



**2005
- 2008**



**A Strategy to Reduce
Crime, Disorder and Drugs
Misuse in South Warwickshire**



Covering Stratford and Warwick Districts

Welcome

On behalf of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick Districts, we are pleased to present this, the third strategy aimed at reducing crime and the fear of crime for our residents. This is the first time we have produced a joint strategy document which is further evidence of our close working relationship.

We have worked effectively over the last few years to develop a multi-agency approach to reducing crime, and to ensure that community safety is a top priority for all our partners. We recognise, confirmed by the audit carried out in 2004, that we live in an area of low crime, but where residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour and alcohol related violence and disorder. We also suffer from a higher level of crime against businesses than is acceptable, and which affects our business community. This strategy therefore targets these concerns, and aims to impact on community priorities.



Paul Lankester
Chair, Stratford on Avon District
Crime and Disorder Reduction
Partnership



Craig Anderson
Chair, Warwick District Crime and
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Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (amended by the Police Reform Act 2000) places a statutory duty on Local Authorities, Police, Police Authority, Fire & Rescue and the Primary Care Trusts to work together to reduce crime, disorder and drugs misuse in their area.

This strategy has been produced in response to the findings of the joint audit carried out in South Warwickshire in 2004 reflecting the views of local people and national priorities.

The Home Office makes an allocation of funds to each CDRP on an annual basis. Spending proposals are drawn up by the CDRPs, and agreed by Government Office, West Midlands (GOWM). Careful monitoring of spend is carried out, with regular reports submitted to GOWM. Some funds are ring-fenced for specific areas of work, such as anti-social behaviour and drugs-related crime issues.

Under the terms of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998), the majority of costs associated with implementing the strategy must be found from within existing funds. Over recent years, this has prompted some reordering of resources, particularly staffing, to allow maximum efficiency and to keep costs down. We will continue to ensure that resources are used wisely, increasing our joint working across South Warwickshire, and, where appropriate, countywide, to maximise funding opportunities.

Review of 2002-2005 Strategy

Six joint themes were identified from the audit carried out in 2001, and were built into the 2002-2005 strategy for the partnerships to work on. These were:

- Crime
- Victims
- Offenders
- Communities and fear of crime
- Drugs and alcohol
- Young people

The partnerships created six multi-agency groups working across South Warwickshire, which developed annual action plans to deliver the partnership targets that came under each of these themes. The groups reported progress towards achieving those targets quarterly to the two Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs).

A review of progress against the targets we set for the last three years (2002-2005) shows that we have achieved the following across the two partnerships:

- Warwick achieved a 9% reduction in recorded crime over the three-year period.
- Overall, across all recorded crime types, recorded crime increased in Stratford by 6%, although a 5.5% reduction was achieved during 2004/05 compared with the previous year.
- The Stratford target to reduce domestic burglary by 38% on the 1999/00 numbers has been achieved. The Warwick target of 14% has been exceeded, with a 24% reduction being achieved.
- Our targets to reduce vehicle crime by 12% in Stratford and 13% in Warwick have both been exceeded, with 13% and 30% being achieved respectively.
- We have seen increases in the numbers of violent crimes over the last three years, largely due to the way the Home Office now require the Police to record it, where records are made whether or not the injured party wishes to press charges. However, we are pleased that we have seen a 12% reduction in violence over the last year in Stratford, and Warwick, while still showing an increase, is seeing a significant slowing down in numbers.
- While drugs offences have increased over the last three years, they have dropped over the last year by 24% in Stratford and 15% in Warwick districts.
- The commercial burglary reduction target of 17% in both districts has not been achieved. Stratford achieved a 13% reduction and Warwick a 3% reduction.
- Shoplifting targets, however, have been greatly exceeded. An 8.5% reduction target was set, and Stratford achieved 22%, while Warwick achieved 37%.

