



Strategic Assessment 2010/11

Document Details

Title	Blaby Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment, 2011
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Description	<p>The purpose of this document is to provide Blaby Community Safety Partnership (CSP) with a comprehensive picture of crime, anti-social behaviour and community safety issues across Blaby district. The report provides information on police recorded crime, anti-social behaviour incidents, Fire and Rescue primary and secondary fires, domestic incidents and offences, hate incidents and offences, Probation, youth offending and offences where substance misuse has been a factor.</p> <p>The information within this document should assist in the review of current strategic priorities and the identification of any new trends.</p>
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I. Introduction

I.1 Background

The Partnership Strategic assessment is a statutory document produced annually to inform Community Safety Partnerships about crime, Anti-social behaviour and community safety issues in their area.

The aim of this Strategic assessment is to provide Blaby Community Safety Partnership with a comprehensive analysis of crime, Anti-social behaviour and community safety issues to enable the partnership to review, modify or change their priorities.

I.2 Partnership Background

Blaby Community safety partnership is made up of representatives from eight statutory partners

- Blaby District Council
- Leicestershire Constabulary
- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service
- Leicestershire Police Authority
- Leicestershire Fire Authority
- Leicestershire Probation Trust
- Leicestershire Youth Offending Service

Community safety covers a broad area of policy including but not limited to:

- Policing
- Reducing Reoffending
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Arson
- Substance Misuse
- Protecting Vulnerable People

“The vision of Blaby District Community Safety Partnership is “to work together in making the District of Blaby and the Borough of Hinckley & Bosworth a safer place to live, work and visit for all”.

1.3 Current Priorities

The Community Safety Partnership has identified and agreed the following key Priorities:

- Improving Community Confidence, Engagement and Cohesion
- Identifying, Supporting and Protecting Vulnerable People
- Reducing Offending and Re-Offending
- Reduction in harm caused by substance misuse (Cross Cutting Theme)

In delivering its local priorities the partnership will also contribute to the following Leicestershire County priorities for community safety:

- Reduce re-offending, with a particular focus on earlier intervention with families with complex needs and those at risk of becoming families with complex needs.
- Protect the most vulnerable in communities, particularly previous and repeat victims of crime.
- Continue to reduce anti-social behaviour, particularly in those areas with the highest levels of incidents.
- Increase public confidence, particularly user satisfaction with local crime and disorder services, especially in priority areas.

1.4 Structure

In order to provide a holistic representation of problems within the Partnership area Information from various partners is used in this document. These include:

- Blaby District Council
- Leicestershire Constabulary
- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service
- Leicestershire Drug and alcohol Action Team
- Leicestershire & Rutland probation Area
- Leicestershire Youth offending Service

There are five main chapters covering Crime & Anti-social behaviour, Offender Management, Vulnerable People, Substance Misuse and Emerging Trends & Threats. These chapters aim to highlight the main issues in that category affecting the community safety partnership so that an informed decision can be made when assessing priorities.

For the areas of Crime, Anti-social behaviour, Vulnerable People and Substance misuse analysis of the data revolved around six main questions. These are:

- How has crime/incidents compared over time?
- How does each crime compare to other crimes?
- Did we achieve our targets?
- Where are the highest crime areas?
- Which Communities are most affected?
- How do we compare against other areas?

The results of these findings for each community safety issue are given in Appendix A as a standard template with detailed explanation of how each area was analysed at the beginning.

For the area of Reducing Re-offending an analysis of Adult Offenders revolved around the following questions for all offenders and re-offenders on the probation caseload for the period April 2010 – March 2011.

- What are the re-offending rates for the district?
- Who is most likely to offend?
- Where are offenders most likely to live?
- What is their Offending Behaviour like?

The results of re-offending analysis are given in Appendix B.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Key Findings

The overall trend for Community Safety in Blaby is positive with the majority of reported crimes showing a downward trend. Analysis of partnership performance has highlighted the following trends.

