



Community Safety Partnership

Performance report for 2021-2022 for Denbighshire

Overall Community Safety Plan Performance summary

Of the three main priority areas of work for the Community Safety Partnership at the end of March 2022 two were Acceptable and one Good. We have seen an increase in the numbers of youth offending, domestic abuse and stalking however we have seen reductions in all of the other types of crimes we are required to monitor when compared to the year before.

When comparing to last year one area has seen a change in status and that is due to an increase in youth offending. It has resulted in the Good status changing to Acceptable under reducing reoffending performance category.

Outcome and Performance summary

Here is a summary position for each Partnership Priority in 2021- March 2022.

Key

The Colours

Colour	Measure Status
Green	Excellent
Yellow	Good
Orange	Acceptable
Red	Priority for improvement

Priority	Activity Description	Performance Status	Project/ activity Progress
<p><u>Priority 1</u> Reduce Crime and Disorder in the area by working in partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce victim based crime • Reduce Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) • Support vulnerable people to prevent them becoming victims of crime • Reduce repeat incidents of victim based crime and Antisocial Behaviour for victims and perpetrators • Deal effectively with high risk cases of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence • Increase the confidence in reporting Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence • Increase awareness amongst young people of sexual violence • Work with the Multi-agency risk assessment Conference to manage all levels of repeat victims of domestic abuse 	<p>Acceptable</p>	<p>Good</p>
<p><u>Priority2</u> Reduce Reoffending</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult reoffending • Children and young people reoffending • Work collectively in preventing Organised crime 	<p>Acceptable</p>	<p>Good</p>
<p><u>Priority 3</u> Local and Regional priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collectively to manage antisocial behaviour and the response to antisocial behaviour locally. • Work collectively on Domestic abuse and violence locally 	<p>Good</p>	<p>Good</p>

Priority 1- Reduce Crime and Disorder in Denbighshire by working in partnership

**Priority 1 performance status-
Acceptable**

Overall the performance for the Partnership is **Acceptable** due to the continued increased numbers of victims of domestic abuse and stalking and harassment. The status in 2021-2022 remains the same as 2020-2021

Work of the partnership included;

- Raising awareness of victim based crimes via social media, attending events and making sure information is available on our websites.
- Home and business surveys carried out by crime reduction advisors and Police Community Support Officers to help prevent burglaries.
- We provided 32 homes with target hardening equipment and crime prevention advice (Locks/door bars etc.)
- We participated in the monthly Multiagency Risk Assessment Conference meeting called MARAC's online where victims of domestic abuse are discussed and where action plans for assistance are put in place.
- Denbighshire sent out numerous press releases on domestic abuse throughout the year led by our Lead Member and we changed the colour of the Pont y Ddraig Bridge to signify the support of the Local Authority on White Ribbon day on the 25th of November 2021. We also held a vigil with partners in the events arena in Rhyl to show our support to preventing violence. The International day is dedicated to raising awareness of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls. Denbighshire Leisure were very supportive of the event and enabled us to hold the vigil in the events arena free of charge.
- We promoted the 'Live fear free All Wales helpline' received 192 calls from Denbighshire residents. We have been promoting the helpline number at every opportunity.



Photograph shows the landmarks and the Vigil held 25th November 2021

Priority 1 Project/activity update – Good

We, as a Partnership continued with the work identified in our work plan for 2021-2022. We also added additional multi agency groups to look at the disruption of organised crime by utilising the individual powers in each organisation. This group helps to provide the police with a rich picture of what's going on with individuals identified as being involved with organised crime.

Regional meetings continued discussing Modern Day Slavery, County Lines, Integrated Offender Management, Domestic abuse and substance misuse via the Area Planning Board meetings. There have also been a number of regional operational groups established to help carry forward specific pieces of work. For example preventing terrorism operational group, modern day slavery operational group to name a couple.

Many things which require us to do face to face engagement we managed to do utilising online technology in the first half of the year and attending events in person once they started again later in the year.

