

<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>	21 June 2017

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL 2016 – MARCH 2017**

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

- 1.1 To consider performance regarding the Community Safety Partnership’s priorities between April 2016 and March 2017. The priorities discussed within this report are the Partnership priorities for 2016/2019: Violence Against The Person, Antisocial Behaviour, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Offences and Rape, and Child Sexual Exploitation. The report will also make reference to other ongoing work such as Hate Crime, Counter Terrorism, Serious Organised Crime and Modern Day Slavery.

### **2.0 Recommendation:**

- 2.1 To scrutinise 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 group had been chaired by Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health. However, Dr Rajpura stepped down at the meeting of the Partnership in March and Councillor Gillian Campbell was appointed as the new chair at the following meeting in May.
- 5.2 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 HM Prison and Probation Service. 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.
- 6.0.2 All crime in Blackpool for the period April 2016 to March 2017 is up by 12.4% (n=+2059) compared to the previous year. The crime categories contributing to the majority of this increase are Violence Against the Person, up by 14.6% (n=+751) and Theft Offences (predominantly burglary and vehicle offences), up by 13.3% (n=+908).

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. Thirteen out of the fourteen districts across Lancashire have seen increases in theft offences during 2016/17.

6.0.3 All crime in Lancashire has increased by 10.8% (+10,438).

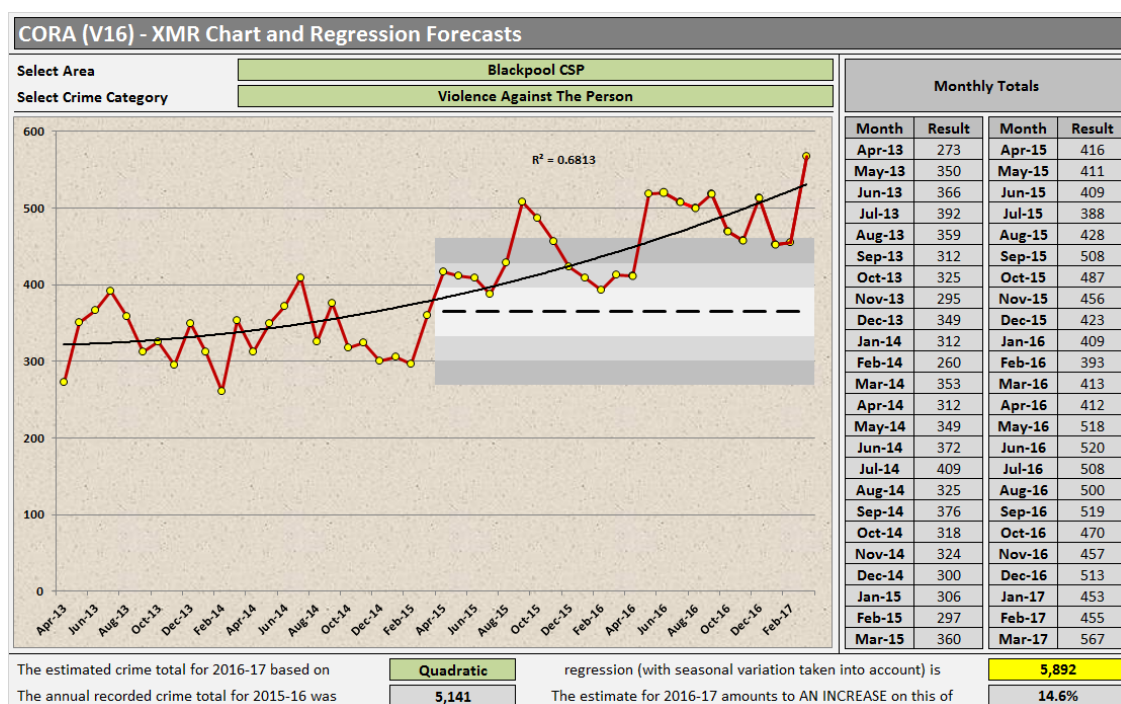
With regards to the Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2016/2019, the performance for year end is as follows:

## 6.1 Violence Against The Person

6.1.1 The figures for April 2016 - March 2017 in relation to Violence Against The Person (VAP) are as follows:

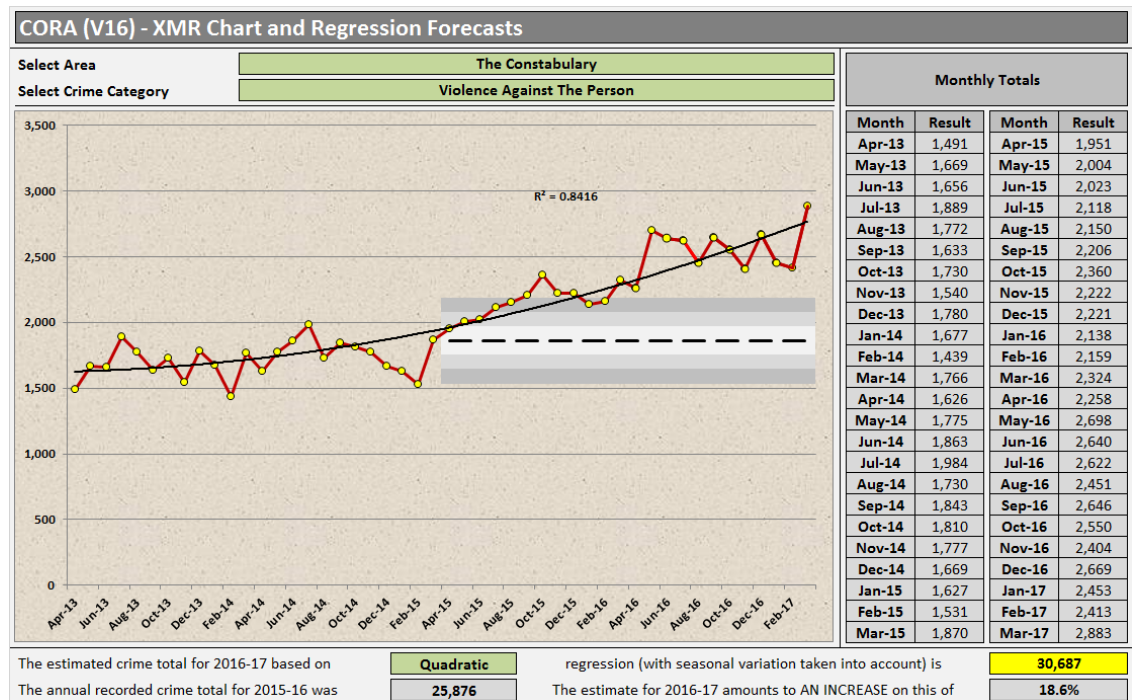
Serious Assaults:	increase of 10.1% (+15 offences)
Less Serious Assaults:	increase of 18.8% (+446 offences)
Non-Injury Assaults:	increase of 3.8% (+74 offences)