- Total recorded crime in Blaby has reduced by 11% during 2010/11 with most categories of crime also showing reductions.
- The main hotspot location for the CSP is Fosse Park which has significantly higher levels of crime when compared to the whole of Leicestershire.
- Violence against the person has reduced by 10%. A third of crime was domestic related and a third of crime was Alcohol related.
- Serious Acquisitive crime has reduced by 11%. However Blaby has some of the highest rates per 1000 population in the County and when compared to its Most Similar Groups particularly for Theft from The Vehicle which makes up two thirds of Serious Acquisitive Crime.
- Other Acquisitive Crime fell by 12%. Shoplifting at Fosse Park is the main contributory factor to other acquisitive crime. There was a 7% reduction in Criminal Damage and 27% reduction in ASB. Fosse Park, Winstanley Community college and Braunstone Town Henley Crescent are the main area affected by ASB. There are no major large town centres in Blaby district so less ASB is related to the night time economy in town centres.
- The adult reoffending rate in Blaby is 7%, significantly lower than the overall County reoffending rate, 14%.
- There are two Lower Super Output Areas in Blaby District with 10 or more resident offenders; Thorpe Astley South & Meridian Business Park (11) and Fosse Park (10).
- There were 60 first time entrants to the justice system in Blaby in 2010/11 a decrease of 5%. In Leicestershire there was an overall reduction of 17.2%.
- In 2010/11 Blaby saw a 14% rise in domestic incidents reported to the police and a 2% increase in offences. 73% of all domestic incidents were classified as violence against the person. 47% of domestic offences were alcohol related.
- 185 cases were referred to MARAC which discusses and monitors high risk domestic abuse cases. NI 32 – “Repeat victimisation statistics rolling for a 12 month period after a case is initially heard” is 10%
- In 2010/11 there were 72 hate offences and 16 hate incidents recorded in Blaby by the police. 63% of all these incidents and offences were recorded as violence against the person. Fosse Park has the highest number of hate incidents recorded in the district.

- 7% of Total Recorded Crime is flagged as alcohol related. Alcohol plays a large part in Violent Crime with 26% of all violent crime in the district being alcohol related. Drugs play a much smaller part with only 1% of violent crime being drug related.

2.2 Recommendations

The Policing Plan targets recently approved by the Police Authority include the following reductions:

- 5% reduction in Total Crime
- 10 % reduction in Anti- Social Behaviour
- 8 % Reduction in Domestic Burglary
- 5% reduction in Burglary in commercial premises

Recent consultations with the public and local communities highlighted the importance of consistency of priorities from year to year so that progress can be tracked and therefore contributing to confidence. It was agreed that the current Partnership priorities were robust and will therefore continue for 2012/13.

- In terms of Leicestershire Fire & Rescue there will be a focus on road safety initiatives to reduce the number of road traffic collisions, and the main threats will be accidental dwelling fires and deliberate secondary fires.
- Reduction in ASB is really positive news however the report indicates that there are still problem areas within the district; Fosse Park, Winstanley Community College and Henley Crescent in Braunstone Town. To reduce ASB in these areas will continue to focus on joint working with our partners, in particular our neighbourhood policing teams.
- The increase in domestic abuse will mean that this remains a key focus for the partnership and we will ensure key activities/projects are included within the Community Safety Priority action Plans.
- Alcohol related Crime - continued one to one support will be offered to residents within the district and plans are to maintain the support group. Plans to link into the total place alcohol campaign and discussions about linking up with health professionals to raise awareness, are solution based initiatives to address the concern.
- Community Safety Road shows will target those locations that are identified as hotspots in relation to serious acquisitive crime.

3. Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

3.1 Total Crime Overview

Table 1: Summary of all crime categories showing yearly and 5 yearly trends, comparisons against other Leicestershire Districts and MSG's, highest crime area and communities most affected by crime.

