

Eastleigh Strategic Assessment

April 2023 – March 2024



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Introduction to the Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and requires the named organisations to work in partnership to tackle crime and disorder along with anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol abuse and reducing reoffending and serious violence

The Responsible Authorities of Eastleigh Community Safety Partnership are:

Eastleigh Borough Council
Hampshire County Council
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service
HM Prison and Probation Service
NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight

In addition to the Responsible Authorities, One Community Eastleigh representing the Voluntary sector and Vivid Homes representing the Registered Social Landlords sit on the Executive Board.

Senior officers from each of the authorities set the strategic direction of the CSP through an Executive Board, the Chair of which is currently Councillor Tonia Craig, Portfolio Member for Health and Well-being.

The CSP is required to undertake an annual strategic review, which is a snapshot of crime and community safety, supported by factual data from across the partnership. This document is then used to help identify the strategic priorities for the coming year.

The purpose of identifying the strategic priorities is to enable partners to effectively collaborate to plan and address those issues causing our communities the greatest harm. Many of the priorities do not change substantially from year to year as they follow long term trends but the review provides the opportunity to re-focus priorities in response to emerging or changing trends in crime and ASB, the impact of previous interventions, emerging external national or local factors, and learning gained through delivery of existing priorities

These priorities will complement those included in the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police & Crime Commissioner plan, the County Strategy and identified locally through the monthly meetings of the Tactical Community Safety Partnership and the District Tasking and Priority Meeting. The action plan to tackle these priorities will run from September 2024 – September 2026 with a mid-way review undertaken to ensure the priorities remain valid. The next full strategic review will be undertaken in the summer of 2026.

Eastleigh Borough

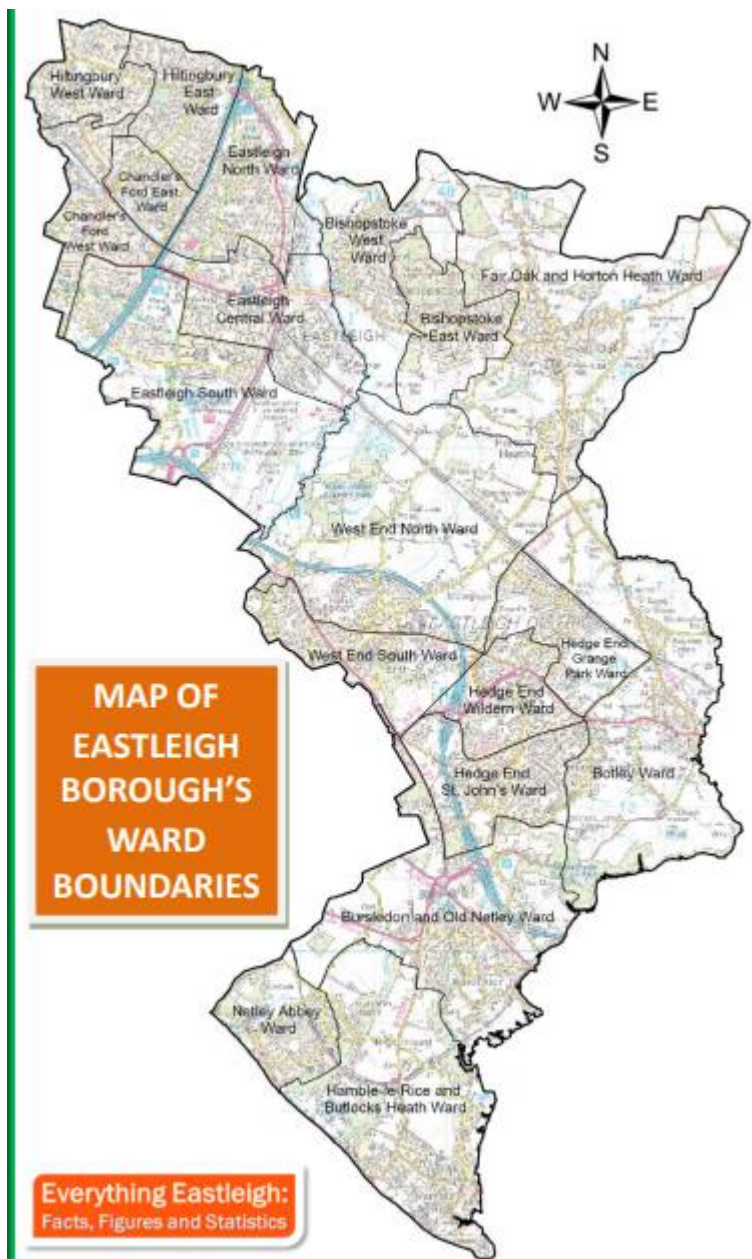
The map shows the geographical outline of the borough and the electoral wards. The Council operates a local area system and the borough is divided into 5 areas: Eastleigh