6.1.2 In Blackpool, the trend for the last four years in relation to Violence Against The Person is as follows:



6.1.3 All Violence Against the Person has continued to increase in Blackpool and Lancashire in recent years. In 2016/2017, there has been a 14.6% increase in Blackpool, with an 18.6% increase across the County. All districts are showing increases, with Blackpool actually having a smaller proportional increase than most other areas (4<sup>th</sup> lowest).

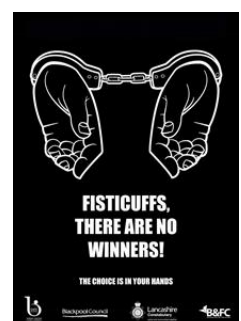
#### 6.1.4 The trend for Lancashire is as follows:



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 categories, with the largest increases being seen in assault with less serious injury and harassment.

6.1.6 Blackpool continues to explore initiatives to tackle violence against a person within and regards to issues around the Night Time Economy (NTE). Repeat initiatives include 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 summer season. The Community Safety Team has been working closely with Blackpool and Fylde College on a campaign to address violent crime and was promoted within licensed premises. The purpose of working with the college was to encourage young people to design posters that they would take notice of. This idea was based on violent crime offender and victim research.

#### 6.1.7



#### 6.1.8

The research showed a

trend that young people are particularly vulnerable to becoming involved in violence. In 2015-2016, of all violent crime, 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.

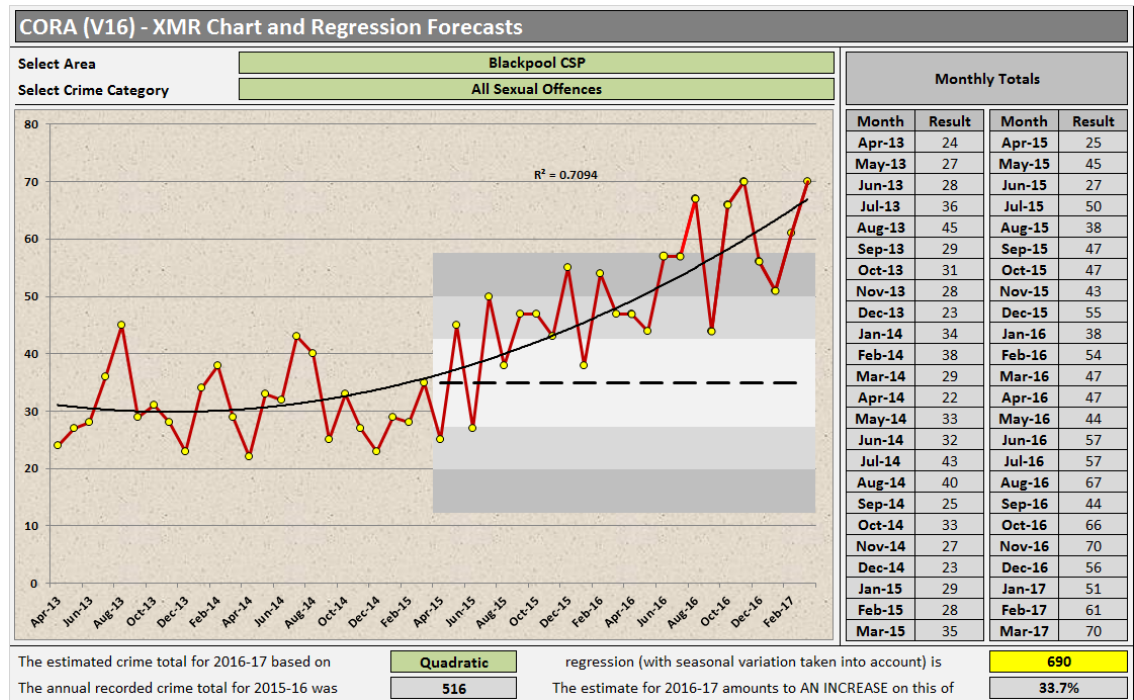
- 6.1.9 The Community Safety Team has secured funding from Revolut and Ward Councillors in an attempt to deter individuals from engaging in violence and better detect those who do become violent. This funding has been used to provide seven body-worn cameras for the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The intention is that this equipment will enable improved capturing of witness/victim information and consequently aid investigation and identification of perpetrators.
- 6.1.10 The CCTV within the town centre continues to play a pivotal role in assisting with the detection and investigation of violent crime. In the last twelve months, April 2016 to March 2017, the Police have requested footage relating to 226 assaults, 51 sexual assaults and 84 Anti-Social Behaviour related.
- 6.1.11 In terms of female offending, the 'Avert' project continues to work with female offenders to reduce violence and step women down out of organised crime gangs. 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. Referrals to Avert are made when an individual who has been arrested. Conditional cautions and voluntary referrals are generated when an Officer makes the decision that a referral to Avert would be a more suitable route than enforcement action. For the period April 2016 to March 2017 there were 131 Avert referrals for Blackpool. Out of the 131 referrals, 55% of the participants complied with the Avert programme.

