



Doncaster Council

Report

Date: 10th February 2021

To the Chair and Members of the Community and Environment (Crime and Disorder Committee) Overview and Scrutiny Panel Committee

Report Title: Crime & Community Safety Performance Report

Relevant Member(s)	Cabinet	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Chris McGuinness		All	No

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the high-level information regarding the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in Doncaster. It is based upon the previous 12-month period and shows that Doncaster has seen an overall decrease in reported crime during 2020.
- 1.2 However, this needs to be related to the Covid emergency and associated restrictions. Reported crime increased in both January and February 2020 compared to the same months in the previous year. Since March 2020 when the UK was placed under national lockdown, most months have noted a decrease in crime compared to 2019, with the highest decrease -19.5% noted in April. The exception to this decrease was in September, which saw a 5.9% increase, in this month the district was not under lockdown or tier restrictions.
- 1.3 It is no surprise that violent crime in Doncaster's night time economy decreased markedly during 2020. However, there was a corresponding increase in Domestic Abuse and also in the demand for alcohol treatment. This changing pattern relates to the new pressures that Doncaster people have faced over the past year. This change is also exemplified by the increase in anti-social behaviour, often related to lockdown restrictions.
- 1.4 2020 has been a unique year and Doncaster's patterns of crime and anti-social behaviour bear this out. This report contains key statistics and also highlights the commitment from the Borough's Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership to address both new and underlying issues.

2. EXEMPT REPORT

2.1 This is not an exempt report.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Crime and Disorder Committee Members are asked to comment on and note the information contained within the report and presentation (Appendix A), which provides an update on the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) priorities and the impact of the covid-19 pandemic.

4. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4.1 The level of crime and anti-social behaviour incidents will impact on residents' feeling of safety and their quality of life. This report provides information on these levels and the current trends in Doncaster.

5. BACKGROUND

5.1 The Community and Environment Crime and Disorder Committee receive regular performance updates relating to crime and disorder.

5.2 The current picture indicates a slight overall decrease in reported crime and increased levels of reported anti-social behaviour.

5.3 It is a statutory requirement for partners to tackle crime and disorder and for the Community and Environment (Crime and Disorder) Committee to hold the partnership to account.

6. OVERALL CRIME

6.1 The table below highlights the changes in overall crime for Doncaster and provides a comparison with the average increase in South Yorkshire. It highlights that Doncaster has seen a decrease alongside the Force, when comparing figures to the same period last year.

ALL CRIME	Jan 2019 –Dec 2019	Jan 2020 – Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change
Doncaster	37,911	36,185	-4.5%
SYP Forcwide Crime	147,206	136,183	-7.4%
Doncaster Crime as a % of Force	26%	27%	

7. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

7.1 2020 saw an increase in SYP Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Incidents. Doncaster increased by 10.9%, which was a slightly lower rate than the 12.5% increase across the whole South Yorkshire geography. Between January to March 2020 ASB Incidents decreased by 21%. Since April 2020 incidents have increased compared to 2019 monthly figures. Again there was a broad correlation with Covid restrictions.

7.2 The highest increase of 49% was noted in May 2020 compared to May 2019. The ASB categories that saw the highest increase were off road bikes (212%),

Nuisance Neighbour (180%), and Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour (60%). The increase in these incidents most likely reflects that in May 2020 the district was still under lockdown with people restricted within their locality.

- 7.3 Similarly the ASB categories that saw the highest increase in incidents overall in 2020 were off road bikes (100%), Nuisance Neighbour (66%), and Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour (8.1%). Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour incidents accounted for 40% of all ASB Incidents in 2020.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change
Doncaster ASB	8,065	8,945	10.9%
SYP Force wide ASB	32,902	37,030	12.5%
Doncaster ASB as % of Force	24.5%	24.1%	

- 7.4 Fly tipping remains a national problem and rates as the second highest category of all reported ASB incidents in Doncaster. The number of fly tipping incidents each month has varied considerably since March 2020 with some months seeing more incidents and some seeing less. There is no clear trend in terms of the number of incidents reported, however in overall terms there has been an increase in the amount of waste that has been illegally fly tipped.

