

<b>Notice of:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Decision Number:</b>	EX16/2022
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	25 April 2022

## BLACKPOOL COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2022-2025

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider for agreement and recommendation to Council for adoption the Blackpool Community Safety Plan 2022-2025, which has been developed and produced by Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To recommend to the Council to agree and adopt the Blackpool Community Safety Plan 2022-2025, which would be managed and monitored by Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership with effect until 31 December 2025.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Under Section 6 of the Community Safety Act 1998 the responsible authorities, commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in a local government area, are required to work together in formulating and implementing a community safety plan to tackle local crime and disorder.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

### 4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None, as the production of a Community Safety Plan is a requirement of the Community Safety Act.

## **5.0 Council priority:**

5.1 The relevant Council priority is: “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

## **6.0 Background information**

- 6.1 Under Section 6 of the Community Safety Act 1998 the responsible authorities, commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in a local government area, are required to work together in formulating and implementing a community safety plan to tackle local crime and disorder in the area.
- 6.2 Blackpool has a very robust and proactive Community Safety Partnership, which includes Blackpool Council (chair of partnership), Lancashire Constabulary, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group, Blackpool Teaching Hospital, Public Health, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, North West Ambulance Service and Blackpool Coastal Housing. Also to note, as and when required other organisations may be opted in from the public, private, third, voluntary and community sectors.
- 6.3 The proposed community safety plan at Appendix 2a highlights current structure of groups (see page 3), which sit under the Community Safety Partnership and are used to deliver the priorities of the partnership. In addition, task and finish groups are created as and when required or emerging threats arise.
- 6.4 Blackpool Community Safety Partnership has key links and workings with the Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Lancashire Violence Reduction Network.
- 6.5 Key strategic objectives of the Community Safety Partnership relate to the successful delivery of the functions, improving community safety by tackling actual and perceived crime and anti-social behaviour and assist in supporting community confidence.
- 6.6 The Community Safety Partnership takes a public health approach to preventing and tracking serious violent crime. Through this approach, the partnership considers primary, secondary and tertiary prevention opportunities based on the model of prevention highlighted in the attached community safety plan.
- 6.7 In relation to the development of the attached Community Safety Plan, a due process has been followed which started with a Lancashire strategic assessment of data, followed by a Blackpool strategic assessment, which highlighted local areas of priority. In conjunction with this process, consideration was given to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire’s priorities in ultimately highlighting Blackpool’s key priority areas for the plan.

6.8 In terms of public consultation, questions relating to the community safety plan emerging priorities were asked using three approaches – an online shared survey link, face-to-face interviews during a public engagement activity in Blackpool town centre and paper questions that were distributed in Blackpool Council’s public facing buildings. The survey link was distributed via leaflets during the engagement week and shared on the Council’s social media pages, including Facebook and Twitter, throughout December and early January.

6.9 A total of 94 responses were received to the consultation, with 74 online responses, 14 face-to-face and six from the paper questionnaires. The results of the survey showed that 97.8% ranked violent crime and anti-social behaviour as very important or quite important priorities and sexual assault and rape as very important or quite important priorities. Full details are available in the plan attached at Appendix 2a to the Executive report.

6.10 Subsequently, the priorities were shared with a scrutiny review panel of the Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 31 January 2022. This was followed by a meeting of the Community Safety Partnership on 3 February 2022, where feedback from scrutiny was shared and the emerging plan developed further.

6.11 A revised plan was taken to the Community Safety Partnership on 28 March 2022, where the attached community safety plan and priorities were endorsed by the group.

6.12 The Blackpool Community Safety Plan priorities 2022-2025 are:

**Drugs, alcohol and mental health**

- Begging
- Residential burglary
  
- Anti-social behaviour
- Reduce re-offending

**Serious organised crime**

- Modern day slavery
- Human trafficking
  
- Illicit trade
- Drugs with harm

**Vulnerabilities**

- Violent crime
- Child criminal and sexual exploitation
- Sexual offences and rape
- Domestic abuse
- Hate crime
- Anti-social behaviour

**Road Safety**

- This area of work will be led by Highways and Traffic Management division, working in conjunction with the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership

6.13 The active multi-agency groups that sit under the Community Safety Partnership and identified at page three of the proposed plan will further develop action plans over the life of the plan to address the priorities. In addition, there are plans to establish working groups to address highlighted priorities not already covered, such as violence, burglary and robbery. It is important to note that where required, the analytical product victim offender location model is used to problem solve particular priorities.