## **6.2 Sexual Offences and Rape**

- 6.2.1 The figures for April 2016 – March 2017 in relation to Sexual Offences and Rape are as follows:

All Sexual Offences	increase of 33.7% (+174 offences)
Rape	increase of 25.7% (+45 offences)
Sexual Assault	increase of 30.3% (+57 offences)
Sexual Offences (children under 16)	increase of 40.5% (+104 offences)

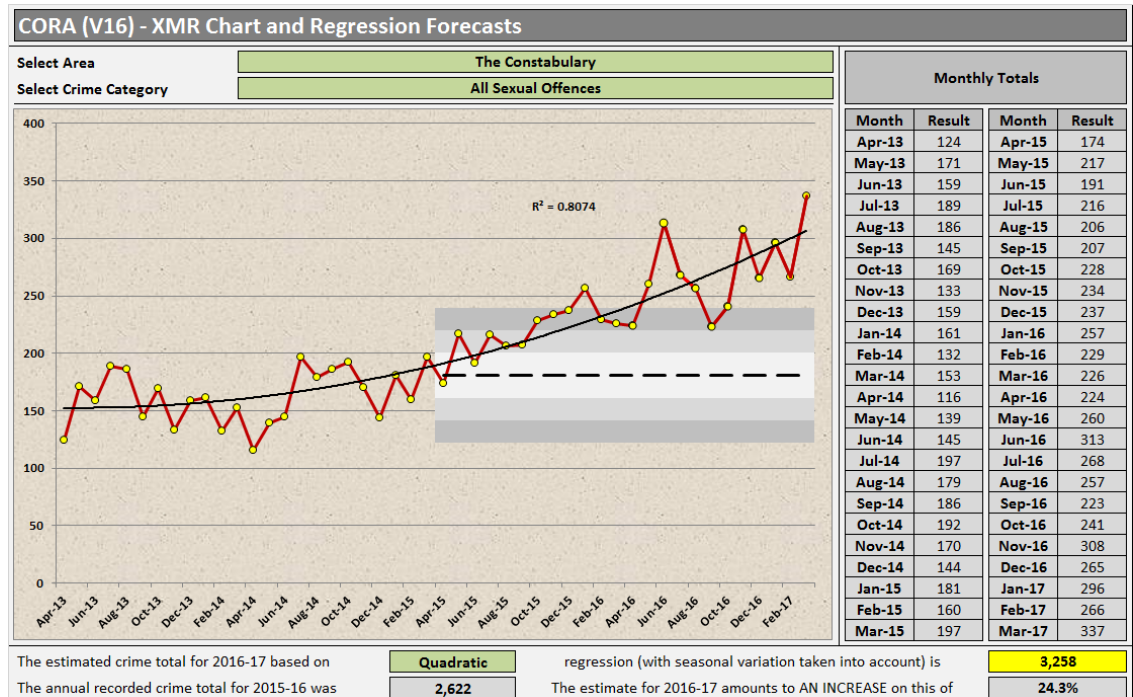
6.2.2 In Blackpool, the trend for Sexual Offences over the last four years is as follows:



6.2.3 The increase in Sexual Offences has been a continuing trend over the last four years. During the period April to March 2017 there were 690 sexual offences reported in Blackpool. Of these, 31.2% (n=215) were classed as 'non recent', i.e. having taken place over 12 months before they were reported. Increases within Sexual Offences in Blackpool are consistent with those which are being seen both across the County and Nationally.