Blaby	5 Year Trend	Yearly Trend	Achieved Targets	District Rank (117 - lowest crime)	Similar Family Rank (115 - lowest crime)	Highest Crime Area	Main Output Area Classification (OAC)
Total Recorded Crime	↓	↓	✓	4	5	Fosse Park	City Living
Violence Against The Person	↓	↓	✓	2	9	Fosse Park	City Living
AWLSI	↓	↓	✗	2	10	Braunstone Town Woodland Drive	City Living
AWI	↑	↑	✗	2	6	Fosse Park	City Living
Serious VAP	↓	↓	✓	1	14	Stoney Stanton South & Sapcote Sou	Countryside
Other VAP	↓	↓	✓	5	9	Fosse Park	Constrained by circumstance
Serious Acquisitive Crime	↓	↓	✓	7	3	Glenfield West	Typical Traits
Burglary Dwelling	↓	↓	✓	6	2	Glen Parva West	Constrained by circumstance
Robbery	↓	↓	✓	4	10	Glenfield West	Typical Traits
Vehicle Crime	↓	↓	✓	7	2	Glenfield West	Typical Traits
Theft from Vehicle	↓	↓	✓	7	2	Glenfield West	Typical Traits
Theft of Vehicle	↓	↓	✓	5	8	Enderby North & Grove Park	City Living
Other Acquisitive Crime	↓	↓	✓	3	6	Fosse Park	Typical Traits
Burglary Other	↓	↓	✓	5	7	Enderby North & Grove Park	Countryside
Theft	↓	↓	✓	3	5	Fosse Park	Prospering Suburbs
Theft of Cycle	↑	↓	✓	5	4	Fosse Park	Typical Traits
Theft from the Person	↑	↑	✗	4	5	Fosse Park	City Living
Criminal Damage	↓	↓	✓	2	8	Blaby North	City Living
Other Offences	↓	↓	✗	7	2	Fosse Park	City Living
Drugs	↓	↓	✓	2	11	Blaby North	City Living
Sexual Crime	↓	↓	✓	3	7	Braunstone Town Woodland Drive	Constrained by circumstance
Shoplifting	↓	↓	✓	6	4	Fosse Park	Prospering Suburbs
TOTAL ASB	↓	↓	✓	7	No MSG Data	Fosse Park	Blue Collar Communities
Domestic Offences	↑	↑	✗	3	No MSG Data	Narborough East	City Living
Hate Offences	↑	↓	✓	5	No MSG Data	Fosse Park	Constrained by Circumstance

During 2010/11 there were 5000 crimes recorded in Blaby equal to a rate of 55 crimes per 1000 population. This is a reduction of 620 crimes (11%) compared with the previous year. The overall trend over 5 years is downwards.

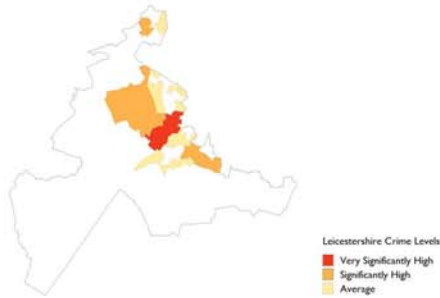
The Community Safety Partnership has average rates per 1000 population when compared to its most similar family groups (MSGs) and when compared with other districts in Leicestershire.

Analysis of communities using (OAC) classification identified City Living as the type of areas most affected by crime. Analysis also shows that more deprived communities are more likely to be a victim of crime than less deprived communities.

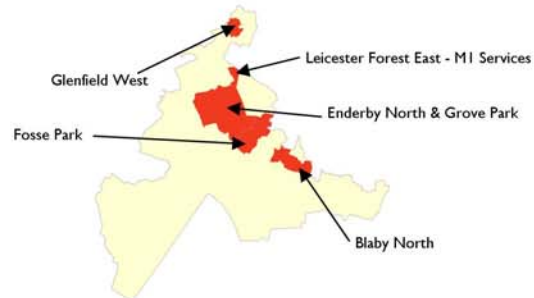
3.2 Hotspot Locations

The following maps identify areas at the Lower Super output Area (LSOA) level. An LSOA is a level of census geography that contains around 1,500 people. The maps on the right identify areas where crime or Anti-social behaviour levels are above average, very high or significantly high across Leicestershire. The top 5 highest crime areas for the district are then shown on the map to the right. Fosse Park in Blaby District is the main area which has significantly higher crime levels when compared to the whole of Leicestershire. Map 2 identifies the top 5 hotspot areas for all crime in Blaby district.