- 6.14 An operational overachieving action plan covering the main issues from the various groups will be established in 2022/2023, which will be monitored by the Community Safety Partnership.
- 6.15 In addition, the proposed community safety plan highlights the focus in relation to counter terrorism and also the Community Safety Partnership role in relation to Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- 6.16 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## **7.0 List of Appendices:**

- 7.1 Appendix 2a: Community Safety Plan.

## **8.0 Financial considerations:**

- 8.1 The delivery of the plan is through a multi-agency approach, where resources are coordinated and pooled. Various funding streams are available in relation to initiatives and programmes, which will be applied for during the course of the plan.

## **9.0 Legal considerations:**

- 9.1 This group includes the statutory responsible authorities, as outlined within the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, as amended by the 1999 Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act, the 2000 Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing Act), the 2001 Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act, the 2002 Police Reform Act, the 2006 Police Justice Act, the 2009 Policing and Crime Act and the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act, the Serious Crime Act 2015, and the Domestic Action 2021, and the forthcoming Responsibilities and Duties around Serious Violence which is due in Autumn 2022.

## **10.0 Risk management considerations:**

- 10.1 The plan will address key risk and threats relating to crime and disorder in Blackpool.

## **11.0 Equalities considerations:**

- 11.1 In the course of developing this, the Council and partners have considered whether there could be unintended adverse impacts on people because of shared characteristics protected by the Equality Act. The Council is aware of the particular vulnerabilities relating to equality and crime/community safety, these concerns are reflected in the local priorities in particular, hate crime, violence and harassment, and misogyny against women and girls.
- 11.2 The Council and partners have also reflected on our responsibilities to give due regard to the aims of the public sector equality duty in respect of tackling discrimination, advancing opportunity and promoting cohesion. Given that we know there is evidence to indicate poor levels of cohesion are present in parts of inner Blackpool, we will build consideration of these issues into our equality

analysis alongside our priority action plans.

**12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

12.1 Elements of the community safety plan relate to protecting the environment, particularly in relation to anti-social behaviour.

**13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:**

13.1 Extensive engagement within the Council and other responsible authorities (see 6.1), Scrutiny Committee and the wider community.

**14.0 Background papers:**

14.1 None.

**15.0 Key decision information:**

15.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 24/2021

15.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

15.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**16.0 Call-in information:**

16.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

16.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**17.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed: 13 April 2022 Date approved:

**18.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

18.1 None.

**19.0 Summary of Discussion:**

19.1 Mr John Blackledge, Director for Community and Environmental Services presented the plan to the Executive. Mr Blackledge emphasised that the plan had been developed with full and extensive participation of key stakeholders both in terms of statutory partners and voluntary sector organisations involved in the Community Safety Partnerships. The plan had linkages with other Council Plans and also the priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire. Councillor Neal Brookes as relevant Cabinet Member echoed Mr Blackledge in endorsing the positive role that a range of organisations had played in developing the plan. In response to questions from the Executive Mr Blackledge explained that the plan included addressing domestic violence as one of its priorities and that this priority was part of, not separate to other ongoing initiatives in that regard.

**20.0 Executive decision:**

20.1 The Executive resolved as follows:

To recommend to the Council to agree and adopt the Blackpool Community Safety Plan 2022-2025, which would be managed and monitored by Blackpool's Community Safety Partnership with effect until 31 December 2025.

**21.0 Date of Decision:**

21.1 25 April 2022

**22.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

22.1 Under Section 6 of the Community Safety Act 1998 the responsible authorities, commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in a local government area, are required to work together in formulating and implementing a community safety plan to tackle local crime and disorder.

**23.0 Date Decision published:**

23.1 26 April 2022

**24.0 Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

24.1 The Executive noted that there were no alternative options, as the production of a Community Safety Plan is a requirement of the Community Safety Act.

**25.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

25.1 Councillor L Williams, in the Chair

Councillors Benson, Brookes Campbell, Farrell, Hobson, Hugo, Smith and Taylor

**26.0 Call-in:**

26.1

**27.0 Notes:**

27.1 The following non-Executive member was in attendance: Councillor Hunter.