

# West Lothian Community Safety Strategic Plan 2015/2018

**DRAFT**

## Building Strong Communities and Protecting People at Risk



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## 1 Foreword

### **Welcome to the West Lothian Community Safety Strategic Plan**

Community Safety has a significant impact on the residents of West Lothian and their quality of life. The West Lothian Community Safety Partnership is focused on protecting the wellbeing of people living in West Lothian and helping them to feel safe in strong, inclusive communities.

The purpose of this strategic plan is to outline the priorities for Community Safety in West Lothian. It details how the Community Safety Partnership will share intelligence and resources to address those priority areas and the action that partners will independently and collaboratively take to affect positive change in each priority and contribute to making West Lothian a better place to live.

Community Safety in Scotland is defined as:

*“An endeavour to ensure that people are safe from crime, disorder, danger and free from injury and harm, communities are socially cohesive and tolerant; and are resilient and able to supply individuals to take responsibility for their well-being”.*

The West Lothian Community Safety Partnership is dedicated to this vision and has established strong and effective joint working arrangements that are already addressing and preventing crime. Each partner is committed to these priorities and will continue to work to reduce antisocial behaviour, crime, and negative trends within our communities in West Lothian, making it a safe place to stay, work in and visit.

The Community Safety Partnership comprises of West Lothian Council, Scottish Police Service, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Lothian, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, Scottish Prison Service, West Lothian College, Criminal Justice Authority, and representatives from voluntary (third sector) organisations.

West Lothian Community Safety Partnership also contributes to the benefits of the wider Community Planning process especially where there is a focus on the needs of vulnerable or disadvantaged people. In developing this Community Safety Priority Plan through a community safety strategic assessment process, the Partnership can continue to focus on achieving the objectives set in the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA).

## Community Safety Priorities

The Community Safety Partnership has identified and agreed six key priorities that we believe represent the challenges that we, as a partnership, and the community must overcome together to improve community safety. The community safety priorities for West Lothian are:

- Substance Misuse
- Home, Fire and Road Safety
- Antisocial Behaviour and Hate crime
- Violence
- Serious and Organised crime and Counter Terrorism
- Financial Harm

These priorities form a framework around which the Community Safety partner agencies can align our resources and take action to make a positive difference in West Lothian.

Together the Community Safety Partnership are moving forward under this Strategic Plan with innovation and flexibility, delivering high performing, integrated services that are having a measurable impact on community safety and the wellbeing of the people of West Lothian.

We are confident that our dedicated services, and their willingness to lead and deliver change, and our history of effective partnership working are a strong foundation upon which to take on the many challenges and opportunities associated with Community Safety in the years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

We believe that by embracing change and a shared determination to maintain our effective service delivery will ensure that residents continue to receive a first class service and we can continue to develop positive citizenship and resilience within the communities of West Lothian.

[Insert photo]

*Graham Hope*  
Chief Executive

**West Lothian Council**

[Insert photo]

John McGinty  
Elected Member

**Leader of the Council**  
**West Lothian Council**

### 2 Community Safety Partnership

The West Lothian Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is dedicated to reducing antisocial behaviour, crime, and negative trends within our communities across West Lothian making it a safe place to stay, work in and visit. The services delivered in West Lothian are based on a shared set of priorities and a strong history of effective partnership working.

The progress and performance is monitored through integrated governance arrangements that sit within the Community Planning Partnership structure. Performance is routinely reported and scrutinised using shared performance and management systems. The monthly Tactical and Co-ordinating meetings report to the quarterly Community Safety Strategic Steering Group who monitors performance and outcomes. The community safety partners ensure that the operational delivery is meeting the needs of the communities and that any emerging issues are being monitored adequately and interventions are put in place to mitigate any threats to community safety whilst providing community reassurance. This strategic group report quarterly to the Community Safety Board (CSB) who ensure that the Partnership is meeting the agreed common aim. The CSB monitor the outcomes achieved and that they meet the performance indicators governed by the Community Planning Partnership which are included within the West Lothian Single Outcome Agreement.

The Community Safety Strategic Plan will be monitored within the West Lothian CSP governance arrangements to ensure that priorities are delivered. There is also strong alignment between local service/management/operational plans that help demonstrate the relative contribution and impact of each partner agency.

#### 2.1 Community Safety Unit

The Community Safety Unit has now been running for almost five years and acts as a conduit for sharing information and tasking resources from all partner agencies.

This unit based in West Lothian Civic Centre houses both police and council staff including crime prevention officers, Safer Neighbourhood Officers and also provides analytical, policy and performance support to the partnership.

This has enhanced partnership working at a strategic, tactical and operational level, enabling partnership working and community liaison on a daily basis and assisted in identifying outcomes for safer communities in West Lothian.

## 2.2 Governance Chart

The diagram below details the current Governance for West Lothian Community Safety Partners. It highlights the flow from the operational work that is carried out within the Community Safety Unit which is stringently viewed by the Community Safety Strategic Steering Group. The diagram shows the progression of the governance arrangements via the Community Safety Board to ensure the Community Safety Partners reach the collective aims in the single outcome agreement reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board (CPPB).

### Community Planning Partnership Board



On 8 May 2015, the Scottish Government introduced the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill creating a new model for Community Justice in Scotland. This will result in legislative responsibility for the local planning and delivery of Community Justice Services moving from Community Justice Authorities (CJAs) to Community Planning Partnerships.

A new national body, Community Justice Scotland, will be established during the latter part of 2016/17. Its role will include:

- providing leadership, promoting innovation and providing improvement support where it is required
- creating a focus on collaboration – including the opportunity to commission, manage or deliver services nationally where appropriate.

In West Lothian, the Community Planning Partnership will oversee the development of a new model, taking on shadow responsibilities for its management from 1 April 2016, and full responsibility from 1 April 2017.

The Scottish Government will work closely with scrutiny and inspection bodies, including Audit Scotland and the Care Inspectorate, to develop an approach to scrutiny and inspection for community justice that is appropriate to the range of governance and operational models that is likely to emerge nationally.

Scottish Government will work with key partners and in consultation with stakeholders to develop a national strategy. The long-term outcomes for this strategy relate to:

- reducing reoffending;
- increasing positive citizenship;
- increasing public safety;
- increasing public reassurance;
- reducing costs; and
- reducing stigma

A local Partnership meeting took place in September 2015 to develop themes that were identified as important in delivering joined-up Community Justices Services.

The main aim that was agreed was to:

***Reduce crime and improve community safety – including continued partnership work in community safety and the delivery of reducing reoffending plans.***

Through partnership working, re-offending will be reduced, and, through earlier intervention, the risk of young people engaging in crime will be reduced. This will improve outcomes for people who offend, helping them to take on fuller responsibility as members of our communities, increase the confidence of victims and the community in the services provided and make West Lothian communities safer and better places in which to live.

This echoes the approaches of the Scottish Government listed above and the over-arching theme for West Lothian is a close integration of the two strands of Community Justice and Community Safety into Safer Communities strategic planning.

Processes for these changes are now beginning to take place and a draft re-design is being proposed which will require to be monitored to ensure that organisations are involved in a timely fashion and for the Implementation Group to ensure that this process is robust and effective.

