo Pertica, Head of Visitors Services
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	27 October 2016

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL 2016 – AUGUST 2016**

### **1.0 Purpose of the report:**

- 1.1 To consider performance regarding the Community Safety Partnership’s priorities between April 2016 and August 2016. The priorities discussed within this report are the new Partnership priorities for 2016/2019: Violence Against The Person, Antisocial Behaviour, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Offences and Rape, and Child Sexual Exploitation. This report will also make reference to other ongoing work such as Counter Terrorism, Serious Organised Crime, Hate Crime, and Modern Day Slavery.

### **2.0 Recommendation:**

- 2.1 To consider the performance of the Community Safety Partnership against its 2016/2019 priorities and identify any matters for further consideration.

### **3.0 Reasons for recommendation:**

- 3.1 To ensure effective scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership.
- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:  
  
Not applicable

### **4.0 Council Priority:**

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

## **5.0 Background Information**

- 5.1 BSafe Blackpool, the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership, is a group of statutory partners who meet bi-monthly to take forward strategic issues relating to addressing crime and antisocial behaviour, as well as the misuse of drugs and alcohol. The Partnership is chaired by Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health, and Councillor Gillian Campbell is the deputy chair. The statutory responsible authorities for BSafe Blackpool are Blackpool Council, Lancashire Constabulary, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Lancashire and Cumbria Community Rehabilitation Company (previously part of the Probation Service) and the National Probation Service.
- 5.2 A number of additional organisations, although not statutory responsible authorities, are also members of the partnership such as Blackpool Coastal Housing, North West Ambulance Service and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Other organisations from the private, public and third sector may also be temporarily involved with BSafe Blackpool subject to the issues being addressed by the partnership. Actions and decisions made at the meetings are then cascaded to the operational arm of the Partnership, such as the Tactical Tasking Group and a number of additional thematic subgroups.
- 5.3 The priorities on which the partnership focuses are identified by using an annual Strategic Assessment, a process which analyses the crime, disorder and harm data from Blackpool in order to identify the areas which require particular attention. The Strategic Assessment also identifies key threats, any specific trends in crime, disorder and substance misuse and any changes since the previous assessment. The way in which performance against these priorities is measured has significantly changed in the past couple of years, with focus progressively shifting from volume crime and reduction targets, to a more harm and risk based perspective on crime and its impact.

## **6.0 Performance**

- 6.0.1 During the period between 2004/2005 and 2014/2015, crime in Blackpool consistently reduced year on year which created an extremely challenging baseline from which to achieve further reductions. Therefore, in 2015/2016 all crime increased for the first time in a number of years partly due to this baseline, but also due to the aforementioned change in emphasis around harm and risk. This shift in focus has actively encouraged victims to come forward and report crimes such as hate and sexual offences which, although presenting within the figures as an increase, is actually a positive outcome. This trend of increases in 2015/2016 continuing through 2016/2017 is also being seen across the County, with eleven of the fourteen Lancashire districts also experiencing the same increases, and thirteen seeing continued increases into 2016/2017.
- 6.0.2 All crime in Blackpool for the period April to August 2016 is up by 13.5% (n=+932) compared to the same period last year. Of note, each month has shown an increase

when compared to the same month in the previous year. The two main categories contributing to this increase are Violence Against the Person, up by 20.3% (n=+416) and Theft Offences (predominantly burglary and vehicle offences), up by 10.6% (n=+316). The Partnership is aware of this emerging trend relating to Theft Offences and work is currently being undertaken to reduce the issue. A number of suspected individuals are currently being targeted and progress is being monitored within the relevant Police meetings. This trend is also being seen across Lancashire.

6.0.3 With regards to the Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2016/2019, the performance for year end is as follows:

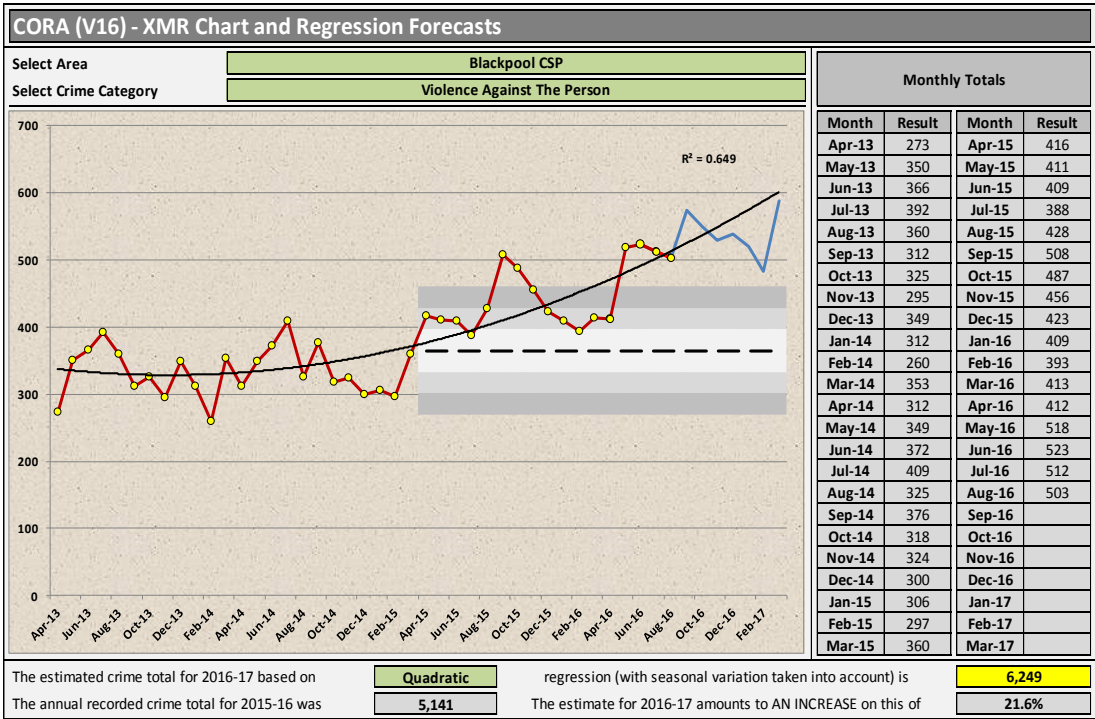
6.1 Violence Against The Person

6.1.1 The figures for April 2016 - August 2016 in relation to Violence Against The Person (VAP) are as follows:

Serious Assaults:  
Less Serious Assaults:  
Non-Injury Assaults:

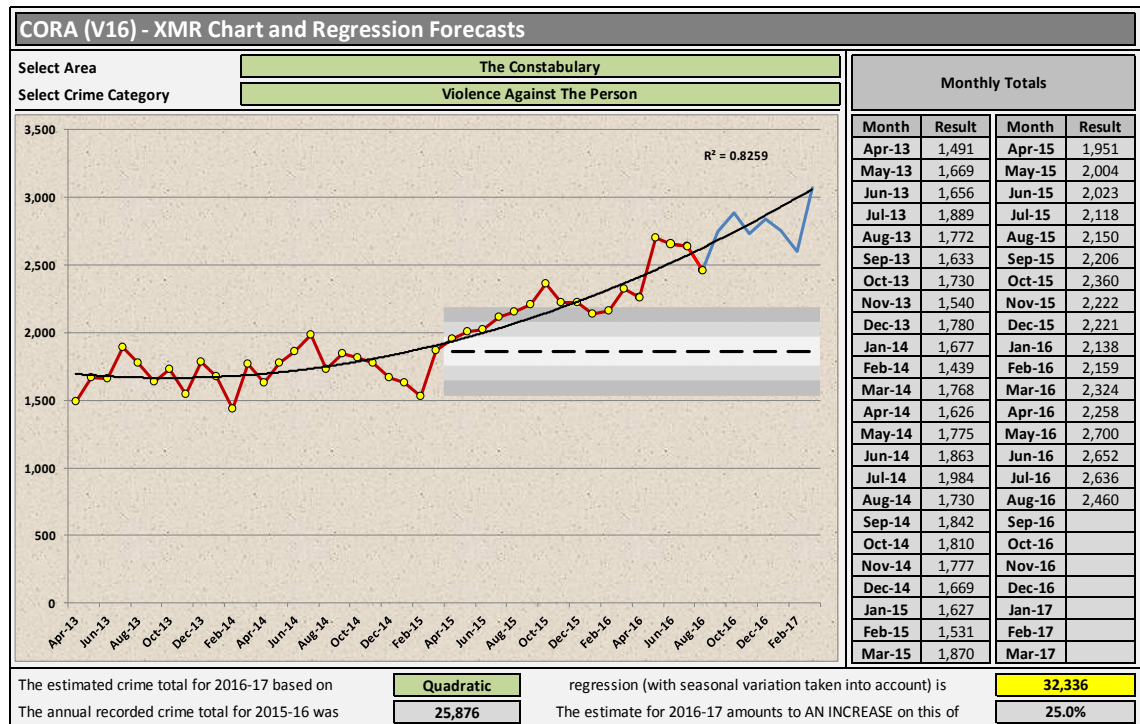
reduction of 3.2% (-2 offences)  
increase of 34.4% (+320 offences)  
reduction of 0.8% (-7 offences)

6.1.2 In Blackpool, the trend for the last three years in relation to VAP is as follows:



6.1.3 All Violence Against the Person has continued to increase in Blackpool and Lancashire in recent years. Year to date, there has been a 20.3% increase in Blackpool, with a 24% increase across the County. All districts are showing increases, with Blackpool actually having a smaller proportion than most other areas.

#### 6.1.4 The trend for Lancashire is as follows:



- 6.1.5 A move towards more ethical recording of crime will have undoubtedly impacted upon the Violence Against The Person figures as every incident is now recorded as a crime within twenty-four hours. Therefore more crime is being recorded than previously. However, with regards to the increase itself, this seems to be due to the cumulative impact of increases across a number of smaller categories rather than being attributable to one particular area of concern such as alcohol or serious assault.
- 6.1.6 Initiatives to tackle violence within Blackpool continue to be implemented by the Community Safety Partnership, particularly in relation the Night Time Economy (NTE). Some of these are longstanding projects such as the Night Safe Haven bus, the Taxi Marshalling, and Safer Taxis, all of which have been mentioned in previous reports. Similarly, 'Facematts' will once again be distributed to the bars and licensed premises, this time over the Christmas holidays. These will be accompanied by a social media campaign which aims to promote safety messages around "alcohol changes you", encouraging revellers to be mindful of their surroundings and their behaviour.
- 6.1.7 A recent report from the CSP Analysts highlighted a trend which showed that young people are particularly vulnerable to becoming involved in violence. Of all violent crime in 2015-2016, individuals aged between 15 and 24 accounted for 27% of victims and 29% of offenders. Similarly, 16% of all violent crime in the same time period was perpetrated by people aged between 25 and 29. Consequently, a multi-agency educational campaign is currently being developed to be delivered to students at school leaver age and students within further education. This will involve the students utilising their skills to produce posters and media about the consequences of violence which will raise their awareness of the issue, whilst simultaneously providing campaign materials that can be displayed in problem hotspots around the town.

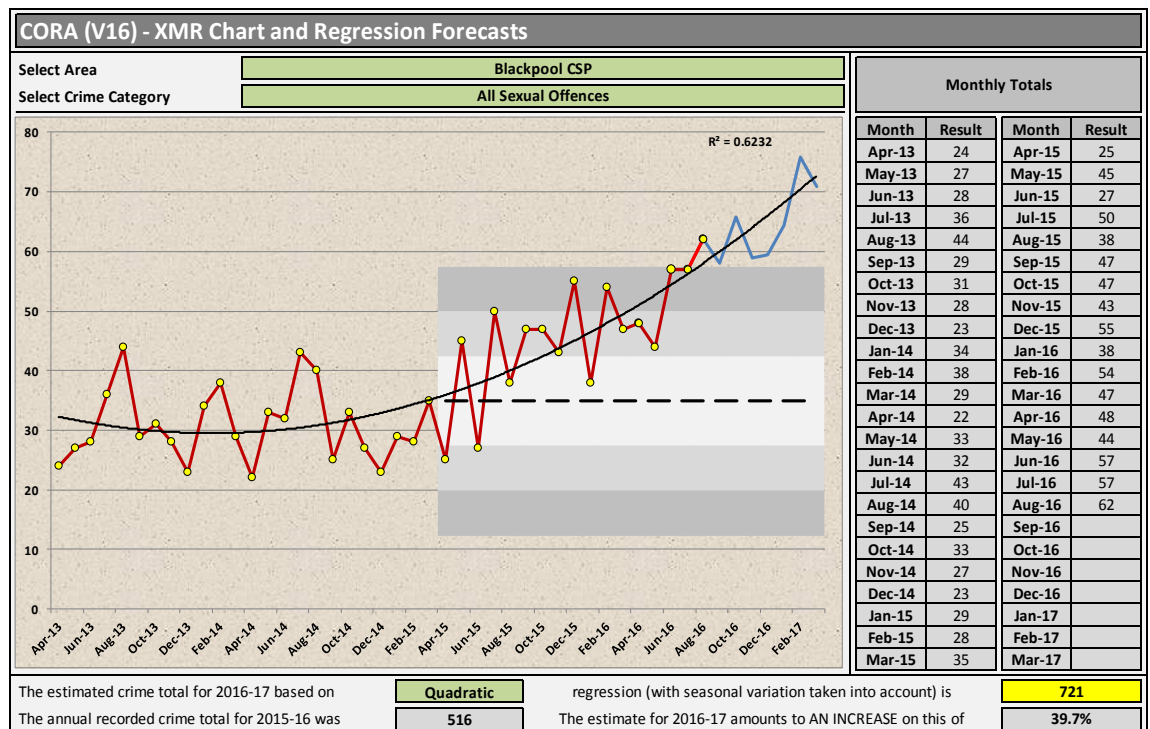
- 6.1.8 In an attempt to deter individuals from engaging in violence and better detect those who do become violent, funding has been sourced for a local policing team to receive four body-worn cameras and the associated computer software. It is hoped that this will enable improved capturing of witness/victim information and consequently aid investigation and identification of perpetrators.
- 6.1.9 The reinstatement of CCTV within the town centre is also assisting with the detection and investigation of violent crime. In the last twelve months, since September 2015, the Police have requested footage relating to 69 assaults and 21 sexual assaults.
- 6.1.10 As mentioned within the last report to the Committee, the 'Avert' project is continuing its work to reduce violence and is seeing some successful results. The project is run by Lancashire Women's Centre and aims to prevent women who have been engaged in violence from re-entering the criminal justice system by offering them support networks and addressing any needs they may have that could lead them into violence. Within the latest report published by project, there have now been 273 referrals to date which are generated through an individual being arrested and the decision being taken that Avert would be a more suitable route than enforcement action (also known as a conditional caution). Of these referrals, 74.6% of women have now successfully completed of the scheme and received intensive support. In Blackpool more specifically, there have been 46 referrals, 70% of which have now completed the project.