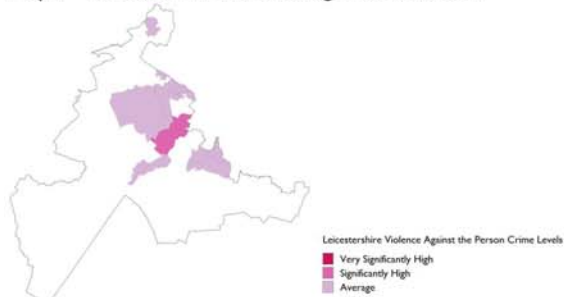
Map 1 - Leicestershire Overall Crime



Map 2 - Overall Crime - Top 5 Areas



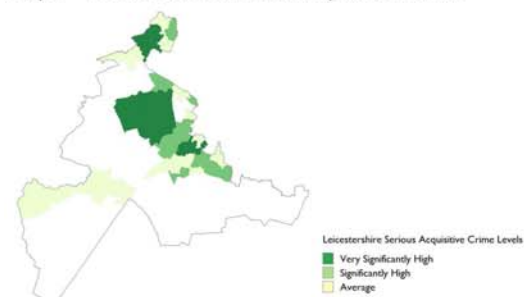
Map 3 - Leicestershire Violence Against the Person



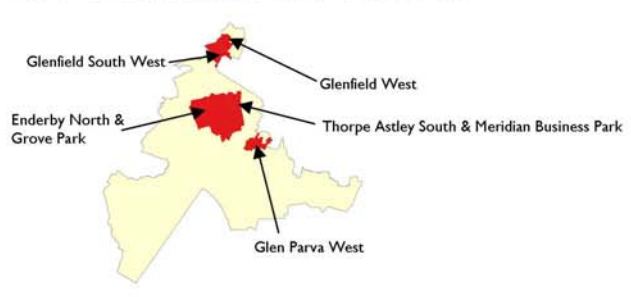
Map 4 - Violence Against the Person - Top 5 Areas



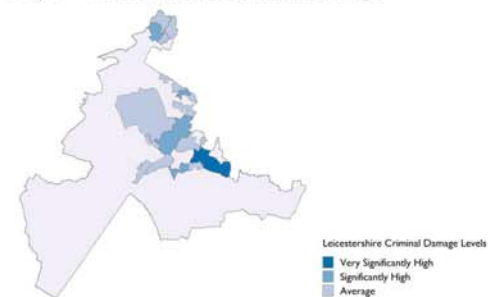
Map 5 - Leicestershire Serious Acquisitive Crime