The proposed new Governance structure that may take place is outlined below and will include community justice, community safety and how these link into the Community Planning. The exact details of governance structure for particular organisations from the statutory, non-statutory and community sectors are yet to be confirmed.

## Proposed new Governance structure for Safer Communities



### 3 Context

West Lothian has a population of about 175,118, accounting for 3.3% of Scotland's total population, and is one of the fastest growing and youngest in the country, with an average age of 39 compared with 41 across Scotland. The population for West Lothian is projected to increase to 196,000 by 2024, which means it is anticipated to be the fastest growing area in Scotland.

In line with national trends, there is a growing older population

- population growth in people of pensionable age is anticipated to be high in West Lothian (52%).
- The predicted proportion of over 65s in West Lothian in 2033, at 22%, will remain below the Scottish average of 25%.
- Despite this, from 2008-2033, the number of 65-74 year olds will increase by 80% in West Lothian, compared to 48% in Scotland.
- The number of 75+ year olds will increase by 151% in West Lothian compared to 84% in Scotland.

In the past 5 years, Community Safety in West Lothian has seen a number of successes with decreases in several areas. Figures for the financial year 2014/15 show crimes of violence are down by 18.8% compared to the average total for the past 5 years. Antisocial crimes have seen even greater success with vandalisms reduced by 34% and crimes of malicious fireraising reduced by 51.5%. Youth related disorder calls have also seen a 41% decrease compared to the five-year average and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service saw a drop in deliberate secondary fires of 33% over the same period.



The Community Safety Strategic Plan has been developed to support the delivery of national and local priorities and outcomes for West Lothian. The lifetime of the strategic plan will coincide with a period of change and the key factors that have shaped and influenced the development of the strategic plan are detailed in the following sections.

## 3.1 Community Planning Partnership and Single Outcome Agreement

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is an integral part of the West Lothian Community Planning Partnership (CPP), which was set up to identify, assess and prioritise what is important for West Lothian's communities.

The [Single Outcome Agreement](#) (SOA) 2013/23 \*<sup>1</sup> is the ten-year plan for West Lothian and this highlights the significant contributory impact that prioritising community safety can have on other outcomes for health, employability and the life outcomes for young and vulnerable people in our community. The relevant theme from the SOA is 'Tackling Inequality'.

The Community Safety priorities are aligned to the strategic outcomes for West Lothian. In Partnership, we will work together to make sure that West Lothian is the best place possible to live, work and do business.

The national and local priorities that are impacted by community safety are outlined in figures 1 and 2:

National and Local Priorities		
National Policy Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safer and stronger communities, and reducing offending</li> </ul>	
National Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities</li> <li>People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life chances (Outcome numbers: 9, 11, 13, 8)</li> </ul>	
West Lothian Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building Strong Communities</li> <li>Protecting People at risk</li> </ul>	

Figure 1: National and West Lothian Priorities

<sup>1</sup> ([http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/3334/Single-Outcome-Agreement-Executive-summary/pdf/Single\\_Outcome\\_Agreement\\_2013-2023\\_Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/3334/Single-Outcome-Agreement-Executive-summary/pdf/Single_Outcome_Agreement_2013-2023_Executive_Summary.pdf))

Figure 2 illustrates where the Community Safety Strategic Plan will *directly* contribute to the SOA.

Single Outcome Agreement	Community Safety Strategic Plan
Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed	✓
We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities	✓
Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business	✓
We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities	✓
People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life chances	✓
Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life	✓
We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities	✓
We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment	✓

*Figure 2: SOA and the Community Safety Priorities*

The Community Safety Strategic Plan is part of a wider planning and service development approach in the CSP and the CPP. Other joint plans and strategies that are influencing, or influenced by, the Community Safety Strategic Plan includes:

- West Lothian Local Policing Plan
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Plan for West Lothian
- Road Safety Plan for West Lothian 2012/15 <sup>\*2</sup>
- Local Housing Strategy 2012/17
- Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2013/18
- Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) Delivery Plan 2015/18
- Equally Safe – National Strategy for Prevention and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls
- Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2013/18
- Corporate Equality Outcomes 2013/17

<sup>2</sup> New Plan will be developed in 2016

## Legislation and National Policy

The work carried out by the Community Safety Partners is also bound by key legislation and national policy, which includes:

- Equality Act 2010
- Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003
- Antisocial Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- Housing Act 1988, 1996 and 2004
- Mental Health (Care & Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003
- Police (Scotland) Act 1967
- Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012
- The Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014
- Fire Services Act 1947 and the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004

## 3.2 Community Safety Strategic Assessment

In 2014, the Community Safety Partnership undertook to commit to a full Community Safety Strategic Assessment for 2015/18. The aim of this Strategic Assessment was to identify, assess and prioritise aspects of Community Safety and key parts of organisational business that impact upon services delivered by all partners.

This was the fourth assessment the partnership has undertaken and it was used to develop the Community Safety priorities that are contained within this Strategic Plan. The assessment has been a critical tool for the partnership as it has helped achieved positive improvement in Community Safety over the years by focusing partners on the issues that matter. This plan is rooted in the work of the strategic assessment and we strongly believe this intelligence-based approach will help move forward Community Safety and the SOA for the wider community in the next three years.

## 3.3 Drivers for Continuous Improvement in Community Safety

Public services have a duty to work together to deliver efficient, fair and high performing services and our Community Safety Partnership must continue to work together to modernise our ways of working.

The Community Safety Partnership, which has a long history and proven track record of successful partnership working, will deliver this plan in a period of further challenge and change.

## Community Safety Strategic Plan | 2015/18

The opportunities and challenges for change and continuous improvement to deliver best practise include:

- Continuing to develop new community safety partnership working arrangements with our partners to make our communities safer for all residents of West Lothian.
- Ensuring that we meet the needs within the communities with the required response that provides the optimal service, which is both timely and effective whilst reducing duplication of resources and cost.
- Improving on our key performance for performance reporting purposes both individually and collectively.
- Continuing to be aware of existing demands on services and how these are expected to rise in relation to having the fastest growing young population nationally and similarly, to cope with the demands placed on services by having a higher than average older population.
- Evaluating each service to look at service redesign to accommodate changes required within the service and prioritising on the demand times from members of the public ensuring continued service and increased resources when it is required.
- Being aware of additional demands placed on services with the development of 26 separate new housing developments planned in the near future across West Lothian.

Improving our customer satisfaction results and feedback response levels through a comprehensive review of surveys and consultations across the services to ensure we are asking our customers the right questions at the right time, and using their responses to drive forward improvements.

## 4 Ownership and Scope of the Strategic Plan

The Community Safety Strategic Plan encompasses the shared aims and priorities of the Community Safety Partnership for West Lothian. It applies to each partner agency and will be monitored and progressed through the existing governance structure for Community Safety.

Each Partner will have responsibility for the delivery of defined activities, actions and performance targets – as specified in the plan. They will also ensure that they align the resources required to deliver the plan and ensure that it continues to support other priorities and local and national activities within their own organisation.

A clear performance monitoring process will accompany the plan to support progress and help partners to focus on the priorities activities and actions and identify where targeted interventions are required.