- Town centre crime and disorder has reduced overall by 15% in Stratford-upon-Avon and 10% in Leamington Spa, but has increased by 5% in Warwick and 2% in Kenilworth. Particular successes have been in vehicle crime (-49%), criminal damage (-30%), and drunkenness (-26%) in Stratford-upon-Avon; domestic burglary (-46%), vehicle crime (-47%) in Leamington; vehicle crime (-44%) and violence (-24%) in Warwick, and violence (-61%) and shoplifting (-52%) in Kenilworth.
- Across South Warwickshire, reports of anti-social behaviour incidents have increased by 5% over the last three years. In Warwick District, there has been an overall reduction of 2%, while Stratford has seen an increase of 19%. There have been reductions in all types of anti-social behaviour in Warwick District, with the exception of nuisance behaviour, which rose by 24%. In Stratford, nuisance behaviour has risen by 62%, and intimidation and harassment by 47%.

Consultation on the 2004 Audit of Crime, Disorder and Drugs Misuse

The South Warwickshire Audit, carried out in 2004, was circulated widely to community leaders, elected members, parish councils, voluntary groups and statutory agencies with an interest in community safety. It was also featured in the local press and posted on the local authorities' web sites with an invitation to comment on its findings. In addition, a presentation on the audit findings was made at a multi-agency event in September 2004, and similar presentations made to a wide range of committees and community groups.

The views of the local organisations, community groups and individuals in South Warwickshire who have taken part in the consultation, have been taken into account in developing this new strategy.

The purpose of the consultation was to:

- Confirm that the audit was an accurate reflection of the picture of crime, disorder and drugs misuse in South Warwickshire
- To check that there were no gaps in the audit findings
- To consult on the proposed priorities for inclusion in this strategy

Priorities for 2005-2008

The findings of the audit were confirmed and one additional priority added by the consultation process - reducing crime against businesses. The four priorities the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships will concentrate their efforts on over the 3-year period of this strategy are:

- anti-social behaviour
- alcohol related violence, particularly in the town centres at night
- crime against businesses
- the disproportionate fear of becoming a victim of crime compared with the actual risk of being a victim

The Home Office also requires the partnership to demonstrate its commitment to national priorities, including reducing the offending behaviour of our most prolific offenders, and tackling drugs-related crime. The Home Office will also be measuring partnerships' performance across England and Wales against a number of specific crime types, and we will be concentrating our efforts on reducing criminal damage, vehicle crime, domestic burglary and violent crime in particular.

Aims and Targets 2005-2008

The two partnerships have developed the targets detailed below following the audit and consultation, bearing in mind the priorities which local people have identified, and in light of the trends and patterns of recorded crime over the last three years. Discussions on setting appropriate, challenging targets have taken place within the partnerships, and in full consultation with the Government Office for the West Midlands who will be monitoring the partnerships' performance on behalf of the Home Office.

The targets set are to be achieved by 31st March 2008, the end of this strategy period.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We want to tackle the currently growing problem of anti-social behaviour, and particularly criminal damage by working with our partners to identify its causes. We have introduced a new post that will work with our agencies and communities across the area to develop and implement responses to anti-social behaviour, raising awareness of what it actually is, how communities should report it, and how we can work together to reduce it. Nuisance youths, criminal damage and hoax calls were identified as of particular concern from the audit. We will target these issues, building on the work already being developed by the partnerships to ensure that we see decreases in these crime and incident types.

- Increase the numbers of residents who do not think that anti-social behaviour is a problem in their area by 6%

Alcohol-Related Violence

We do not currently have the ability to record accurately the numbers of violent crimes which are specifically alcohol related. However, the audit we carried out demonstrated that there is a concentration of this type of incident between 9pm and 4am, particularly at the weekend, and we estimate that 35% of all violent offences are alcohol related. We will therefore concentrate our partnerships' efforts to reduce them. Violent crime statistics include alcohol fuelled incidents, and so, by setting violent crime reduction targets across the two partnerships which are realistic, especially in the light of increasing levels of violence being reported over recent years, we expect to see an impact on overall levels.

Domestic violence is an issue of national as well as local concern. The South Warwickshire CDRPs are committed to the aims and priorities of the Warwickshire Domestic Violence Strategy, and have strong links with the local Domestic Violence Forums. Our multi-agency plans to reduce violence across the area will include specific actions to work with the domestic violence teams to reduce the number of incidents.

