

TOWARDS A SAFER STRATFORD DISTRICT

CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION

STRATEGY

2002 - 2005

Introduction

This is the second Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for Stratford-on-Avon District. There is a statutory duty for Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council to work together to reduce crime and disorder.

This strategy sets out the priorities for the next three years. Our vision is for Stratford-on-Avon District and Warwickshire to be the safest place to live, work and visit.

There are two key objectives:

- To reduce crime and disorder
- To reduce the fear of crime

With the resources available, we have worked hard to make ourselves as efficient as possible, and are proud of our partnership working both in the south of the county, and the county as a whole. The strength of our partnership working is recognised and acknowledged in the Guidance on Statutory Crime and Disorder Partnerships, 1998.

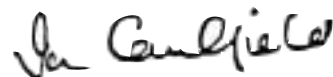
For the first time this strategy aligns with the Policing Plan and Community Plans enabling us to address and monitor locally identified needs and national priorities through the performance plans of the responsible authorities.



Paul Lankester
Chief Executive
Stratford-on-Avon
District Council



David Whitehouse
Chief Superintendent
Southern Area
Commander
Warwickshire Police



Ian Caulfield
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council



What we have done

Strong partnership working and mutual support has resulted in significant achievements over the last three years. Warwickshire's Youth Offending Team was the second to be up and running in the country, and Warwickshire Police have the shortest process time from arrest to court appearance in the country, reducing opportunities for the persistent young offender. Multi-agency initiatives to reduce domestic burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime have been carried out. Retail and business crime are being combated, and the Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative is recognised as national best practice. New Home Office funding has been secured to increase the number of CCTV cameras by 13, to a total of 35. Neighbourhood Watch schemes increased in number from 813 in 2000 to 1068 in 2002, and are now supported by a jointly funded post, and a new countywide manager. Additional partnership funded posts in domestic violence and racial harassment have also enhanced our partnership working.

Crime levels

Crime levels in Stratford-on-Avon District are considerably lower than the national average; total recorded crime per 1000 population in Stratford in 2000-2001 was 51.5 compared with the national average of 98.1 per 1000 (in England and Wales). Burglary levels fluctuated between 1998 and 2001, but fell overall from 374 to 356. Overall there has been a 39% reduction in domestic burglary since 1996. Vehicle crime fell from 1540 recorded crimes in 1998/99 to a total of 1265 in 2001/02, but recorded violent crime has continued to rise. Whilst we can be confident that recorded crime levels are accurate for the first two crime types, we cannot claim the same for violent crime. This is largely due to the adoption of recording standards across the county to close the gap between levels of recorded crime and those in the British Crime Survey. The underlying trend, however, is still increasing, and for this reason, tackling alcohol related violent crime will be our top priority.

Other crime types, including domestic violence and racially motivated crime are, we suspect, under reported, and our primary task for these crime types is to encourage reporting and produce a more accurate picture, and then to concentrate on reducing actual levels.

Fear of crime levels

Fear of crime in Stratford-on-Avon District is lower than the national average, and has fallen over the last twelve months for each of the national priority crimes. In spite of this, fear of crime remains a high priority for residents because it is disproportionately high compared with actual recorded crime levels.

Priorities

Community safety was identified as a high priority in the Community Planning process. We asked people to assess their own levels of concern about being a victim of crime. From this we were able to identify particular areas of the District that were of greater concern. The areas corresponded very closely with areas of highest recorded violent and alcohol related crime, and have helped us to begin to prioritise the next three years' work. Groups are already working in each of these areas to tackle the problems. Changing patterns and trends in recorded crime may well mean that these areas change during the three years of this strategy. We will continue to review crime trends, and commission additional geographically based work as appropriate.

Based on the findings of the crime and disorder audit carried out in the last part of 2001, and consultation during the first three months of 2002, we have identified the priorities which this strategy will seek to address. Young people, as both victims and offenders, are of great concern to us and they will be considered in all our action plans.

Our priorities can be looked at under six headings, and uniquely the whole of Warwickshire share these concerns and will be working together to address them. They are:

- Crime, (incorporating the national priorities and local concerns)
- Victims
- Offenders
- Communities
- Fear of crime
- Alcohol and drug abuse

We are developing detailed action plans for each of these priorities, shorter versions of which are to be found following this section.

