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FORWARD

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed new obligations on Leicester City Council, the Leicestershire Constabulary, the Leicester and Rutland Probation Service, the Leicestershire Health Authority and the Leicestershire Police Authority to work together with a view to reducing crime and disorder in Leicester, thereby reducing the fear of crime amongst the community.

The Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder was established and after consultation with other agencies and the completion of a crime audit, the first Crime and Disorder Strategy was produced in April 1999.

That three year strategy has been successful in a number of ways:

- ◆ Over £4 million has been brought into the City to tackle crime and disorder.
- ◆ Domestic burglary reduced by 9% in year one and 20.9% in year two.
- ◆ Introduction of a persistent burglary offender initiative (B.R.I.L.).
- ◆ Substantial increase in the use of CCTV both within the city centre and on residential estates.
- ◆ Increased reporting of racial harassment and domestic violence.
- ◆ Introduction of a common reporting and monitoring system for race and domestic violence.
- ◆ Introduction of a Retail Crime Initiative for young people.
- ◆ Apart from within the city centre, all the year two crime reduction targets were achieved.

An overarching success has been the recognised improvement in multi-agency co-operation.

This second strategy seeks to build on these successes and further develop an effective working partnership between statutory agencies, voluntary and community organisations, local residents and business interests, with the overall objective of:

‘ Reducing the level, cost and fear of crime and disorder in the City of Leicester. ‘

This strategy has been compiled following a comprehensive audit and extensive consultation process. It contains priorities that have been determined, with objectives being set, to meet identified targets.

INTRODUCTION

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, placed a statutory duty upon Local Authorities and the Police, along with the Health Authorities, Probation Service and others, to form Crime and Disorder Partnerships to work together to develop and implement a strategy to reduce crime and disorder in their area.

Crime and anti-social behaviour undermines the quality of life of all that come into contact with it. It is also very costly. National figures estimate that crime costs nearly £1,000 per head of population. Crime also places great demands upon the Police, the Local Authority and other agencies, which have to respond to the consequences.

Previously in Leicester, there had been a move away from crime prevention in its simplest form, towards an approach, which attempted to deal with behaviour that raises the fear of crime and reduces the quality of life in communities. This resulted in a number of multi-agency partnerships being formed to tackle those very issues. Many partnerships developed between statutory, voluntary and community organisations which worked together to make Leicester a safer city, thereby increasing public reassurance and security.

The Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder was established in 1999 and sought to draw together, formalise and enhance much of the excellent work that had already taken place within existing partnerships. A three year strategy was developed with the objectives of both reducing the amount of crime and disorder committed within the City of Leicester and reducing the fear amongst the community of being a victim of crime.

This is the second Crime and Disorder Strategy for the City of Leicester, covering the period April 2002 until March 2005. It has the same overall objectives as the first strategy but seeks to further develop its successes as well as addressing some of the disappointments.

The strategy is designed to tackle the problems of crime and disorder which have been prioritised through an audit of crime and disorder, and a consultation process to address people's perceptions of crime, which may be disproportionate to reality.

The strategy is also designed to complement and support the initiatives of the Health and Education Action Zones, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team for Leicester and influence initiatives in Single Regeneration and New Deal areas.

MISSION STATEMENT

The members of the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder are committed to working together to make Leicester a safe and attractive city in which to live, work, study and socialise. It will do this by combating social exclusion and making measurable reductions in crime, disorder and the fear of crime as well as their social and economic consequences.

THE AIMS OF THE LEICESTER PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CRIME AND DISORDER

To work together to make the City of Leicester a safer place for our communities to live, work and socialise in by:

- ◆ Reducing the opportunities for crime to occur
- ◆ Tackling disorder and anti-social behaviour
- ◆ Improving methods of crime detection
- ◆ Improving services to victims
- ◆ Reducing the fear of crime
- ◆ Tackling domestic violence and racial harassment
- ◆ Combating the use of drugs

thereby creating more socially inclusive communities.

Members of the Partnership Strategy Group

LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

LEICESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND PROBATION SERVICE

LEICESTERSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

Members of the Partnership Management Group

Membership of this group is not restrictive or exclusive and includes:

LEICESTER CITY YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM

LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

LEICESTER VICTIMS OF CRIME SUPPORT SCHEME

LEICESTERSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

VOLUNTARY ACTION LEICESTER

LEICESTER RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL

LEICESTER MAGISTRATES COURTS

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

LEICESTER WITNESS COCOON

LEICESTER CITY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ACTION TEAM

PRODUCING THE STRATEGY

The following stages were completed in order to produce this strategy:

- Stage One** The information group commenced work on production of the audit. All member agencies and organisations produced reports on data that they had collected over the previous two years. These reports examined trends and highlighted significant issues of concern.
- Stage Two** Using the services of Crime Concern, together with the Police and other agencies, produce a profile of crime and disorder within the City of Leicester.
- Stage Three** Carrying out a household survey of public concerns and experiences. (Appendix A)
- Stage Four** Review current community safety practice and policy.
- Stage Five** Produce a consolidated audit report.
- Stage Six** Undertake city-wide consultation.
- Stage Seven** Sub groups set up to look at key priorities for the city. These sub groups tasked with setting objectives and preparing action plans.
- Stage Eight** Draft strategy document presented to partnership members for any amendments and final ratification.
- Stage Nine** Strategy adopted and published.

This strategy is a working document and whilst it has a three year lifespan, it will be reviewed annually. Objectives and targets may be amended in accordance with changes in the crime profile for the city or changes in priorities.

Action plans for the first 12-month period are set for each priority and are contained within a separate document. These action plans will be evaluated and if necessary updated prior to years two and three.

In producing this strategy, account has been taken of objectives contained within other strategies and plans that affect the city, namely:

- ◆ The Leicestershire Constabulary Policing Plan
- ◆ The Police Authority Plan
- ◆ Youth Justice Plan
- ◆ Probation Service Business Plan
- ◆ Community Plan
- ◆ Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (D.A.A.T.) Plan
- ◆ Housing Strategy
- ◆ Cultural Development Plan
- ◆ Leicester Regeneration Strategy

AUDIT FINDINGS

Trends

In order to put some of the information contained later in this strategy into context, it is useful to consider it against both national and county wide crime information.

During the year ending 31 March 2001, the Police in England and Wales recorded a total of 5.2 million crimes. This represents an overall fall in crime over the preceding year of 2.5%.

As regards trends over specific crime types, domestic burglary offences fell by 9% whilst vehicle crime rates fell by 7%. Offences of violent crime rose nationally with a 13% increase in robbery offences and a 3% increase in violence against the person.

In Leicestershire, there were a total of 86,422 offences recorded between April 2000 and March 2001, which represents an 8.6% decrease compared with the previous year and equates to 92 offences per 1000 of the population ⁽¹⁾. Across the county, theft and handling stolen goods (40%) vehicle crime (26%) and burglary (16%) made up the largest proportion of crimes committed.

(1) Recording periods are always from the 1st April in one year to the 31st March the following year.

Leicester Comparison

In the City of Leicester, there were a total of 41,212 crimes recorded during 2000/2001. This represents nearly half of all crime recorded in Leicestershire and equates to 142 incidents per 1000 population. This is a 7.2% decrease compared with 1999/2000, which is better than the national average of a 2.5% decrease.

Although overall there was a decrease in crime, especially domestic burglary, certain offences have been subject to increases, namely robbery (up 8.6%) and assaults (up 0.7%).

Whilst the city centre has seen an overall reduction in crime between 1998 and 2001, the number of assaults has increased by 320 incidents from 2,361 incidents in the 1998/1999 recording period to 2,681 in 2000/2001, which equates to a 12% increase over the three year period. Robbery within the City Centre has also seen an 11% increase over the same period.

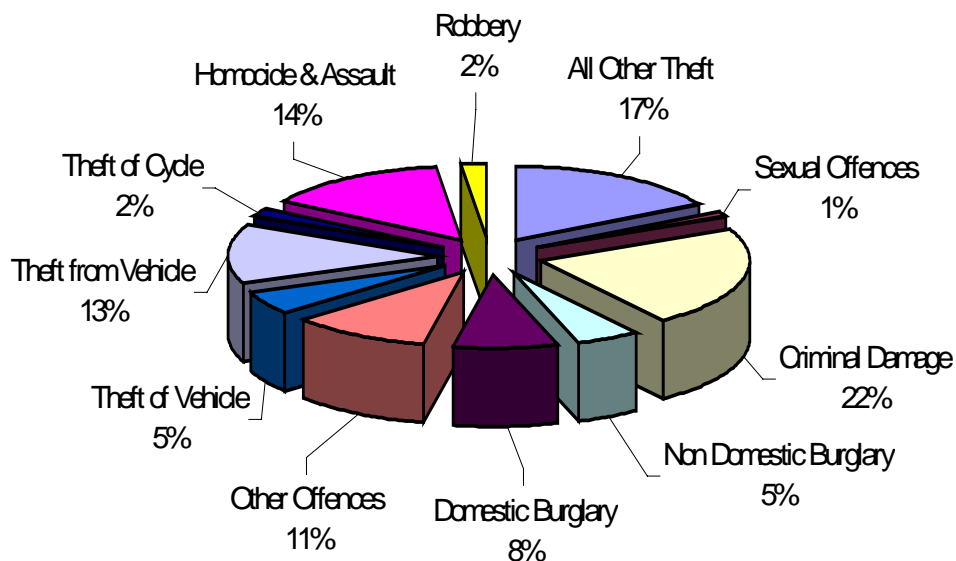
Following the introduction of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (C.D.R.P.), the Home Office developed a system to enable partnerships to compare their performance by grouping them into one of thirteen 'families'. These groupings are based on a number of socio-economic and demographic factors that have been shown to correlate with the level of crime and disorder within an area. Leicester City has been grouped with 11 other large urban area CDRP's. They are:

Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Nottingham, Sheffield, Bradford,
Middlesborough, Newcastle upon Tyne, Kingston upon Hull, and Wolverhampton.