### 4.1 Community Safety Performance 2015/18

The performance and actions will be monitored by the Community Safety Strategic Group which is governed by the Community Safety Board. National and local updates and progress in the Community Safety priorities for West Lothian are also scrutinised by Elected Members through the Services for the Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel (PDSP) by providing both national and local updates.

Governance		
Group	Governance/Scrutiny Role	Reporting Frequency
<b>Community Safety Joint Daily Tasking Group</b>	Group reports to the Community Safety Monthly Joint Tasking Group	Group meets daily
<b>Community Safety Monthly Joint Tasking Group</b>	Group reports to the Community Safety Strategic Steering Group	Group meets monthly
<b>Community Safety Strategic Steering Group</b>	Group reports to the Community Safety Board	Group meets quarterly

Governance		
Group	Governance/Scrutiny Role	Reporting Frequency
<b>Community Safety Board</b>	Community Safety Board Governs 'Community Safety'	Community Safety Board meets quarterly
<b>Community Planning Partnership Board</b>	Community Planning Partnership Board Governs Community Safety SOA Indicators	Community Planning Partnership Board meets quarterly
<b>Services for the Community PDSP</b>	Community Safety Issues are reported to the Community PDSP	Quarterly

*Figure 3: Governance*

Shared aims and agreed information sharing protocols amongst the partnership highlight the necessity for effective information sharing and close joint working in terms of keeping the public safe from antisocial behaviour and crime. It also assists with improving efficiency and effectiveness and ensuring that policies and practices across the Community Safety Partnership impact positively in communities promoting safety and equality for all. As we continue to work closely with key partners to share information it will enable us to identify those most at risk and to intervene to prevent harm. We have developed referral pathways between West Lothian Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Lothian and Voluntary Organisations to ensure that we target our resources effectively and deliver them efficiently.

## 5 Strategic Priorities

The West Lothian Community Safety Partnership is dedicated to reducing antisocial behaviour, crime, and negative trends within our communities across West Lothian making it a safe place to stay, work in and visit. Focusing on causal factors will allow the Community Safety Partnership to deliver the prevention vision for community safety in West Lothian.

In summary the strategic priorities are:

- Substance Misuse
- Home, Fire and Road Safety
- Antisocial Behaviour and Hate crime
- Violence
- Serious and Organised crime and Counter Terrorism
- Financial Harm

Six priority leads have been identified from the Community Safety Partnership to take each priority forward.

## 5.1 Cross-Cutting Issues

There are a number of cross cutting themes which relate to the 6 strategic priorities and these are listed below with no priority ranking;

Cross-Cutting Themes						
	Reducing Reoffending	Engagement and Intervention with Youths	Inequality and Deprivation	Alcohol Misuse	Identifying Vulnerable Victims	Community Wellbeing
Priorities	Substance Misuse					
	Home, Fire and Road Safety					
	Antisocial Behaviour					
	Violence					
	Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism					
	Financial Harm					

Figure 4: Cross-Cutting Themes in Community Safety

Through prevention and early intervention strategies and protocols, which are essential to the Partnership in West Lothian, we can ensure that people in need get the right resources at the earliest opportunity.

Focusing on these key themes, and causal factors will allow the community safety partnership to deliver preventative measures to increase community safety in West Lothian.

### Reducing Reoffending

People in our communities have the right to live their lives free from crime, disorder and danger. Every crime has a victim, and most often more than one, depending on whether an offence directly affects an individual or a group, or causes nuisance or harm to the wider community. Offending may impact on a range of other individuals, such as families and neighbours of offenders. Reducing re-offending is key to breaking the re-offending cycle which coincides with addressing disadvantage and inequality in our community and it will lead to safer communities and fewer victims. The CSP believes that through joint working we can reduce re-offending through earlier intervention and reduce the risk of young people engaging in crime. The

consequences of this will improve outcomes for people who offend, help them to take on responsibility in our communities, and make our communities safer and better places to live.

### Engagement and Intervention with Youths

The CSP in West Lothian recognise that early and effective intervention (EEI) with young people is paramount in offering support to children/young people and their families which helps them to identify problems and find solutions/strategies in order to promote the positive educational, health, social and emotional development. This support is offered both in and out of school settings. Referrals from Partnership agencies can refer a young person who has come to their attention and through the rigorous EEI process, ensure that appropriate services/work is then chosen that will provide the most support to that young person and their family. Group work programmes for children/young people offer opportunities to discuss common issues or experiences in a safe and supportive setting and find ways of dealing with them. Areas covered can include: improving self-confidence and self-esteem, anger management, peer support, behaviour management, decision making skills, engaging in negative /risk taking behaviour, attendance and transition to high school. Interventions that are put in place must be early enough to optimise the opportunity for the young person to fully engage to gain the most success. Other positive methods of interventions include engaging with young people in a positive way in a variety of settings and often it is merely where they are, in their area, in their chosen activity.

### Inequality and Deprivation

Almost 9,000 people in West Lothian, live within 15% of the most deprived areas in Scotland. Acknowledging this, the Community Planning Partnership continues to develop and deliver a clear and co-ordinated approach to tackling inequalities. Each partner organisation currently has its own set of equality outcomes, and by working together where appropriate by sharing information they manage to avoid duplication of effort. The West Lothian Councils Anti-Poverty Strategy and Action Plan – Better Off – outlines the plans for collectively addressing the causal and determining factors that make poverty such a destructive force. Together the CSP will tackle inequality in our communities and make sure that West Lothian is the best possible place to live, work and do business in.

### Alcohol Misuse

Problematic alcohol use is one of the greatest causes of health and social harm in West Lothian, and the CSP continues to address alcohol consumption across all sectors of West Lothian by early identification and intervention with those beginning to develop problems and who are most at risk. Often, it is the most deprived communities in particular that are affected by



criminal and antisocial behaviour and there can be at times a correlation between alcohol misuse and antisocial behaviour. By working together, Community Safety Partners carry out assessment of needs where chronic alcohol use has resulted in difficulties with day to day living skills or self-neglect, posing significant risk of hospitalisation or homelessness and may have poor physical/mental health. Work focuses on providing a care plan to intervene early enough before capacity, mental and physical health deteriorates beyond reparation. By intervening, it is hoped that people can gain the care they need and families and communities are more supported and less affected by the effects alcohol misuse can bring.

### **Identifying Vulnerable Victims**

Managing and supporting the complex needs of the most vulnerable persons within our community is a multi-agency task, and often impacts upon community safety resources; whether this is vulnerability by being a missing person or through substance misuse, mental health or self-harm issues. Some vulnerable individuals are at a higher risk of becoming repeat victims of crime or accidents. Providing protection to these vulnerable people is a key responsibility of the partnership.

### **Community Wellbeing**

A cohesive society requires engagement from all partner agencies to build up public trust and confidence in the partnership. Understanding community needs and concerns is paramount to a strong partnership. The partnership will continue to strengthen closer community engagement links with the locality planning arrangements to further develop the two-way flow of information.

### Priority 1: Substance Misuse

**Aim:** to improve health and reduce the community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse.

#### Purpose

The Community Safety Partnership recognises the impact of alcohol and drugs on individuals and communities and is taking a multi-agency approach to tackling substance misuse. This includes enforcement tactics by police, health and treatment services to tackle substance misuse and education and diversionary activity in the community to prevent the consequences of alcohol and drugs.