Priority 2- Reducing reoffending

**Priority 2 performance status-
Acceptable**

Overall the performance for the partnership is **Acceptable**

Denbighshire	Fiscal Year (YTD)		Change (YTD)
	2020/21	2021/22	
Repeat offenders (Aged 18 and over)	223	189	-15.2%
Repeat offenders (Aged 17 and under)	14	27	92.9%

In 2021-2022 we have seen reductions in adult offending and an increase in youth offending hence the status being acceptable.

The work of the partnership is as follows:

- Local Integrated offender management programmes continues remotely initially and have managed adult offender and those young people transitioning between childhood and adulthood.
- We continued to promote community resolutions and restorative justice when solving minor issues, some of this work was online and the victims of crime found
- We attended the quarterly multiagency online Prevent and Deter meetings where we discuss those young people coming to the attention of the Police and Youth Justice Service so that a plan of support can be put in place to help prevent further offending.
- We have attended 5 restorative justice conferences where we have acted as the critical friend in the process.
- We are currently working in partnership to identify repeat antisocial behaviour (ASB) youth offenders as this is one of the common denominators in issues we have with ASB in communities.
- We have been working closely with the Youth Justice Service and the Youth services in Denbighshire to access some deterrents for young people and some diversionary activities when youth antisocial behaviour issues have been raised with us as a partnership as well as sharing intelligence with the police so that repeat offenders are targeted.
- We have established a dedicated forum in Rhyl to look at crime and disorder matters. This group has been established as there are a number of issues in the area that require a single coordination point.

**Priority 2 Project /activity update-
Good**

The Community Safety Partnership continued to support the multiagency attendance at the Integrated Offender Management programme and assisting with the actions of that programme. We will continue to assist with the programme, which will also address Organised Crime Groups (OCG's) and County Lines work.

We are now trying more targeted work with young offenders as the numbers are relatively small and we think we can have an impact of diverting the offending behaviour. This work will be ongoing.

Priority 3- Local Priorities

Priority 3 performance status- Good

Overall performance of the partnership is Good

In 2020-2021 we have seen a slight increase in the number of reports of antisocial behaviour and repeat victims of ASB. The work of the partnership was as follows:

- Establishing local multiagency groups in Denbighshire to manage repeat incidents of Antisocial Behaviour
- Promoting the use of community resolutions to resolve repeat incidents of antisocial behaviour
- Using, when appropriate community protection notices / Public Space Protection Orders
- Control of licenced premises and enforcement and monitoring of taxi licences undertaken by the licensing department. All of this work was slightly different when lockdown first hit.
- Operations targeting Car washes under modern day slavery action plans (this work continued in March 2022)
- Sharing information about online fraud utilising National campaigns especially given the reliance on online platforms for everything.
- Community Tension Monitoring this included hate crime monitoring with the assistance of the Regional cohesion team
- Monitoring of protests and vigils
- Applying for additional third sector funding for additional domestic abuse services locally.

Priority 3 Project/activity update- Good

We will continue to support the monthly Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) tasking meeting which monitors repeat incidents of ASB and provides a multi-agency response to issues raised as well as taking part in restorative justice conferences and promoting community resolutions and mediation.

We participated in raising awareness of Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery and County Lines locally, the direction for this work comes from the newly established Regional Vulnerability and Exploitation board and the operational subgroups.

Internally the corporate priority on domestic abuse was split into specific work areas including; Communications internally and externally, training and early intervention. This work complimented the work of the Regional Vulnerabilities Board and the regional domestic abuse team.

Additional police activity was carried out in the area of the Night Time economy specifically looking at violence against women and girls

Ask Angela schemes still running in public houses in Denbighshire (where people can ask bar staff for help if they feel threatened or uncomfortable in anyway and they will be given a way out and any assistance required)

A scheme in Conwy and Denbighshire was established where the consulting rooms in all pharmacies can be used as a safe space.