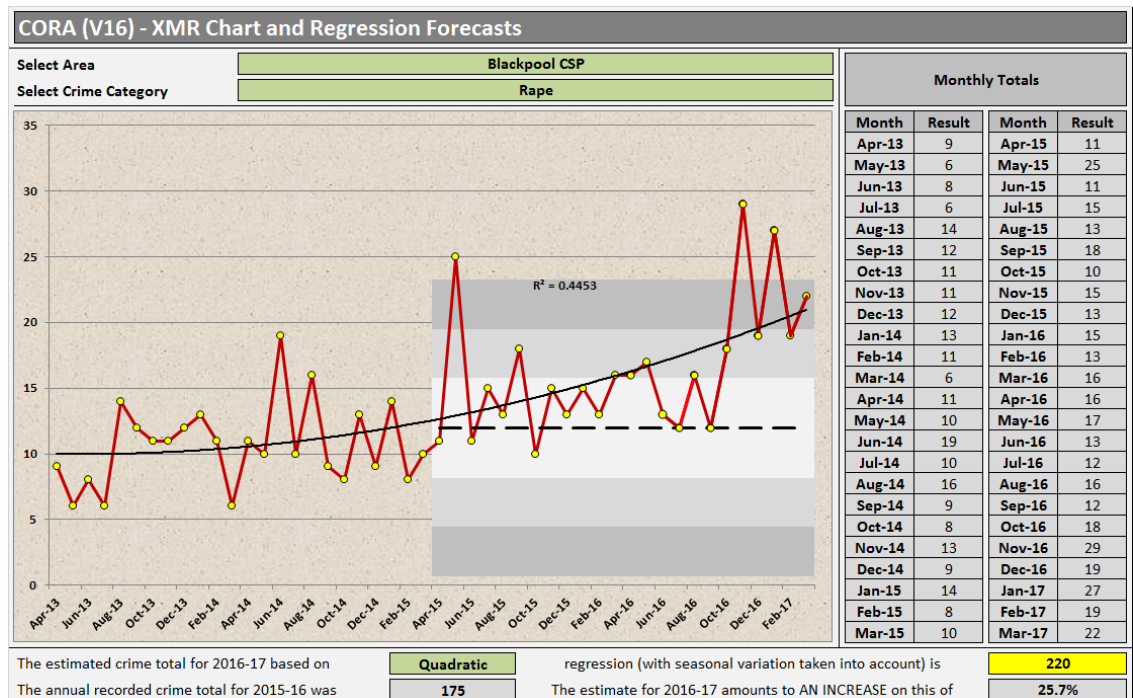


## 6.2.4 The figures pertaining to Sexual Offences for Lancashire for the last four years are:

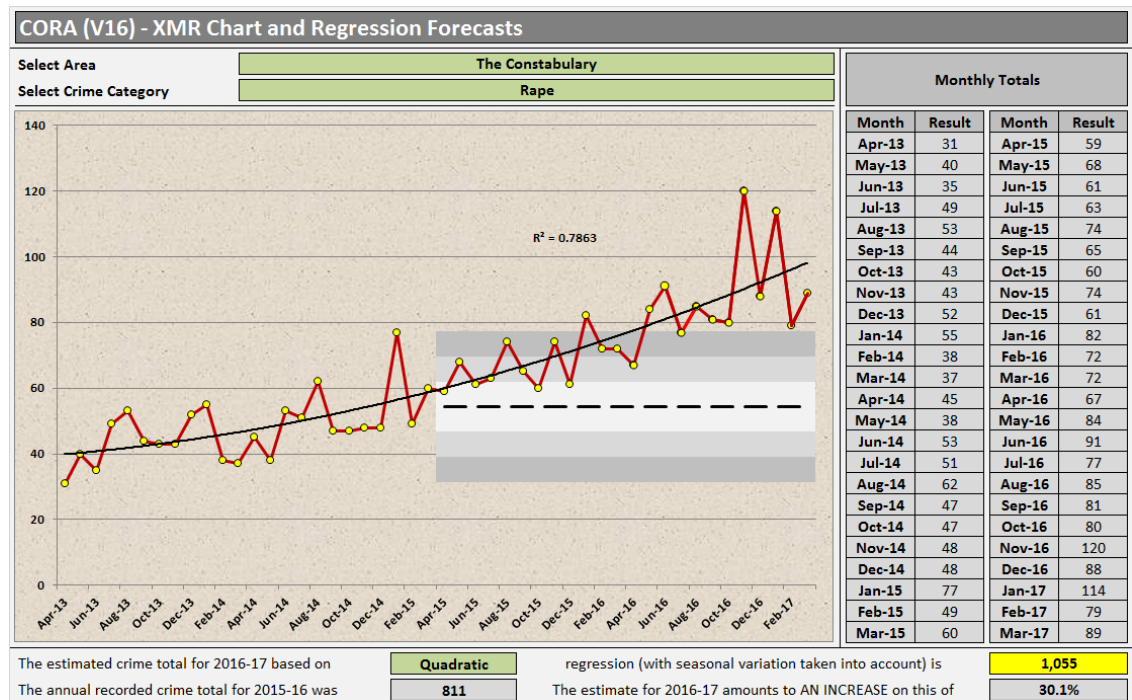


The national picture for sexual offences and rape has also seen increases, although the official crime and Policing statistics have not been released to date.

6.2.5 In relation to Rape, performance figures have previously demonstrated comparable increases between Blackpool and the rest of Lancashire. Of note the number of rape offences which occurred during 2016/2017 were similar to 2015/2016 (114 compared to 111). The overall rape figures include all offences reported during the 12 month period – therefore historical offences are added to the figure mentioned above. The four year figures for Blackpool are as follows:



6.2.6 The trend across the County is as follows:



- 6.2.7 Following further high profile successful non-recent prosecutions, there has been a national trend of increased reporting of non-recent offences. In 2016-2017, 38% of cases were non-recent, of these 77% were aged under 16 at the time of the offence and 23% over 16 years old. Of note, the use of social media and mobile phones to send images and video plays a prominent role as well as consensual intercourse between under age couples.
- 6.2.8 The Community Safety Team chairs a multi-agency working group that deals with sexual assault and rape called Aquamarine. The focus of this group is on under 16s and assaults associated with the Night Time Economy.
- 6.2.9 The provision of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) in the area will change in the forthcoming future. The Home Office was due to inform local authorities and Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners of the success of bids submitted in February 2017. However, this was delayed until after the general election.
- 6.2.10 Public Health have devised a Sexual Health Action Plan which includes sexual violence 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 deal with sexual violence and will allow for this work to be linked with the already established support and agencies working within sexual health to provide a better quality of service to victims.

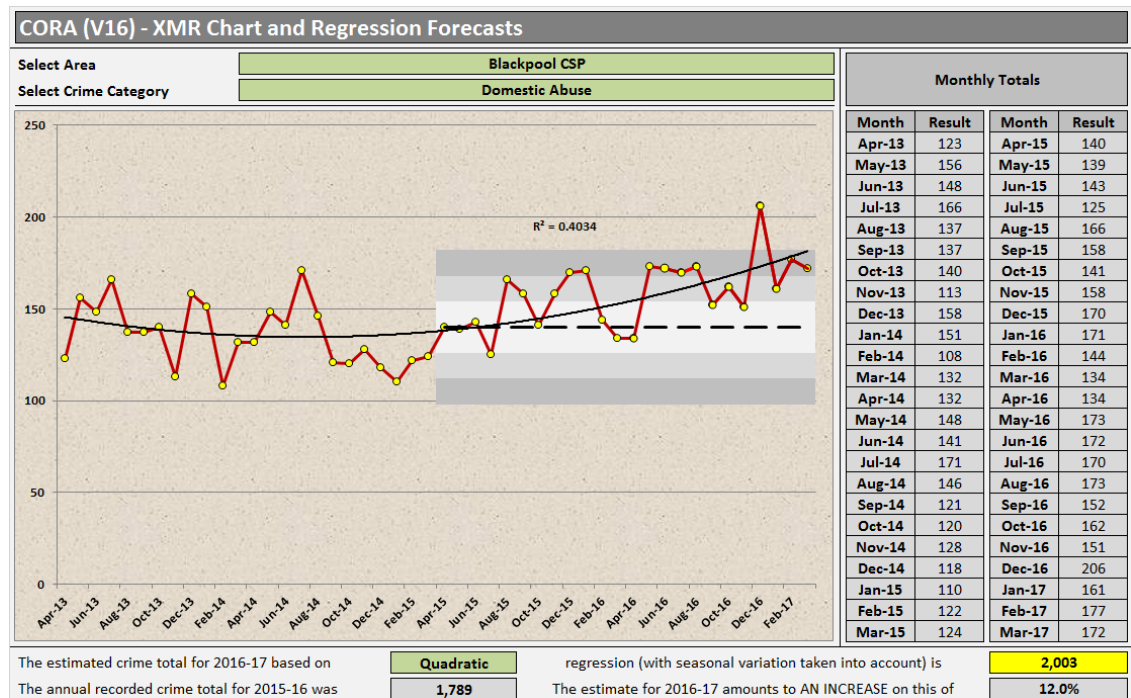


### 6.3 Domestic Abuse

6.3.1 The figures for April 2016 – March 2017 in relation to Domestic Abuse are as follows:

All domestic assaults	increase of 7.1% (+87 offences)
Serious domestic assaults	increase of 12.9% (+4 offences)
Less serious domestic assaults	increase of 6.2% (+41 offences)
Non-injury domestic assaults	increase of 7.9% (+42 offences)