Chandlers Ford and Hiltingbury

Bishopstoke Fair Oak and Horton Heath

Hedge End, West End and Botley

Bursledon, Hamble and Hound



Borough Profile

The Borough adjoins the eastern and northern boundaries of the city of Southampton, bordering Test Valley borough to the north-west, Winchester district and the South Downs National Park to the north, Fareham borough to the east (with a shared boundary along the River Hamble and its estuary) and New Forest district to the south-west via a shared boundary in Southampton Water

The main town in the Borough is Eastleigh. The Borough includes two other large urban areas – Chandler’s Ford and Hedge End – and some sizeable settlements at Bishopstoke, Fair Oak, Horton Heath, West End, Bursledon, Botley, Hamble and Netley. The Borough has an area of 79.8 sq. km. It is predominantly suburban in character, reflecting many of the pressures that might be expected in a location bordering a major city, but it retains some areas of countryside that are locally significant, mainly because of the separation they provide between settlements, but also because of their biodiversity and landscape characteristics.

Significant features of the Borough include internationally renowned sailing venues on the River Hamble, a national and international cricketing venue at the Utilita Bowl, Southampton International Airport, dance and music venues of regional significance at The Point and the Concorde Club in Eastleigh, Places Leisure Eastleigh, The Berry Theatre at Hedge End, and an important maritime, rail and air heritage.

For administrative purposes, the Borough is divided into five Local Areas, each with its own particular characteristics and issues. Each area has a Local Area Committee that has been given devolved powers on many issues including planning applications. There are 12 civil parishes covering the whole of the Borough.

Demographics

The Borough now has a population of 138,900 . (Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021). Further increases are expected this decade with new residential development.

Population: 938/1000 are white British; 23/1000 are other white and 23/1000 are Asian.

Deprivation: The Borough has no Local Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the top 10% of the country. The Borough is ranked 298/326 in England where 326 is the least deprived and 1 is the most deprived.

Neighbouring districts include Test Valley (286), Winchester (307), New Forest (257) and Fareham (312). By contrast Southampton is ranked at 54.

Community Safety Partnership: Review and Reports

The Eastleigh Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has a statutory duty to undertake a review of crime and disorder across the Borough each year. The following report has been produced using data provided by the Police and other partners, for the data collection period April 2023 through to March 2024 and information provided by partners from across the CSP.

At the end of the report, recommendations are made for the priorities to be adopted by the Executive Board of Community Safety Partnership for the coming 2 years , the period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2026.

Each of the actions related to the priorities will form part of the delivery plan which will be monitored against performance and partnership activity by the Board. A light touch review will be conducted in August 2025, the mid-way point, to determine if the priorities are still applicable or need changing.

CRIME DATA and ANALYSIS

This first section details the levels of recorded crime in the Borough of Eastleigh and includes the last two years.

The comparison between the years and shown as percentages which are rounded to the nearest whole number. However percentages are not shown on numbers below 100 where instead the actual number change is shown.

The grey areas are summary totals made up of the rows above .

MAIN CRIME TYPES	2022 2023	-	2023 2024	-	% change	COMMENT
Overall recorded crime	9230		8396		-9%	
Violence against the person						
Homicide	0		1		Up 1	
Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	0		4		Up 4	
Violence with injury	1074		955		-11%	Actual bodily harm and above
Violence without injury	1461		1250		-14%	Includes common assault and malicious communications
Stalking and Harassment	1393		1219		-12%	
TOTAL: Violence against the person	3928		3429		-13%	
Sexual offences	388		323		-17%	Approx. 30% are historic offences but recorded in the year they are reported.
Robbery	62		48		Down 14	

Theft related offences				
Burglary residential	378	341	-10%	Includes garages and sheds
Burglary Non residential	137	174	+27%	
Bike theft	118	74	-37%	
Shoplifting	549	785	+43%	Measure of police and retail security activity
Theft from person	33	21	Down 12	
Other theft	696	629	-10%	
Vehicle offences	668	630	-6%	Theft of and from vehicles
TOTAL: Theft offences	2579	2654	+3%	
Criminal damage	801	700	-13%	
Drug offences	206	206	No change	Measure of police activity and intelligence
Possession of offensive weapon	101	87	-14%	
Public order	1022	806	-21%	
Miscellaneous	143	143	No change	