If you are interested in seeing the full action plans, please contact Ruth Mounstephen, Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy Co-ordinator, on 01789 260155, or at Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Chief Executive's Department, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HX. E-mail: ruthmounstephen@warwickshire.gov.uk

How we will work

Our experience of partnership working has shown that we are stronger and more effective when we plan and act together.

- We will be intelligence led, utilising the quarterly analysis of recorded crime to respond to trends and patterns of crime.
- We will share information in line with Data Protection protocols.
- We will collaborate in the preparation of Anti Social Behaviour Orders.
- We will re-visit our working practices through a countywide Best Value review.

We believe that communities can contribute greatly to improving community safety in their areas. We will work with them, and work towards improving accessibility to all services, working with all sections of the community regardless of race, age, sexuality, gender, disability or faith.

Who we will work with

We will continue to value the support and contribution of voluntary as well as statutory agencies. A list of agencies including those who have contributed to this strategy and with whom we will be working is to be found on the last page.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for Stratford-on-Avon District 2002 - 2005

These action plans contain only an indication of some of the actions we will be undertaking to reduce crime and disorder over the next three years. These are our targets, and will be supported by detailed annual action plans, detailing which agencies are contributing and leading on each action. These are available from Ruth Mounstephen, Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy Co-ordinator, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Chief Executive's Department, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HX.

The Problem	Some of the actions we will take	Our targets
<p>Burglary of houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with communities to inform and support residents particularly vulnerable to domestic burglaries • Raise public awareness of Bogus Callers especially in areas with higher numbers of incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the number of house burglaries to 313 in 2004/05, representing a reduction of 38% on the 1999/00 number of 506
<p>Shoplifting and crime against business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the membership of the Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative to cover all towns in Stratford-on-Avon District • Work with magistrates to secure sentences that will act as a deterrent to the persistent shoplifter • Seek Anti Social Behaviour Orders against persistent shoplifters • Promote the Business Watch scheme in priority areas • Support the Beating Business Crime Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the number of thefts from shops to 291 in 2004/05 representing a reduction of 8.5% on the 2001/02 number of 319 • To reduce the number of commercial burglaries to 403 in 2004/05 representing a reduction of 17% on the 2001/02 number of 485 • To reduce the overall number of business crimes to 2493 in 2004/05 representing a reduction of 8.5% on the 2001/02 number of 2731

The Problem	Some of the actions we will take	Our targets
<p>Vehicle crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentrate on known vehicle crime locations including out of town car parks • Promote vehicle security with the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the overall number of vehicle crimes to 1101 in 2004/05 representing a reduction of 12% on the 2001/02 numbers of 1265
<p>Violent crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle street violence and robbery • Ensure that young people have information about personal safety • Work with licensed premises to reduce alcohol related violence • Ensure high police visibility in priority areas in conjunction with CCTV • Develop a South Warwickshire multi-agency domestic violence team • Establish a domestic violence refuge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the overall number of violent crimes to 693 in 2002/03 representing a reduction of 3% on 2001/02 number of 716 <p>(N.B. as part of our domestic violence projects, we will be actively encouraging victims of domestic violence to come forward and report. These crimes will be included in the overall violent crime numbers, and may distort the figures).</p>
<p>Alcohol-related crime and disorder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out awareness campaigns e.g. Going Out, Staying Safe, and the Doorsafe scheme • Record alcohol related crime • Record crime and disorder issues in health agencies • Reduce underage drinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By March 2003 we will agree a benchmark and set reduction targets for 2003/04 and 2004/05

