

**AMBER VALLEY  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2020-2023**

*Working together for a safer Amber Valley*

# Contents

<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>The Community Safety Partnership .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The Borough Network.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Statutory Responsibilities .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Everyday Business .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Derbyshire’s Priorities 2020-2023 .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Amber Valley’s Priorities 2020-2023 .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Contacts .....</b>	<b>13</b>

## Introduction

Over the past few years, since Amber Valley's last Community Safety Partnership plan of 2017, we have witnessed a lot of change. Both locally and nationally, we have a more in-depth understanding of the emerging challenges that we face in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour faced by society as a whole. Our partner organisations have evolved significantly and continue to do so, including several emerging work streams.

Alongside this, the pressures on local government, policing and other statutory partners means that we must focus our limited resources to best effect. This creates further pressing need for us to work together to deliver the best response to local people.

To achieve this, we have identified three priorities for Amber Valley, through a Derbyshire-wide partnership strategic risk and threat assessment. This plan sets out the priorities that the Partnership will focus on from 2020-2023, alongside the 'business as usual' areas of work. Our partners are committed, and with your support we can make a difference together.

Councillor Sean Carter  
Cabinet Support Member, Landscape Growth and Community Safety.  
Portfolio Holder, Community Safety.

## The Community Safety Partnership

The Crime & Disorder Act (1998) first introduced a statutory responsibility for local authorities and criminal justice partners to tackle local crime and disorder concerns.

This was the key driver behind the development of the Crime Reduction Partnerships or Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) formed at each district or borough council, linked into a County-wide structure in a two-tier local government system.

Since then, responsibilities and areas of business have been amended in legislation, including a key change in 2012 with the election of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC). Whilst the PCC and their office is not a responsible authority, they are a key stakeholder in the community safety agenda and any plans produced by the CSP must 'have regard' for the priorities that will be established by the Commissioner in their plan.

Further to this, the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and the Government's Serious Violence Strategy, published in April 2018, place specific responsibilities around CSP's being the delivery arm in tackling these issues. In addition to this, as the CSPs have become integral to local authorities, with most CSPs carrying out the council's Prevent and safeguarding duties.

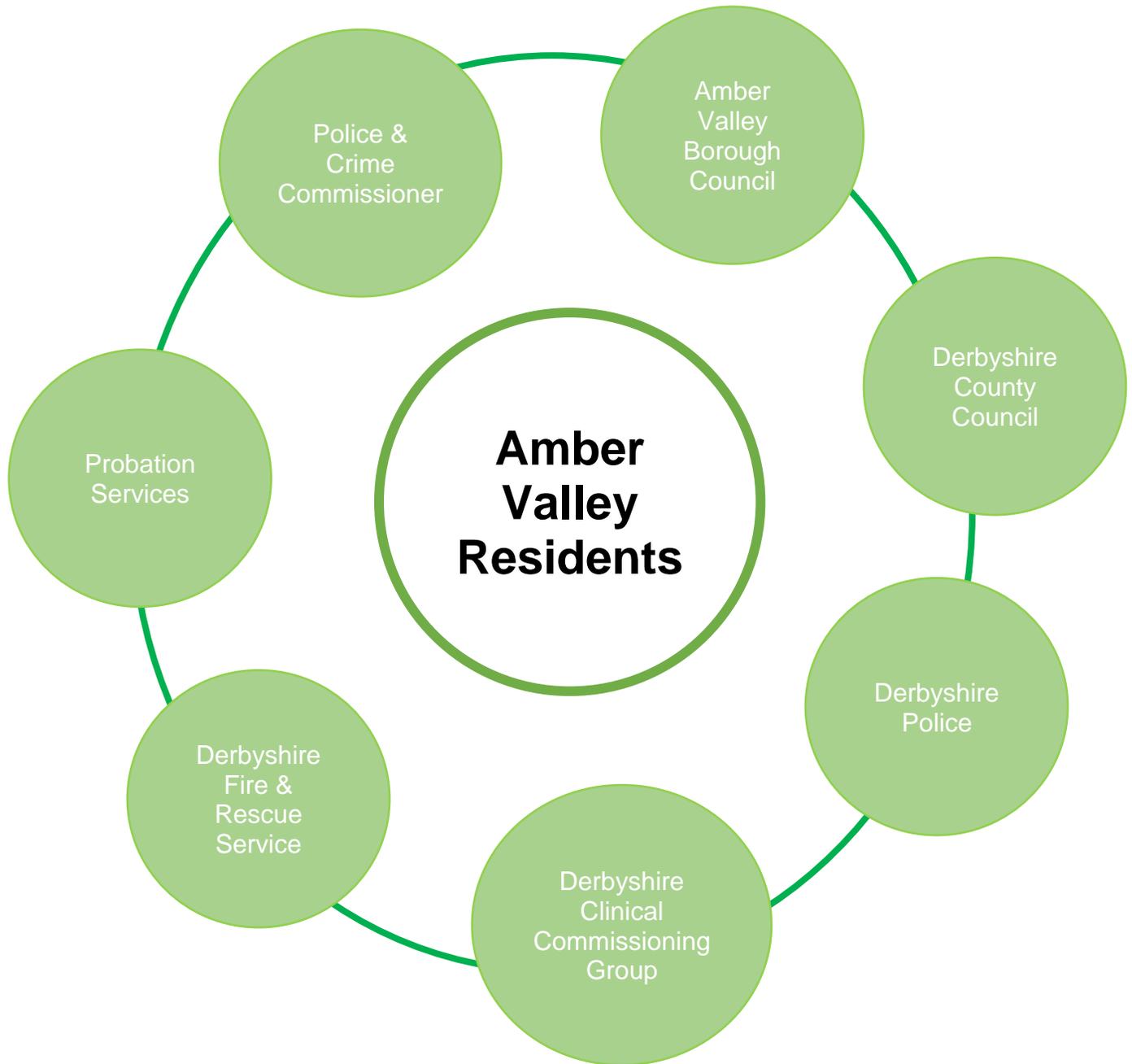
A key role is to understand the kind of community safety issues Amber Valley is experiencing; decide which of these are the most urgent to deal with; and then decide what actions can be implemented collectively - adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by our individual agencies and organisations.