Source: Office for National Statistics - Recorded crime figures for CSP areas

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnerships comparison

Measurement: Total offences per 1,000 population

East Hampshire	48.8	
<u>Fareham</u>	<u>51</u>	
Winchester	57.2	
Test Valley	58.9	
Eastleigh	60.4	
New Forest	60.8	
<u>North Hampshire</u>	<u>63</u>	(Basingstoke, Rushmoor & Hart)
IOW	77.5	
Havant	80.6	
<u>Gosport</u>	<u>81.5</u>	
Portsmouth	120.7	
Southampton	128.8	

Eastleigh crime per population and households

There were 24.7 violent crimes per 1,000 population

There were 19.1 theft crimes per 1,000 population

There were 0.6 offensive weapon crimes per 1,000 population

There were 6 residential burglaries per 1,000 households

CRIME TYPES (A-Z)

Acquisitive crime

Overall acquisitive crime has risen by a small amount, but in all but two categories it has fallen. Only non-residential burglary and shoplifting has gone up.

The rise in shoplifting can be seen in two ways – as an increase generally and / or an improvement in security activity leading to the reporting and apprehension of more offenders. Nationally the trend is the same - “There were almost 444,000 shoplifting offences recorded by the police in England and Wales in 2023/24,” This is the highest in the period since 2002/3. A recent survey by the British Retail Consortium found that the surge in shoplifting went hand in hand with increased violence towards shop workers. It found that incidents against retail staff - including racial abuse, sexual harassment, physical assault and threats with weapons - rose by 50% in the year to September 2023.

Vehicle crime continues to fall overall, but theft from motor vehicles continues to be the largest single category as drivers leave cars insecure or leave valuable items on display.

Arson

Arson remains low as in previous years. There were 27 crimes in the year.

Domestic abuse

The other main component of violent crime is domestic abuse, which is defined as follows by the UK government

“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional.”

Domestic abuse can take different forms, including:

- physical abuse
- sexual abuse
- financial abuse
- coercive control / emotional abuse
- digital / online abuse
- honour-based violence
- forced marriage
- female genital mutilation (FGM)

In the year there were 1348 crimes committed in relation to domestic violence. In 2022-23 there were 1608 offences, so there has been a fall in reporting of 16%.

This total number of offences represents 16% of the total of overall crime, which is the average across the county and country.

The breakdown is as follows for type of crime:

Type of offence	Number
Common assault	346
Prevention of harassment and stalking	278
Actually bodily harm+	240
Sexual offences	87
Criminal damage	73
Sending malicious communications	67
Pursue course of conduct (coercion and control)	39
Public order offences	30
Threats to kill	26
Breaches of court orders	20
Most serious violence (GBH+)	13

There were 25,876 domestic abuse related crimes in Hampshire & IOW which is 16% of all crime reported in the same year. In the overwhelming majority of cases the relationship between victim and offender is that of ex partners.

Monthly analysis reveals no significant trends in reporting with 7 months having reports between 110 and 120 per month. The lowest months were August and December, the highest May and June.

Domestic Homicide Review

The Partnership has undertaken no Domestic Homicide Reviews during this period as set out in the legislation the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004.

Drug related harm

Drug related harm covers a whole range of offences, producing many victims of crime and exploiting vulnerable adults and children who at risk from drug dealers.

One element of this is County Lines. Across Hampshire, Southampton and Portsmouth drug dealing is both external (County lines) and home grown. Both affect what happens in Eastleigh. Over the last few years, there has been strong evidence of County Lines in the Borough but where it has happened it has mainly affected a few younger individuals who have been drawn into dealing and acting as runners and have been subsequently found by police in other parts of the country. The dealing drives the demand for Class A drugs, and this also stimulates a level of violence. It is thought that many drug related violence incidents go unreported

The monthly (MET) meeting reviews cases of children (under 18) who are currently being or are at risk of being missing, exploited or trafficked. Cases are graded high, medium and low risk.

Many of the young people who are causing the most harm are frequently the most complex and vulnerable cases, subject to exploitation and crime harm. It should also be noted that some of these young people are placed in the Borough & County from other local authority areas, and require our support, guidance, intervention and investment to mitigate their risks and or criminality

It should be noted that at any one time the partners are working with no more than about 50 young people who are causing the most harm. There are over 10,000 teenagers in the borough so this number as a percentage of the total population is very small.

Hate crime

A hate crime is defined as “Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.”