Map 6 - Serious Acquisitive Crime - Top 5 Areas



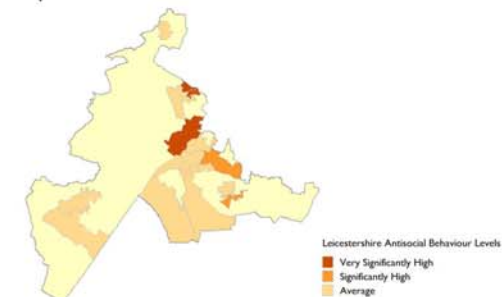
Map 7 - Leicestershire Criminal Damage



Map 8 - Criminal Damage - Top 5 Areas



Map 9 - Leicestershire Antisocial Behaviour Levels



Map 10 - Antisocial Behaviour Levels - Top 5 Areas



3.3 Violent Crime

The number of Violent Crimes reduced by 10% in 2010/11. Blaby is performing better than its Most Similar Groups (MSGs) and has the second lowest rates per 1000 population when compared to other districts in the county. Most categories of violent crime are showing a downward trend however Assault without injury is showing a gradual upward trend which mirrors the county trend. Increased by one crime. Blaby has the lowest serious violent crime rates in the county and has very low rates when compared against its MSGs. Communities classified as City Living are more likely to be affected by Violent Crime as are the most deprived communities. During 2010/11, one third of all violent crime was recorded as being domestic related and one third as Alcohol related.

3.4 Acquisitive Crime

Serious Acquisitive crime has reduced by 11%. The district has the highest crime rates in the county and is performing worse than its MSGs.

Theft from vehicle which makes up two thirds of all Serious Acquisitive crime in Blaby is the main contributing factor. Five of Blaby's top crime areas for theft from vehicle are significantly higher than the county average. These areas are shown in Map 6 and also include Fosse Park.

Other Acquisitive Crime fell by 12% and has average crime rates per 1000 population across Leicestershire and compared to its MSGs. Shoplifting at Fosse Park is the main contributory factor to other acquisitive crime. Over the last three years this has shown a decreasing trend.

3.5 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Criminal Damage & Arson

Criminal damage makes up one fifth of all Total Recorded Crime and has strong links with Anti-Social Behaviour. In 2010/11 there was a reduction of 7% in the number of criminal damage offences and a reduction of 27% in ASB. The reduction in ASB is mainly attributable to the largest category of ASB Nuisance and Rowdy behaviour which fell by 20%. Fosse Park, Winstanley Community college and Braunstone Town Henley Crescent are the main area affected by ASB. There are no major large town centres in Blaby district so less ASB is related to the night time economy in town centres.

Hoax calls fell by 43%. This large decrease however, is partly due to a large peak in incidents in 2009/10. Levels of hoax calls are below 2008/09 levels showing a more realistic decrease in levels. The number of abandoned vehicles is at an all-time low which is probably attributable to the continued rise in scrap metal prices.

There were a total of 137 deliberate fires in Blaby in 2010/11 a reduction of 20%. 52 of these fires were classified as primary fires which involve property and include buildings, caravans, motor vehicles, plant and machinery. Half of these fires were vehicle only. Blaby North is the highest crime area with 15 incidents in 2010/11.

4. Offender Management

4.1 Adult Offending & Re-Offending

A total of 229 offenders were resident in Blaby District. The adult reoffending rate in Blaby is 7%, significantly lower than the overall County reoffending rate, 14%.

Offenders in Blaby district are less likely to live in the most deprived areas of the District compared to the rest of the County. Offenders in Blaby District are less likely to live in the areas of the District with the highest rates of Crime and ASB compared to the rest of the County.

There are a significantly higher proportion of Tier 1 offenders (34%) and a significantly lower proportion of Tier 4 offenders (2%) in Blaby District compared to the County (23% and 5% respectively).

The most common offender needs identified in Blaby District are 'Thinking' (38%) and 'Relationships' (37%). However, compared to the County, offenders in Blaby District are less likely to have identified needs associated with reoffending, in particular education, relationships, drugs and accommodation needs.

Across Leicestershire, the most likely combination of needs identified in relation to reoffending¹ are, 'Attitudes', 'Education' and 'Lifestyles'. Offenders identified with these three needs are 2.5 times more likely to reoffend compared to other offenders. This equates to 27 individuals within Blaby District.

There are two Lower Super Output Areas in Blaby District with 10 or more resident offenders; Thorpe Astley South & Meridian Business Park (11) and Fosse Park (10).

¹ Using CHAID analysis, including 'Thinking', 'Education', 'Relationships', 'Lifestyles', 'Attitudes', 'Alcohol', 'Drugs' and 'Accommodation'.