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

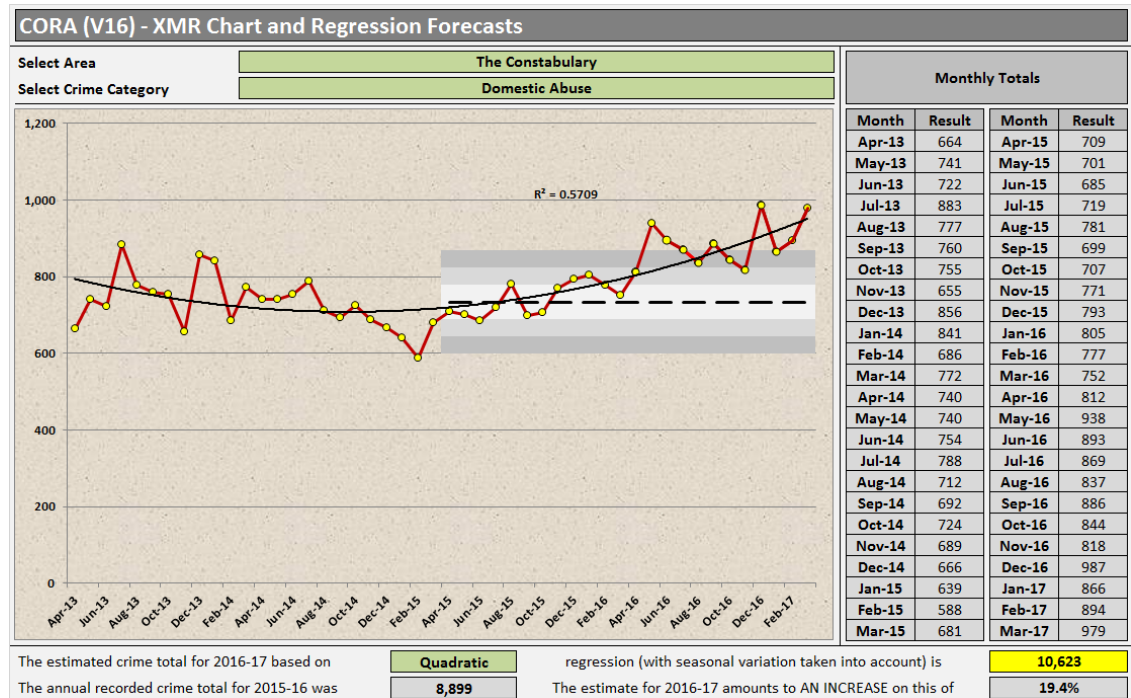


6.3.3 Domestic Abuse (which encompasses all crimes with a 'domestic violence' marker) has seen an annual increase of 12% (+214 offences) with Quarter 3 (October – December 2016) having had the highest number of offences during the last four years (n=519). Of note, December (n=206) had the highest monthly total recorded during this same period.

6.3.4 Although there have been increases within Domestic Abuse, this is something that has been seen across every single district within Lancashire this year. Moreover, Blackpool's proportional increases are the third lowest across the county. Work is continuing to encourage victims to come forward about domestic abuse and to improve response to disclosures and, consequently, this may have impacted the figures. Examples of the work which is contributing towards increased awareness of Domestic Abuse are detailed further below.

6.3.5 It is also identified within the Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence (DAIV) Partnership strategy, that as we raise awareness of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence and how to get help, we may see an increase in the number of first time reports during the first phase of the Strategy implementation.

6.3.6 The trend across the County is as follows:



6.3.7 For high-risk domestic abuse cases, referrals are made to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which will determine a risk management plan.

6.3.8 Recent Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference data is as follows:

BLACKPOOL MARAC DATA		
	April 2015 – Dec 2015	April 2016 – Dec 2016
Total MARAC cases listed in Blackpool	310	368
Total children listed in MARAC cases in Blackpool	345	378
Total repeat MARAC cases listed in Blackpool	65	95

6.3.9 Case numbers continue to rise nationally, though the picture varies from region to region.

6.3.10 Safelives have identified that they believe the increase reinforces the sense of victims having more confidence to come forward and engage with services, but they are also finding that local teams are struggling to respond to those increases when resources are static or reducing, Safelives (March 2017).

6.3.11 The DAIV Partnership Strategy 2016-2020 has now been signed off after being presented to the Council's Executive in December 2016.

6.3.12 The objectives of the Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Strategy are to:-

- To provide strategic direction for the Blackpool Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board.
- To ensure victims and their families in Blackpool experiencing domestic abuse and interpersonal violence have access to quality provisions of services appropriate to their needs.
- To reduce the impact of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence by using a multi-agency collaborative approach.
- To implement a strategic approach to integrated commissioning to develop a 'One public Service Offer'.
- To intervene, prevent and break the cycle of domestic abuse and interpersonal violence across Blackpool reducing incidents of abuse and repeat victimisation.

6.3.13 A Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence (DAIV) Partnership Board has also been established to provide leadership and direction in relation to Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence. The Chair of this partnership board is Josephine Lee, Interim Deputy Director of People. Work is currently underway to develop the strategy action plan and once the strategy action plan is finalised, then the Safeguarding Boards Business Management Group (BMG) will be responsible for monitoring/holding partners in account the delivery of the action plan and the Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Partnership Board will not be required. The Domestic Abuse and Interpersonal Violence Commissioning Manager will have oversight obtaining the updates from partners and reporting to the Business Management Group / Safeguarding Board in line with the governance structure.

6.3.14 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.

6.3.15 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 used the standard risk Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) referrals as a source of early identification of risk. However, learning 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.

- 6.3.16 In Blackpool there is the **'Parents as Partners'**, which is an evidenced based programme that supports couples to address conflict in their relationship, reducing the impact that negative behaviour has on parenting. Training has been initially delivered to appropriate Blackpool Council staff and representatives from wider partners to deliver the programme, for example Children's Centre, Families in Need, Housing, Department for Work and Pensions and Early Action Police. Trained Practitioners are applying elements of learning into practise and there is a meeting planned for the 5 May 2017 to looking at full implementation and roll out with all of the practitioners trained.