We are not in a position to set a joint target for violence reduction because while Stratford has seen a significant reduction in the total numbers of violent crimes during 2004-2005, Warwick is still seeing slight increases, although these are levelling off. The two partnerships have therefore set independent targets, although the issues they will be tackling - in particular alcohol-related violence and domestic violence - are shared.

- Stratford Partnership: reduce violent crime by 16.75%
- Warwick Partnership: reduce violent crime by 6%

Crime Against Businesses

The audit showed us that business crime accounts for 41% of all crime in Stratford District and 32% in Warwick District. Although we have seen reductions in commercial burglary and significant reductions in shoplifting across both partnerships over the last three years, consultation on the audit with professionals and key stake holders confirmed that continuing to reduce business crime should be a priority for both partnerships in South Warwickshire. South Warwickshire is a popular area to locate businesses. The partnerships acknowledge issues around business crimes, and commit to working more closely with the business community to understand their needs and explore solutions to those needs together with the Beating Business Crime Unit, an initiative based at Warwickshire Police, and funded in part by the two partnerships, Government Office, Business Intermediary Groups and the Regional Development Agency.

- Reduce business crime by 15%

Increase Residents' Feelings of Safety

Despite living in an area where recorded crime is well under the national average, residents' fear of crime, and particularly of becoming a victim of crime, is disproportionately high, although this is not unique to Warwickshire. Annual surveys over the last three years indicate that on average, residents' fear has risen slightly in Stratford, and dropped slightly in Warwick. However, ensuring that our residents feel safer must be a priority for both partnerships, and we intend to concentrate on this over the next three years.

A baseline for how safe residents feel will be created during 2005-06, and targets set to increase this in 2006-07 and 2007-08.

- Increase residents' fear of safety (see table on page 8)

Drugs

It is thought that over 70% of crime is drugs-related, and the CDRPs are committed to working in partnership with drugs treatment agencies and the Police to get drugs dependant users into effective treatment, and to break patterns of offending behaviour. A significant proportion of the individuals identified through the Prolific and Priority Offenders' Scheme are drugs users. By effectively targeting their behaviour, and breaking patterns of offending, we hope to reduce the impact of drugs-related crime.

The target we have agreed reflects these issues and is as follows:

- Reduce the percentage of people that think drug dealing and/or use is a problem in their local area by 2% each year for 3 years

Prolific and Priority Offenders

As partnerships, we are also developing a multi-agency programme to target those few individuals who commit the most offending, with the aim of changing individuals' behaviour, and impacting on overall crime levels. This programme, called the Prolific and Priority Offenders' Scheme, brings the Police, local authorities, Probation and Youth Offending Team together to identify early interventions which will impact on individuals and reduce the harm caused to society by their offending behaviour. This scheme is central to our partnership work, and will be closely monitored by the CDRP.

Local Public Service Agreement 2

Stratford CDRP will be working with Warwickshire County Council and other partners, to further reduce some of the crime types. The crime types where we are stretching the targets are domestic burglary, violence, and some of the British Crime Survey 'comparator' crimes such as vehicle crime and criminal damage. The Stratford CDRP has agreed to reduce these crimes by 16.75%, the target set out in the Local Public Service Agreement 2.

Warwick CDRP is also committed to 16.75% reductions in criminal damage, vehicle crime and domestic burglary. However, because of the trends in violent crime, which, while levelling off during 2003-04, did not start to reduce, the CDRP could not commit to the challenge of a 16.75% reduction target. Given recent trends, and taking the advice of analysts, a reduction target of 6% was agreed as realistic and achievable.

British Crime Survey Comparator Crimes

The Home Office is tracking the progress of all partnerships nationally within specific crime types selected from the British Crime Survey. Warwick CDRP has agreed a target to reduce these overall by 15%, and Stratford CDRP by 12.5%. Of particular concern to both partnerships is criminal damage, which has increased over recent years. Both partnerships are working closely with

partners to identify the causes and to reduce it. We will also be making particular efforts to reduce domestic burglary, and vehicle crime.

Total Crime Reduction

While the audit has highlighted specific priorities for us, we will monitor levels of all crime types, and target partnership resources where problems are identified.