## **6.2 Sexual Offences and Rape**

- 6.2.1 The figures for April 2016 – August 2016 in relation to Sexual Offences and Rape are as follows:

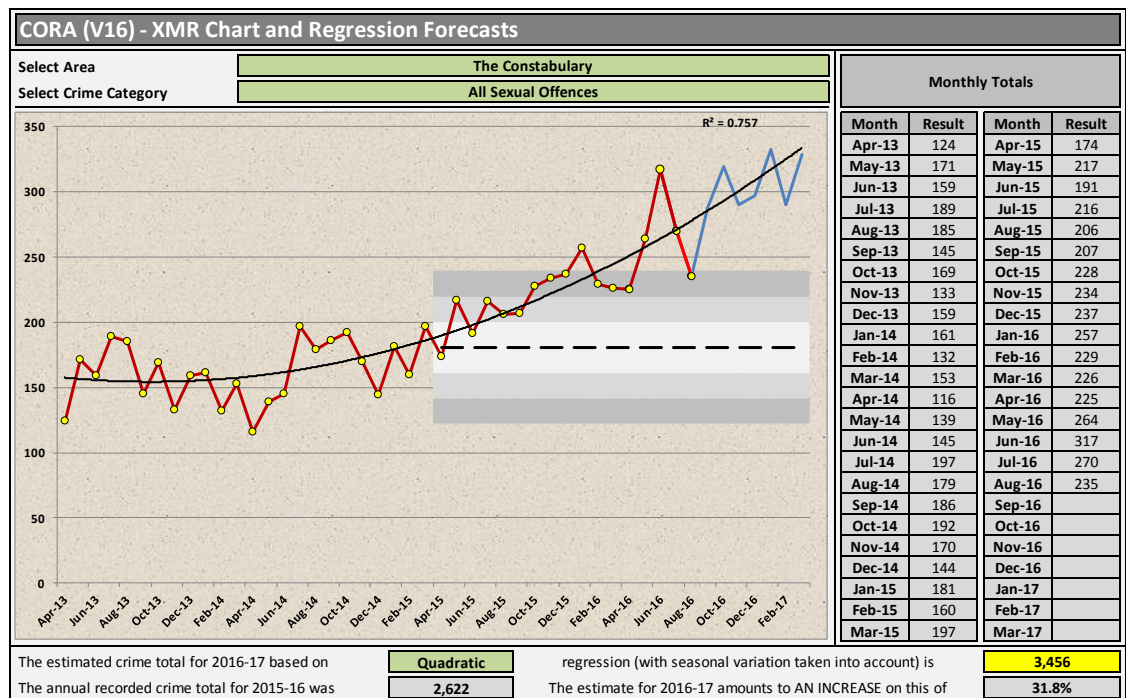
All Sexual Offences	increase of 44.9% (+83 offences)
Rape	reduction of 5.3% (-4 offences)
Sexual Assault	increase of 53.0% (+35 offences)
Sexual Offences (children under 16)	increase of 38.5% (+37 offences)