The majority of hate crimes were low level public order offences or assault without injury. Only a small percentage involve acts of physical violence against the victim. There were 171 hate crimes reported with race, disability and sexual orientation being the 3 largest categories.

The nature of these reports

Crime type	Number of crimes
Violence with injury	13
Violence without injury	20
Harassment	45
Public order	57
Malicious communications	11
Other	25
Total	171

Public Order

Continues to fall year on year, which in part reflects the lack of a busy night time economy in Eastleigh. Only a handful of public houses are open until early mornings at the weekends and generally behaviour is good and the pubs well managed.

Violent crime

Violent crime remains the biggest single category offence but this includes everything from malicious communications (e.g. abusive messages on social media) through to grievous bodily harm and murder. Approximately one third of violence offences are ABH and above.

Under 24s are over represented both as perpetrators and victims.

Victims by age:

10 – 24	721
25 - 50	842
50+	497

Knife crime

Habitual Knife Carrier (HKC) data produced quarterly, based on an individual being suspect of two or more knife-related offences in 2 years with one offence in the last 12 months.

2022 - 2024 Average across the period was 14 people at any one time. At end of March 2024, of the 14 only 7 were Eastleigh residents, the rest were from other parts of Hampshire and some of their offending behaviour was in the Borough of the Eastleigh. Of the seven Eastleigh residents, 3 were young people (ages 18,15 and 14). Intelligence and other evidence suggests more young people are carrying knives often under the guise of protection.

Serious Violence

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act was amended in 2022 to create the Serious Violence Duty which requires Community Safety Partners to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. As part of that duty there is a requirement to produce a Strategic Needs Assessment which was completed in October 2023. This looks at the picture of serious violence in the local area, as well as understanding some of the causes of violence.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight have adopted the following crimes within the definition of serious violence

1. Most serious violence – (GBH and above incl. death by dangerous driving).
2. Robbery
3. Possession of a weapon offences
4. Public order (violent disorder and riot only).
5. Any violence with injury not included under MSV where a bladed implement was used.

It has been agreed that domestic abuse crimes will not be included in the definition.

The summary of the Strategic Needs Assessment states:

- Eastleigh has lower rates of violence with injury, serious violence, robbery, and possession of a weapon than the HIPS and England averages.
- The main offences that make up serious violence are possession of a weapon (46%), robbery of personal property (25%), and violence with injury (24%).
- While there have been low levels of serious violence across most of Eastleigh, there were higher levels in parts of Eastleigh town centre.
- Levels of serious violence were higher in June and July 2023, which corresponded with good weather, and tended to be higher in the early evenings particularly on Fridays and Sundays.
- Most suspects are male (85%) and almost half (48%) were under 25 years, and there has been an increase in 10-17 year olds since 2021/22. 16% of suspects were linked to more than one offence, and most were male (88%) with the peak age group 18-24 years (46%).
- Males were also more likely to be the victims (63%) compared to females (26%) and 37% were under the age of 25 years.
- The most common victim and suspect relationship for serious violence was strangers (39%), followed by victimless crimes (25%, largely possession of a weapon offences), acquaintances (16%) and partners/ex-partners or family (15%).

Whilst the SNA looked at the period between 2022-2023, there is no discernible differences noted in the following years figures in relation to the nature of serious violence in the borough except to note that it has been consistently falling over the last 12 months, which is good news and is continuing to do so in the early months of 2024-25.

Eastleigh Town Centre (Op Sentinel area)

The main focus on serious violence is Eastleigh Town where the highest percentage of offences occur. The Partnership works together to focus activity prevention, patrol detection and prosecution.

As a result of this focused activity, in the period January to March comparing 2023 to 2024, there has been a fall of serious violence of 43% year on year