4.2 Youth Offending & First Time Entrants

There were 60 first time entrants to the justice system in Blaby in 2010/11 a decrease of 5%. In Leicestershire there was an overall reduction of 17.2%.

NI43 measures the number of Young people receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody. In 2010/11 this figure was 2.9% for the whole of Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.

NI44 Measures the Ethnic composition of young people on youth justice system disposals. In 2010/11 the ethnic breakdown for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland was as shown in Table2.

Table 2: NI44 – Ethnic composition of young people on youth justice system disposals in 2010/11 for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.

Ethnic group	Number	Proportion	10 -17 Population	10 - 17 Proportion	Proportion Difference
White	647	92.0%	63067	90.6%	1.4%
Mixed	26	3.7%	1632	2.3%	1.4%
Asian or Asian British	18	2.6%	3969	5.7%	-3.1%
Black or Black British	7	1.0%	418	0.6%	0.4%
Chinese or Other Ethnic	5	0.7%	552	0.8%	-0.1%
Not known	0				
Total	703	100.0%	69638	100.0%	0.0%

5. Protecting Vulnerable People

5.1 Domestic Offences & Incidents

Increasing reporting of Domestic violence has been the focus of Community Safety Partnerships for several years. In 2010/11 Blaby saw a 14% rise in domestic incidents reported to the police and a 2% increase in offences. 73% of all domestic incidents were classified as violence against the person. 47% of domestic offences were alcohol related.

Within Leicestershire a Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) has been set up which discusses and monitors high risk domestic abuse cases. In 2010/11 there were 185 cases discussed. There were 18 repeat cases (10%) which is the figure for NI 32 – “Repeat victimisation statistics rolling for a 12 month period after a case is initially heard”.

Of the total 185 cases 50 were referred from the police while 134 were referred from Independent Domestic Violence Advisors.

5.2 Hate Crime & Incidents

In 2010/11 there were 72 hate offences and 16 hate incidents recorded in Blaby. These include racial, religious, homophobic, transphobic, age, disability and gender incidents. 63% of all these incidents were recorded as violence against the person and 25% were criminal damage offences. Although the number of hate incidents reported is relatively small there is one area identified as having more than 10 offences or incidents reported to the police, Fosse Park. This area is in the top 10 areas identified in Leicestershire as having the highest levels of hate offences and incidents.

Within Leicestershire there is an overall target to increase reporting of hate incidents by 10 per cent over a three year period, by measuring hate incidents reported to the police, schools and the Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP). This target has been achieved. A total of 1,274 incidents were reported in 2010/11 compared to the baseline of 1,088, an increase of 15%.

To gain a better understanding of the types of victims reporting hate an analysis of the demographics of victims across Leicestershire was conducted. Although the sample of victims was too small to be statistically significant the key points are as follows.

- Information is not available for a large proportion of victims.

(1 in 5 no gender recorded, 1 in 5 no age recorded, and 1 in 4 no ethnicity recorded)

- The majority of victims reporting incidents are male.
- The majority of victims reporting incidents are white.
- The majority of incidents reported are racist in nature.

This highlights the need for completeness in the recording of hate incidents to gain a better understanding and insight into the groups reporting incidents as well as increasing the number of incidents recorded.

A more complete analysis of hate incidents and the work of the Hate Incident Monitoring Project can be found in the **Hate Incident Monitoring Project Annual Report 2010/11**.

6. Substance Misuse

6.1 Alcohol Related Offending

Police figures show that 7% of Total Recorded Crime is flagged as alcohol related. Alcohol plays a large part in Violent Crime with a quarter of all violent crime in the County being alcohol related. During 2010/11 alcohol related offences rose by 17%. Fosse Park is the main hotspots for alcohol related offences however the levels are low compared to other town centres in Leicestershire. This is mainly due to Blaby district having small village and town centres with no strong night time economy. There is a strong link between domestic violence and alcohol with 37% of all Domestic VAP offences in the District being alcohol related.