6.2.2 In Blackpool, the trend for Sexual Offences over the last three years is as follows:

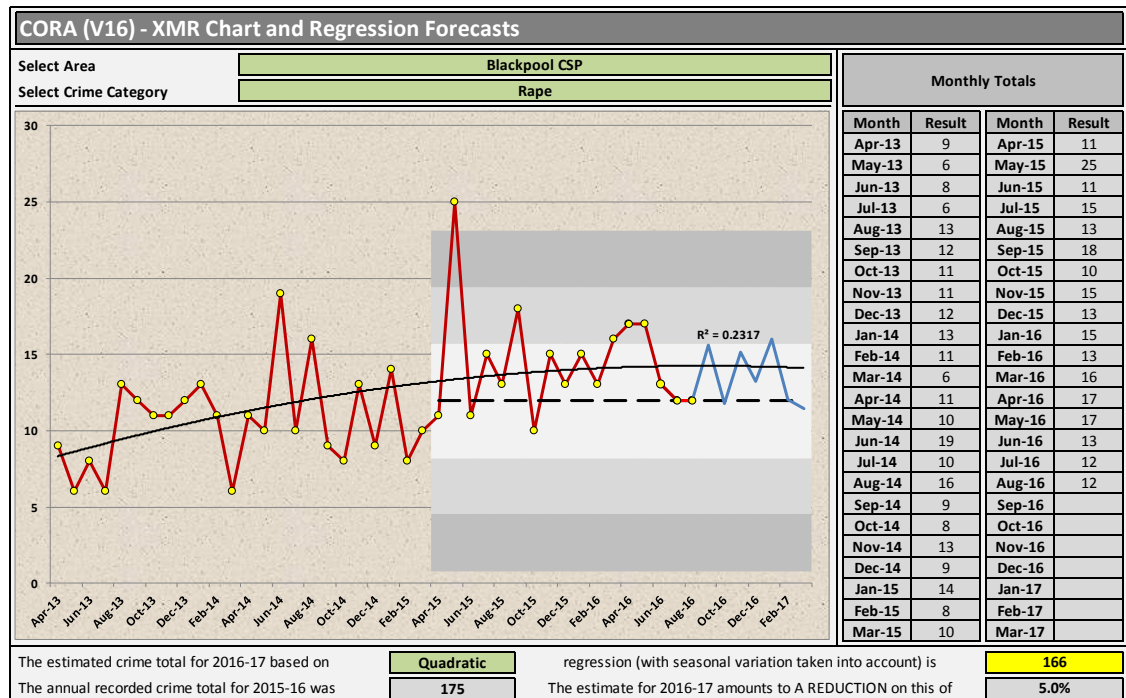


6.2.3 The increase in Sexual Offences has been a continuing trend over the last three years. During the period April to August 2016 there were 268 sexual offences reported in Blackpool. Of these, 21.3% (n=57) were classed as 'non recent', i.e. having taken place over 12 months before they were reported. Increases within Sexual Offences in Blackpool are very much similar to those which are being seen both across the County and Nationally.

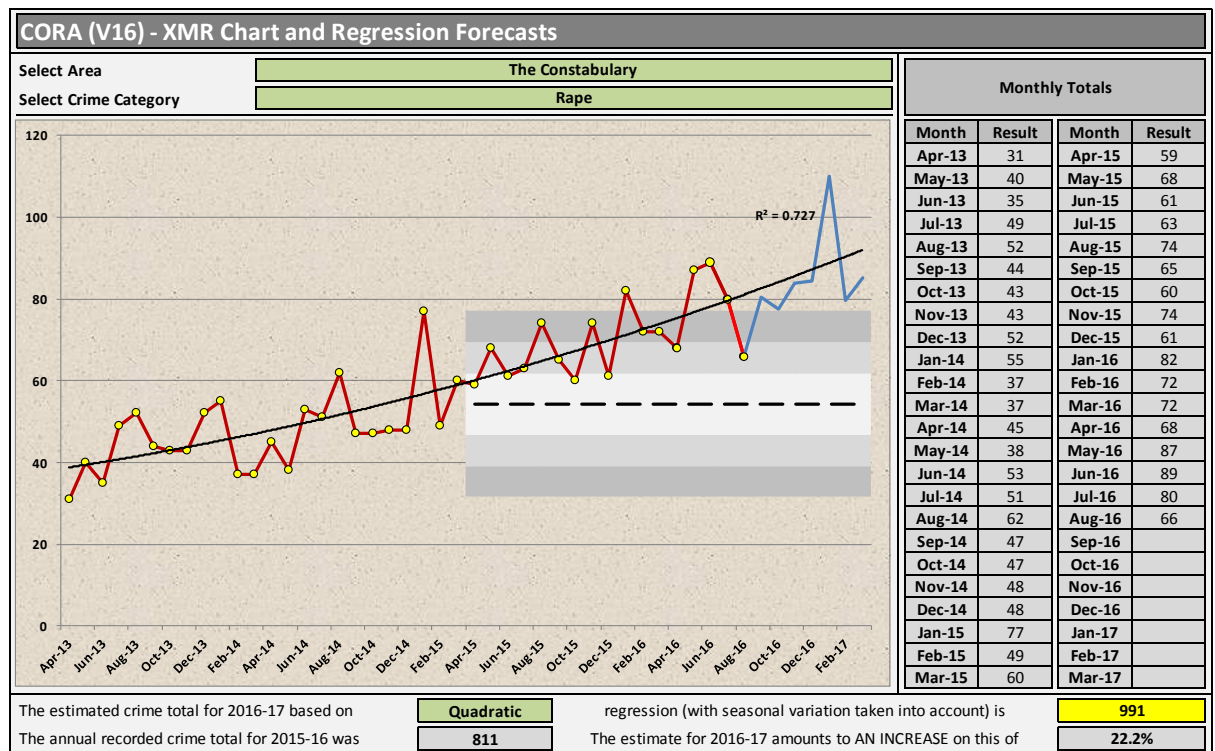
#### 6.2.4 The figures pertaining to Sexual Offences for Lancashire are as follows:



6.2.5 In relation to Rape, performance figures have previously demonstrated comparable increases between Blackpool and the rest of Lancashire. However, so far this year there has actually been a small reduction in Blackpool, whilst the County is showing an increase of 20% (n=65). The three year figures for Blackpool are as follows:



6.2.6 The trend across the County is as follows:



6.2.7 As mentioned within the last report, and similarly to Violence Against The Person, changes in recording are likely to have contributed to some of the increases being seen within Sexual Offences and Rape. However, there has also been a concentrated effort to encourage for victims to report these types of crime. Particularly where the historical incidents are concerned, individuals are becoming more confident in coming forward to the Police and reporting crimes. Moreover, offences which relate to the use of social media and mobile phones are being reported much more frequently than ever before. Whilst this presents as an increase in figures, it is viewed as a positive because victims are recognising that what they have experienced is a crime.

6.2.8 A new subgroup to tackle sexual offences and rape, as well as prostitution, will meet for the first time in October. This group will consist of members who formerly constituted the Aquamarine (a multi-agency group to tackle Sexual Offences and Rape) and Azure (a multi-agency group to tackle prostitution) groups and there will now be a joint focus on the overlap between sexual offences and prostitution. Further, as 15% of sexual offences during the period April – August 2016 involved the use of social media, an initial priority of this group will be to undertake educational campaigns around internet safety, the consequences of requesting and sharing images, grooming, and consent.

6.2.9 Work also continues to protect and support victims of sexual assault and rape and, due to the existing property not being fit for purpose, the process of identifying a new property to be utilised as the emergency safe house is now underway.