- We aim to reduce total recorded crime by 15% across the two partnerships

Priority	Stratford Baseline 03/04	Warwick Baseline 03/04	Target	Target Number by March 2008 Stratford	Target Number by March 2008 Warwick
All Crime	7534	10761	Reduce all recorded crime by 15%	6404	9147
Anti-social Behaviour			Increase the numbers of residents who do not think that anti-social behaviour is a problem in their area by 6%		
Violence	1186	1907	Reduce violent crime by 16.75% in Stratford CDRP area and by 6% in Warwick CDRP area	987	1792
Business Crime	3023	3929	Reduce business crime by 15%	2570	3340
Increase residents' feelings of safety			Using the 2004 survey results as a baseline, to reduce the percentage of respondents either 'very worried' or 'fairly worried' as follows:		
	59%	54%	Having their home broken in to and something stolen	50%	53%
	37%	43%	Being physically attacked by strangers	31%	40%
	48%	46%	Having their car stolen	41%	40%
Drugs	45%	41%	Reduce the percentage of people that think drug dealing/misuse is a problem in their local area by 2% each year for 3 Years	39%	35%
BCS Comparator Crime (PSA1)	4059	6498	Reduce the numbers of British Crime Survey comparator crimes selected by the Home Office by 12.5% in Stratford CDRP area and 15% in Warwick CDRP area	3552	5523

Delivery, Accountability and Performance Management

Progress towards achieving the strategic targets is reported, using Police data, to the CDRP every three months, and particular successes or problems highlighted. There is clarity over which agencies are principally responsible for co-ordinating delivery of the targets, and where progress is not satisfactory, the CDRPs are able to identify corrective action.

Stratford CDRP

Stratford CDRP piloted a geographical approach during the last six months of the previous strategy's implementation. The District Council is organised on a geographical basis, dividing its large area into four individual Area Community Committees, which meet principally on District Council business quarterly at meetings to which Parish Councils and members of the public are also invited.

The Police re-structured their approach to deliver community policing on a geographical basis, and these teams were formed to coincide with the Area Community Committees. The CDRP therefore agreed, supported by the Police and the District Council, to formulate annual geographical locality action plans around the strategic targets, with delivery focussed on community issues relevant to the area being discussed.

This approach has proved very successful, particularly as it has enabled the CDRP to engage with the community it serves, and to hear directly from community representatives. Implementation of this strategy will therefore embed this piloted approach. Four Locality Action Plans will encompass the strategic priorities, taking local concerns and issues and developing a tailored, targeted local response. Led in the first instance by the Policing Team Sergeants, the Locality Action Plans will be multi-agency, and have clearly identified agency leads for specific actions. (Copies of these annual Locality Action Plans are available from Ruth Mounstephen, tel: 01789 260127 or email: ruthmounstephen@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

A group drawing together representatives from the contributing agencies will oversee the Locality Action Plans, and meet to discuss progress, identifying remedial action where difficulties in achieving progress are encountered. Progress will be reported to the CDRP quarterly, and to the Area Community Committees every six months.

Acting as specialist reference groups to the Locality Action Planning Groups, expertise on strategic themes will be drawn together to monitor actions and advise on the plans being developed. These reference groups will form on the following themes:

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Prolific and Priority Offenders
- Victims
- Young People

Most of these theme groups already exist, apart from the Anti-Social Behaviour Group, which will principally pick up and monitor the work being lead by the South Warwickshire Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, a post funded by the two CDRPs and introduced in January 2005 to develop a multi-agency response to anti-social behaviour.

Warwick CDRP

In the previous strategy period the Warwick CDRP identified 3 priority areas. Issues of crime, disorder and fear of crime were addressed through a community safety action group for each of three Police beat areas. Each group included local Councillors, Police and resident representatives and was supported by a Warwick District Council Officer. The groups were based on a best practice model from Avon & Somerset.

In September 2004 the Police, District and County Councils agreed to roll out this model across the district. The nature of the district and the different boundaries for electoral wards, divisions and Police Beats does not facilitate geographical working as in Stratford-on-Avon District, but we will work towards this.