We detail these actions in our Community Safety Plan, which we update each year. To do this we commission an annual Strategic Assessment. This provides a range of detailed information about crime, disorder, substance abuse and other community matters that are affecting Amber Valley.

In light of this information, the assessment makes recommendations about how best to keep the Community Safety Plan priorities on track for the next year.

In producing our plan, we have been mindful of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner's 'Police and Crime Plan 2017-2020' and the requirement to 'have regard' for the priorities that are established by the Commissioner in his plan.

# The Borough Network



# Statutory Responsibilities

Underpinning the work of Community Safety are a number of key pieces of legislation, which detail the statutory requirements placed upon CSP's.

## Crime and Disorder Act 1998

### Section 17

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local authorities to consider the community safety implications of all of their activities. Section 17 says:

*“...it shall be the duty of each authority to... exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.”*

### Serious violence

Following the publication of the 2018 Serious Violence Strategy, the Serious Violence Bill was announced in December 2019.

The Bill proposes to amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to make serious violence an explicit priority for CSPs. The new 'public health duty' will require the CSP, education and other relevant services to work together to share data and intelligence to address the root causes of serious violence and tackle issues such as County Lines.

## Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Community Trigger)

The Community Trigger is the name generally applied to the 'Response to Complaints' section of the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act and enables victims to require agencies to carry out a review of their response to the anti-social behaviour they reported where they feel they did not get a satisfactory response. It is also known as the ASB Case Review.

Legislation requires that each CSP publishes information with regard to the use of the Community Trigger, as follows:

1. The number of applications for ASB Case Reviews

*One Community Trigger application was received in Amber Valley during 2019/20*

2. The number of applications for ASB Case Reviews that did not meet the threshold

*One application was received that did not meet the threshold.*

3. The number of ASB Case Reviews conducted

*No ASB Case Reviews were conducted in 2019/20*

4. The number of ASB Case Reviews that resulted in recommendations being made

*No ASB Case Reviews took place which resulted in recommendations being made*

## **The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (and subsequent amendments in 2019)**

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains a duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is also known as the Prevent Duty.

The responsible authorities of the CSP are included under the Act. Specified authorities include the police, local authorities, the NHS, schools, further and higher education bodies, prison and probation services.

Updated Channel Guidance is due to be released in 2020 and it is hoped that this guidance will further strengthen the processes used to safeguard individuals at risk of becoming involved in extremism and terrorism.

## **Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004**

There is a requirement for CSP's to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) which came into effect in 2011. A DHR is a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by: -

- (a) a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or
- (b) a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.