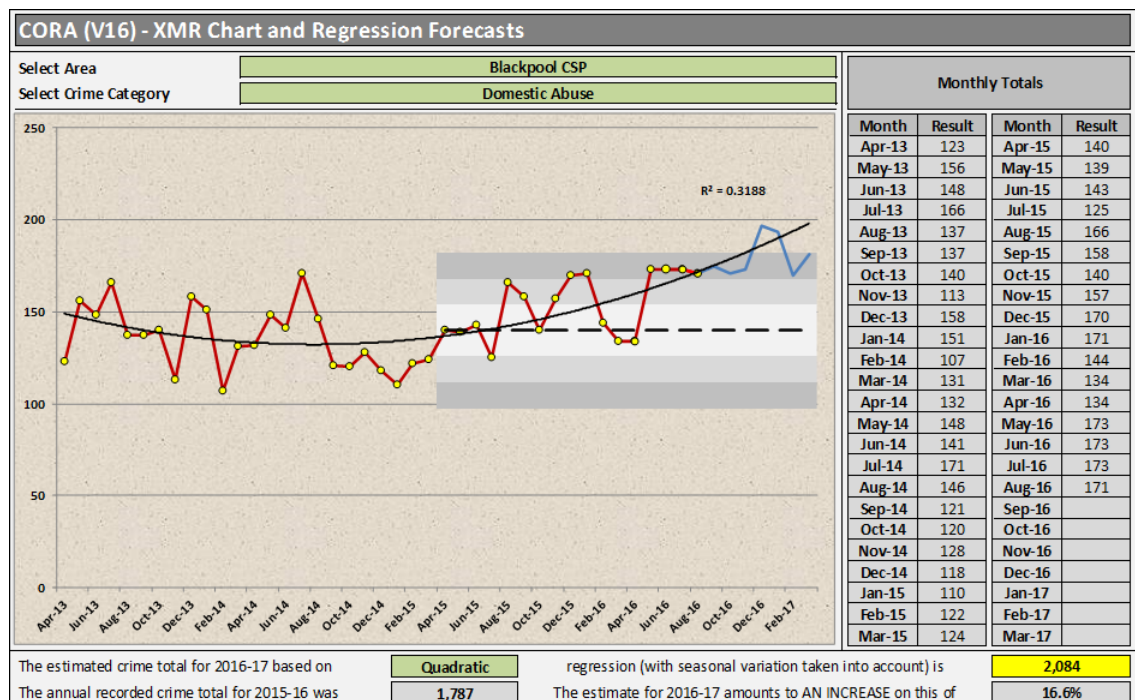
- 6.2.10 Continuing this work to support victims, a new multi-agency project called 'Pathfinder' has been established. Led by Chief Superintendent Sue Clarke, Head of Crime for Lancashire Constabulary, and supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Crown Prosecution Service, Trust House UK and Community Safety Colleagues, the project aims to improve support for victims, clarify their referral pathways, and standardise response to victims. It is hoped that 'Pathfinder' will provide clearer, more effective support for victims of Sexual Offences and Rape.
- 6.2.11 The Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) provision in the area has been doubled through Trust House which will enable and empower victims to obtain the support they require.
- 6.2.12 A Sexual Health Action Plan has recently been developed and the Community Safety Team is working with the Police and Public Health colleagues to identify priorities relating to Sexual Offences and Rape to be included within this plan. This will enable a fully joined-up approach to dealing with sexual violence and will allow for this work to be linked with already established support and agencies working within sexual health to provide a better quality of service to victims.

### 6.3 Domestic Abuse

- 6.3.1 The figures for April 2016 – August 2016 in relation to Domestic Abuse are as follows:

All domestic assaults	increase of 15.5% (+78 offences)
Serious domestic assaults	increase of 21.4% (+3 offences)
Less serious domestic assaults	increase of 34.6% (+79 offences)
Non-injury domestic assaults	reduction of 1.7% (-4 offences)

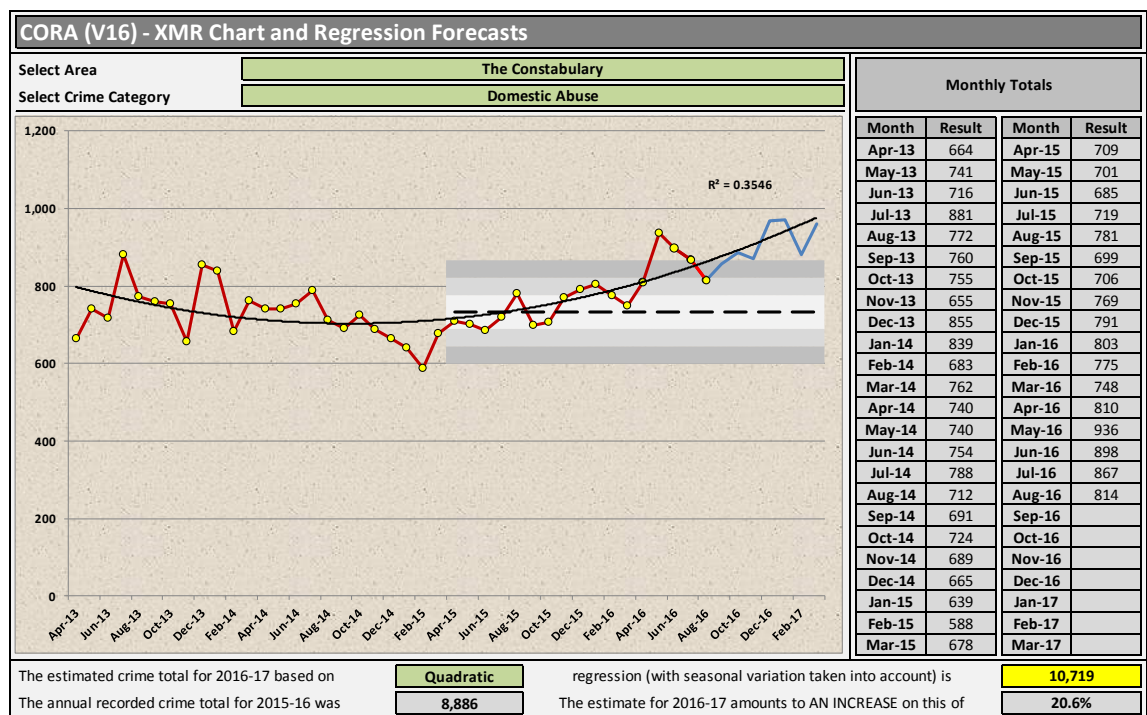
- 6.3.2 The three year Domestic Abuse figures for Blackpool are as follows:



6.3.3 Domestic Abuse (which encompasses all crimes with a 'domestic violence' marker) has seen a year to date increase of 15.6% (+111 offences) with Quarter 1 (April – June 2016) having had the highest number of offences during the last three years (n=480).

6.3.4 Although there have been increases in Domestic Abuse, this is something that has been seen across every single district in Lancashire, year to date. Moreover, Blackpool's numerical increases are lower than some other districts. A great deal of work is being undertaken to encourage victims to come forward about domestic abuse and to improve response to disclosures. Consequently, this may have impacted the figures by presenting as an increase. This is something which would be viewed positively by the Partnership and some of the work which is contributing towards increased awareness of Domestic Abuse victims is detailed below.