Overall, the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder compares favourably to other partnerships in its 'family' across all five main categories of crime, namely violence against the person, robbery, domestic burglary, and theft of and from vehicles.

Comparative performance is particularly favourable for robbery where 7 out of the 11 partnerships have a higher rate than Leicester, despite the increase in the number of incidents by over 8%. This is also true of theft of vehicles where 10 of the partnerships had higher crime rates than Leicester.

Percentage of recorded crime in Leicester City 2000/2001



Domestic Burglary

Burglary is still the crime that causes the most concern for residents of Leicester.

There were a total of 5650 incidents of burglary in Leicester between 2000/2001, making up a total of 13% of all recorded crime in Leicester for that period. 60% of these burglary incidents were domestic burglaries.

Reducing burglary, and in particular domestic burglary, has been a success in Leicester over recent years. There were 28.2 incidents of domestic burglary per 1000 households in the period 2000/2001, a reduction from 36 in 1999/2000 and 39 in 1998/1999. This matches a regional and national trend, but the reduction in the rates per 1000 households has been greatest for the city compared to county and national reductions.

Within the partnership family, Leicester has the third lowest rates of domestic burglary per 1000 households.

Whilst this is encouraging and can be considered one of the successes of the first Leicester City Crime and Disorder Strategy, there is no room for complacency:

- ◆ The resident's survey indicated that 67% of respondents were very concerned about having their house broken into and something stolen even though only 9% had actually been a victim of burglary in the last 12 months.
- ◆ The rate of 28.2 burglaries per 1000 households is still above the national average of 18.4 per 1000 households.
- ◆ The resident's survey indicated that Asian (76%) and female respondents (68%) were the most concerned about domestic burglary.
- ◆ Early indications are that domestic burglary may not reduce in the period 2001/2002.

Violent Crime

Violent crime comprises of assaults against the person (ranging from minor assault or common assault through to homicide) and robbery (actual or attempted theft using force or the threat of force).

Nationally, violent crime rose by 4.3% in the period 2000/2001 compared to the previous 12 months.

In Leicester, there were 5668 incidents of assault in this period making a total of 14% of all recorded crime. This is an increase of 7% over the period 1997/1998.

There were a total of 863 incidents of robbery in the period 2000/2001 making a total of 2% of all recorded crime. Whilst these numbers are fairly small, figures have gone up nearly 9% since 1999/2000 and by 11% since 1998/1999. The trend is that there will be a further increase for the period 2001/2002.

The resident's survey indicated that repeat victimisation was high, with nearly one in four respondents having suffered more than once in the last 12 months. 43% of the incidents took place in the city centre, 33% in the vicinity of the victim's neighbourhood and 14% at work. Those from a mixed race background were the most likely victims. Being mugged or robbed and being physically attacked were the third and fifth crimes of concern amongst residents.

Within the partnership family groupings, incidents of violent crime were comparatively high, with Leicester falling among the top quarter.

Vehicle Crime

The collective term, vehicle crime, relates to theft of motor vehicles, taking a motor vehicle without the owners consent (TWOC) and theft from motor vehicles.

Nationally, the cost of vehicle crime is over £3.5 billion a year and makes up 19% of all crime.

In Leicester, between 2000/2001, there were a total of 7,468 incidents of vehicle crime making 18% of all recorded crime. 72% of vehicle crime was theft from a vehicle and TWOC, with the remaining 28% being theft of vehicles. This equates to 18.9 incidents of theft from and 6.8 incidents of theft of motor vehicles per 1000 population. Both of these figures have reduced from previous years.

Within the partnership family groupings, Leicester suffered the second lowest rates per 1000 of the population for vehicle theft but just below average for theft from motor vehicles.

Crime Concern's research into vehicle crime identified that nationally, 75% of vehicle crime offenders are under the age of 21, with 36% of those being 16 years or under. In Leicester, 3% of pre-sentence reports (PSR's) were written on vehicle crime offenders.

In the resident's survey, vehicle crime ranked sixth in the order of concerns and early indications are that vehicle crime has increased in Leicester for the period 2001/2002 compared to the previous 12 months.

Domestic Violence

The Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder uses a broad and all encompassing definition of domestic violence:

'Domestic violence includes any physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, social or economic abuse of an individual by a partner, ex-partner, carer or one or more family members, in an existing or previous domestic relationship. This is regardless of age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, disability, HIV status, class or location.'

Government policy around domestic violence goes onto describe the nature that domestic violence can often take:

'Domestic violence can take many forms such as physical assault, sexual abuse, rape threats and intimidation, which are criminal offences. The abuse is often repeated, often over many years and may escalate and intensify. The long-term effects of domestic violence can include low self-esteem, feelings of guilt, shame, depression and stress.'

There are problems associated with gaining a true picture into the extent of domestic violence. Firstly, due to its sensitive nature it is greatly under reported and secondly, there are differences in the way that incidents are classified. In some instances, for example, it can be recorded as violent crime.

The Greater London Domestic Violence Project reported that:

- ◆ One woman is murdered every 3 days by a current or former lover.
- ◆ Domestic violence accounts for 25% of all reported violent crimes.
- ◆ 90% of children in violent homes are in the same or next room.

In Leicester, police statistics show that there were a total of 4264 incidents of domestic violence between 2000/2001, with just over a third (35%) being assaults. Incidents of domestic violence frequently go unreported to the police and therefore these figures are likely to be an underestimation of the full scale of the problem. Studies show that a woman may have been the victim of domestic violence more than 30 times, sometimes over a long period within the relationship, before she reports the incidents to an agency.

In the resident's survey, mixed race and asian respondents were most concerned about being the victim of domestic violence whilst white respondents were the least concerned.

Racial Harassment

After the Stephen Lawrence enquiry, issues around race and racism have rightly come to the forefront of crime policy. The following definition of a racist incident has been adopted from the Stephen Lawrence enquiry:

'Any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.'

Nationally, the number of racist incidents has risen each year since 1994. The British Crime Survey suggests that this reflects improved recording practices rather than an increase in the number of incidents.

This pattern is also evident in Leicester. During 2000/2001, 908 racist incidents were recorded by the Leicestershire Constabulary, of which 640 (70%) took place in the city. This was a 16% increase when compared to the previous year.

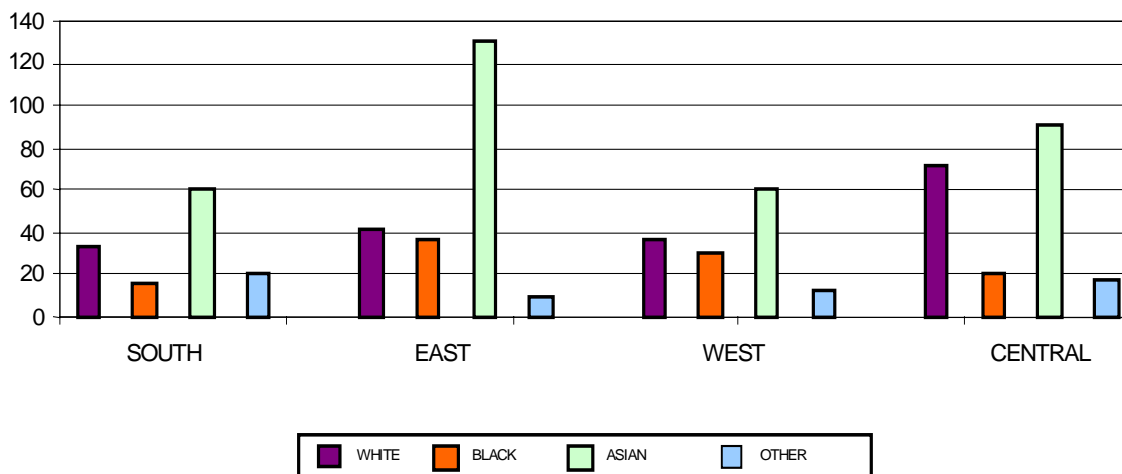
The number of racist incidents in the city recorded by the police has nearly trebled since 1998/1999, from 219 to the figure of 640 for 2000/2001. Early indications are that this figure will rise again in 2001/2002 with 595 incidents recorded in the first nine months. As with the national picture, this may be due to a number of factors like an increase in public confidence to report to the police, as well as a greater awareness amongst police officers to record incidents brought to their attention.