Problematic alcohol use is one of the greatest causes of health and social harm in West Lothian and has therefore been chosen as a key aggravator of crime as it is present in at least 10% of all crimes in West Lothian, something which rises to one in every six violent crimes. In addition, substance misuse often contributes to individuals' chaotic lifestyles and;

- increases the risk of individual accidental harm and injury as well as crimes of disorder
- an estimated 5% of the population in West Lothian are physically or psychologically dependent on alcohol.

#### Alcohol

Alcohol is widely used for socialising and relaxing and in moderation presents few problems to individuals or wider community. However, it is estimated that 5% of the population in West Lothian are physically or psychologically dependent on alcohol. Alcohol-related hospital discharge rates are also higher in West Lothian than wider Scotland.

#### Drug misuse

Drug misuse is linked to physical and mental health problems and a wide range of social problems including stigma and isolation. Over a third of clients assessed for drug treatment services in West Lothian have dependent children under 16 years. Their wellbeing and safety are a concern as well as learning behavioural patterns from addicted parents and becoming at risk of falling into the family cycle of addiction.

Often, it is the most deprived communities in particular that are affected by criminal and antisocial behaviour. Illicit drugs have direct links to serious and organised crime groups as well as acquisitive crime committed by drug users. The Strategic Plan is cognisant of the Alcohol Drug Partnership (ADP) Delivery Plan 2015-18 and follows the four work streams of tackling

substances misuse in West Lothian. There is prevention work and early intervention activities, sustaining long terms recovery for those who have experienced substance misuse problems and community safety and diversionary activities aimed at the whole community.

### Activities

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are to:

- **Prevention activities:** focusing on approaches which will affect the whole population's attitude towards consumption of alcohol and directing prevention work towards those who are most at risk. This includes:
  - Delivery of education and skill based programmes around alcohol, controlled substances and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in high schools.
  - Delivery of the Rory and Oh Lila learning resource in nurseries and primary schools supporting children affected by parental alcohol use in their home environment
  - Upskilling and training all staff across the community safety workforce in effective substance misuse interventions.
  - Diversionary activity in West Lothian wards to ensure that hard to engage and at risk young people are provided with alternatives to drinking alcohol and are signposted to relevant services to meet their needs.
  - Test purchasing activities conducted by Police Scotland.
  
- **Early Intervention activities:** addressing alcohol consumption across all sectors of West Lothian society by continuing work around early identification and intervention with those beginning to develop problems and close working with young people experiencing deprivation to prevent experimental and recreational drug use. This includes:
  - Delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABIs) for those who are drinking heavily but not in need of treatment both via the ABI Local Enhanced Service and ADP contracted service with West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service (WLDAS).
  - Providing counselling, support and referral to treatment for young people and young offenders from the ages of 12 to 25 who are misusing substances.
  - Alcohol Liaison service at St John's hospital, providing interventions with those who have had an alcohol related incident or accident causing a presentation at A&E or hospitalisation.
  
- **Community Safety and diversionary activities:** partnership resources are targeting those who commit or at risk of committing offences due to alcohol and drug consumption. Although key activities are detailed below it is worth noting that all work within alcohol and drugs reduces the risk of offending. Activities include:

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- WLDAS Moving On service works with short term offenders to provide counselling and holistic support to help the offender deal with all the risks leading to re offending.
- Librite initiative and the SMART group work ongoing within HMP Addiewell to support prisoners to recover from alcohol and drug problems and build the steps for a successful liberation back into the community.
- Funding to projects throughout West Lothian that work with young people who are drinking or at risk of drinking alcohol leading to antisocial behaviour and offences.

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Substance Misuse				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
Number of ABIs delivered in primary care and specialist NHS services	2577	1992	NHSL	ADP Policy Officer
Percentage of West Lothian under 18s hospital admissions for substance use	65.82 crude rate per 100,000 population	62.5 crude rate per 100,000 population	Scotpho Profiles	ADP Policy Officer
Number of ABIs delivered to young people as part of the Alcohol Diversionary Fund projects	95	95	WLC	ADP Policy Officer
Number of Drug Related Deaths recorded in West Lothian	12	10	NHSL	ADP Policy Officer
Percentage of clients with severe and chronic alcohol misuse who have maintained or improved their physical or mental health with support from Specialist Alcohol Service	79%	80%	WLC	SWAT Manager

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Substance Misuse						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Production of an Alcohol Licensing Overprovision Report	A comprehensive evidence based report submitted to the Licensing Board to inform their policy statement ensuring that local communities most at risk from alcohol related offending and disorder are protected by a reduced level of availability and consumption.	On and off sales licenses are refused due to overprovision	Chair of Licensing Forum.	September 2015	December 2015	Active
Increased referral routes	JLO officer to make referrals to school police officers or to WLDAS Family Recovery Service/WLYAP	Providing specific service provision where it is required that meets the needs of the service user	Police JLO Officer	Apr-2015	Mar-2016 (review)	Active
Increased Training	Police Scotland officers to be offered ABI and Take Home Naloxone (THN) training	Increasing the knowledge of service Police Officers on alcohol brief interventions and THN to provide a better quality of service to members of the public	NHS Lothian	April 2016	Ongoing	Planned

**Priority 2: Home,  
Fire and Road  
Safety**

**Aim: to increase safety on the roads and in the home setting.**

### **Purpose**

People have a right to feel safe and secure in their homes and the streets of West Lothian. The Community Safety Partnership will work to reduce the number of unintentional injuries in West Lothian in three specific areas; home, fire and road safety in building a safer community.

Home Safety Scotland have highlighted that the largest cause of serious and fatal accidents in most areas of Scotland are falls in older people with 75% occurring in the home. In West Lothian;

- there were 99 emergency hospital admissions as a result of unintentional injury for children under 5 years of age at home in 2012/13. This figure is an increase compared to each of the previous 5 years.
- the data for adults aged 65 and over shows a similar change with 371 admissions after incidents at home during 2012/13. This is the highest total seen in the previous ten years and is 50% higher than the average total seen in this time.
- The ratio of injury at home casualties for under 5s was 875 incidents per 100 000 population in West Lothian compared to the Scottish average of 662.
- The figure for over 65s was 1471 incidents per 100,000 population compared to the Scottish average of 1158.

### **Home Safety**

The volume of incidents/accidents in the home in West Lothian is anticipated to rise considerably in the coming years with a greater number of elderly residents within communities and with the national focus of independent living for the elderly. West Lothian remains above the Scottish average for unintentional injury in the home for both risk age groups of under 5's and over 65's.

Unintentional injury in the home presents a significant challenge to the emergency services and community planning partners in West Lothian. Unintentional injury is a major cause of ill health and disability with considerable cost to the NHS, individuals, their families and society.

### **Fire Safety**

Throughout West Lothian, accidental dwelling fires have occurred within a wide variety of locations. There are direct links to areas of social deprivation and those who are most vulnerable to fire within the community. Alcohol consumption and/or drugs misuse continue to be

identified as a contributory factor in a number of serious injury/fatal fires, due to the effect that they have upon the occupant's ability to react appropriately in a fire situation.