6.3.5 The trend across the County is as follows:



6.3.6 For high-risk abuse cases, referrals are made to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which will determine a risk management plan for all parties i.e. victim, perpetrator and associated children. Recent MARAC data is as follows:

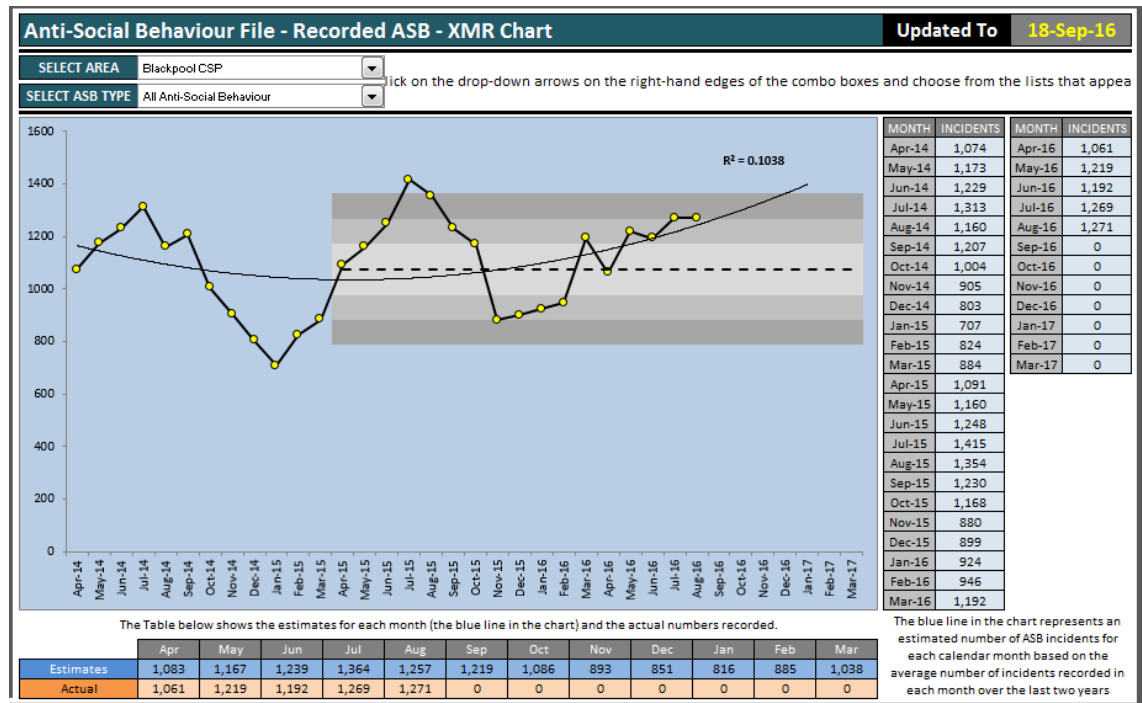
BLACKPOOL MARAC DATA		
	April 2015 – March 2016	April 2016 – June 2016
Total MARAC cases listed in Blackpool	442	136
Total children listed in MARAC cases in Blackpool	509	127
Total repeat MARAC cases listed in Blackpool	84	30

- 6.3.7 A Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence (DAIV) Partnership Board has now been established which will provide vision, leadership and direction in relation to DAIV across Blackpool. This will ensure a system wide approach to commissioning, service delivery and safeguarding for victims, children living with domestic abuse, perpetrators and professionals working towards a 'one public service' offer. The Chair of this board is Amanda Hatton, Deputy Director of People. The DAIV Partnership Strategy 2016-2020 has also been drafted out for consultation with key partners, local third sector partners and a small group of service users. Positive feedback was received and the draft is now going through formal sign-off procedures.
- 6.3.8 As mentioned within the last report, there are two Domestic Abuse pilots currently in operation within Blackpool; the Inner Strength Programme and the 'Step Up' pilot. The Inner Strength Programme is funded by the Office Of The Police and Crime Commissioner and specifically targets perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. The initiative aims reduce the risk of repeat offending by tackling offending behaviour and supporting those victims who decide to remain with their offending partners.
- 6.3.9 Partnership work between Blackpool Council and Blackpool Centre for Early Childhood Development (Better Start) led to the successful securing of funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) for the 'Step Up' pilot. As part of work with the Early Intervention Foundation, the funding allowed research into an early intervention approach to improving outcomes for children and families where early signs of Domestic Abuse have been identified. The proposal focused on testing the theory that the application of a pro-active, whole family Key Worker approach could reduce the likelihood of escalation in risk. The original pilot drew on standard risk Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) referrals as a source of early identification of risk; however leaning so far suggests that this does not always represent the 'early' cohort of victims and their families. Therefore, further work is planned and ongoing to broaden the mechanisms of early identification.
- 6.3.10 The 'Parents as Partners' support programme is also ongoing within Blackpool. This programme supports couples to address conflict in their relationship, reducing the impact that negative behaviour has on parenting. As part of workforce reform, a 'train the trainer' programme has been initially delivered, and planning is now being undertaken for the first set of delivery sessions as part of working with families.

## **6.4 Antisocial Behaviour**

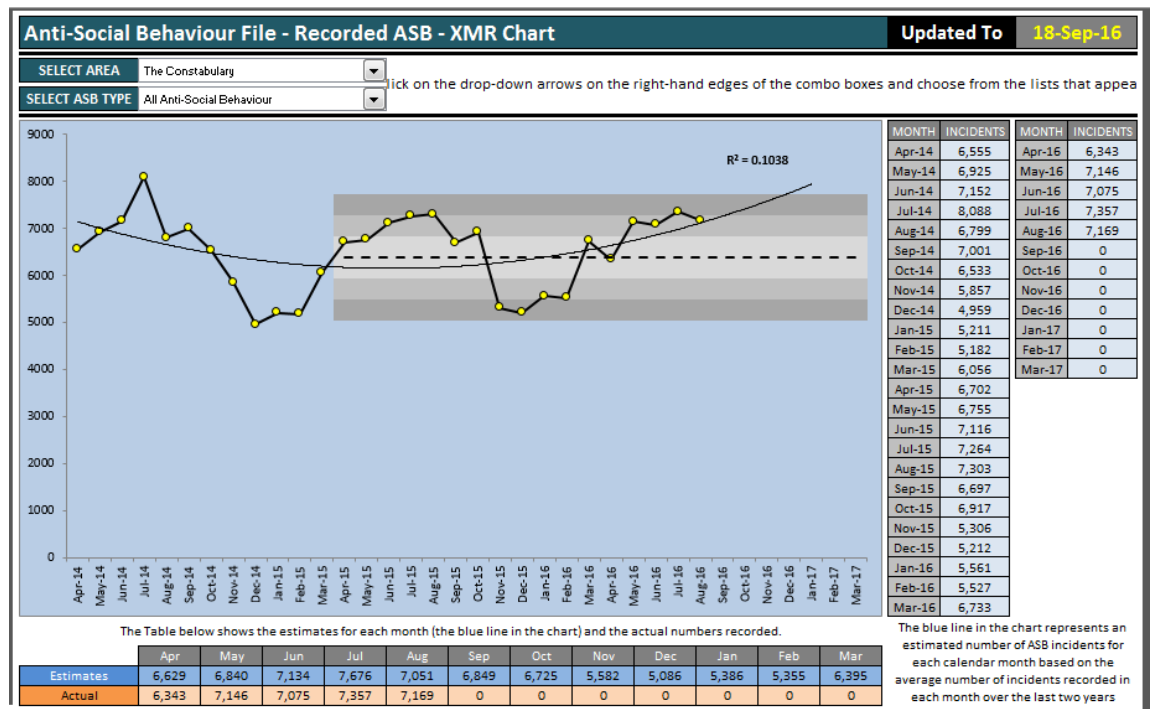
- 6.4.1 Incidents of Antisocial Behaviour reported to the Police between April and August 2016 have reduced by 4.1% (-256 incidents). During this period there was also a 33% reduction in the number of ASBRAC referrals, (24 in April – August 2016, compared with 36 during the same period last year). This decrease may be due to the success of earlier intervention measures such as Community Protection Warnings which prevent antisocial behaviour from escalating to the point that it requires a serious intervention.

