

Community Safety Plan 2008-11

The Crime Reduction Partnership has produced a 3-year plan setting out how we will work to keep the District a safe place to live, work and visit. Based on an analysis of crime trends and what residents have told us matters to them, it sets out 3 priority areas for the partnership to focus on. Set out below is a summary of the work we will do on our priorities.



Members of the Crime Reduction Partnership. Bringing together Lewes District Council, Sussex Police, Sussex Police Authority, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, East Sussex County Council, the NHS Primary Care Trust and members of local area partnerships representing community interests in the District.

Did you know?

Crime has continued to fall in the Lewes District. In the last year all recorded crime fell by more than 6%.

There were significant falls in a number of key areas:

Domestic burglary - down 15%

Violent crime - down 16%

Robbery - down 30%

Criminal damage - down 5%

After a number of years of reductions in car crime, there has been a recent rise of 9% in this area.

The current plan sets out how we will maintain these reductions and work to reverse the rise in vehicle crime.

Priority 1: alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour

Serious crime is rare in our district, but low-level crime and antisocial behaviour is of concern to residents. Alcohol is often a driver in this type of crime so we have made tackling its misuse a priority. We will:

- ⊙ **Use licensing powers** and targeted police patrols to regulate the night time economy and prevent young people obtaining alcohol
- ⊙ **Educate residents** on alcohol misuse and increase referrals of young people to alcohol misuse services
- ⊙ **Provide positive activities** for young people and use acceptable behaviour agreements and antisocial behaviour orders when appropriate
- ⊙ **Encourage reporting** of domestic violence and prevent repeat incidents
- ⊙ **Work to prevent criminal damage and arson** and respond to hotspots of these crimes when they occur
- ⊙ **Expand existing street drinking bans** to ensure that more public areas remain alcohol free



Alcohol confiscated from underage drinkers



Cracking down on unlicensed vehicles with roadside checks in Peacehaven



Weapons handed in during a partnership organised knife amnesty



Friday night football sessions in Ringmer



Distributing radio sets to Seaford Pubwatch members



Illegal mini-motos seized and crushed

Priority 2: vehicle crime and safety

Vehicle crime, especially vandalism to cars, has emerged as a recent crime trend needing targeted resources. Combating dangerous or antisocial driving has been identified as a key priority for local people. We will:

- ⊙ **Reduce thefts of and from vehicles** through encouraging vehicle safety and using latest technology to target car thieves.
- ⊙ **Target abandoned vehicles** through clean up operations and remove unlicensed or unroadworthy cars from the road
- ⊙ **Reduce criminal damage** to cars and deliberate fires and rapidly respond to hotspots of these crimes as they occur
- ⊙ **Reduce incidents of drink driving** and provide educational campaigns to encourage safer driving especially among young drivers
- ⊙ **Target local accident black spots** particularly on the A27 and reduce collisions causing serious injury or fatalities
- ⊙ **Reduce speeding and antisocial driving** using speed devices, bike stoppers, spot checks and seizures of nuisance vehicles

Priority 3: information management

We need to make sure partners use and share timely data on crime trends to make best use of our resources. Local people must feel their concerns are dealt with and that they are able to engage with our work to keep their communities safe. We will:

- ⊙ **Review information sharing** among partners to ensure we have access to all the data we need
- ⊙ **Use current data** to identify and target hotspots and monitor progress of actions to reduce crime
- ⊙ **Keep residents informed** of the work of the CRP
- ⊙ **Consult with communities**, particularly those considered 'hard to reach', and show how we have used this feedback in setting priorities
- ⊙ **Organise 'face the people sessions'** for local people to engage with the partnership and its work
- ⊙ **Tackle the fear of crime** and work to publicise positive stories about crime in the district
- ⊙ **Run crime reduction and awareness raising campaigns** and publicise sources of help for residents in reducing crime and disorder