There were 2.1 racist incidents per 1000 of the population of Leicester in 2000/2001; this was an increase from 2 in 1999/2000 and 0.8 in 1998/1999.

The Leicester resident's survey showed that 28% of respondents were worried about being the victim of verbal abuse due to their colour and 30% worried about being the victim of physical attack. Of these, Asian and dual heritage respondents were the groups most concerned about racial abuse with white respondents being the least concerned. This mirrors the findings of the resident's survey carried out in 1998 for the first Crime and Disorder Strategy.

The following graph for the period 2000/2001 also reflects those concerns although interestingly, the second highest group of victims of racist incidents was white.

Ethnicity of victims of racist incidents by area across the city.



The Home Office research study, *'The Perpetrators of Racial Harassment and Racial Violence'* found that perpetrators of racism were:

- ◆ all ages, both males and females but were rarely the stereotypical characters often associated with such acts.
- ◆ are often insecure about their own future and may possess a lack of identity
- ◆ may suffer from physical and mental problems
- ◆ have often grown up with parents or grandparents with racist views
- ◆ reflect the views of the communities in which they live and see their community legitimating their views.

Hate Crime

Hate crime covers those offences that are motivated in part by the prejudices of the offender on the grounds of sexuality, race or religion. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) offers the following definition:

'Where a perpetrator's prejudice is a factor in determining who is victimised.'

The following definition is also offered by ACPO for homophobic crime:

'Any incident which is perceived to be homophobic by the victim or any other person.'

It is very difficult to obtain an accurate picture of crimes against lesbian, gay and bisexual people because of under-reporting/recording. The police now make provision in their recording systems for homophobic incidents to be coded as such, though this is clearly not easy to determine.

During 2000/2001, 47 homophobic incidents were reported to the Leicestershire Constabulary. Of these, 38 incidents (over 80%) took place in the city. The data shows that 68% of the victims were male, 71% of the victims were aged between 20-39 and nearly 37% were repeat victims.

Drugs

Communities Against Drugs guidance from the Home Office states that:

'Drug misuse is not just a problem in deprived areas, equally not every disadvantaged area has a drugs problem. But drug misuse, and the crime and anti-social behaviour that is often associated with it, compounds the other problems that deprived neighbourhoods face and creates a vicious downward spiral.'

The British Crime Survey in 2000 found that a third of those aged between 16-59 had tried drugs in their lifetime. Rates of use of any drug were generally higher in young people; the figures for 16-29 year-olds were 50% had tried drugs, 25% had used drugs in the last year and 16% had used drugs in the last month.

The Trent Drug Misuse Database (TDMD) records numbers of individuals who go along to drug treatment centres with a 'drug problem'. Their records show that 80% of all users reported their main drug to be heroin. On average, over 30% of users fell into the 20-24 year age category and this age group saw the highest proportion of users for both females (29.8%) and males (32.4%).

Within the City of Leicester, there were a total of 657 incidents of drug offences recorded by the Leicestershire Constabulary in 2000/2001. Just under 75% of these offences were for possession of controlled drugs with a further 19.8% for trafficking. These figures are reliant upon police detection's, as unlike other offences, they are generally not recorded as a result of reports from the public. They do not, therefore, give a true reflection of the extent of drug misuse in the city.

The Leicester resident's survey showed that the second highest level of concern was people using or dealing in drugs. Those from a dual heritage background (71%) and Asian (61%) were the most concerned, while Black (31%) and those respondents under the age of 25 (41%) were the least concerned.

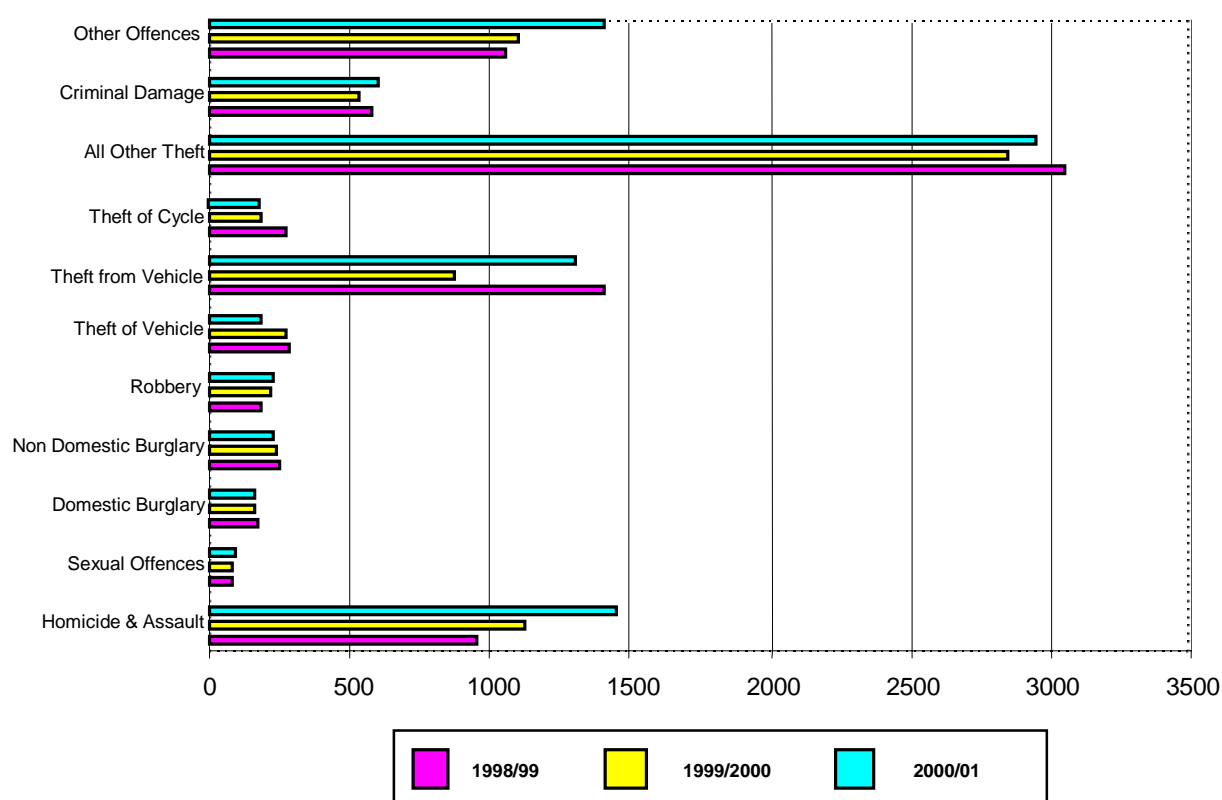
Drugs did not feature as a priority for the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder in its first strategy. The connection between the use of drugs and the commission of other crime has received a higher profile over the last three years, and with the introduction by the Government of Communities Against Drugs funding, combating the use of drugs is now considered a priority for this strategy. (See page 34)

Crime In The City Centre

There were a total of 8,380 crimes recorded in the city centre during the period 2000/2001 which relates to 20.3% of all crime committed within the city. This is an increase of 921 crimes over the period 1999/2000 or 12.3%.

- ◆ Homicide and assault offences experienced an increase of 293 offences or 26%.
- ◆ Theft from motor vehicles experienced the highest increase of 329 offences or 37%
- ◆ Theft of motor vehicles reduced by 144 offences or over 50%
- ◆ Non domestic burglary offences reduced by 4.3%

Recorded crime trends in the City Centre



Information On Offenders

Adults

To ensure the maximum effectiveness of community safety activity, it must be targeted. By building a profile of offenders, we are able to focus initiatives and efforts at those most at risk of offending.

Nationally, a total of 1.41 million people were sentenced during 1999. This was a 4% decrease on the previous year. Of these, 105,360 offenders (23%) were sent to prison, which is the highest figure in 50 years. The use of fines has decreased dramatically from 40% of all sentences in 1989 to 27% in 1999.

In Leicester during the period 2000/2001, the probation service wrote a total of 2,325 pre-sentence reports (P.S.R's) on some 1,745 offenders. This showed a decrease in both the numbers of PSR's being written and the number of offenders being dealt with compared to 1999 and 2000. (2,588 and 1954 respectively.)

The vast majority of offenders were male, with only 12% of offences being committed by females.

Theft, violent crime and motoring offences are the main offences committed. Motoring offences make up over a quarter of all PSR's written.

Trends over time show that the main three offences committed in 2000-2001 requiring PSR's have remained in the top three for the last three recording periods.