6.4.2 The three year figures for Antisocial Behaviour in Blackpool are as follows:



- 6.4.3 Four of the five months since April 2016 have shown a reduction in Antisocial Behaviour compared to the same time period last year, May being the only exception to this. Notably, however, there has been an 8% reduction in ASB during the peak months of July and August.
- 6.4.4 Some of this reduction may be attributed to the intensive work that has been undertaken in relation to a cohort of young people causing antisocial behaviour and performing card tricks within the town centre. After a huge number of logs relating to criminal damage, verbal abuse, card tricks, trespassing, and violence during the summer months of 2015, a large multi-agency operation was established to tackle this behaviour. Each young person was given family support, some of the most prolific individuals were dealt with through the Youth Offending Team, and antisocial behaviour tools and powers were also used to prevent this behaviour from continuing. In one instance, a youth Criminal Behaviour Order was obtained against one of the most problematic individuals, and there are two further court cases pending for similar issues. Consequently, the number of incidents has significantly dropped over the summer months this year; however work continues to ensure that a proliferation of these issues does not occur again.
- 6.4.5 Utilisation of the Tools and Powers introduced by the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act in October 2014 is now well established. During the period April 2016 to August 2016, the tools and powers used were as follows: 238 Warning Letters, 56 Community Protection Notices, 0 Fixed Penalty Notices, 3 Civil Injunctions, 1 undertaking at court, and 1 Criminal Behaviour Order. From these figures, with Warnings curbing the issue in 76% of cases, it is clear that the Community Protection Warnings are providing a robust intervention for dealing with antisocial behaviour at an early stage and therefore preventing any escalation.

6.4.6 Antisocial Behaviour across Lancashire between April 2016 and August 2016 has shown a reduction of 0.1%:



6.4.7 As mentioned in the previous report, Operation Safeguard is a project which works with over 65's to help them feel safer within their own homes. Since its launch in April 2016, there have been 11 referrals made to the scheme which have involved the undertaking of assistance such as boarding up windows, installing solar powered security lights, providing dummy CCTV cameras, door chains, and warning stickers.

6.4.8 A recent community project organised by Blackpool Coastal Housing and Friends of Crossland Road Park has proven to be a successful initiative to get young people engaged in positive and meaningful activities. The project provided a graffiti area for young people to encourage them to be mindful of their surroundings and treat the rest of the park with respect. Football training and matches are regularly held at the park, and parents and neighbours are encouraged to participate by getting together and having a cup of tea together whilst the sports events take place. The project has been well received by residents and has been taken up by over 50 young people, as well as parents and neighbours.

6.4.9 Some antisocial behaviour training has recently been extended into Immediate Response (IR) teams within the Constabulary. Where previously only the Neighbourhood Policing Officers participated in training around ASBRAC and tools and powers, it was highlighted that IR officers could also play a key role in tackling Antisocial Behaviour. Therefore, by involving them in training around the processes and powers available to deal with antisocial behaviour, it is hoped that IR can form part of the force in tackling persistent Antisocial Behaviour.

## **6.5 Child Sexual Exploitation**

- 6.5.1 Child Sexual Exploitation is a new priority for the Strategic Partnership, however is not designated as a specific crime category. Therefore, it is not possible to provide accurate performance data against this priority. However, the Community Safety Team has been working closely with the Awaken Team and Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to protect victims of sexual offences up to the age of 18, disrupt perpetrators, and tackle problematic locations.
- 6.5.2 The Community Safety Team attends the bi-weekly Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Meeting (MACSE) and the Child Sexual Exploitation Subgroup. Within these groups, it was recognised that Child Sexual Exploitation, missing from homes, and antisocial behaviour were quite closely linked, often dealing with many of the same young people. Therefore, the decision was taken to use some of the tools and powers from the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in order to tackle certain elements of Child Sexual Exploitation.
- 6.5.3 Between April 2016 and August 2016, 71 Community Protection Warnings have been served in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation risks. These were issued in order to put parameters around problematic locations and the behaviour of specific adults within these locations that were contributing to an ongoing Child Sexual Exploitation risk. Examples of conditions include prohibiting young people into addresses of concern, preventing the use of drugs and alcohol in the presence of young people, and requiring adults to report children who had gone missing. Of these, five cases progressed to Community Protection Notice stage which demonstrates a success rate of 93%. Moreover, the Community Safety Team is also looking to secure a number of Civil Injunctions to disrupt perpetrators of behaviours that pose a Child Sexual Exploitation risk.
- 6.5.4 Blackpool is the only Local Authority in Lancashire that has used these tools and powers in this manner. Lancashire Constabulary and Health have recognised this work as best practice and this method is now being replicated across other boroughs. The Community Safety Team has been asked to give a presentation on this at the Child Sexual Exploitation Conference in November.
- 6.5.5 Obtaining strong evidence to enable prosecutions against perpetrators of Child Sexual Exploitation remains a focus of the Community Safety Partnership. Consequently, some technological equipment has been provided to the Awaken team, including a laptop and DVD burner, which will enable them to more effectively review evidence for use within prosecutions.
- 6.5.6 The Community Safety Team recently funded the production of some online safety leaflets which provided information for parents and carers around the risks of grooming and exploitation online. These were utilised as part of a Child Sexual Exploitation training event which took place in August 2016. Alongside these, some similar leaflets were produced that were aimed specifically at young people to enable them to recognise the danger signs of exploitation and how to keep themselves safe.

Furthermore, the Community Safety Team are working with colleagues from MASH to produce a risk indicator toolkit to be used by all frontline staff.