## 6.4

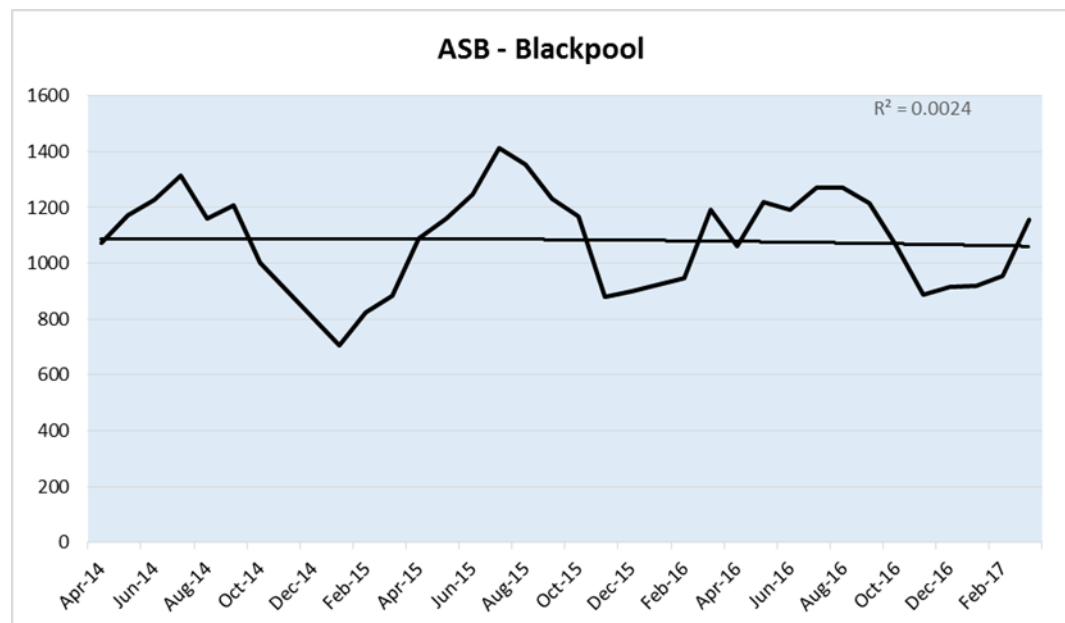
### Antisocial Behaviour

#### 6.4.1

Incidents of Antisocial Behaviour reported to the Police for the period April 2016 to March 2017 have reduced by 2.8% (-382 incidents).

#### 6.4.2

The three year trend for Antisocial Behaviour in Blackpool is as follows:



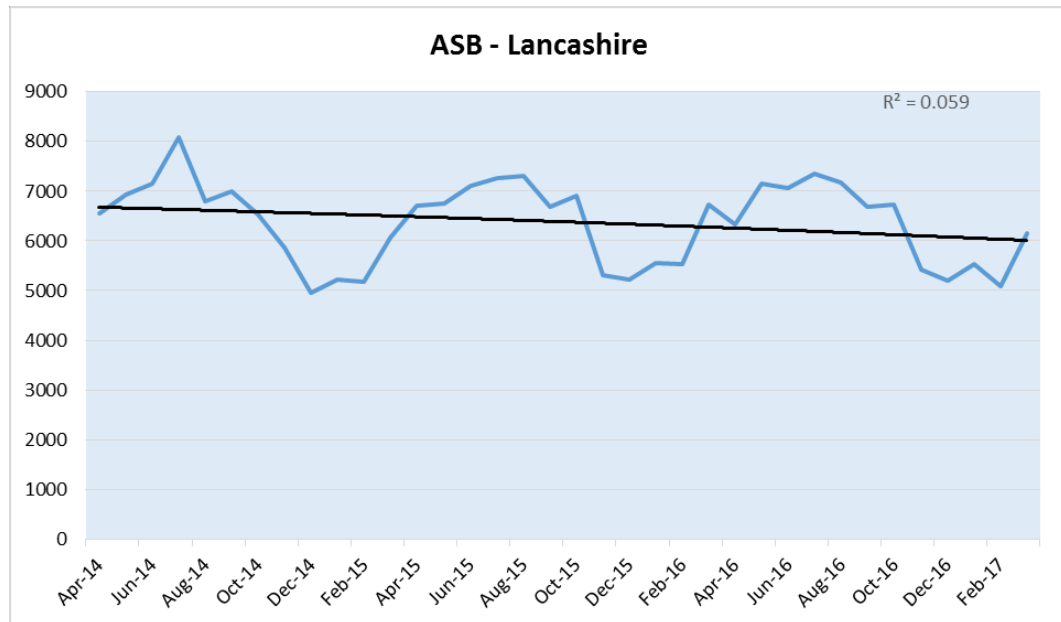
#### 6.4.3

During the 2016/17 period there was also a 34% reduction in the number of ASBRAC referrals, 47 referrals were received in 2016/2017 compared with 71 referrals received during 2015/2016. This decrease may be due to the success of earlier intervention measures such as Community Protection Warnings, Notices, Injunctions and Criminal Behaviour Orders. Blackpool has been leading the way nationally in the use of the tools and powers available under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and has recently been featured in the local government association magazine.

#### 6.4.4

Each quarterly total showed a reduction compared to the previous years. Eight of the twelve months showed comparative reductions. Peak reductions occurred in the months of July and October.

- 6.4.5 There have been significant efforts by local authority and Police colleagues in tackling significant youth Antisocial Behaviour issues in the town centre and promenade. As well as significant use of tools and powers being used by the Community Safety and Public Protection Teams to tackle Antisocial Behaviour at the earliest opportunity. 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 looked into individually and if appropriate, the parents and child were offered family support. Some of the most prolific individuals were dealt with by 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 for one of the most problematic individuals. Consequently, the number of such incidents dropped over the summer months last year. However, work continues in this area because the antisocial behaviour caused by young people remains a challenge.
- 6.4.6 The use of the Antisocial Behaviour Tools and Powers continues to see excellent success rates. During the period April 2016 to March 2017, the tools and powers used were as follows:
- 408 x Community Protection Warnings
  - 95 x Community Protection Notices
  - 8 x Community Protection Notice breaches/prosecutions
  - 1 x Fixed Penalty Notices
  - 4 x Civil Injunctions
  - 4 x Criminal Behaviour Orders
  - 25 x Public Space Protection Orders
  - 1 x Court Undertaking
- 6.4.7 From these figures, it could be deduced that the Community Protection Warnings stopped the behaviours in 77% of cases, and of the 23% of cases that progressed to Community Protection Notices stage, 98% behaviours stopped with only 2% progressing to a Community Protection Notice breach and prosecution.
- 6.4.8 Antisocial Behaviour across Lancashire between April 2016 and March 2017 has shown a reduction of 1.5%:



6.4.9 The Community Safety Team manages and co-ordinates Operation Safeguard, which is a project that works with people aged over 65 to help them feel safer within their own homes. Operation Safeguard has received 38 referrals since its launch in April 2016. The scheme has helped individuals with the removal of waste, installation of window alarms and security lights, as well as dummy CCTV cameras, door chains and intruder deterrent measures.