The Problem	Some of the actions we will take	Our targets
<p>Drug misuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present an education programme to young people, their parents and families in order to provide balanced, factual and appropriate information on the risks of drug misuse • All young people to receive substance misuse education in line with DfES guidance • Support and promote activities under the Communities Against Drugs programme • Disrupt the drugs market in the areas of highest recorded drug incidents • Operate a referral scheme to all persons arrested in order to get more drug users into treatment programmes • Use Drug Treatment and Testing Orders (DTTOs) to reduce drug related offending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2003 all community venues will provide information on drug misuse and where to access help. • Increase the number of arrests of dealers of Class A drugs in the hot spot areas by 10% by 2002/03 compared to the previous year. • 100% of all arrested persons to be referred to the Arrest Referral Scheme. • Commence 30 DTTOs across South Warwickshire annually
<p>Victimisation and repeat victimisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Victim Support to establish and meet the needs of victims • Set up systems to record repeat victimisation and provide information and support • Identify vulnerable people in order to help them prevent themselves from becoming victims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify 100% of repeat victims by 2003/04 • Reduce the numbers of repeat victims of house burglary by 5% by 2004/05
<p>Racial harassment and racially motivated offences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make it easier to report racist incidents by providing reporting centres across the district • Establish a multi-agency approach to record and effectively investigate all racist incidents and offences 	<p>To improve the satisfaction of victims with investigations carried out</p>
<p>Bullying</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot a scheme to challenge the culture of bullying 	

The Problem	Some of the actions we will take	Our targets
<p>Anti-social behaviour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with all sections of our communities to provide adequate play schemes, leisure facilities and other activities, particularly for young people • Utilise Acceptable Behaviour Commitments and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the overall number of reported nuisance youth incidents to 990 in 2004/05 representing a reduction of 6% on 2001/02 number of 1054
<p>Children at risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with appropriate agencies to identify children most at risk of developing offending behaviour to minimise that risk 	
<p>Offending</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the appropriate punishment and rehabilitation of offenders through accredited programmes • Reduce the involvement of young people in vehicle crime and domestic burglary • Involve offenders in improving environments and communities • Support the Youth Offending Team in bringing offenders and victims together through restorative justice processes • Ensure the effective management of high risk offenders in the community by utilising Multi Agency Protection Panels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of people re-offending by 5% • Produce an annual report

The Problem	Some of the actions we will take	Our targets
<p>Fear of crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase police visibility and accessibility and improve communication by ensuring Community Beat Officers optimise their time on the beat, with particular emphasis on isolated communities • Support local groups to identify and tackle crime and disorder concerns, particularly engaging the rural areas • Produce action plans with local communities in areas with higher rates of recorded crime • Increase the numbers of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in areas with higher crime levels • Increase the volume of calls made to the Crimestoppers line which lead to positive police action • Improve street lighting • Improve the effectiveness of CCTV monitoring • Improve the local environment through quicker removal of graffiti, abandoned vehicles and fly tipping • Improve awareness of actual crime levels and types of crime by working with the media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce crime in the priority areas by 5% • Using the fear of crime survey, reduce the percentage of those <i>very</i> or <i>fairly</i> worried about being a victim of domestic burglary to 50% in 2004/05 from the 2001/02 figure of 52%. • Reduce the percentage of those <i>very</i> or <i>fairly</i> worried about being a victim of violent crime to 34% in 2004/05 from the 2001/02 figure of 36% • Reduce the percentage of those <i>very</i> or <i>fairly</i> worried about being a victim of vehicle crime to 47% in 2004/05 from the 2001/02 figure of 49%
<p>Speeding vehicles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a Road Safety Action Plan to reduce the numbers of people killed and seriously injured on our roads • Actively promote traffic calming initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of fatalities and seriously injured victims by 40%, with child casualties reduced by 50%, by 2010

Contacts for our partners and other agencies

Issue	Contact Agency	Contact number
Reporting crime	Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Burglary of houses	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111
Crime against business and shoplifting	Warwickshire Beating Business Crime	01926 415181
	Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative	01926 415189
Vehicle crime	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111
Violent crime	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111
Domestic violence	Warwickshire Police	01926 451111 ext 4628
	Stratford Outreach Project	01789 263691
	South Warwickshire Multi Agency Domestic Violence Team	01789 297709
Alcohol misuse	Community Alcohol Service in South Warwickshire (AAS)	01926 885000
Alcohol related crime and disorder	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111
Licensing	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260852
	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111 ext 4710
Drug misuse	Warwickshire Drug Action Team	01926 746808
	Family and Friends	0808 800 2000
	Parents and Drugs	01789 261376
Victims	Victim Support Warwickshire	01789 266626
	Witness Service at the Magistrates Court	01789 294646
	Crown Court	01926 419909
Racial harassment and racially motivated incidents	Communities Against Racism	01789 260153
Bullying	Warwickshire County Council	01926 412264
Anti-social behaviour	Warwickshire Police	01789 414111
Noise nuisance	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260820
Abandoned vehicles	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260612
Fly tipping	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260612
Graffiti	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260612