## 7.0 Hate Crime

7.1 The breakdown for Blackpool hate crime offences is as follows:

Incident Type	2015	2016	Change	% Change
Disability-Motivated Incident	5	8	+ 3	60.0%
Gender Identity	1	3	+ 2	200.0%
Gender-Motivated Incident	2	4	+ 2	100.0%
Homophobic Incident	28	26	-2	-7.1%
Racist Incident	65	68	+ 3	4.6%
Racist or Homophobic Incident Involving Police Staff	1	1	=	None
Religious-Motivated Incident	1	2	+ 1	100.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>+ 9</b>	<b>8.7%</b>

7.2 Efforts to increase reporting and confidence around hate crime are still ongoing and it is hoped that improvement in this area is reflected within the increases that have been seen. Support networks for victims of hate crime remain strong and there are dedicated officers to deal specifically with individuals who feel that they are being discriminated against.

7.3 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner is holding a series of roadshows in relation to hate crime awareness, with Blackpool's taking place on Tuesday 11 October 2016. The week aims to highlight the fact that reporting of hate crime is still significantly lower than the actual amount of instances occurring and asks people to pledge #SayNoToHate to show that hate crime will not be tolerated in Lancashire and raise awareness of the issue.

## 8.0 Counter Terrorism

8.1 Work continues to ensure that the new duties, as identified by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA) and particularly in relation to the Prevent strategy, are discharged by the Specified Authorities. This is in order to ensure that Blackpool can, as much as possible, prevent adults and young people from becoming radicalised. For example, a number of employees from Blackpool Council, Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, the local hospital, local primary and secondary schools and the Sixth Form College have all attended training such as the Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP). This training provides an understanding of the Prevent Strategy, of how to use existing expertise and professional judgement to recognise the vulnerable people who may need support, and provides information on local safeguarding and referral mechanisms, as well as people to contact for further help and advice. Work is also ongoing to ensure that, in the unlikely event of a

terrorist attack, Blackpool is as prepared as possible to protect its citizens and infrastructure.

- 8.2 The local Prevent Delivery Group chaired by Louise Fisher, Deputy Director of Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, is now meeting regularly to support all Specified Authorities and other relevant partners with the implementation of the “Revised *Prevent* Duty Guidance” from the Home Office. In addition to the existing partners, as reported in the last report, additional partners such as Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services have recently joined the group, as recommended in the aforementioned guidance. At the last meeting of the group in September the development of an Action Plan, which is recommended in both the original and the revised Home Office guidance, was discussed with the Lancashire Constabulary Counter Terrorism Branch Analyst and Research Manager and the Counter Terrorism Branch Prevent Inspector. Work is taking place at present to develop this plan which will identify the possible risks in Blackpool and put measures in place to mitigate them.
- 8.3 One of the key statutory duties of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act is to establish clear referral pathways to Channel for adults and children at risk. Channel is a voluntary, confidential program that provides support to people who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It operates across the country through Local Authority-Chaired multi agency panels and is not a form of criminal or civil sanction. The Local Authority operates the Channel programme on behalf of the Office of Security and Counter Terrorism at the Home Office. The aim of the programme is to safeguard people from the harm which radicalisation can cause, before they come to harm themselves or become involved in criminal behaviour linked to terrorist acts that will harm others.
- 8.4 Blackpool Council Peoples Directorate is currently a member of a combined Pan-Lancashire Channel Panel, together with Blackburn with Darwen Council and Lancashire County Council, and has the role of Pan-Lancashire Channel Vice Chair. The combined Lancashire Channel Panel is participating in a national pilot co-ordinated by the Home Office to trial a new method for the delivery of the Channel program which will test Local Authorities taking the lead on the co-ordination of key activities. There are eight sites testing a variety of models with the aforementioned arrangements being one such model. As the Channel Chair is based in Blackburn with Darwen, they will host the pilot personnel and operations. Both Blackpool Council and Lancashire County Council have appointed Vice Chairs as part of the pilot arrangements going forward.
- 8.5 The Home Office has provided funding for two Local Authority Channel Co-ordinators and for the commissioning of intervention providers, where a theological or ideological intervention or counter narrative is deemed helpful for the individual, child or adult. The Pilot started in September following the final training and briefings for stakeholders at the Home Office during the week commencing 5 September 2016.



## **9.0 Serious Organised Crime**

- 9.1 Serious Organised Crime remains a focus of the Community Safety Partnership and a working group has now been established to carry out the tasks relating to this area of work. This working group is focused on 'GENGA', a Lancashire Constabulary project aimed at targeting organised crime such as drug dealing, child sexual exploitation, human trafficking, illicit trade, and fraud. The group is multi-agency and centres around an information sharing tool called PAM. This tool enables agencies to share intelligence and request information in relation to serious organised crime and is based on a referral system. From this information, enforcement action can then be carried out with all of the relevant agencies being involved.
- 9.2 To date, there have been 18 referrals into GENG A involving cases within Blackpool: drugs feature within seven of these referrals, Child Sexual Exploitation in six, illicit trade in five, and human trafficking/modern day slavery in four. From these referrals, it has been possible to co-ordinate multi-agency enforcement operations to tackle issues pertaining to the aforementioned priorities. Examples of such work include an operation to concerning a rogue landlord and a safeguarding operation around children performing card tricks in the night time economy. There has also been an operation which culminated in the arrest, and subsequent imprisonment of an individual engaged in fraudulent behaviour.

## **10.0 Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking**

- 10.1 As mentioned above, part of the serious organised crime work currently being undertaken by the Partnership involves modern day slavery and human trafficking. This is due to the implementation of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 which now holds Local Authorities as responsible for modern slavery and human trafficking. Therefore, through the GENG A process, a multi-agency operation has been organised which will seek to address potential issues regarding slavery and trafficking within Blackpool.
- 10.2 The process for tackling Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking is now being developed within Blackpool and liaison with the Salvation Army has taken place to discuss provision of safe accommodation for victims of trafficking and individuals vulnerable to being trafficked.
- 10.3 A Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking awareness week was held in early October which agencies from the Partnership supported. This featured supportive work around suspected victims, as well as enforcement operations regarding premises of potential concern.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## **11.0 List of Appendices:**

- 11.1 None

**12.0      Legal considerations:**

12.1      None

**13.0      Human Resources considerations:**

13.1      None

**14.0      Equality considerations:**

14.1      None

**15.0      Financial considerations:**

15.1      None

**16.0      Risk Management considerations:**

16.1      None

**17.0      Ethical considerations:**

17.1      None

**18.0      Internal/External Consultation undertaken:**

18.1      None

**19.0      Background papers:**

19.1      Crime data provided by the Lancashire Constabulary Analyst using Police CORA.