In addition, cooking at home and in particular, the use of chip pans continue to be identified as a source of ignition in a number of fires along with cigarettes and other smoking materials. House fires can have a significant negative impact on individuals, their families and on the community as a whole in relation to the human, social and economic costs of fires.

In addition;

- The approximate economic cost of each fatal fire is £1.375m.
- Fire casualties in West Lothian have reduced in the past year with 36 casualties identified compared to the three-year average total of 65 casualties.
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have attended 477 deliberate secondary fires in the past year which is an 18% increase compared to last year. This total is still a 25% reduction compared to the three-year average

### Road Safety

Accidents on roads in West Lothian account for around five deaths and 50 serious injuries per year on average. In addition, a further 430 people are slightly injured each year on average. However, much progress has been made to reduce the toll over the past ten years. This has been through a combination of engineering, education and enforcement measures both at a national and local level.

For example, the drink drive limit in Scotland was reduced from December 2014 and it is hoped that this will help to change the drinking practices of many, reducing the amount of people drink/driving on the road and thereby reducing the number of accidents and increasing the safety of road users and pedestrians alike.

The main cause for accidents in the West Lothian is drivers failing to judge the other persons path or speed or failing to look properly.

- During 2013-14, West Lothian continued to reduce the number of Killed and Seriously Injured, reducing by 21.8%
- During 2013-14, West Lothian continued to reduce the number of Killed and Seriously Injured, for Children by 40%.
- The number of fatalities increased from four to seven
- There was a substantial reduction in the number of seriously injured from 51 to 36.
- Overall the number of traffic offences detected in West Lothian reduced by 32.7% compared to the previous year



The Scottish Government has set demanding targets in respect of Road Casualty Reduction for the ten year period between 2010 and 2020. The Road Safety Plan for West Lothian was created in partnership with Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the Safety Camera Partnership. Partners are committed to contributing to the national casualty reduction targets.

**Note:** road casualty numbers fluctuate from year-to-year due to a multitude of factors and that the targets are based upon reductions on the 2004-08 average.

Scottish Government is currently undertaking a mid-term review of its Road Safety Framework due for publication in 2016. The Road Safety Plan for West Lothian will be revised to take account of any changes emerging from the national framework review.

### Activities

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are to:

- Promote safety in the home with a focus on fire safety and unintentional harm in the home
  - use local community safety surveys and engagement to identify areas where people are unintentional harmed and target our work appropriately
  - audit injury prevention activities / potential of existing services and programmes locally (Local Authority, NHS)
  - deliver targeted interventions to individuals and communities to help reduce risk taking behaviour
  - increase awareness around falls prevention
  - reduce fires from cooking
  
- Provide an integrated service to construct, manage and maintain the road, footpath and transportation network in West Lothian in the safest way possible whilst making best use of resources
  - manage and maintain the roads and footpath network
  - design and deliver roads and transportation improvement schemes
  - improve road safety through targeted, data led, road safety engineering
  - supporting the safety camera partnership with site identification and delivery of infrastructure
  - provide emergency response to road traffic accidents, severe weather and street lighting incidents
  - provide a comprehensive Winter Maintenance Service

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- Supporting the delivery of road safety education through the curriculum for excellence utilising nationally developed resources from Road Safety Scotland.
- Police Scotland Road Policing Branch will continue to target main arterial routes within the West Lothian area which have high incidence of casualty figures

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Home and Road Safety				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
Killed and Seriously Injured Casualties in West Lothian	[figure]	[figure]	West Lothian Council Roads and Transportation Services	Network Manager
Child Killed and Seriously Injured Casualties	[figure]	[figure]	West Lothian Council Roads and Transportation Services	Network Manager
Slight casualty rate	[figure]	[figure]	West Lothian Council Roads and Transportation Services	Network Manager
Home Safety (note: measure of aids/adaptations?)	Killed or Seriously Injured from falling in the Home for 0-9 for West Lothian  Killed or Seriously Injured in the Home from falling for 60+ for West Lothian	[figure]	West Lothian Council Social Policy	Falls Co-ordinator
Fire Safety	% of all accidental dwelling fires where alcohol or general substance misuse is a contributory factor  Home accident hospital admission rates for 60+ for West Lothian <b>cspASB050</b>  Number of deliberate secondary fires – monthly comparison with previous years	[figure]	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Group Manager

Performance Scorecard: Home and Road Safety				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
	<p><b>cspF+RS001</b></p> <p>The number of accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population</p> <p><b>cspF+RS002</b></p> <p>Fatalities resulting from accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population</p> <p><b>cspF+RS003</b></p> <p>Casualties resulting from accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population</p> <p><b>NEW</b> - Number of other deliberate fires – YTD comparison with last year</p>			

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Home and Road Safety						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
To provide road safety prevention in education establishments	Westdrive: Multi Agency road safety event for S6 Young People	Reducing casualty rates	Community Safety Unit Police Scotland	Aug-2015	Aug -2015  (evaluation to be completed)	Complete
Increase communication and awareness raising within communities	Attend local events and generate advertising campaigns: fire safety and unintentional harm in the home	Reducing injuries from accidents and risk taking behaviour	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Social Policy (WLC)	Start date?	Mar-2016	Active
Improve skills and knowledge of service providers	Provide training to service providers to build capacity in practical injury prevention support / advice	Reducing injuries from accidents and risk taking behaviour	SFRS /Partners	Start date?	Mar-2016	Active
Increase liaison and communication with young people	Develop a multi-agency framework to enable evidence based interventions for universal and targeted services to be commissioned	Reducing antisocial behaviour including deliberate fireraising	Community Safety Partnership	Start date?	End date?	Planned
Improve partnership working practices	Develop data sharing process between CSU and NHS – Pilot project being developed	Reduced number of falls in the home	Police Scotland Analyst	Start date?	End date?	Active

Action Plan: Home and Road Safety						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Improve partnership working practices and develop information sharing protocols	Working Group to examine ways of identifying vulnerable people within communities and ensure smoke alarms are fit for purpose	Generate a robust reciprocal referral process with partner agencies to ensure referrals are addressed timeously.	SFRS	Start date?	End date?	Active
Annual road accident investigation and prevention programme	Annual identification of 'sites for concern', detailed investigation of accident patterns, development and prioritisation of road engineering measures to treat accident patterns.	Reduced accident numbers at treated sites.	West Lothian Council Roads and Transportation Services	April 2015	Ongoing	Active
Road Safety Plan for West Lothian	Revised plan with detailed assessment of casualty trends within West Lothian and targeted, data led action plan taking account of Scottish Government targets and priorities.	Updated plan demonstrating data led approach to road casualty reduction.	West Lothian Council Roads and Transportation Services	January 2016	August 2016	Planned

**Priority 3:  
Antisocial  
Behaviour and  
Hate Crime**

**Aim: to enhance community cohesion and in particular to reduce Antisocial Behaviour and Hate Crime ensuring that victims of crime receive appropriate support to prevent them from becoming repeat victims.**

**Purpose**

Over the next three years, the Community Safety Partnership will aim to reduce Antisocial Behaviour and Hate Crime within our communities.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team is part of the Community Safety Unit (CSU), dedicated to preventing antisocial behaviour and crime and reducing risks, to ensure a safer community where people can live their lives without fear for their own or other people's safety.