- 7.5 The Theme Group is concerned that the national pandemic may create an acceptance of the increase in ASB incidents and as a group are keen to address this rather than accept it as inevitable. All partners have agreed to the ASB youth action plan, which looks at a problem-solving approach, set in the context of a community in lockdown. A solutions-based approach has been adopted for schools which, anticipating school closures, is designed to be delivered on line.

- 7.6 Whilst off road bikes remains the second most reported incident by communities, there are embedded processes via the off-road bike team that regularly yield positive results and this remains an area of close scrutiny.

8. PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

- 8.1 South Yorkshire Police reports of Domestic Abuse saw an increase of 16.3% in Doncaster compared to 2019, with increases both in recorded crime and in DA non-crime. The launch of the SYP Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) unit in March, prompted an increase in the number of orders being applied for by the Force. In 2020 SYP ran the #CutTheStrings campaign and launched the online portal to encourage and reduce the barriers of reporting Domestic Abuse. Last year the Police in Doncaster applied for 210 DVPOs and 227 Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN), which are the highest numbers in South Yorkshire, based upon population. Violence against the person offences that were tagged with a domestic violence indicator saw an increase by 10.5% compared to 2019. Violence against person offences saw an increase of 4.3% compared to 2019, with increases of both stalking and harassment offences and violence without injury.

	Doncaster	SYP Force
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PRIORITY THREE - DOMESTIC ABUSE	Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change	Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change
Total Domestic Abuse	8,468	9,852	16.3%	34,256	36,592	6.8%
Domestic Abuse – Crime	5,354	6,117	14.2%	20,936	22,467	7.3%
Domestic Abuse - Non-Crime	3,114	3,735	19.9%	13,320	14,125	6%

8.2 Doncaster’s IDVA service saw an increase of 34.1% in referrals compared to 2019. A dashboard has been developed to map DA across Doncaster and highlight incidents linked to serial perpetrators and victims. The dashboard provides information on the current numbers of referrals received by the DA service. It will be extended to include wider partner data. Using additional funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and our local COVID Contain support fund we have significantly increased our resources in the DA team. We will be temporarily recruiting an additional three IDVAs, two Domestic Abuse Caseworkers (DAC) and supplementary administrative support. The total value of this provision is in the region of £200k for the next 12 months.

8.3 In conjunction with SYP, the partnership is developing a new process to manage serial DA perpetrators. A new Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination meeting (MATAC) will become the forum to manage these types of cases. The process is designed to intervene pre-crisis and prevent the escalation of incidents of Domestic Abuse. The new performance dashboard will identify the cohort of perpetrators, who will be managed through the new process with a range of interventions.

8.4 The Governance structures have been strengthened with the reintroduction of the Domestic Abuse Chief Officer Strategic Board, which will lead and co-ordinate work across the Partnership on behalf of the SSDP. The board have already secured temporary funding for a DA Strategic lead, who will work with partners in developing a new Domestic Abuse Strategy. Other priorities include developing a whole system data and intelligence dashboard, revised problem profile and mapping the current DA operating model, which will inform our future interventions and commissioning approach.

9. SEXUAL ABUSE

9.1 Doncaster’s total police reported Sexual Abuse saw a decrease of 2.4% compared to 2019, with a 10.5% decrease noted for Rape.

PRIORITY THREE – SEXUAL ABUSE	Doncaster			SYP (Force)		
	Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change	Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020	2019/20 % Change
Total Sexual Abuse	972	949	-2.4%	4333	4032	-6.9%
Rape	304	272	-10.5%	1583	1391	-12.1%
Other Sexual Offences	668	677	1.4%	2750	2641	-4%

10. TACKLING SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

10.1 Doncaster currently has 16 Active mapped Organised Crime Groups (OCGs). The majority of criminality associated with OCGs is drug related.

- 10.2 Doncaster OCG's undergo regular review and scoring. The Risk Score presents the level of risk posed. This method of scoring provides a structure in which to prioritise activity based on threat, risk and harm. The highest scoring attracting the highest level of resources.
- 10.3 A bronze, silver and gold structure continues to drive our OCG activity. This captures work undertaken under Pursue, Prepare, Protect and Prevent and supports joint working between police and partners to disrupt OCG activity.
- 10.4 Operations against OCGs have continued throughout the COVID restrictions.