Our aim is to engage with all our communities and our goal is to be able to refer every resident to a community safety group meeting at least quarterly by December 2006. In addition to local Councillors and Police, residents, resident groups and Neighbourhood Watch will be joined by a business representative serving on the group. We hope to identify a young person to serve on each group. The group will receive recorded crime and incident data and produce an action plan to address local community safety priorities.

Where possible we will build on existing meetings and groups working with Town Councils as well as the District and County Council. Where the meeting has a broader remit than community safety we will place this issue first on the agenda. Where possible and for any new group a local councillor will chair the meeting.

A representative from each action group will serve on the Communities and Fear of Crime Group. The group will meet quarterly to review progress, refine systems and consider bids for funding. We have identified lead agencies and a lead officer for each of the 4 Head-line Priorities including a jointly funded south Warwickshire Anti-Social Behaviour Officer.

An existing joint agency meeting will be developed to monitor progress for these and other targets in the strategy. Aligning with Stratford CDRP this group will be responsible for producing quarterly progress in a single report to the Warwick District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

Warwick District CDRP has an improvement action plan including terms of reference. Attendance at the CDRP has been reviewed in light of the proposed changes to ensure that we continue to have the most appropriate representation.



South Warwickshire Contact List

	Warwick District (01926)	Stratford District (01789)
Alcohol Misuse:		
Community Alcohol Service	01926 453060	
Alcohol Related Crime & Disorder		
Warwickshire Police	01926 451111	
Anti-Social Behaviour	South Warwickshire Anti-Social Behaviour Officer 01926 456010	
Abandoned Cars	0800 1699900	
Animal Related Problems: D.C. Animal Welfare Warden Dog Fouling	01926 456735 01926 456716	01789 260837 01789 260837
Begging/Rough Sleepers: Police British Transport Police	01926 451111 0800 405040	
Criminal Damage/Vandalism: Street Scene	01926 456337	01789 260616
High Hedges	01926 456520	01789 260355
Hoax Calls: Police	01926 451111	
Intimidation/Harassment: Police	01926 451111	
Kerb Crawling: Police	01926 451111	
Litter/Rubbish: Street Scene Graffiti Fly-tipping	01926 456337 01926 450000 01926 456337	01789 260616 01789 260616 01789 260616
Noise: Environmental Health	01926 456725	01789 260812
Prostitution: Police	01926 451111	
Rowdy Behaviour: Police Licensing	01926 451111 01926 456107	01926 451111 01789 260832
Street Drinking: Alcohol Restricted Zones Under-age Purchasing	01926 456021 01926 414000	01789 260801 01926 414000
Racial Ethnic/Homophobic Incidents: Police	01926 451111	

	Warwick District (01926)	Stratford District (01789)
Bullying		
Warwickshire County Council	01926 738841	
Community Safety	01926 456021	01789 260127
Crime Against Business & Shoplifting	01926 415181	
Domestic Violence		
Warwickshire Police	01926 451111	
South Warwickshire Multi Agency Domestic Violence Team	01926 311245	01789 263691
Road Safety		
Warwickshire Police	01926 451111	
Road Safety Education		
Warwickshire County Council	WCC - 01926 412449	
Street Lighting		
Warwickshire County Council	WCC - 01926 412922	
Vehicle Crime		
Warwickshire Police	01926 451111	
Victim Support Warwickshire	01926 336474	01789 266626
Victim Service at Magistrates' Court	01926 435556	01789 294646
Victim Service at Crown Court	01926 419909	
Violent Crime		
Warwickshire Police	01926 451111	
Offending:		
Youth Offending	01926 736200	
Adult Offending	01926 405800	



List of Partner Agencies involved:

Stratford-upon-Avon District Council
Warwick District Council
Warwickshire County Council
Warwickshire Police
Warwickshire Police Authority
Warwickshire Fire and Rescue
South Warwickshire Primary Care Trust
Warwickshire Youth Offending Team
National Probation Service Warwickshire
Neighbourhood Watch
The Depot
Connexions
Drug Action Team, Warwickshire
Local Criminal Justice Board
Positive About Young People
Government Office for the West Midlands



For further information contact:

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This information can be made available in other formats, including: large print, cassette tape, CD or other languages if required. Tel: 01789 260127