6.4.10 Blackpool Coastal Housing and Friends of Crossland Road Park developed a project to engage with young people and other residents to reduce anti-social behaviour in the area. The project has proven to be successful in getting young people engaged in positive and meaningful, diversionary activities rather than engaging in anti-social behaviour. The project provides free sporting events, litter picking, with educational inputs on respect for the park, and other activities. In December the organisers arranged for a Christmas tree to be erected and illuminated along with a Santa's Grotto which provided 300 children a free present from Santa. A 26 week multisport event has also been developed by the Friends of Crossland Park, supported by Blackpool Council, which will be free of charge for young people to take park in during this summer.

6.4.12 In order to address antisocial behaviour effectively, the Community Safety Team continues to deliver training to relevant staff members and Police colleagues. Recently, a Barrister that specialises in antisocial behaviour legislation visited Blackpool Council to train frontline officers and managers.

## 6.5 Child Sexual Exploitation

6.5.1 One of the Strategic Partnership's priorities is Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). However, Child Sexual Exploitation is not designated as a specific crime category as it falls into a number of other crime categories such as grooming, sexual assault and rape. Because of this, it is not possible to provide accurate performance data against



this priority, although a number of agencies such as schools and colleges, Youth Offending Team, Families in Need, Social Services and other services work to address Child Sexual Exploitation in its wider context. To contribute to this work, the Community Safety Team works closely with the Awaken Team and Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to protect and safeguard 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 new Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Meeting (MACSE), Missing From Home meeting and the Safeguarding Child Sexual Exploitation Subgroup. Within these groups, it was recognised that Child Sexual Exploitation, those children who are missing from home, and children involved with antisocial behaviour were sometimes linked. In view of this, a decision was taken, where appropriate to use some of the tools and powers from the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in order to tackle certain aspects of Child Sexual Exploitation.
- 6.5.3 Between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017 there were 105 Community Protection Warnings (CPWs) 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 from accessing 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 the 105 Community Protection Warnings only nine cases progressed to Community Protection Notice stage, which demonstrates a success rate of 91% at the Warning stage, and 100% success at the Notice stage. Moreover, the Community Safety Team is also looking to secure Civil Injunctions to disrupt perpetrators of behaviours that pose a Child Sexual Exploitation risk.
- 6.5.4 Until recently, Blackpool was the only Local Authority in Lancashire that has used these tools and powers in this manner. Colleagues from Lancashire Constabulary and the Home Office have recognised this work as good practice and this method is now being replicated in other boroughs within Lancashire. The Home Office has featured a piece in the Serious Organised Crime bulletin and this was the first time Lancashire has been mentioned in the bulletin.

# PROTECTION

## B Safe Blackpool Community Safety

B Safe Blackpool Community Safety partners have successfully used a range of tools and powers to tackle and mitigate the risk factors around premises and individuals linked to CSE.

Intelligence sharing between partners through the local SOC board identified the emergence of ASB hotspots being linked to CSE by the convergence of young people missing from home, availability of drugs and alcohol and access to the locations by suspected adults involved in grooming for CSE.

Provisions under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 to issue a range of Community Protection Warnings, Notices and Civil Injunctions by community officers and partners from CSE teams ensured locations and people were targeted.

Between April 2016 and August 2016, 71 Community Protection Warnings (CPWs) were served, provisions included

- Prohibiting young people from going into addresses of concern
- Preventing adults from using drugs and alcohol in the presence of young people,
- Requiring adults to report children who had gone missing.

This has resulted in a significant decrease in vulnerability, with 93% of people receiving a CPW desisting in similar future conduct, with only 5 cases progressing to full Community Protection Notice (CPN) stage.

"This innovative utilisation of the tools and powers to complement existing methods of tackling CSE has proven to be highly effective and has undoubtedly safeguarded a number of vulnerable young people."

## 6 SOC LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS BULLETIN

- 6.5.6 Following the success that Blackpool has had in safeguarding children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation the Community Safety Team has been invited to do a presentation at the regional Child Sexual Exploitation Disruption Group where nine Police forces from the north west meet to discuss disruption tactics. Further to this, a number of local authorities and other Police forces have visited Blackpool in an effort to replicate our success.

### 7.0 Hate Crime

- 7.1 It is acknowledged that the number of reported incidents of hate crime greatly underestimates the actual levels in society, however the breakdown for Blackpool hate crime offences is as follows:

Incident Type	2015/16	2016/17	Change	% Change
Hate Crime	132	201	+69	+52.3%
Race	81	139	+58	+71.6%
Religion	8	11	+3	+37.5%
Sexual	32	33	+1	+3.1%
Transgender	5	10	+5	+100%
Disability	13	23	+10	+76.9%
Homophobic Incident	65	51	-14	-21.5%
Racist Incident	158	150	-8	-5.1%

7.2 In response to the national reported spike in Hate Crime in the run up to and aftermath of the EU referendum, the Council passed the following resolution:

“The people of Blackpool are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Hate crimes are utterly abhorrent regardless of whether they target a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person’s:

- Disability
- Race or ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity

7.3 Blackpool Council condemns this unequivocally and will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with other organisations, as appropriate, to ensure local bodies and programmes have resources needed to fight hate crime. It seeks to reassure all people living in Blackpool that they are valued members of the community.”

7.4 As a further commitment to this stance, the Council supported the **#saynohate** campaign that the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office co-ordinated during the hate crime awareness week of the 8 to 15 October 2016.

7.5 The campaign came to St John’s Square Blackpool on Tuesday 11 October 2016 between 11am and 4pm. The Chief Executive and a large number of Cabinet and Elected Members attended. In total across the four Lancashire’s venues, more than 2,000 signatures were collected.