In the past year (13-14) there were 11213 calls to Police Scotland identified as being antisocial behaviour related.

- This accounted for 21.5% of all calls to the police however across West Lothian, there continued to be a 15% decrease in calls recorded compared to the average totals seen for the previous three years.
- Youth disorder accounted for 24% of all antisocial behaviour calls and equates to over 7 calls per day on average throughout West Lothian.
- This figure shows a 25% reduction in calls compared to the average total of 3605 per year seen for the previous three years
- The level of non-youth related antisocial behaviour continues to show a slower reduction with a 12% reduction recorded in the past year compared to the 3 year average.

The picture regarding vandalism within West Lothian is very positive with a decline in vandalisms year on year. The past year (13 – 14) saw 1622 crimes recorded compared to the three year average of 2055 crimes.

- The crime total has decreased by 56% compared to the volume of crime recorded five years ago.
- In the past year there were 233 recorded hate crimes in West Lothian, a reduction of 4 crimes compared to the previous year

The Community Safety Unit (CSU) is made up of staff from West Lothian Council, Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service along with Voluntary Organisations. The CSU uses a robust intelligence-led approach to dealing with local antisocial behaviour issues. The CSU

approach is to co-ordinate resources through prevention, intervention and diversion, work to assess and manage potential risk, increase partner agencies' focus on current problems and improve information-sharing and greater accountability.

### Antisocial Behaviour and Hate Crime

Antisocial behaviour is defined as when someone 'acts in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress or pursues a course of conduct that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress to at least one person not of the same household as them'. This behaviour can have a severe impact on the quality of life of those persons and communities that are repeatedly targeted. Antisocial behaviour can take many different forms from street disturbances to youth disorder, noise complaints to dog fouling and neighbour disputes to vandalism and fire raising. In order to combat antisocial behaviour, the Community Safety Unit works in partnership with Voluntary Organisations such as West Lothian Youth Action Project (WLYAP), West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service (WLDAS) and Victim Support West Lothian.

Liaising with communities and gathering information from local residents is key in detecting those involved and in the seizure of illegal motorbikes, with locations and suspected perpetrators routinely patrolled by the Community Policing Teams.

Better weather conditions bring about the misuse of off road/mini motorbikes, driven by youths on footpaths and in public parks, posing a significant safety hazard to pedestrians and children playing. Also linked to this is excessive noise created by the bikes, which often leads to annoyance among local residents.

Hate Crime is any criminal offence that is motivated by hostility or prejudice based upon a victim's: Disability, Race, Age, Gender, Religion/Faith or Belief, Sexual Orientation or Transgender Identity.

Early 2015 figures show that 11,099 people who reside in West Lothian are classed as a minority group. This equates to 6.3% of the overall population. 72% of all hate crime relates to victims being subject to verbal abuse.

### Activities

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are:

- Ensure effective communication, early intervention and appropriate referral mechanisms are in place.



## Community Safety Strategic Plan | 2015/18

- Provide education and understanding to discourage and reduce Hate Crime amongst the communities and increase community cohesion.
- Engage with young people in the communities to discourage and reduce deliberate and wilful antisocial behaviour crimes, such as fire raising
- To develop better partnership working with all Landlords, including an Information Sharing protocol.
- To continue to use the full powers of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 and other relevant legislation.

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Antisocial Behaviour and Hate Crime				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
To reduce Antisocial Behaviour within the communities	[figure]	[figure]	Police Scotland	Police Scotland Analyst
Hate Crime People better recognise Hate Crime's and incidents and feel better in reporting these		HC figures		
Number of active West Lothian Council antisocial behaviour cases	[figure]	80	Community Safety Unit	CSU Antisocial Behaviour Manager
Number of resolved antisocial behaviour cases within locally agreed targets of 3 months.				
Percentage of customers satisfied by Safer Neighbourhood Team involvement	[figure]	[figure]	Community Safety Unit	CSU Antisocial Behaviour Manager

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Antisocial Behaviour and Hate Crime						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Identifying properties that pose risk to the wider community	Reducing the risks to vulnerable residents	Reducing the number of antisocial behaviour incidents	Community Safety Unit, Housing, Construction and Building Services	April 2015	March 2018	Active
Increased knowledge of positive outcomes from West Lothian Youth Action Project (WLYAP)	Closer monitoring of West Lothian Youth Action Outputs	Reducing youth ASB	Community Safety Unit  West Lothian Youth Action Project	Jan 2016	Mar-2018	Planned
Continue to improve Hate Crime awareness amongst young people	Develop strategy or similar to reduce young people offending and refer perpetrators to EEI	Reducing Hate Crime involving young people	Community Safety Unit  Social Policy and Education	Start date?	Mar-2018	Planned
Better communication links are required with all West Lothian Landlords	Better communication links are required with West Lothian Registered Social Landlords and private Landlords	Develop better partnership working	Community Safety Unit  Housing, Construction and Building Services	April 2015	Mar-2018	Active

## Priority 4: Violence

**Aim: to reduce incidents of violence within our communities and thereby reduce the number of victims.**

### Purpose

No one organisation can possess the range of skills and resources needed to reduce the incidence of behaviour that causes harm, whether physically, emotionally or financially, to individuals or to the wider community. The Reducing Re-offending Strategy is a shared responsibility for society, ensuring that residents and visitors to West Lothian know that violence is not tolerated in our communities.

This partnership ethos can reduce re-offending and, through earlier intervention, reduce the risk of young people engaging in crime. The consequences of this should improve outcomes for people who offend, helping them to take on fuller responsibility as members of our communities, increase the confidence of victims and the community in the services provided whilst making our communities safer and better places to live.

### Violence

Serious assaults accounted for the largest proportion of serious violent crime in West Lothian. However, crimes of this type have been following a downward trend and are at their lowest levels for six years.

Sixty serious assaults were committed during the reporting period (2013-14), reflecting a 36.7% reduction in comparison to the previous year and a 42.1% reduction compared to the five-year average. There are several key factors that impact significantly upon the risk of an individual re-offending:

- Education and employment – individuals who receive custody are 10 times more likely to have been a regular truant from school and 13 times more likely to be unemployed.
- Homelessness – a stable accommodation can reduce re-offending by 20%.
- Drugs and alcohol – a person offending that is involved in substance misuse can be over 8 times more likely to have drugs problems and over 3 times more likely to have alcohol problems.
- Mental health – A person showing mental health symptoms and offending is 13 times more likely to have a personality disorder.
- Family environment – young people offending are 2.5 times more likely to have a family member who has been convicted of an offence

- Early intervention with youths continues due to an increase seen in the school exclusion levels last year with 1037 exclusions compared to 952 the previous year

Common assaults have reduced by 2.1% in comparison to the five-year average within West Lothian and assaults on emergency workers accounted for 6.0% of the total number.

Domestic assaults account for one third of all common assaults. This issue is recognised as requiring a particular focus which is achieved by specialist interventions tasked by a separate multi-agency work stream.

Excluding domestic assaults, the proportion of assaults committed in public space increased highlighting the prevalence of public space violence in terms of both common and serious assaults in the West Lothian area.