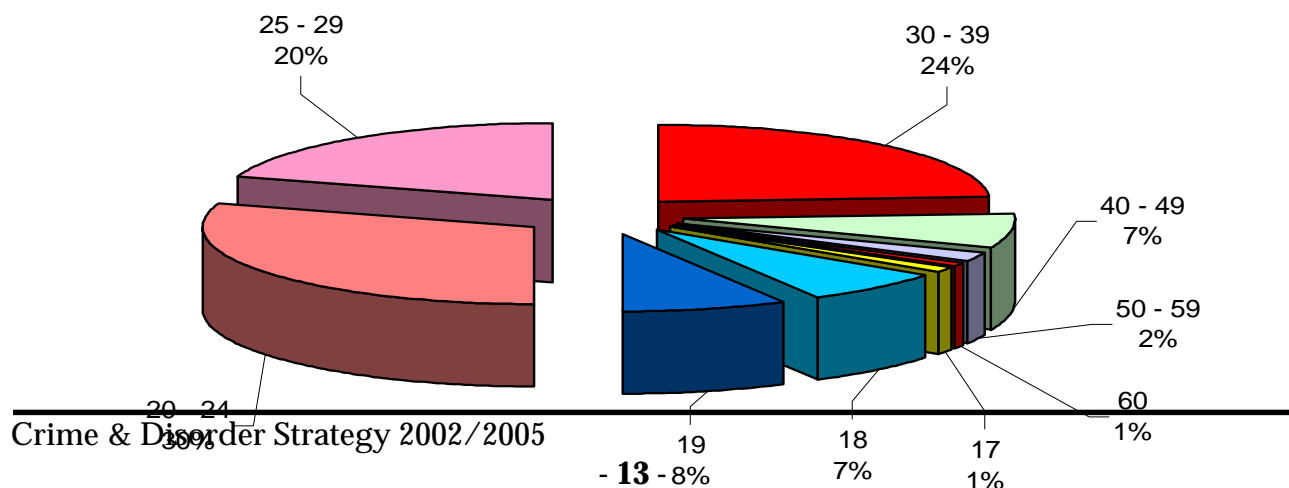
Burglary represents a high proportion of overall offending. Evidence from the Burglary Reduction Initiative in Leicester (BRIL), suggests that burglary offenders have a wide range of problem areas and tend to be the most prolific type of offenders supervised by probation.

Burglary offenders will often be sentenced to multiple offences each time they appear in court. This is supported by work carried out by the Leicestershire and Rutland Probation Service who found that 13 offenders were responsible for over half of the 430 offences included in their study. This demonstrates that repeat offenders will be an important element in tackling burglary.

The most common age of offenders is between 20 and 24 years. This age range accounts for 30% of all PSR's. Offenders under the age of 30 account for half of all PSR's.

In the most vulnerable age group, 18-30 years, there has been a substantial decrease in the proportion committing domestic burglary (reduced by 14.2%) and vehicle crime (reduced by 16.1%), since 1999/2000. This has been coupled however, with substantial increases in drug offences (increased by 16.4%), fraud and forgery (increased by 15.7%) and sexual offences (increased by 17.6%).

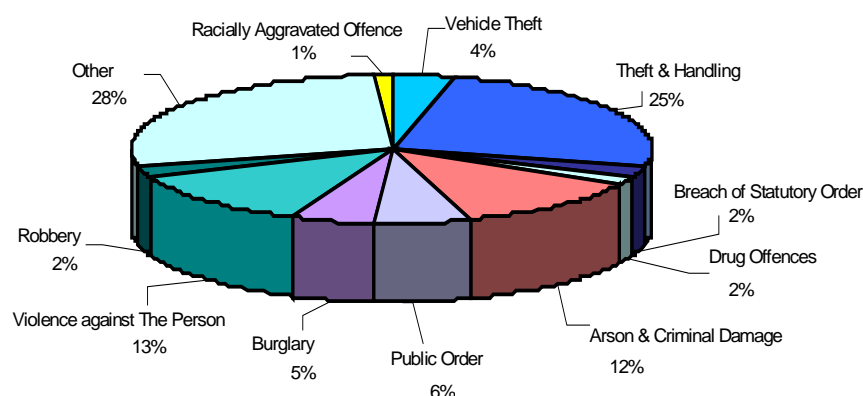
Age and percentage of crime committed by adult offenders in 2000/2001



Young People

Within Leicester, during the period 2000/2001, the Youth Offending Team (YOT) data indicates that the police and courts dealt with 1243 young offenders aged between 10-17 years. These offenders were responsible for 1793 crimes, creating a ratio of 1:1.4 for offenders: offences.

Offences committed by young people during 2000/2001



Males committed over 87% of offences although females were over represented in the offences of violent crime (19%), theft (23%) and criminal damage (16%). The largest number of female offenders fell in the 13 year age category, with females making up just under a quarter of all offenders.

75% of young offenders dealt with by the courts were white. There seems to be an over representation of young black people when compared to the population (9% offences, 3% population) and an under representation of Asians (13% offences, 33% population).

Between April 2000 and March 2001, 1 in 8 young offenders received a custodial sentence. 50% of offenders received a community penalty, such as a supervision order, and 37% received a discharge or financial penalty.

Truancy

Research shows links between truancy, exclusion from school and offending behaviour. For the first time truancy patrols have been carried out by education welfare officers and police officers. They targeted specific areas in the Shires and Haymarket shopping centres and questioned all school age children.

542 children were surveyed as a result of these patrols during the academic year 2000/2001. Of these:

- ◆ 29% were returned to school of which 60% were male.
- ◆ 80% were pupils at city schools, 10% county schools and 4% were permanently excluded.
- ◆ Over two thirds were of secondary school age.
- ◆ Just under two thirds of those who were approached were unaccompanied.
- ◆ 18% were judged to be unauthorised absences.
- ◆ Of those who were accompanied, just over a quarter were judged to be unauthorised absences.

The main reasons given for not being at school were sickness (21%) and hospital/medical appointment (10%).

The vast majority of truants were of white UK heritage for both males (46%) and females (34%). A further 7% were Asian males and 4% were Asian females.

Exclusions

There were a total of 1789 fixed and permanent exclusions in Leicester schools during the 2000/2001 academic year. Just fewer than 18% of these exclusions were of children of primary age.

124 (6.9%) of these exclusions were permanent. Of these 91 (73%) were of secondary school age and 76 of the 91 were male (84%).

The most likely time for a child to be excluded is the Autumn term for primary schools and the Spring term for secondary schools.

Offender Needs

Needs are recorded by the probation service at first point of contact and, therefore, tend to be an under estimation of the actual level of need. The needs are offence related and so only those needs that have an obvious link to their offending are recorded.

Males were more likely than females to have drug and employment needs. However, 20% of both sexes were evaluated to have alcohol problems on first contact and a slightly higher percentage of women than men had accommodation needs.

Nearly 40% of all African Caribbean offenders were judged to have drugs problems, compared with just over 30% of whites and under 20% of Asians. This trend was also true for employment needs and alcohol problems. However, around 8% of Asian offenders were judged to have accommodation problems, which was higher than African Caribbean offenders, but slightly lower than for white offenders.

Drug problems tend to be more of a feature of the 20-29 year age group, but there are significant problems across all age ranges. Alcohol related offending seems to be very much related to age in that the older the offender the more likely they are to be suffering from alcohol related problems. Accommodation problems again are highly significant within the 55-59 year old age group.

The Impact Of Crime

Whilst it is important when preparing a crime reduction strategy to examine crime trends, offenders, and their needs, in order to have an holistic approach, it is equally as important to examine the effect that crime is having on victims and the community in general.

Crime is not evenly spread across the population of Leicester. Certain groups in society are more likely to be victims of crime than others.

The 2001 British Crime Survey found:

- ◆ Young households and people living in areas of high levels of disorder had a higher than average chance of becoming victims of burglary and vehicle related thefts.

Crime & Disorder Strategy 2002/2005

- ◆ Single parents had a higher than average risk of becoming victims of burglary and violence.
- ◆ Young men and women between the ages of 16-24 were the most likely to be victims of violence.

National research has shown that a small proportion of the population suffers a high proportion of crime. This phenomenon is known as repeat victimisation.

Research on repeat victimisation shows that:

- ◆ When repeat victimisation occurs, it does so quickly.
- ◆ High crime rates and hotspots exist mainly due to high levels of repeat victimisation.
- ◆ One major reason for repeat victimisation is that offenders take advantage later of opportunities that the first offence presents.
- ◆ Those offenders who repeatedly victimise the same target tend to be more established in their crime careers.

In the Leicester resident's survey, 27% of respondents felt that crime affected their health to a degree, whereas 55% felt it impacted on their quality of life.

A high percentage of disabled respondents believed that crime affected both their quality of life and their health. This could possibly be explained by the fact that disabled respondents are more vulnerable not only physically, but also often financially so that the effects of being a victim are felt more harshly.

Those under the age of 25 were least likely to believe that crime would affect either their health or their quality of life. This is surprising when looking at the levels of victimisation for that age group.

Asian respondents showed higher levels than average when looking at the impact of crime on quality of life. Black and white respondents showed lower than average levels of impact.

From the information provided by Leicester Witness Cocoon, it is possible to draw up a victim profile for Leicester.

- ◆ Out of the 410 referrals that they have worked with, 55% are female and 45% are male. 52% of victims were between the ages of 35-59. A further 26% were 26-34 and 12% were 60 years old and above.
- ◆ 77% of victims were white European, while 14% were Asian and 6% African Caribbean.
- ◆ 41% of the cases dealt with were incidents of anti-social behaviour. A further 13% and 19% of incidents were cases of intimidation and harassment. Homophobic incidents accounted for 1% of cases.