5k Welsh Government Regional Communication Grant for Domestic abuse spent on Live Fear Free merchandise – lip balms, hand sanitisers and pens –left in GP practices and pharmacies in rural/coastal areas. These were also sent to North Wales Police for distribution during Christmas campaigns in licensed premises. It is hoped that people requiring assistance will see/use the free telephone number on innocuous products. Products specially chosen as they are everyday products and easy to conceal.

Healthy relationships sessions held in schools and youth clubs. This is aimed at educating young people on what is a normal way to behave and what isn't.

£20k Revenue Funding Grants awarded for the Regional Caring Dad's perpetrator programme and also a support worker to work with mothers and children of those attending programme. There is a greater push regionally and nationally to focus some resources on perpetrators and preventing the behaviour in the first instance.

£252k Capital funding secured from the Welsh Government to provide three additional disbursed units for victims of domestic abuse with additional complex needs (particularly focussed on substance misuse and mental health issues)

Regional Team working with Local Authorities to reinvigorate Whole School Approach group to map current delivery of interventions in schools and identify gaps, focussing on the need to challenge gender norms and stereotypes and include bystander interventions. Now working with School Beat to coordinate delivery in schools.

Child workers across the region delivering 1-2-1 support in schools, other safe locations and on zoom.

Specialist Domestic Abuse/Sexual violence services are all trained in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and a number offer ACE Recovery as part of their suite of services. All specialist services in North Wales work in a trauma informed, victim focused way.

Crime Statistics from 2019-2020 and 2020 - March 2022

Denbighshire - Crime & Incident Data: 01/04/2021 – 31/03/2021	Fiscal Year (YTD)			Change (YTD)
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
All Victim Based Crime	9,338	7,791	10,645	36.6%
Violence with injury	1,257	940	1,321	40.5%
Violence without injury	2,193	1,831	2,248	22.8%
Stalking & Harassment	1,260	1,480	1,975	33.4%
Sexual offences	431	316	508	60.8%
Burglary Residential	332	232	268	15.5%
Burglary - Business and Community	168	84	114	35.7%
Robbery	61	27	45	66.7%
Vehicle Crime	400	123	182	48.0%
Theft and Handling	1,541	1,029	1,430	39.0%
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,191	852	1,111	30.4%
Domestic Crime	1,822	2,065	2,516	21.8%
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	2,385	2,498	2,707	8.4%

In 7 of the 13 crime and incident categories, 2021/22 recorded the highest Year to Date (YTD) volumes in Denbighshire. The remaining 6 categories were all at their highest level in 2019/20 and are all acquisitive crime related, plus *Criminal Damage & Arson*.

In 10 of the 13 categories, 2020/21 recorded the lowest YTD volumes. As has previously been reported, COVID-19 lockdown's this time last year significantly affected volumes of crime, in particular violence offences and acquisitive crime.

Conwy's figures- comparison for Members as previously requested

Conwy - Crime & Incident Data: 01/04/2021 – 31/03/2021	Fiscal Year (YTD)			Change (YTD)
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
All Victim Based Crime	9,076	8,675	10,748	23.9%
Violence with injury	1,224	1,054	1,337	26.9%
Violence without injury	2,074	1,865	2,325	24.7%
Stalking & Harassment	1,323	1,708	2,059	20.6%
Sexual offences	444	417	483	15.8%
Burglary Residential	373	185	238	28.6%
Burglary - Business and Community	215	92	119	29.3%
Robbery	45	30	29	-3.3%
Vehicle Crime	359	193	234	21.2%
Theft and Handling	1,511	1,092	1,280	17.2%
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,332	1,089	1,346	23.6%
Domestic Crime	1,961	2,266	2,642	16.6%
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	3,438	3,433	3,458	0.7%

In 8 of the 13 crime and incident categories, 2021/22 recorded the highest YTD volumes in Conwy. The remaining 5 categories were all at their highest level in 2019/20 and are all acquisitive crime related.

In 10 of the 13 categories, 2020/21 recorded the lowest YTD volumes. As has previously been reported, COVID-19 lockdown's this time last year significantly affected volumes of crime, in particular violence offences and acquisitive crime.