### Activities

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are:

#### ■ Reducing reoffending

- Review existing information sharing protocols between all partner agencies to ensure everyone is adhering to current processes regarding violent incidents and partnership processes
- Reviewing repeat and high tariff offenders highlighted via Multi Agency Partnerships for Violent Offenders (MAPVO) and Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating Group (MATAC) processes. Consider all options available and any triggers identified, lack of access to housing, welfare, etc
- Increase engagement activities with young people such as Floorwalk in conjunction with West Lothian Youth Action Project (WLYAP) and West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service (WLDAS)

#### ■ Increase education

- Further develop preventative measures to reduce violence from occurring
- Promotion of and relevant engagement with youth diversionary activities
- Encourage school link community integration and community patrol officers to maximise opportunities to impact attitudinal change through the use of No Knives Better Lives (NKBL), and the 'Slide'

It is intended that services will be able to move resources towards different ways of working, improving outcomes for local people in a way that reflects local circumstances and priorities.

## Community Safety Strategic Plan | 2015/18

Community Planning Partnerships are responsible for setting up reducing re-offending partnerships, producing reducing re-offending plans and providing governance to ensure these plans are effective. This may include the governance of the Community Safety Partnership given that there are many cross over and related areas between community safety and reducing re-offending.

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Violence				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
Number of interventions and engagement activities with young people such as Floorwalk	[figure]	[figure]	[Agency]	[Designation]
Number of Incident in Licensed Premises (ILP) submissions	[figure]	[figure]	[Agency]	[Designation]
YTD number of serious assaults (excluding domestic)				
YTD number of common assaults (excluding domestics)				

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Violence						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Carry out Preventative activities	Robust Policing and Partnerships interventions towards identified 'Party Houses' and problematic tenancies	Reducing incidents of violence in the community through tackling its underlying causes	Community Safety Unit	Apr-2015	Mar-2016	Active
Information sharing protocols (1)	Improve and increase the use of crime recording aggravators and incidents in licensed premises (ILP's) in the recording of violent crime	Training required at the Dalkeith Crime Unit for Crime recording and VPD data	Crime Management Unit and Licensing	Start date?	Mar-2016	Planned
Information sharing protocols (2)	Review existing information sharing protocols between all partner agencies to ensure everyone is adhering to current processes regarding violent incidents	Increase information with regards to violence , received by the Partnership	PIP/All	Start date?	End date?	Planned
Enforcement activity	Make full use of special measures and bail conditions on Police Undertakings for all violent offenders	Re-enforce message that violence within our communities will not be tolerated	LAC/Police SPOC	Start date?	Mar-2016	Planned



Action Plan: Violence						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
	Management of violent offenders and Condition enforcement to be carried out with Partnership resources		Criminal Justice Social Work/Police	Start date?	Mar-2016	Planned

**Priority 5: Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism**

**Aim: to reduce the risk posed to local communities by serious and organised crime groups and threats of terrorism.**

**Purpose**

**Serious and Organised Crime**

Serious and Organised Crime is defined as ‘crime which is organised by a group of individuals, which has a significant detrimental impact on communities, and leads to significant financial or other benefit to those individuals involved in this form of crime’.

Serious Organised Crime comes in a number of different ways but it is all about generating wealth and obtaining money at the expense of other people. It is about exploiting honest, law-abiding people, including the most vulnerable members of our communities. Examples of this include; kidnap and extortion, metal theft, bogus workmen, cigarette smuggling, payment fraud, cyber-attack, new psychoactive substances, drug addiction and human trafficking.

There has been significant intelligence and enforcement work undertaken by Police Scotland including the use of specialist officers and members of the Community Safety Partnership in order to reduce the risk posed to local communities. This proactive activity has led to a reduction in the assessment of threat, risk and harm posed by these groups and will continue to take place.

Illicit drugs have direct links to serious and organised crime groups and gathering information on their activity is a priority for the Partnership. Enforcement action against the Detect, Deter, Divert and Disrupt strands of the national Serious and Organised Crime strategy remains a priority for the Community Safety Partnership.

**Counter Terrorism**

The greatest threat to the UK is considered to be from international terrorism most notably from Al Qaida and the various associated groups, including Islamic State, as well as Al Shabab and Boko Haram.

We know that some UK citizens have of their own choice, or following radicalisation, been encouraged to travel and join these groups, most recently that destination is Syria to join Islamic State. The concern is while there, they will be trained in how to commit terrorist attacks and bring these skills back to the UK, if they return.

The threat of terrorism related to Northern Ireland is assessed to have diminished but it cannot be said to have disappeared completely.

In the areas of Environmentalism, Animals Rights and left and right wing politics there are a great many individuals and groups who exercise their democratic right to protest on their particular area of concern. However there is an extremist minority however who seek to disrupt normal daily life for the general public in order to get their point across.

### **Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism**

80% of respondents in the West Lothian Quality of Life survey identified serious and organised crime as one of the greatest priorities for the police.

Illicit drugs have direct links to serious and organised crime groups and gathering information on their activity is a priority for the Partnership.

Since 2003 the UK Government has had a comprehensive Counter Terrorism Strategy in place. This strategy is known as CONTEST. The aim of CONTEST is to reduce the risk from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

### **Activities**

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are:

#### ■ Individuals and Communities:

- Communities are resilient and are more aware of Serious Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism and how to mitigate risks and report concerns
- Individuals are aware of cyber threats and able to safely use the internet and social media by delivering presentations to the wider community, media, school inputs and using peer educators to get the message across

#### ■ Products of Serious Organised Crime:

- People, including young people, are aware of the dangers of using drugs, including New Psychoactive Substances, and counterfeit goods
- People are more aware of the links with Serious Organised Crime and the links between human trafficking, prostitution and Serious Organised Crime

- People on the cusp of Serious and Organised Crime or Extremism / Terrorism:
  - Effective links and interventions are in place promoting positive destinations for young people at risk and that they are supported and educated away from Serious Organised Crime
  - Effective links and interventions are in place to safeguard against radicalisation.
  
- Businesses:
  - Businesses are aware of threats in their sector and report any concerns
  - Businesses protect themselves from cyber threats, Insider threats, fraud etc.
  - Public and 3rd Sector Organisations:
    - Public and third sector are aware of threats
    - Public and third sector protect themselves from cyber threats, Insider threats, fraud etc.
  
- Public and 3rd Sector Organisations:
  - Public and third sector are aware of threats through training and media
  - Public and third sector protect themselves from cyber threats, Insider threats, fraud etc. through training.