In Derbyshire this has been delegated to the Safer Communities Board, with the County Council leading co-ordination. There is reliance on those local agencies to share information and participate when required.

## **Modern Slavery Act 2015**

The "duty to notify" is set out in Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. This stipulates that, where a specified public authority has reasonable grounds to believe that a person maybe a victim of slavery or human trafficking, it must notify the following:

- The Home Office
- Police Forces and British Transport Police
- Councils – County, District and Borough
- National Crime Agency
- Gang masters and Labour Abuse Authority
- Border / Immigration Enforcement

## **Everyday Business**

There are a number of core areas of work that form 'everyday business' for the CSP in Amber Valley. This is generally based around statutory responsibilities, as previously mentioned. However, it does cover more extensive key areas of risk and threat for our borough.

## **Anti-social Behaviour**

In 2014, the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act combined the existing tools and powers from other pieces of legislation and created simpler, more effective powers to tackle ASB. The Act also introduced protections for victims and communities.

This, in practical terms, means the management of ASB cases across the borough; working at a multi-agency level on a day to day basis with key criminal justice partners, mental health services, social care, housing providers and drug and alcohol support services. This is alongside Community Trigger applications (statutory responsibility) giving residents a greater voice in how agencies respond to complaints.

## **Acquisitive Crime**

The CSP has historically provided crime prevention advice to residents to help them protect their property, supporting the police to offer reassurance to the public. As the statutory responsibilities for the CSP have grown, and focused more around other crime types, this work has reduced. However, it is still our aim to support residents of the borough who have been a victim of this crime type or who are vulnerable.

## **Cyber and Cyber-enabled Crime**

Due to the increased use of technology, internet-based communication (particularly social media) has changed significantly over recent years. Now, reported crime and ASB often includes elements of cyber-enabled behaviour.

As a partnership, this has forced us to change how we respond to other areas of work and crime, as it has our other criminal justice partners - adding an additional level of complexity. As a CSP, we continue to work with partners such as Citizens Advice and Action Fraud; to raise awareness of cyber-crime. We engage in preventative work and provide up-to-date information on how people can keep themselves and their families safe online.

## **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence**

The CSP works with local delivery partners to raise awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence support services across Amber Valley.

In January 2019, the Government published its draft Domestic Abuse Bill and, although not yet enacted, the proposed changes aim to improve the response to domestic abuse which may have an impact on the local delivery of services.

## **Children at Risk of Exploitation (CRE)**

The work around the exploitation of children has seen a shift over recent years, with more emphasis on a partnership approach to dealing with these issues and sharing information to protect vulnerable children. The definition of CRE now includes criminal as well as sexual exploitation, to cover issues such as County Lines. Derbyshire has introduced a new structure to consider those at risk of this behaviour. Locally, in Amber Valley, the council (represented by the CSP) comes together regularly with partners to manage and disrupt cases of this nature.

## **Protecting Vulnerable People (children and adults)**

Between 2014 and 2019, a range of legislation was introduced to provide authorities with additional tools, powers and duties to tackle the safeguarding of individuals. This included the Care Act 2014, Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, and Serious Crime Act 2015. The management of the required reporting, referral and decision-making mechanisms, alongside staff awareness requirements, sits with the CSP on behalf of the council.

More recently, the Children & Social Work Act 2017 and the subsequent statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' detailed changes to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This legislation intrinsically links the work of CSP's with that of other partners who have responsibilities around this area of work.

## **Reducing Re-offending**

The Policing and Crime Act 2009 (as amended in 2012) formalised probation services as a responsible authority on CSPs and provided a new duty for CSPs to publish a strategy designed to tackle reoffending. In Derbyshire, this is done at a county-wide level, with operational partnership structures in place at a local level. The Government have announced a restructure of probation services, which will come into effect in 2021.

## **Substance Misuse**

The CSP has a statutory duty to consider substance misuse. The community impact of this is either directly through those using drugs or alcohol and causing nuisance/ ASB, County Lines or those involved in crime to fund an addiction. Whilst the operational response to these issues is often co-ordinated by the CSP, the commissioning of support services is managed by Derbyshire County Council/ Public Health.