Crime Category explanation

Violence Offences

Violence against the person offences have increased fairly significantly in both Conwy and Denbighshire at the end of Q4 2021/22, compared to the same period last year.

The closure of the night-time economy due to COVID-19 restrictions for the majority of 2020/21 had a significant impact on volumes of violent crimes. We are now seeing those volumes return to pre-COVID levels since the re-opening of the hospitality sector.

Stalking & Harassment

Year-on-year increases in volume have been seen in both counties. In April 2020, the Home Office made changes to the category of Stalking & Harassment and included a number of additional offence types within it, such as coercive and controlling behaviour. This, along with more scrutiny around secondary/additional crimes has led to increases across the force, and nationally, in this category.

Sexual Offences

The Q2 2021/22 recorded level of Sexual Offences in Conwy and Denbighshire has increased in comparison to 2020/21. The data shows that during 2020/21, there was a decrease in both counties in comparison to pre and post COVID. It should also be noted that there can be significant fluctuations in reported offences from week to week, partly due to reporting of historic offences.

Acquisitive Crime

(Acquisitive crime includes the categories *Burglary Residential, Burglary Business & Community, Robbery, Vehicle Crime and Theft & Handling*)

Burglary Residential offences fell sharply in 2020/21. This was no doubt due to the huge increase in people working from home or being furloughed due to the pandemic, with dwellings rarely being left unoccupied. Whilst there has been an increase in volumes in both counties in 2021/22, they are still well below pre-COVID volumes.

The 4 other categories of acquisitive crime all saw decreases in 2020/21, again caused by the effects of COVID-19 restrictions; people weren't using their cars as often and leaving them in public places, business' and non-essential retail were closed down and restrictions on movement didn't allow for people to just be 'out and about' without valid reason. These 4 categories have all seen increases in the first half of 2021/22, however the volumes in both counties are still much lower than the pre-pandemic volumes.

Criminal Damage & Arson

Due to the nature of these offences, it is unsurprising that volumes fell in 2020/21, whilst lockdown restrictions were in place. Inevitably, as restrictions have been eased there are increases this year in both counties and volumes have returned to 2019/20 levels.

Domestic Crime

There have been year-on-year increases in the volume of domestic crimes in both counties between 2019/20 - 2021/22. Violence offences and Stalking & Harassment, recorded as domestic related, have seen sharp increases this year in both counties. This trend has been seen across the force area.

It should be noted that Domestic Crimes, recorded as additional/secondary crimes as required by the Home Office, increased by over 30% in Conwy and over 35% in Denbighshire in 2021/22.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

ASB in Denbighshire increased in 2021/22, whilst Conwy also saw a slight increase. The volumes in both counties are higher than the pre-pandemic volumes.

Nationally there has been a marked increase in youth related ASB since the end of lockdown and similar increases have been noted in the monthly ASB multi-agency tasking groups across North Wales.

Repeat victims of ASB, repeat locations where ASB is occurring and high risk vulnerable victims are referred for review to monthly multi-agency tasking groups.

Work to do in Denbighshire 2022-2023

As you can see above there is a great deal of work to be done. We will continue to work regionally to access additional funding for third sector domestic abuse services and to make sure the support services we have are as robust as they can be to cope with the increases we are seeing.

We will continue with our problem solving approach to antisocial behaviour. It would appear from the number of multiagency meetings we have arranged and participated in that this is the best way to deal with repeat incidents is to bring everyone together and update those suffering from ASB on a regular basis to ensure they are consulted and updated.

Youth ASB has been a focus over the last 12 months and will continue to be so. We are working collectively to identify those who are continuously causing issue in our communities.

We are anticipating a rise in all crime areas over the next year due to socio-economic issues communities are facing. There are discussions about preventing crimes ongoing regionally, such as campaigns about securing properties and businesses across the County.

We will continue assisting the Rural crime Team in the police with the promotion of crime prevention measures and the use of smartwater a bespoke DNA address identification liquid for high value farm items such as quad bikes and target hardening measures. As we enter a period of economic uncertainty history shows us these types of crimes will increase as these items are very valuable and sort after on the black market.