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Serious, Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
Divert (SOC) - Percentage of young people identified by Police as having been involved in Serious Organised Crime receiving a structured intervention by Youth Justice	[figure]	[figure]	WLC - Social Policy	[Designation]
Deter (SOC) - Percentage of contracts within the annual procurement plan where Serious and Organised Crime scrutiny is undertaken.	n/a – new baseline to be established	Target will be 100%	Responsible unit -CPU	Category Manager, Finance and Estates
Deter (SOC) - Number of applications to WL Business Gateway for grant funding which include a declaration by the applicant that they are not involved in criminal activity.	n/a – new baseline to be established	Target will be 100%	Responsible unit - Economic Development	Business Development Manager, Economic Development
Deter (SOC) - The number of Deter activities undertaken to identify SOC links	n/a – new baseline to be established		Police Scotland and Community Safety Partners	Community Safety Manager
Prevent (CT) – Delivery of WRAP (or other nationally approved PREVENT training products) training to staff involved in Child Protection and Adult Protection	N/A	Target will be 100%	WLC – Education and Social Policy	[TBC]

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Creating a multi-agency Group to work together, via a joint action plan, to reduce the harm caused by serious and organised crime and to address the four D's;	Both West Lothian Council and Police Scotland have a framework of key performance indicators to monitor the success of the Serious and Organised Crime Action Plan and ultimately to reduce the harm caused by Serious and Organised Crime Groups within the West Lothian Communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To divert individuals (particularly young people) from becoming involved in or using the products of serious organised crime.</li> <li>• To deter Serious Organised Crime Groups by supporting private, public and third sector organisations to protect themselves and each other.</li> </ul>	Multi agency Group	April 2015	March 2018	active
To ensure that the multi-agency group is able to locally implement National campaigns and respond to local crime trends and emerging threats	The Serious and Organised Crime Multi Agency Group will be chaired by a Deputy Chief Executive from West Lothian Council. The group will primarily be responsible for the strategic direction and delivery of the action plan and associated emerging threats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To divert individuals (particularly young people) from becoming involved in or using the products of serious organised crime.</li> <li>• To deter Serious Organised Crime Groups by supporting private, public and third sector organisations to protect themselves and each other.</li> </ul>	Multi agency Group	April 2015	March 2018	active

Action Plan: Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
<p>Creating a multi-agency Group to work together, via a joint action plan, to reduce the risk posed by radicalisation and terrorism and to address the four P's;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent</li> <li>• Protect</li> <li>• Prepare</li> <li>• Pursue</li> </ul>	<p>The CONTEST Multi Agency Group will be chaired by a Deputy Chief Executive from West Lothian Council. The group will primarily be responsible for the strategic direction and delivery of the action plan and associated emerging threats.</p>	<p>PREVENT – to safeguard against radicalisation, through providing the necessary support to those vulnerable to radicalisation.</p> <p>PREPARE – to ensure that our communities are able to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack or act of extremism.</p> <p>PROTECT – To strengthen our communities protection against a terrorist attack or act of extremism.</p>	Multi agency Group	April 2015	March 2018	Active
<p>To ensure that the multi agency group is able to locally deliver on the CONTEST implement plan including National campaigns and respond to local and emerging threats.</p>	<p>The CONTEST Multi Agency Group will be chaired by a Deputy Chief Executive from West Lothian Council. The group will primarily be responsible for the strategic direction and delivery of the action plan and associated emerging threats.</p>	<p>PREVENT – to safeguard against radicalisation, through providing the necessary support to those vulnerable to radicalisation.</p> <p>PREPARE – to ensure that our communities are able to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack or act of extremism.</p> <p>PROTECT – To strengthen our communities protection against a terrorist attack or act of extremism.</p>	Multi agency Group	April 2015	March 2018	Active

## Priority 6: Financial Harm

**Aim:** to reduce the number of incidents where people in communities across West Lothian are exploited for financial gain.

### Purpose

Financial Harm is a complex and challenging area with many strands; it occurs when someone exercises undue pressure on another person to obtain illegal or improper use of their finances, possessions or property. Financial Harm is a very complicated area with many strands and include;

- Criminals posing as cold callers
- Most Bogus Caller incidents occur during the week, early-mid afternoon,
- Under-reporting of Bogus Callers
- Many victims of doorstep crime are over eighty

### Financial Harm

Financial harm can be perpetrated in a number of different ways, including at the doorstep and via the postal service, telephone or internet. Sadly, criminals often target the most vulnerable people within our communities, whose personal circumstances make them more likely to be taken advantage of. Victims not only suffer financial harm, but also loss of self-esteem and trust in others, which can have a devastating impact on their health and wellbeing as well as having consequences on the lives of their families

Victims are often under pressure to hand over money or possessions, exploitation of property or welfare benefits, stealing, cheating or fraud. Internet fraud and identity theft (where the complainer's identity has been fraudulently used to purchase goods through catalogues, mobile phone contract, credit cards etc) account for nearly half of incidents. The increase in scam calls has seen a rise in the amount of money lost to phone scammers. Trading Standards now supply and fit a number of True Call call-blocking devices within West Lothian as a preventative measure for this type of fraud.

Doorstep criminals target the most vulnerable people within our communities, taking advantage of people by taking money for poorly done jobs, or simply stealing money/items from their home. Increasingly distraction techniques are often very convincing and can often catch people out. Many victims of doorstep crime are over eighty years of age and targeted by unknown persons posing as legitimate callers. Many of these people live alone and the health effects can have devastating outcomes for them and their families.



### Activities

The main activities that will be undertaken in 2015/18 to achieve this priority are:

- Develop effective working practices to identify and assist persons at risk of financial harm and prevent them from becoming repeat victims
  - Maintain information sharing amongst partners and effective referral routes
- Identify vulnerable persons for intervention and support
  - Highlight Financial Harm in the communities and encourage communication
- Deliver intervention measures to minimise the risk of financial harm for identified victims
  - Install call-blocker devices
  - Provide advice and assistance to victims of doorstep crime and mass marketing scams.
- Engage in a range of initiatives aimed reducing the risk of financial harm to those in our communities
  - Provide awareness training to Royal Mail delivery staff

## Performance

The following performance indicators will be used to monitor progress in the priority for the life span of the strategic plan:

Performance Scorecard: Financial Harm				
Performance Indicator Name	2014 Performance	2018 Target	Partner Agency	Responsible Officer
Number of referrals to the Financial Harm Reduction Group	<i>Baseline being obtained 2015-16</i>	[figure]	Police Scotland	Sergeant
Number of multi-agency interventions	<i>Baseline being obtained 2015-16</i>	[figure]	Police Scotland	Sergeant
Number of engagement events and media messages	<i>Baseline being obtained 2015-16</i>	[figure]	Police Scotland	Sergeant

## Action Plan

The following actions will be undertaken to improve the performance and partnership working in the priority within the life span of the strategic plan:

Action Plan: Financial Harm						
Action	Description	Planned Outcome	Owner	Start	End	Status (Planned, Active, Complete)
Develop referral process from SW Older People's Team and Vulnerable Adult's Team for persons to be referred to the Financial Harm Reduction Group	Maintain information sharing amongst partners and effective referral routes	Victims of crime get the support and reassurance they need	Police Scotland	Apr-2015	Mar-2016	Active
Provide successful multi-agency interventions for persons and reduce the likelihood of repeat victimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight Financial Harm in the communities and encourage communication</li> <li>Engage via media and social media regarding FH Reduction group</li> <li>Analytical data to be used re victim profiles and horizon scanning and trend patterns to be monitored</li> </ul>	Reduced numbers of victims and repeat victims of Financial Harm	Police Scotland	Apr-2015	Mar-2016	Active
Engage at partnership events to raise awareness of financial harm	Increased engagement with National Campaigns	Raise awareness and promote best practise	Police Scotland	Apr-2015	Mar-2016	Active

**West Lothian Community Planning Partnership**

# **Community Safety Strategic Plan**

**Owner Name**

**Title**

**April 2015**

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