To ensure that a sustainable impact is made on reducing crime and disorder, work needs to be carried out not only with those who have already been victimised but also by profiling those most at risk of victimisation and providing support in the form of preventative work. The Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder has made this a priority in this strategy. (See page 30)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Taking careful account of the Crime and Disorder Audit, the following priorities have been agreed by the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder.

- Priority 1** To adopt a holistic approach to reducing the specific crimes of domestic burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime across all parts of the city apart from the city centre.
- Priority 2** To reduce the levels of crime, especially violent crime, within the city centre.
- Priority 3** To continue to improve support to victims of domestic violence, whilst taking firm action against perpetrators, with the long-term goal of reducing the incidence of these crimes within Leicester.
- Priority 4** To continue to improve support to victims of racial harassment, whilst taking firm action against perpetrators, with the long-term goal of reducing the incidence of these crimes within Leicester.
- Priority 5** To continue to provide appropriate support and guidance to both victims and witnesses of crime with a view to addressing their needs and in the long term reducing the fear of crime.
- Priority 6** To identify the nature and extent of anti-social behaviour across the city and so develop initiatives designed to improve the situation and thus reduce the number of incidents.
- Priority 7** To work with the Leicester Drug and Alcohol Action Team to examine drugs issues and how they impact upon the other priorities. Develop community-based strategies to tackle both the demand for drugs, especially amongst young people, and their supply.

Additional Audit Findings

It is acknowledged that criminal damage is the highest recorded crime within Leicester. Whilst it has not been made a priority in its own right or explicitly detailed in each facet of this strategy, the causation factors cut across all the priorities and are to be considered when developing action plans.

Likewise, whilst there are no longer priority groups specifically targeting offenders, as there were in the previous strategy, there is recognition by the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder that working with offenders, with a view to challenging their offending behaviour, is something that cuts across all of the priorities listed above.

The organisations, which primarily work with offenders, are the Probation Service and the Youth Offending Team. These organisations will be actively involved in the work of all the priority groups and no longer work in isolation.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

For this strategy to be successful, it is important that a delivery process is formulated. The need for a lead agency in respect of each facet of the strategy is recognised. The lead agencies in respect of each strategic priority will be:

Priority 1 (Reduction of domestic burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime)

Police

The police are already involved in a number of established burglary reduction initiatives and are well placed to co-ordinate the network of local Crime and Disorder Action Groups as they are already involved in a large number of local partnerships and multi-agency groups in Leicester.

Priority 2 (Reduce crime in the city centre)

Police

The police are already involved in a number of multi agency groups working towards reducing crime in the city centre.

Priority 3 (Domestic violence)

Leicester Domestic Violence Forum

The multi-agency Domestic Violence Forum was established in 1995 to facilitate a closer working relationship between the statutory and voluntary sectors to ensure a more accessible and comprehensive service for all victims of domestic violence.

Priority 4 (Racial harassment)

Leicester Racial Equality Council

Leicester Racial Equality Council has multi-agency experience of implementing policies and procedures designed to eliminate racial discrimination. It also contributes to monitoring the way such policies and procedures are implemented.

Priority 5 (Victims and witnesses of crime)

Leicester Witness Cocoon

Leicester Witness Cocoon has been established for approximately 2 years and in that time have received over 450 referrals. They have built up expertise in initiatives such as restorative justice, mediation and counselling.

Priority 6 (Anti-social behaviour)

Leicester City Council

Anti-social behaviour is a growing problem both for the police and the city council. For the council, many thousands of pounds are spent rectifying the outcomes of anti-social behaviour.

Priority 7 (Drugs)

Leicester Drug and Alcohol Action Team

The Leicester DAAT has a wealth of experience in working with drug offenders and devising strategies for the reduction in the use of drugs.

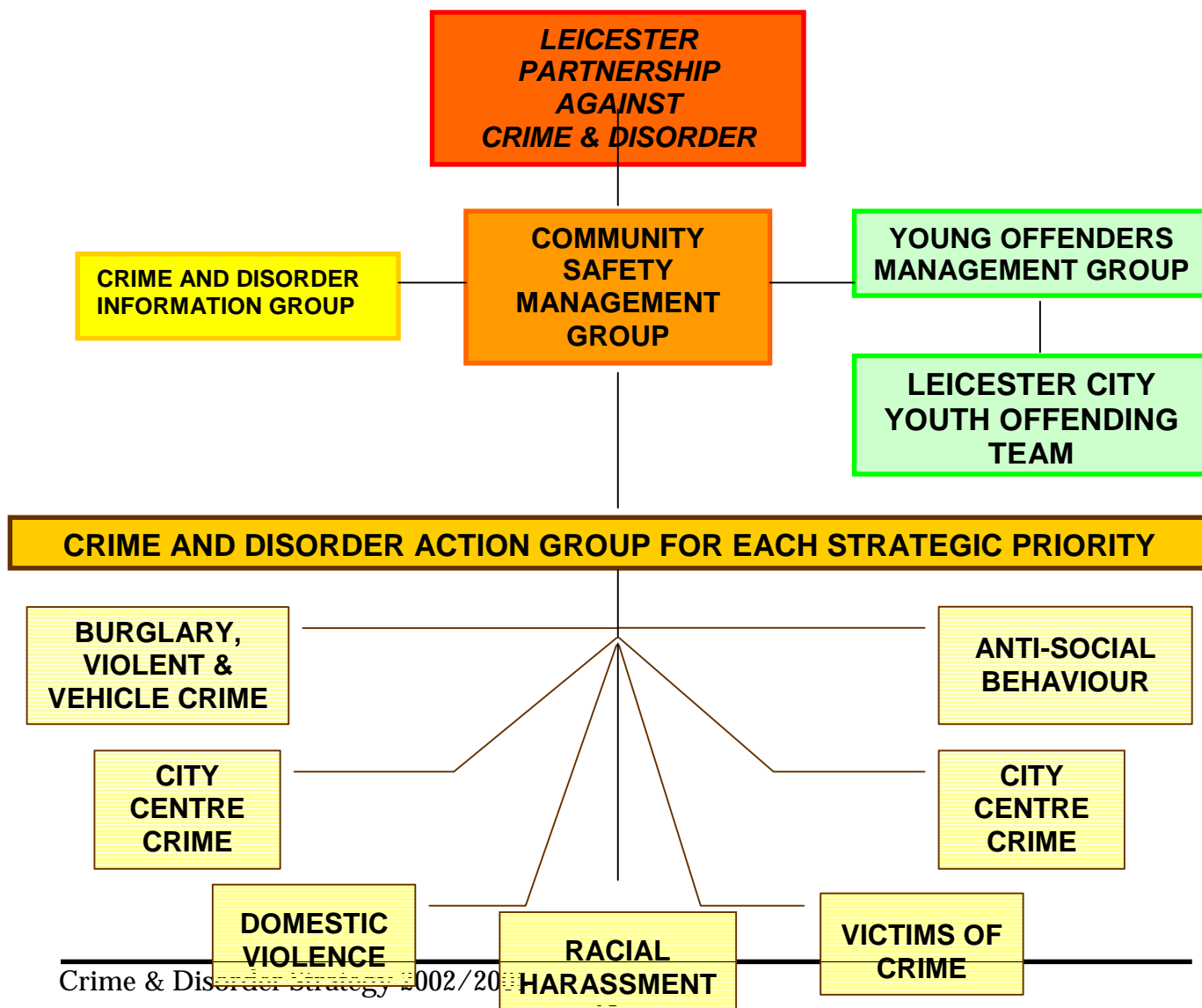
For some of the priorities that have been set, there is the immediate opportunity to set meaningful targets; for others, developmental work needs to be undertaken.

Similarly, some objectives, such as those focusing on a particular type of crime, i.e. burglary, violent crime or vehicle crime, can be targeted on a geographical basis. Others, i.e. domestic violence, will need to be addressed holistically.

In either case there is a need to maintain a mechanism through which the strategy can be delivered. The Partnership is supported by the Crime and Disorder Management Group. This is a multi-agency group that manages the practical development and implementation of the Crime and Disorder Strategy.

The need for multi-agency/community involvement in development and delivery of action plans in support of the objectives is key to the overall success of the strategy. The action plans will contain details of what is to be done, how, when and by whom. They will be presented in a common format and will be contained in a separate document so that they can be updated at the end of each year. Regular monitoring reports will be produced for the Management Group.

LEICESTER PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CRIME AND DISORDER



MAKING THE LINKS

A key challenge for the Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder is to work in a way which links this city-wide strategy with the multitude of existing strategies and plans in existence, links the responsibilities and activities of different partner organisations and encourages the re-direction of resources towards common priorities. The Crime and Disorder Strategy should be used as a tool to develop issue/area based initiatives and city-wide programmes that complement each other and avoid duplication of services and management processes.

For successful linkages to be made, the partnership will build on the multi-agency co-operation that developed during the course of the first strategy and continue to encourage a move away from individual corporate goals, policies and resources towards a more holistic approach.

This approach is supported by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, which gives all public bodies a responsibility to consider crime and disorder in all their decisions and to do all that they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

There are many initiatives and existing partnerships that impact on crime and disorder. The diagram below identifies some of the key links that need to be made.



MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Partnership recognises the importance of monitoring and evaluating this strategy over the next three years. The strategy is intended to have a minimum of a three year life span; it will be scrutinised each year by the Management Group and in turn the Partnership. It is important that the strategy continues to reflect the needs of the people of Leicester.

Every effort will be made within each priority area to ensure that all the objectives have measurable outcomes relating to equality of opportunity regarding race, disability, gender, age and sexuality.

Where significant and accurate information is available, specific targets will be set immediately. However, in a number of priority strategies the level and accuracy of information will not be sufficient to initially set performance targets. In these cases, additional information gathering will be carried out in year one of the strategy, with new objectives and targets set in years two and three.

Some of the initiatives to be undertaken may be of a qualitative nature and may be difficult to measure. However, we should not discount them because of this. One challenge within the strategy is to identify and develop effective monitoring systems for those initiatives, where it is at all possible.

Information Group

An Information Group was established by the partnership for the first strategy to manage the initial audit process required by the Crime and Disorder Act and to gather information to provide a city-wide overview of crime, disorder, offenders and victims. The Information Group will continue under this strategy but will expand its role to include continual development of communication methods both within the partnership and externally using various forms of media. It will also seek to link the patterns of crime and disorder to social and economic data about local communities.

The lead member for each priority will be invited to regularly update the information group on progress made or problems they may be encountering. This forum will give an opportunity for all lead agencies to share ideas and develop links with other strategic priorities in the strategy. A process of reporting will be introduced whereby exceptional achievements or problems to be solved will be brought to the attention of the management group. The action taken by the management group will then be reported to the strategic partnership group.

The Information Group has a significant role to play in the evaluation process. The group is responsible for the collection and analysis of crime and disorder data and the preparation of quarterly reports to the management/partnership groups. This ongoing management of information will enable them to develop benchmark levels of crime, disorder, offenders and victims against which objective, measurable and achievable targets can be set in years to come.

As important, will be the examination of policies from partner agencies so as to ensure that policies complement the strategy rather than operate in conflict with it. The ability to review all policies will help prevent any potential clash between agency initiatives.

During the audit process, it was identified that there were differences in the methods of data collection, such as incompatible data and gaps in data collected from some agencies. Part of the information group's ongoing work will be to encourage all partners to maintain and share data so as to be able to produce information in a common format. This is key to strategic development and will be achieved by the continuing development of the existing database.

PRIORITY ONE

Crime Reduction Strategy

Priority

To reduce the rate of burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime across all areas of the city, excluding the city centre.

Problem Statement

Whilst there have been a significant number of initiatives undertaken which have reduced incidents of domestic burglary, the rate of domestic burglary per 1000 households across the city is still higher than the national average.

Violent crime, especially robbery, has increased over recent years in Leicester and is one of the top three crimes of concern within the community.

Whilst vehicle crime has reduced overall in recent years, theft from unattended motor vehicles is increasing.

Strategic Statement

Building on extensive local experience from the first strategy, the partnership will work to reduce incidents of domestic burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime by targeting initiatives based on good practice in hot spot areas.

Current Activities

Reducing domestic burglary has been a partnership priority for the last three years, with a reduction achieved of 9% and 20.9% in years one and two. A wide range of successful burglary initiatives have taken place on an inter-agency basis throughout Leicester in recent years:

- ◆ Target hardening of homes funded by Home Office and Single Regeneration Budget (SRB).
- ◆ Persistent burglary offenders project (Burglary Reduction Initiative Leicester) introduced.
- ◆ CCTV introduced onto housing estates around the city.
- ◆ Improved security for homes in the New Deal area.

Equal Opportunities Statement

Some of the most deprived areas of the city also experience the highest incidence of crime. We acknowledge that crime can impact differently on victims according to factors such as gender, race, sexuality, disability and age. To overcome these differences, it is important to deliver appropriate and responsive services.

Priority One
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes

Objective	Performance Indicator	Target/Outcome
1. Each Local Policing Unit (LPU) to seek to develop and increase membership of local action groups, especially members of the local community. These groups to work towards achieving objectives identified in local action plans.	The number of local community members on local action groups.	Increased membership of local action groups by 30 th September 2002
2. Delivery of action plans designed to reduce domestic burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime in hot spot areas.	Delivery of LPU action plans in the time period set.	Reduction of domestic burglary across the city by: 6% in year one 7% in year two 7% in year three Reduction of violent crime across the city by: 3% in year one 3% in year two 4% in year three Reduction of vehicle crime across the city by: 6% in year one 5% in year two 5% in year three all from previous years figures.
3. Secure funding to extend target hardening scheme for domestic burglary to all hot spot areas across the city.	Funding secured.	Target hardening schemes in place for all domestic burglary hot spot areas across the city by 30 th June 2002.
4. Secure further funding to continue the Burglary Reduction Initiative Leicester (B.R.I.L.) and extend its remit to include prolific offenders committing any of the crimes in this priority.	Funding secured.	Initiative to continue beyond September 2002 and remit extended.

PRIORITY TWO

Reducing Crime In The City Centre

Priority

To reduce crime and disorder to a more equitable level compared to the remainder of the city. This, in turn, will contribute to a general reduction in crime and a reduction in the fear of crime across the city as a whole.

Problem Statement

Overall, crime has increased within the city centre over the last two years. Vehicle crime, violence, robbery, public disorder and the fear of crime are all problems that impact on the city centre environment. Violent crime in particular is a significant proportion of overall crime and is increasing, following national trends.

There are now 347 licensed premises within the city centre and of these, 73 are night-clubs. The number of night-clubs has doubled over the last two years and has significantly affected the number of assaults committed in the city centre. Home Office figures show that 80% of all violent crime is alcohol related.

Strategic Statement

These problems will be addressed by a crime reduction action group for the city centre who will work towards achieving action plans linked with other active strategies in the city centre.

Current Activities

A number of crime reduction initiatives have taken place within the city centre over the period of the first Crime and Disorder Strategy, with varying degrees of success. These initiatives have focused on vehicle and violent crime and it is intended that they will continue and expand during the time of this strategy.

Major milestones include:

- ◆ The award of the Home Office Safer Shopping Award to Leicester City Centre, the first city in the East Midlands to receive this award.
- ◆ The first successful revocation of a Public Entertainment Licence in the County, following detected drug misuse in a city centre night-club.
- ◆ A significant increase in CCTV coverage in the city centre following a successful £800,000 bid to central government.
- ◆ A street drinking ban to be introduced for designated parts of the city centre starting in summer 2002.

Equal Opportunities Statement

The city centre has a large, diverse and mainly transient population with differing needs. To overcome these differences, it is important that we deliver appropriate and responsive services.

Priority Two
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes

Objective	Performance Indicator	Target/Outcome
1. To collate existing information to identify local crime and disorder hotspots within the city centre.	Identification of geographical and issue related hotspots.	To be achieved by 30 th June 2002.
2. To implement action plans to reduce identified problems within the city centre, particularly drink related violence and auto crime.	Introduction of a street drinking ban. Production of a combined Police and City Council licensing policy.	Reduce the overall levels of crime committed in the city centre by: 3% in year one 3% in year two 4% in year three all on previous years figures. Specifically: Reduce offences of robbery by: 2% in year one 2% in year two 3% in year three Reduce offences of burglary of commercial premises by: 2% in year one 2% in year two 3% in year three Reduce vehicle crime by: 5% in year one 5% in year two 6% in year three
3. Secure funding to increase the staffing levels of the city centre CCTV monitoring room, which is seen as an important aid towards crime reduction.	Funding secured.	Staffing increased over current levels by 31 st March 2003.

PRIORITY THREE

Reducing Incidents Of Domestic Violence

Priority

To continue to improve support to victims of domestic violence, whilst taking firm action against perpetrators, with the long-term goal of reducing the incidence of this crime in Leicester. It is accepted that over the next three years, this may result in a continuation of the increasing number of victims contacting services.

Problem Statement

Domestic violence involves the misuse of power and is based on a range of control mechanisms which include physical, sexual, psychological, social or economic abuse or neglect of an individual by a partner, ex-partner, carer or one or more family member, in an existing or previous domestic relationship. This is regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religious, cultural or political beliefs, ethnicity, disability, HIV status, class or location.

The majority of individuals that report domestic violence, however, are females. There is also a significant cross over with child abuse.

Domestic violence is often repeated, can take place over many years and may escalate and intensify. It has clearly been identified by central government that domestic violence is a crime and should be taken seriously.

The long-term effects of domestic violence can include low self-esteem, feelings of guilt and shame, depression and stress. There are increased risks of short or long term disability as well as misuse of alcohol and drugs and also suicide, particularly amongst women from South Asian communities. The high risk groups include younger women especially those who are pregnant. Those who have witnessed domestic violence as children may also be at greater risk.

Evidence suggests that for children, witnessing domestic violence is an increased risk marker for truancy, being bullied or bullying, running away from home, anti-social behaviour and delinquency. There are also links in some cases with witnessing domestic violence and going on later in life to become a perpetrator.

A holistic approach to domestic violence has to be pursued. Public and cultural stigma and myths around domestic violence have to be challenged to create an appropriate environment for sufferers and survivors to report what is happening to them.