6.2 Drug Related Offending

In 2010/11 there were 139 drug offences a reduction of 17% on the previous year. In 2010/11 all offences, where drugs were a factor, were flagged as drug related crime. Unlike alcohol only 1% of violent crime was flagged as drug related. Blaby North was the hotspot area for drug offences whereas Fosse Park was the main hotspot for offences that were flagged as drug related.

6.3 Perceptions of Drug and Alcohol Misuse

The public's perceptions of antisocial behaviour and drug use and dealing have been gauged through The Confidence, Reassurance, Accessibility and Visibility (CRAVE) survey, commissioned by Leicestershire Constabulary and the County Council PLACE survey.

Overall, the perception that drug use or dealing was a problem locally has reduced and is lower than that of the regional and national average. Both North West Leicestershire and Hinckley & Bosworth have the highest level of perceived drug use and dealing (although relatively low percentages recorded overall) and this is being addressed through SMST partnership working with Community Safety Teams and local treatment services in those areas. Overall, Leicestershire ranks 13 of the 27 comparable counties for this indicator and therefore the issue of perceptions for drug use and dealing are not a current priority against results for anti-social behaviour perceptions as a whole. More information around a "whole system" approach to identifying substance misuse needs and delivering services can be found in **The Leicestershire & Rutland Adult & Young Persons Evidence Base for Substance Misuse Needs Assessment** which will be available from March at <http://www.drugs.org.uk/professionals/professional-downloads>.

7. Emerging Trends & Threats

The overall trend for Community Safety in Blaby is positive with the majority of reported crimes showing a downward trend. The following points highlight the main areas of concern for the partnership performance in the future.

Domestic Burglary - There has been a recent increase in Burglary of dwellings particularly in the areas of Thorpe Astley and Braunstone Town. The partnership is promoting the use of “Smart Water” and is creating “Smart Water Zones” in these areas as well as the target hardening of property with security locks and burglar alarms.

Budget Cuts - The reduction of funding to public sector organisations and the need to identify substantial savings over the next few years is a major concern. It is inevitable that some services will cease or be reduced, structures will change and there will be greater collaboration with other service areas. Within the Community Safety Partnership Structure, we need to ensure a level of service to our communities, as well as making the most efficient use of available resources. Cross departmental, joint partnership working and linking of projects is essential.

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) – The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill will provide that in November 2012, the Leicestershire Police Authority will be replaced with a PCC. PCCs will not be a responsible authority on Community Safety Partnerships. There will however be a reciprocal duty for PCC’s and responsible authorities to co-operate with each other and have regard to each other’s priorities for the purposes of reducing crime, antisocial behaviour , reducing reoffending and reducing substance misuse. Advice from the home office suggests that CSP’s should be preparing for the arrival of PCCs. From an analysis and evidence perspective, this includes considering whether the partnership has evidence of the success and value for money demonstrated by existing programmes to support PCC investment decisions. In Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland CSPs are working together to prepare for the arrival of the PCC, and the County Safer Communities Strategy Board is currently carrying out an evaluation programme on its use of resources.

8. Conclusion

The current priorities for 2010/11 are still relevant and should continue to form the basis for Community Safety in The Borough.

Despite the often significant reductions in overall crime and anti-social behaviour, it is important to maintain the emphasis on community safety, both in terms of reducing the levels of crime & anti-social behaviour and in identifying and tackling any emerging issues.

Glossary of Terms

ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
AWI	Assault Without Injury (Common Assault)
AWLSI	Assault With Less Serious Injury
BME	Black & Minority Ethnic
CRAVE	Confidence, Reassurance, Accessibility and Visibility
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DAAT	Drug & Alcohol Action Team
HIMP	Hate Incident Monitoring Project
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
MARAC	Multi- Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MSG	Most Similar Family Groups (iQuanta groupings)
OAC	Output Area Classification
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
PSA	Partnership Strategic Assessment
SMST	Substance Misuse Strategic Team
VAP	Violence Against The Person
YOS	Youth Offending Service