## **Organised Crime**

Organised crime is already considered across a number of areas of business, including acquisitive crime and cyber-crime. More recently, the focus has shifted to County Lines; where vulnerable individuals are exploited by urban gangs supplying drugs to other parts of the UK using dedicated mobile phone lines. Dealing with this issue requires a ~~co-ordinated~~, partnership approach which is often co-ordinated by Amber Valley CSP; utilising all the tools and powers available across various departments and partner organisations to tackle this issue.

## Derbyshire's Priorities (2020-2023)

Derbyshire has longstanding and well established partnership arrangements in place and partners are committed to addressing community safety issues.

Within Derbyshire there are eight district-based Community Safety Partnerships - Amber Valley CSP being one of the eight.

At a county level, the Derbyshire Safer Communities Board provides strategic leadership and direction. The Chairs of each CSP sit on the Board, along with senior representatives from each of the responsible authorities and other key stakeholders.

The countywide arrangements require the undertaking of an annual assessment and formulation of a Community Safety Agreement at a county level. This agreement must address crime and disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and re-offending.

A new assessment tool has been utilised, in partnership, both at a county level and also locally in order to support the priority setting process. The Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORiLE) is a tool to enable law enforcement agencies to better understand their strategic risks. Using MORiLE, alongside the data within the Derbyshire Strategic Intelligence Assessment for 2020, has supported the risk and threat identification process.

### Priorities

There are a number of long-standing community safety priorities which the Safer Communities Board will continue to support. These are priorities for which there is a strong structure in place to oversee delivery and to identify and address gaps in provision. It is acknowledged that investment in these priorities needs to be maintained in order to ensure performance is sustained and identified areas for development are progressed.

The main priorities for Derbyshire are:

- Domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Anti-social behaviour
- Modern slavery
- Prevent (counter terrorism)
- Hate crime

In addition to these, two developmental priorities have been identified. These are areas of business where the Board needs to invest additional resource to either gain a better understanding of the issues and/or undertake development work in order to implement a more comprehensive and co-ordinated response from partners.

These developmental priorities are:

- Organised crime, including County Lines
- Serious violence

It is acknowledged that in relation to the developmental priorities, the Safer Communities Board needs to focus on the aspects of their delivery which fall within its remit; whilst communicating with other strategic boards to ensure a holistic approach to delivery.

For example, mental health problems (within the community) can often have a significant impact on the operational delivery of community safety. However, mental health matters fall under the remit of the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board (from a governance perspective). It is therefore vitally important that the Safer Communities Board continues to work with the other strategic boards to ensure a comprehensive response is achieved.

As part of the priority setting process, it was also noted that the harm caused to communities by substance misuse and cyber-crime, whilst not strategic priorities in their own right, are intrinsically linked to the delivery of the priorities identified above and will therefore need to continue to be resourced.

In delivery of the priorities outlined above, there should be specific focus on:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Data and information sharing

## **Amber Valley's Priorities (2020-2023)**

Following on from the countywide priority setting process, using the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORiLE) scoring system, and the Derbyshire Strategic Intelligence Assessment for 2020; a number of key priorities have been derived for local delivery in Amber Valley.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

Anti-Social Behaviour is a term used for any behaviour that causes alarm, harassment or distress to anyone. This can range from neighbour disputes, to groups of young people causing a nuisance. The key areas of work that Amber Valley CSP will focus on are:

- Enforcement (using the ASB, Crime & Policing Act 2014)
- Diversion (offering activities for young people to discourage ASB)
- Hot spot response
- Early intervention

### **Protecting those most at risk**

The CSP has a duty to protect all residents but especially those who are most at risk. This includes children, elderly people, victims of crime and abuse, and people with disabilities.

Information will be shared with partners and local service providers to ensure help and support is offered to anyone that needs it. The key areas of work that the Partnership will focus on are:

- Safeguarding and vulnerable adult risk management
- Children at risk of exploitation
- Domestic abuse and serious sexual violence

### **Organised Crime**

Serious and organised crime is defined as individuals planning, coordinating and committing serious offences; whether individually, in groups and/or as part of transnational networks. Key areas of work include:

- County Lines and exploitation
- Serious violence
- Acquisitive crime
- Modern slavery
- Rural crime

### **'Golden Threads'**

It is recognised that there are 'cross cutting' themes or 'golden threads' that will run through all three priorities identified above and these need to be considered as part of the delivery of services. These are:

- Mental health
- Community engagement

## Contacts

For further information about the CSP Plan, or any aspect of community safety, please contact the Communities Team at:

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