11. REDUCING SUBSTANCE AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

- 11.1 The Substance Misuse Theme Group works to reduce the crime and health harms associated with drug and alcohol misuse in accordance with the Doncaster substance misuse strategy. It is well attended by partner organisations who share good practice and jointly remove barriers to specific delivery issues.
- 11.2 Substance misuse treatment services have remained operational during the covid 19 period, with virtual methods being adopted for one to one and group work, however face to face work is being delivered in a covid secure way where clinically indicated. The inpatient detoxification facility at New Beginnings remains open. During the early stages of the Covid emergency and the first lockdown, Doncaster saw a growth in the use of nitrous oxide. Working with Communities Area Teams and key partners, the theme group responded to this new and emerging issue. Using a communications and education campaign, coupled with additional patrols in key locations, this has led to a dramatic reduction in reports and discarded nitrous oxide canisters.
- 11.3 At the current time, approximately 50% of all opiate users in Doncaster are in structured specialist treatment, with the remainder able to access needle exchange through a network of pharmacy exchanges and the specialist needle exchange at Aspire on Thorne Road.
- 11.4 However, it is estimated that there is a 90% unmet need for alcohol treatment, with evidence that referrals to alcohol treatment have increased by 100% during the covid 19 period. An Alcohol Alliance has been formed which meets monthly to address the unmet need and reducing alcohol related harm, and 2 additional alcohol workers have been recruited to address the increased demand.

12. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 12.1 There are no specific options to consider, the report is for update and discussion.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

- 13.1 The report is for update and discussion.

14. IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

	Outcomes	Implications
	Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives	A successful Partnership to tackle Crime and Disorder issues can have a positive impact on attracting new business to

	<p>them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>Doncaster and enables existing businesses to operate effectively and flourish.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>Community Safety and crime levels can impact all residents. Delivery of high-quality community safety interventions based on good quality data can improve people's feeling of safety and the community in which they live.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	<p>It is important that children feel safe in our communities and the school environment, enabling them to reach their full potential throughout their learning experience.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	<p>The Stronger families programme and continued work to tackle Domestic Abuse provides support to families in a range of ways to enable them to thrive.</p>
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible 	<p>Services provided through community safety are reviewed to ensure they are</p>

	<p>workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>accessible and are focused on the needs and aspirations of residents. This can range from reporting; hate crime anti-social behaviour through to domestic and sexual abuse.</p> <p>We work closely with our partners to ensure effective leadership and governance through partnership alliances such as the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership and other Safeguarding boards.</p>
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15. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

15.1 Robust performance management arrangements ensure that priorities are achieved, and good quality services are delivered to the residents of Doncaster.

16. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [SRF Date 18/01/21]

16.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. More detailed advice can be provided on any matters raised by the Committee as required.

17. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [CS Date 19/01/21]

17.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

18. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [SB Date 20/01/21]

18.1 There are no direct HR implications in relation to this report.

19. TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [PW Date...19/01/21]

19.1 There are no technology implications in relation to this report.

20. HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [HC..Date 19/01/21]

20.1 The work of the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Theme groups has a positive effect on the health of the Doncaster population by mitigating some of the effects of crime.

21. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials: BH Date:22/01/21]

21.1 There is a wide range of information concerning the victims and perpetrators of crimes in Doncaster that underpin the data presented in this report. Specific groups and characteristics are more prevalent in specific crime types, examples include more women being victims of domestic abuse than men and significantly more men are accused of a crime than women.

21.2 This information is mainly held on age, gender and ethnicity and although some of this information is sensitive in nature, the detail can be used to support decisions and the impact they may have on particular groups.

22. CONSULTATION

22.1 This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement		Crime & Disorder	x
Human Resources		Human Rights & Equalities	
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	
ICT		Capital Programme	

23. BACKGROUND PAPERS

23.1 Presentation from Safer Communities and South Yorkshire Police.

23.2 Glossary of acronyms and abbreviations.

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