Without appropriate and timely support as well as effective sanctions, victims/survivors of domestic violence may return home or find it difficult to leave or avoid the perpetrator. They may be seriously injured or in the worst case scenario, murdered.

Locally, police statistics show that there were 14.5 incidents of domestic violence per 1000 population in 2000/2001 compared 12.6 incidents per household in 1999/2000. The true extent of this crime is likely to be much higher because of under-reporting. In addition, the residents survey found that 1 in 4 respondents were very concerned about domestic violence affecting either themselves or someone they knew.

Strategic Statement

The Partnership will continue to develop a consistent multi-agency response which:

- ◆ Seeks to prevent domestic violence incidents from occurring by promoting and developing sustainable education and awareness raising programmes.
- ◆ Meets the needs of victims by promoting and developing an appropriate, accessible and sustainable range of quality support services for victims/survivors of domestic violence and their families which appropriately reflects the needs of different communities and people with special needs.
- ◆ Takes firm action against perpetrators by promoting and developing appropriate and sustainable programmes and sentences for perpetrators.

To have long-term impact, the strategy must encourage the 'mainstreaming' of services.

Current Activities

A significant amount of activity has occurred around this theme over the last three years. Partnership working and the availability of some resources for co-ordination have meant that activity has taken place even when resources have not been forthcoming.

The following is a list of some of the work that has taken place:

- ◆ Funding has been secured for the setting up of a family/therapy support service with culturally appropriate provision from April 2002.
- ◆ Work in schools has been piloted and developed. A card for children and a leaflet to assist professionals to respond to disclosures by children has been developed.
- ◆ A piece of research commissioned and carried out into domestic violence and mental health.
- ◆ A set of posters developed for the Domestic Violence Forum which have received national and international acclaim, and one poster reproduced in a number of community languages including Somali.
- ◆ A high profile campaign run in 2000 and 2001 and Forum presence at a wide number of events.
- ◆ A small amount of funding from H.A.Z. allowed the development of a unique identifier tracking system. In addition, the City Council and Health Authority provided the expertise for the development of a data set and a database. The tracking system and the database have attracted national interest and have for the first time allowed the Domestic Violence Forum to collect and build on baseline data on domestic violence from a range of organisations across the city.

This is just a snapshot of the work that has been carried out.

Equal Opportunities Statement

Domestic violence is a problem that crosses many boundaries. However, we need to acknowledge that domestic violence can impact differently on victims according to factors such as gender, race, sexuality, disability and age. To overcome these differences it is important to deliver appropriate and responsive services.

Priority Three
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes.

Objective	Performance Indicator	Target/Outcome
1. Maintain the level of resources available to co-ordinate the delivery of the Crime and Disorder Domestic Violence Action Plan and co-ordinate, review and develop the Domestic Violence Forum.	Resources obtained. Regular group meetings to review action plans and receive reports. Links made with local and national strategies, plans and initiatives.	Enhanced co-ordination of the Domestic Violence Forum to facilitate effective delivery of the action plan with a particular focus on meeting relevant floor targets.
2. Consolidate and enhance current provision of services. Establish gaps in services in relation to the needs of individuals suffering domestic violence.	Production of gap analysis. Needs assessment produced. Development of new services and reshaping of existing service provision.	Victims/survivors have access to a range of appropriate and timely services. Earlier interventions. Raise awareness of services available. Develop a domestic violence strategy.
3. Consolidate and enhance current provision within the Criminal and Civil Justice System for sufferers/ survivors of domestic violence and review current sanctioning of perpetrators.	Core services remain in place. Evaluation of effectiveness of each stage of civil and criminal justice system initiated. Needs assessment produced.	Improved knowledge and understanding of the effectiveness of the C and CJ system in responding to needs of victims and providing appropriate sanctions and interventions for perpetrators. Improved knowledge and understanding of local needs and organisational agendas.
4. To undertake promotional work to raise understanding and awareness of the complex nature of domestic violence and to promote the training of volunteers, workers and professionals.	An increase in domestic violence reporting and service uptake by 31 st March 2003. An increase in work in schools to raise awareness of domestic violence. Increase in number of volunteers and professionals receiving domestic violence training.	Enhance the process of challenging attitudes, values and myths around domestic violence. Enhanced work with young people over issues of domestic violence. Increased number of service providers.
5. Continue to increase the capacity of the Domestic Violence Forum to monitor and evaluate progress in tackling domestic violence and to research key issues of relevance to domestic violence.	Research, evaluations and monitoring undertaken and results documented and disseminated according to the programme identified in the action plan.	Domestic Violence Forum to have increased its capacity for service delivery by 31 st March 2003.

PRIORITY FOUR

Reducing The Incidence Of Racial Harassment

Priority

To improve support to victims of racial harassment, whilst taking action against perpetrators, with the long-term goal of reducing the incidence of these crimes within Leicester.

Problem Statement

Racially motivated crime that is reported to and recorded by the police has risen nationally and the police figures for Leicester reflect this. It is thought that this is due to increased confidence in the criminal justice system to deal with the perpetrators and better recording processes.

The majority of incidents are assaults and the bulk of these offences occur within the city centre. Victims are likely to be young Asian people aged between 12-17 years.

Strategic Statement

To combat racial harassment by developing a consistent, multi-agency response, which meets the needs of victims, takes firm action against perpetrators and seeks to prevent such incidents from occurring.

This will be achieved by:

- ◆ Encouraging agencies to recognise the benefits of sharing information.
- ◆ Identifying and publicising good practice.
- ◆ Ensuring services are readily and easily accessible.
- ◆ Raising awareness of racial harassment within the city.
- ◆ Promoting and supporting strategies aimed at preventing such incidents.

Current Activities

Work is currently being undertaken in Leicestershire to tackle racial harassment in local authority led projects, multi-agency approaches, voluntary sector initiatives and a conglomeration of all three. Whilst not exclusive, these are manifested in a number of guises, including:

- ◆ Action for Racial Equality Across Leicestershire.
- ◆ Racial Harassment Project.
- ◆ Introduction of pilot project to assess racial harassment reporting.
- ◆ Kick Racism Out Of Football.
- ◆ Racial Incident Review Panels.

Equal Opportunities Statement

The work will assist in providing support to individuals and groups who are experiencing racial harassment, thereby improving their quality of life as citizens of Leicester.

Priority Four
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>	<u>Target/Outcome</u>
1. Evaluate pilot study on use of common racial harassment reporting form.	Pilot completed and report presented to L.P.A.C.D.	Completed by August 2002.
2. Improve data collection methods.	With correct measures in place, extension of use of common monitoring form across the city.	Data to be collected in consistent format through the city.
3. Improve services/ responses to victims of racial harassment.	Racial harassment team created.	Work programme created in keeping with Racial Harassment Action Group objectives by 31 st March 2003..
4. Develop/facilitate public awareness campaigns on issues of racial harassment.	Targeted work with young people (area specific work in keeping with data analysis).	Remedial work developed with young people to address incidents of racial harassment and to encourage reporting. To be completed by 31 st March 2003.
5. Where appropriate, to publicise the successful outcomes of racial incident cases.	Publication of outcomes.	Ongoing.

PRIORITY FIVE

Provide Support To Witnesses And Victims Of Crime

Priority

To ensure that a sustainable impact is made on crime and disorder, work needs to be carried out with those who have already been victimised, as well as profiling those most at risk of victimisation.

Problem Statement

A victim of crime can be anyone who has either directly experienced crime, or whose social behaviour and psychological well being is affected by having witnessed or having a fear of crime. Crime impacts differently on individuals and communities. It has the power to limit people's lifestyles, aspirations, behaviour, freedom, economic independence and human right to feel safe in their homes and communities.

Support for victims and witnesses of crime is vital to the success of any crime reduction programme and the work of this priority group cuts through all the others.

Strategic Statement

The provision of support to witnesses and victims of crime is essential in order to operate a holistic approach to producing a long-term reduction in crime and the fear of crime.

Current Activities.

The organisations, Victim Support and Leicester Witness Cocoon, offer support for a wide range of issues, and are complimented by a number of specialist organisations working in the city. These services range from telephone support, to long term 1:1 work, supporting individuals through the Criminal Justice System and beyond.

Equal Opportunities Statement

Witnesses and victims of crime come from all sectors of the community. The impact will vary on individuals as it is dependent on additional factors such as religion, culture, ethnicity, age, class, sexuality, state of health, disability and support needs.

Priority Five
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>	<u>Target/Outcome</u>
1. Provide information and services to witnesses and victims of crime, in such a way as to ensure maximum availability and accessibility, using a variety of mediums.	Provision of services.	To be introduced by 31 st March 2003.
2. Map service provision, looking at policies, procedures and services provided, in order to identify gaps	Completion of research.	To be completed by 30 th September 2002.
3. Review service provision to witnesses and victims of crime against the requirements of the Victims Charter with a view to influencing and informing future Victims Charters.	Completion of Review.	To be completed by 31 st March 2003.
4. Complete survey of personal safety training provision in the city, for all sectors of the community, and to consider availability , accessibility and other needs such as assertiveness training, body language interpretation, etc.	Completion of survey.	To be completed by 31 st March 2003.
5. Consider the feasibility and value of a regular seminar/ forum for voluntary and statutory agencies allowing access to networking, training, exchanging ideas and information.	Formulation of recommendations.	Ongoing.