7.6 Training on Hate Crime continues across partner agencies in Lancashire.

## **8.0 Counter Terrorism**

- 8.1 Since the last report the Prevent Delivery Group, now renamed Prevent Partnership Board (PPB), has continue to meet and has completed an action plan which describes how the duties articulated in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 will be discharged by the Specified Authorities. The implementation of this action plan will be monitored by the Community Safety Partnership whose members include the Deputy Director of Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company who chairs the Prevent Partnership Board. Training on this subject continues within the partner agencies, as well as within the private sector, in order to ensure that there is an up-to-date understanding of the issues associated with safeguarding radicalisation and terrorism.
- 8.2 'Channel' is a voluntary, confidential programme which 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 any form of criminal or civil sanction. 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 that harms others.
- 8.3 Blackpool Council together with Lancashire County Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council are currently participating in the Home Office national 'Dovetail' pilot, trialling a new method of delivery for the Channel programme, which sees Local Authorities (LAs) taking the lead on the coordination of the key activities. There are nine sites testing a variety of models. Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (BwDBC) has been selected to host the pilot on behalf of the pan-Lancashire local authorities. The Home Office decided that Blackburn will host it because it is where the Channel Chair is based.
- 8.4 The aim of the pilot is to assess the feasibility of transferring the Channel programme and its case management responsibilities, including decisions on suitability for the process to local authorities thus reducing the Police's role in the Channel process. Funding has been provided by the Home Office for the role of Local Authority Channel Coordinator (LACC) in each of the pilot areas. They are responsible for the day-to-day management of referrals and cases that meet the threshold as well as the administration of the programme. The funding is based on historic referrals and cases, an analysis of the time taken to complete key tasks and an anticipated national increase in referrals. There are two Local Authority Channel Coordinators in the pilot area, both of whom are hosted in Blackburn. After a short delay due to technical issues, the pilot commenced on 19 September 2016 with the two Local Authority Channel Coordinators taking ownership of new referrals and existing cases. Membership of the Panel has been reviewed and there is now a more balanced spread of representation across the three upper tier local authorities.
- 8.5 The Office of Security and Counter Terrorism have allocated a funding pot of £11,000 to be utilised for both the Home Office approved Intervention providers and more local provision. However there has to be a clear justification for its use (i.e. outside of

mainstream service delivery) and approval has to be sought from the Channel Panel. A limited pool of money is available to support additional spending for individuals for additional needs such as travel or tuition/training. This process operates outside of the local authority commissioning framework but is monitored by the Home Office. The Police still own any counter-terrorism risk and therefore there remains close liaison between the Local Authority Channel Coordinators and Counter Terrorism Branch in respect of any risk and threat. That link is principally with the Police Prevent Team.

- 8.6 Paul Lee (Blackburn Council) has continued as the Channel Panel Chair and takes responsibility for the Blackburn with Darwen Channel cases. The vice chairs are Peter Charlesworth (Blackpool, Designated Safeguarding Manager) and Vicky Gent (LCC). Peter and Vicky take overall responsibility for the cases in their local authority areas. This arrangement has worked well since it was introduced at the beginning of 2016. Governance arrangements have not changed. The Contest Board provides the strategic oversight and the pan Lancashire Safeguarding Boards are regularly updated and provided with assurance that robust Channel arrangements are in place.
- 8.7 A Dovetail Pilot Working Group was established with key stakeholders locally and nationally. It continues to meet prior to the monthly Channel Panels in order to manage the logistics of the pilot, address issues and discuss next steps. Blackpool is represented on this group by its Panel Vice Chair Peter Charlesworth. The Lancashire Dovetail Pilot is subject to a more intensive evaluation as the more established and complex of the two county models being tested (Kent is the other). This will include both quantitative data analysis and qualitative reviews with key stakeholders through a series of interviews and focus groups.
- 8.8 On Friday 20 January 2017, a Prevent/Channel Development Day was held for the Channel Panel and Prevent Leads from across the county. There were over 40 attendees from a range of agencies. There was a short overview from Gary Fitzpatrick, the Police analyst responsible for the Counter Terrorism Local Profiles, followed by a presentation (and group discussions) on Lone Actors by Rebecca Ramshaw who is the Head of Prevent Strategy in the Home Office. A member of Blackburn with Darwen Council's staff, Bernadette Flynn, delivered an interesting input on Autism with interactive exercises. Finally, a case study was presented by the two Local Authority Channel Coordinators. They covered the lessons learnt and recommendations from a review of the management of a high profile local case where a local young person had been convicted of Terrorism Act Offences and had received a life sentence. The 'Debrief Good Practice Guide' was due to be circulated as a draft to the Prevent/Channel leads in due course and will be presented to the Contest Board in April 2017. These additional guidance is there to provide a framework to support key staff and decision makers in circumstances such as the one above.

## **9.0 Serious Organised Crime**

- 9.1 Blackpool Community Safety Team chairs the Serious Organised Crime (SOC) Group. Serious Organised Crime remains a focus of the Community Safety Partnership and

the group has been visited by the Home Office on a number of occasions. The group focuses on organised crime with priorities of violence related drug dealing, Child Sexual Exploitation, human trafficking/modern day slavery, illicit trade and fraud. The group is multi-agency and centres around an information sharing system called PAM. This web based 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 is carried out with all of the relevant agencies being involved.

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

- 10.1 In 2015 the Modern Day Slavery Act was introduced and made local authorities responsible for tackling modern day slavery and human trafficking.
- 10.2 The processes and referral routes are currently being developed for tackling Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking in Blackpool and Lancashire.
- 10.3 Lancashire Constabulary organised a conference at the Hilton Hotel to raise awareness of human trafficking and modern day slavery amongst licensed premises holders. This resulted shortly after the conference, in a local hotel alerting the Police to the suspicious activity of two Romanian women and one Romanian male who were involved in modern day slavery and part of a Manchester organised crime group.
- 10.4 An additional event was organised on 13 March 2017 by Blackpool and Lancashire Safeguarding Boards and it was the first multi-agency modern slavery and human trafficking awareness raising event for frontline professionals.
- 10.5 The aim of this event was to educate professionals on the definition and variation of this type of abuse, and use of the 2015 Modern Slavery Act legislation. This event was the first stage of developing practitioner skills and awareness before the development of further training by the Safeguarding Boards.
- 10.6 Specialist advice at the event was proffered from the National Crime Agency Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Unit and also North West Immigration Enforcement Criminal Investigations Unit.
- 10.7 On Thursday 22 June 2017, there will be a briefing session held between 6pm and 7pm for Elected Members on discussing serious organised crime, modern day slavery and human trafficking and the PREVENT agenda.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

### **List of Appendices:**

None



**11.0 Legal considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Human Resources considerations:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Equality considerations:**

13.1 None

**14.0 Financial considerations:**

14.1 None

**15.0 Risk Management considerations:**

15.1 None

**16.0 Ethical considerations:**

16.1 None

**17.0 Internal/External Consultation undertaken:**

17.1 None

**18.0 Background papers:**

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