

**Individual Services main functions**

**1. Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)**

**Functions:**

- CSP 'Priorities' Delivery
- Tackling ASB and Public Space Protection Orders

**Section 6** of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 requires the responsible authorities (commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area.

**Section 17** requires the CSP to do all that it reasonably can to prevent:

- Crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
- The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area, and
- Re-offending in its area, and
- Serious violence in its area

**2. Food Control (Food Hygiene and Food Standards)**

**Functions:**

- To conduct food hygiene inspections in line with the Food Law Code of Practice (FLCoP), to ensure safe food practices, protect public health, and business and consumer interests.
- To conduct food standards inspections in line with the Food Law Code of Practice, particularly regarding allergens in food, and descriptions that could mislead the consumer.
- To implement and publicise the national Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which enables consumers to make informed choices about where they eat.
- To investigate food hygiene and food standards complaints.
- To take appropriate and proportionate enforcement action where necessary
- To conduct and partake in intelligence led, multi-agency operations, including out of hours working due to the night-time economy of the Town.
- To investigate individual cases of suspected food poisoning, and outbreaks of infectious diseases; to identify potential sources, and to prevent further spread.
- To undertake proactive food sampling as part of the UK Health Security Agency sampling programme to ensure that public safety is maintained and that the food we eat is safe for consumption.
- To undertake reactive food sampling as part of an investigation

- To provide food hygiene and food standards advice to businesses to promote good business practice, and to ensure accurate information is provided to consumers.
- To provide an immediate and emergency response to alerts issued by the Food Standards Agency and local intelligence.
- To deliver feed hygiene controls to ensure animal safety, and to protect the integrity of the food chain
  
- Deliver an animal health programme to ensure the welfare of farmed animals, and the prevention of containment of disease among farmed animals and to protect public health.
- To run local initiatives to improve standards in food businesses, and to protect the public.
- To maintain the registrations for food and feed premises
- To keep up to date with new and immerging legislation such as Natasha’s Law.

### 3. Health and Safety

#### **Functions:**

- To target resources based on complaints and intelligence relating to over 6000 commercial premises, to protect the health and safety of residents, visitors and employees.
- To investigate workplace accidents and incidents
- To partake in ‘Nightsafe’, a zero tolerance initiative, targeting enforcement on problematic premises within the night-time economy, to ensure public safety is not compromised and criminality is tackled.
- To offer advice and education to businesses
- The Responsible authority for public safety on licensed premises.
- To conduct and partake in multiagency operations to tackling issues such as electricity and gas theft.
- Responsibility for miscellaneous safety issues re tattooists and acupuncturists, petrol stations, swimming pools, asbestos management, smoking on premises, air conditioning and tanning studios.
- To plan and deliver initiatives based on local intelligence, and local issues.
- To plan and deliver initiatives based on national intelligence, and national issues. Such proactive work is listed in the HSE Local Authority Circular, LAC 67/2 (revision 12) [LAC 67/2 \(Revision 12\) 2023/24 \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/lac672/)
- To plan and deliver a grant funded project based on new legislation; Botulinum Toxin and Cosmetic Fillers (Children) Act 2021

#### 4. Trading Standards & Licensing

##### **Trading Standards Functions:**

- Doorstep Crime/Rogue Traders – Safeguarding vulnerable consumer groups against the activities of rogue traders through educating/assisting vulnerable consumers and enforcing consumer protection legislation against traders engaging in unfair consumer practices.
- Age Restricted goods – Reducing crime and disorder and antisocial behaviour around these issues whilst protecting the health of young people through educating businesses and conducting market surveillance to ensure businesses are meeting their obligations in preventing harmful products getting into the hands of young people.
- Illegal trading – illegal street trading, begging etc. It should be noted that begging / street drinking and related matters are joint responsibilities across the whole Division. The team also has responsibility for Illicit Trade and feeds into the GENGA process.
- Criminal complaints – Sale of illicit goods, Consumer Protection, fraudulent activity and money laundering.
- Product Safety – All consumer safety issues relating to unsafe products.
- Proceeds of Crime recovery – relating to all items obtained through “criminal lifestyle”

##### 5. Licensing Functions:

- Statutory based service for protecting health and wellbeing via the licensing of a wide range of business and personal licensable activities.
- Issue licences for operators, vehicles and drivers of both hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.
- Personal and premises licences are issued relating to the Licensing Act 2003 regarding alcohol, late night refreshment, and regulated entertainment.
- Gambling licences are issued regarding gaming machines in pubs and arcades, and premises licences issued to casinos, bingo halls, betting offices etc.
- Licences are issued to animal establishments such as breeders, pet shops, boarding establishments etc.
- Miscellaneous other licences/registrations are also issued to tattooists, acupuncturists, petrol stations, fireworks retailers, scrap metal dealers and collectors

#### 6. Housing Enforcement

##### **Functions:**

- Improving Housing standards in private rented homes (including H.M.O's), to protect

the health and safety of residents (including vulnerable people). The Decent Home pilot funded through levelling up funding has enabled a team to undertake proactive inspections in the Central Selective licensing area.

- Licensing and inspecting H.M.O's and running a Selective Licensing scheme for all private rented properties in central Blackpool. The current Selective Licensing scheme in Central area of Blackpool, includes parts of Brunswick, Bloomfield and Talbot wards. The scheme has licensed 2,600 properties and has run for 5 years from 2019 and will finish in March 2024. Blackpool Council has submitted a new Selective Licensing application to the Secretary of State for approval. If the application is approved, 11,307 properties will be included in this new scheme in central Blackpool.
- Contribute to the Blackpool Standard scheme to promote good quality, well managed properties. The Decent Homes pilot commenced in April 2023 and will finish in March 2025. To date 600 properties have been inspected to confirm if the properties have any category 1 hazards. 1 in every 2 properties inspected has a category 1 hazards.
- Tackling antisocial behaviour from rented properties. Selective Licensing schemes have licence conditions that ensure that landlords manage their properties effectively, including a detailed action plan to deal with anti- social behaviour.
- Enforcement, where necessary to tackle poor accommodation and management. All enforcement tools are utilised to tackle poor accommodation and management in the private rented sector. Housing Act notices are charged £500 if category 1 hazards are identified and the landlord has failed to undertake remedial action. Non-compliance of a notice or breach of licence conditions, or failure to obtain a licence will then result in a prosecution or Civil penalty case. The Council can then consider a banning order in certain circumstance to prevent rogue landlords operating if there has been to two convictions in the last 12 months.

### 7. Environmental Protection (EP)

#### **Functions:**

- Waste on Private land
- Statutory Nuisance investigation
- Traveller Eviction
- Statutory Consultee regarding Licensing in relation to noise / operating times and planning applications including demolition and construction works and maintenance.
- Area Intervention Team – multi-skilled generic team focussing on “Broken Windows” issues.
- Animal welfare and Licensing
- Animal Wardens