PRIORITY SIX

To Reduce Incidents Of Anti Social Behaviour

Priority

To determine the true level of anti-social behaviour across the city by agreed categorisation and recording methods between agencies, respond accordingly and so reduce the amount of anti-social behaviour being committed.

Problem Statement

There is no definitive categorisation of what constitutes anti-social behaviour and no one organisation has the responsibility for recording and monitoring complaints. As a result, data is likely to be incomplete and difficult to compare.

There is no responsibility whatever to collect and/or monitor incidents of anti social behaviour in the owner occupied or private rented sector. Equally, there is no duty on private sector landlords to act against tenants who are the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour.

Strategic Statement

This group aims to develop a comprehensive common recording and monitoring system for incidents of anti-social behaviour. From the information gained, appropriate responses will be developed with a view to reducing the levels of anti-social behaviour across the city.

Current Activities

- ◆ Leicester City Council is in the process of reviewing its policy on anti-social behaviour. One of the recommendations from this review is that an Anti-Social Behaviour Team be established for the city and further training be given to Housing Department staff.
- ◆ Consultation with other residential social landlords to agree standardised categorisation and actions to deal with offenders.
- ◆ Extension of CCTV to cover areas of highest reported anti-social behaviour.
- ◆ Introduction of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.
- ◆ Capital works giving choice of areas to Community Associations to improve defensible space and other measures to reduce anti-social behaviour.
- ◆ Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service has appointed researchers to examine the increasing problem of deliberate ignitions.

Equal Opportunities Statement

Anti-social behaviour is seen to be twice as evident in deprived areas as it is nationally. Measures to combat anti-social behaviour should have a disproportionate benefit for the quality of life of those already recognised as being disadvantaged in our city.

Priority Six
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes

Objective	Performance Indicator	Target/Outcome
1. Agree and implement a standardised recording format with Registered Social Landlords that would help to define the extent of the problem and enable meaningful comparisons to be made.		To be implemented by 31 st October 2002.
2. (a) Create a data sharing/mapping system that will provide information for A.S.B. reduction measures. (b) Work to refine the current data mapping of police recorded incidents to distinguish incidents of A.S.B.	A single data mapping system showing incidents of A.S.B. reported to the Leicester City Council, Registered Social Landlords and the Police.	To be in place by end of July 2003
3. Create an information-sharing forum to disseminate best practice for dealing with anti-social behaviour.	Mechanism agreed and implemented.	Completed by end of February 2003.
Research to be undertaken to examine the root cause of deliberate ignitions and the development of strategies to reduce them.	Number of deliberate ignitions.	Reducing arson in target area by 25% by March 2005 with: 5% reduction year one, 10% reduction year two, 10% reduction year three.
Establish a project to work within schools, colleges and other educational establishments to highlight the effects of A.S.B. on the lives of people affected.	Project established and ready for delivery.	Project to start in April 2003.

PRIORITY SEVEN

Drugs

Priority

To reduce the amount of drug taking by and the amount of drugs made available to the people of Leicester, especially the young people.

Problem Statement

Drug misuse and the crime and anti-social behaviour that is often associated with it, compounds the other problems that deprived neighbourhoods face and creates a vicious downward spiral.

Around 10,000 16-29 year olds in Leicester are likely to have taken an illegal drug in the last month. The peak age is 16-35 years though locally the numbers of 15-16 year olds who have experimented with drugs has increased in recent years. Rough estimates suggest that during 2000/2001, there were 1,650 individuals receiving treatment for a drug problem in the city.

The resident's survey found that 58% of all respondents were very worried about people using or dealing in drugs. In fact, of all concerns, drugs was the second highest.

Strategic Statement

Many crimes against property are committed in order to feed a drug habit. This priority group aims to protect communities from drug-related anti-social and criminal behaviour, and to stifle the availability of drugs on our streets.

Current Activities

This is a new Crime and Disorder priority. However, it links into the D.A.A.T. (Drug and Alcohol Action Team) strategy which is responsible for implementing the National Drugs Strategy. This is divided into 3 areas: young people, treatment and communities. The crime and disorder priority for drugs and the D.A.A.T.'s Communities Plan will compliment one another, and ensure cohesion, so avoiding duplication.

Equal Opportunities Statement.

Drug misuse can impact differently on both the user and the wider community according to factors such as gender, race, sexuality, disability and age. To overcome these differences it is important to deliver appropriate and responsive services.

Priority Seven
Objectives and Targets/Outcomes.

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>	<u>Target/Outcome</u>
1. To develop sustained and collaborative routes to treatment for those committing drug related crime.	Data from Criminal Justice Drug Team, data from Arrest Referral Team, and data from service providers.	Reduce levels of repeat offending amongst drug misusing offenders; increase the number of offenders referred to and entering treatment programmes; reduce levels of crime committed to fund drug misuse.
2. To provide visible deterrents and public reassurance through the consistent detection of drug dealers and suppliers and the disruption of their markets.	Monitoring of drug demand and supply issues.	Reduce drug market places that are of particular concern to local communities.
3. To involve local communities in addressing local drug problems.		Communities are well informed and feel protected against 'drug related harm.'
4. To increase take up rate by former addicted criminals of further education and employment for drug users through 'welfare to work' New Deal and other means.	Numbers in F/E & employment.	Reduce levels of repeat offending and drug misuse.
5. To tackle drugs in venues where young people gather.	Numbers of venues adopting good practice policy guidelines.	Young people are well informed and protected against drug related harm.

APPENDIX A

Percentage Of Respondents To Residents Survey

Very Worried About Various Issues

<u>CRIME ISSUE</u>	<u>VERY CONCERNED (%)</u>
Having your house broken into and something stolen	67
People using or dealing in drugs	58
Mugged or robbed	55
Deliberate damage to property	54
Being physically attacked	49
Having your car stolen	48
Being raped	46
Rubbish or litter lying around	44
Being sexually assaulted or harassed	44
Vandalism or graffiti	41
Having things stolen from your car	40
Teenagers hanging around on the street	37
Being subject to harassment and/or intimidation because you witnessed a crime or any anti-social behaviour	37
Being insulted or pestered by anybody while in the street or other public place	35
People sleeping rough or in other public places	34
Being subject to a physical attack because of your skin colour, ethnic origin or religion	30
Drunk people causing you a problem	30
Abandoned or burnt out cars	30
Being subject to verbal abuse because of your skin colour, ethnic origin or religion	28
Yourself or someone you know being affected by domestic violence	28
Noisy neighbours, loud parties	26
Empty or run down spaces or properties in your area	25
Being subject to physical attack/verbal abuse because of your sexuality	25
Being insulted or bothered by neighbours	24
Begging	23
Nuisance telephone calls	23

APPENDIX B

PRIORITY GROUP CONTACTS

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Priority Five Denise Taylor Tel: 0116 255 3162
Leicester Witness Cocoon
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Priority Six Martin Clewlow Tel: 0116 252 6856
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Priority Seven Kate Galoppi Tel: 0116 258 8988
Leicester Drug and Alcohol
Action Team
Leicester Health Action Zone
Gwendolen Road,
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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Action Plan	Specific tasks to be undertaken to deliver the objectives of the strategy
C.D.R.P.	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. A generic term for Crime and Disorder Partnerships.
Community Safety Management Group	A multi-agency group that manages the practical development and implementation of the Crime and Disorder Strategy. This group reports to the Partnership Against Crime and Disorder.
Database	Computerised store of information.
Disorder	An activity which impacts negatively on a local area, community or environment which can be categorised as anti-social behaviour by the relevant authorities.
DAAT	Drug and Alcohol Action Team – A multi agency group to develop and co-ordinate an action plan on drug misuse.
Education Action Zone	Geographical areas identified as being beneficiaries of government funding, providing local businesses contribute a set amount, for specific education needs.
Evaluation	Testing whether the strategy is achieving the objectives that have been set.
HAZ	Health Action Zone. – Geographical areas identified as being beneficiaries of government funding to address significant health inequalities.
Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder	A senior multi-agency partnership which has responsibility for producing the crime and disorder strategy and reducing crime and disorder in Leicester.
Local Policing Unit	An area covered by one police station.
Mainstreaming	Providing services as part of the usual business of an organisation, rather than as a short-term project or initiative.
Mediation	A third person helping people in conflict reach a positive solution.
Monitoring	The process of checking that actions are being carried out as planned.
New Deal for Communities	Government funding for regeneration of socially deprived areas.
Objective	Objectives are the ways you intend to achieve a wider aim.
Performance Indicator	A tool to measure the success or failure of an objective.
P.S.R.	Pre Sentence Report – Completed by the Probation Service detailing an offender’s background prior to that offender being sentenced by a court.
Single Regeneration Budget	Government funding for regeneration of socially deprived areas.
Target	A set level or date, which you aim to achieve.
TWOC	Taking a car without the owners consent.
Violence	Violence includes all levels of assault as defined in law, and robbery.
Y.O.T.	Youth Offending Team