Issue	Contact Agency	Contact number
Environmental crime	Warwickshire Police	01926 415208
Youth offending	Youth Offending Team	01926 736200
Adult offending	National Probation Service Warwickshire	01926 405800
Fear of crime	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260155
Street lighting	Warwickshire County Council	01926 412922
Road safety	Warwickshire Police	01926 415410
	Warwickshire County Council	01926 412404
Road safety education	Warwickshire County Council	01926 412449
Other partner agencies	Social Services	01926 413945
	Coventry & Warwickshire	
	Connexions Service	01789 266841
	Community Education	01926 413604
	Neighbourhood Watch	01926 415669
	The Depot	01789 260114
	The Depot Barge	01789 209025
	Crown Prosecution Service	01926 455000
	Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service	01789 293271
	South Warwickshire Primary Care Trust	01926 493491
	Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils	01926 410122
	Government Office for the West Midlands (Crime Reduction and Social Inclusion Unit)	0121 214 2000

Issue	Contact Agency	Contact number
Community Safety Contacts	Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 260155
	Warwickshire County Council	01926 418086
	Warwickshire Police Community Safety Unit	01789 414111 ext 4102 & 4598
	North Warwickshire Borough Council	01827 719238
	Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	02476 367569
	Rugby Borough Council	01788 533870
	Warwick District Council	01926 456021
Police contacts	Police District Commander	01789 414111 ext 4501
	Stratford-upon-Avon Police Station	01789 414111
	Alcester Police Station	01789 762207
	Southam Police Station	01926 812366
	Shipston Police Station	01608 661415
	Henley-in-Arden Police Station	01564 792691
	Wellesbourne Police Station	01789 842114



NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE
for England and Wales
Warwickshire

Warwickshire Youth Offending Team

YOT



VICTIM INFORMATION - Is there data on the age, gender, ethnicity and location of known victims? - Is there any information on victims of under-reported crimes, eg domestic violence and hate crimes? - Is there information on extent, location, type of businesses experiencing crime? - Is there data on the nature and extent of repeat victimisation?

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL RELATED CRIME - Is there data available on drugs related crime and disorder, eg from arrest, referral? - Is there data on the extent of problem drugs use? - Is there information on alcohol related crime and disorder? - Is there information available on drugs related offending? - Is there information on the nature and extent of alcohol related crime and disorder, eg from A & E Departments, licensees etc? - Are there patterns identifiable in relation to alcohol related crime and disorder?

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF CRIME AND DISORDER DATA - Are any new types of crime identified? - Is there evidence of under-reporting or hidden crime? - Is there any information on the costs of crime? - Has the consultation process led to adjustments or added to the understanding? - Do conclusions from the crime data line up with conclusions from other data sources? - Does the disorder data highlight additional 'hotspots'? - Does the data collected indicate 'risk' factors in terms of offending? - Does the information identify some groups as more vulnerable than others? - Is there sufficient information on young people's experience to point to ways of improving responses to them? - Has the impact of the media coverage of crime been considered? - Is current investment (main programme and other funding) properly targeted to achieve maximum impact on community safety?

COMMUNITIES/INVOLVEMENT - Is the Crime and Disorder Partnership reflective of communities targeted by community safety action? - Have 'difficult to reach' communities with a direct interest in the strategy being developed been involved/consulted (communities of interest or geography)? - Have young people been involved in the audit and strategy development? - Are there links to neighbourhood renewal partnerships and programmes and/or community planning?

WAY FORWARD - Are clear conclusions reached and priorities set for the next 3 years? - Is this audit → strategy process to be reviewed with strengths and weaknesses identified? - Have any gaps been identified in this → audit strategy process? - Are there plans to address weaknesses/gaps? - Has a timetable for reviewing progress been agreed? - Does the process fit with other planning cycles?

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