Anti-social behaviour

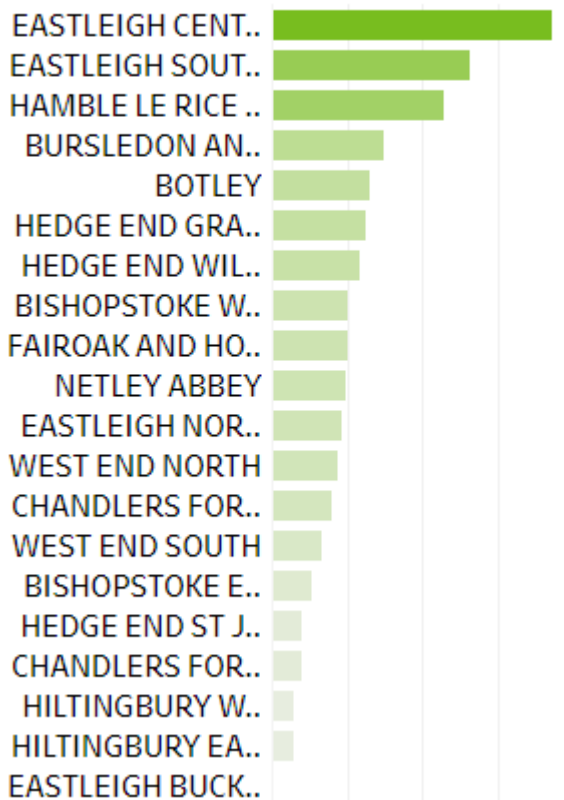
Reported levels of anti-social behaviour have continued to fall year on year though it is clear from communication with the public that many incidents go unreported for a variety of reasons. Anti-social behaviour tends to be caused by young people but there remains a steady flow of neighbour disputes where those involved are all adults.

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
TOTAL	2124	2183	1816	1361	1080

The number of reports of the 7 highest wards in the Borough for reported ASB

Ward	Number of reports
Eastleigh Central	187
Eastleigh South	132
Hamble	115
Bursledon	75
Botley	65
Hedge End Grange Park	62
Hedge End Wildern	58

Beat area



As you would expect the most ASB is reported in the summer months between June and August. November and January are the lowest months.

In terms of reporting a number of locations stand out as “hotspots”. In the past year these have identified as:

- Hamble including the foreshore
- Eastleigh: specifically the town centre, Fleming park and areas in South Eastleigh.

Often those young people involved in anti-social behaviour come to notice not just through these reports, but also through being involved in crime, poor school attendance, complaints to housing associations, and being from families where Children’s services are involved.

The Partnership uses a problem-solving approach to each hotspot looking at the available information, analysing what is happening and then taking targeted action with those causing the problems as well undertaking crime prevention and target hardening where appropriate.

Diversion is a key element to this approach and schemes such as Friday Night Football alongside the work of youth service provision of the Council now run by Youth Options are crucial to the overall engagement of young people in positive activities as a credible alternative to just hanging around and causing a nuisance.

ASB Review - Community Trigger

The law allows members of the public to ask for a community trigger where they believe the authorities have not satisfactorily dealt with reported and repeated incidents of anti-social behaviour. The Community trigger is officially known as an ASB Crime Review and there has been just one review requested in the past year.

Victims

Age remains a strong factor in potential victimisation and the chart shows the percentage of the total in which the age is known of the victim.

All percentages rounded to the nearest whole number

Age group	All Crime	Violent Crime	Domestic abuse
Under 18	14	23	6
18-30	13	18	24
30s	14	20	28
40s	16	15	18
50s	10	10	11
60s	6	5	5
70s+	4	3	3

Victimisation in all crime begins to fall off from the age of 50 onwards.

In terms of violent crime those under 40 represent 61% of all victims. Children under 18 represent 23% of the overall total, so that 1 in 4 victims of violent crime are young people. (see chapter on serious violence)

In terms of domestic abuse those in the 20s and 30s are most likely to be victims.

Victims by gender

In terms of serious violence, 29% of all victims are young males under 18, and a further 9% are between 18 and 24.

Most victims of domestic abuse are female.

Victims by ethnicity

Of the 1998 identified victims all but 144 are white European.

Black 44

Asian 78

Oriental 9

Arabic 8

Offenders

The National Probation Service has worked with 155 offenders across the Borough, of which 15 were female and the rest male.

Age	
18 - 20	6
21 - 25	13
26 - 34	40
35 - 49	64
50 - 64	23
65+	7
TOTAL	155

Asian or Asian British - Indian	6
Black or Black British - African	3
Mixed - White & Black Caribbean	2
White - British	124
White - Any other white background	2
Not stated	15
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	1

Burglary	1
Criminal Damage	3
Drug Offences	9
Fraud and Forgery	1
Indictable Motoring Offences	6
Other Indictable	18
Other Summary Offences	11
Robbery	2
Sexual Offences	13
Summary Motoring Offences	25
Theft and Handling	7
Violence Against the Person	59

Risk of reoffending: The risk of harm figures shown in the report are based on the highest risk rating given across four categories of risk in the community, namely risk to Known Adults, the General Public, Children and Staff.

Low	73
Medium	28
High	8
Very high	2

Criminogenic needs: An offender is identified as having a criminogenic need if that section has been identified as linked to offending. Top 5 areas of the 155 offenders:

- Thinking and behaviour
- Attitudes
- Relationships
- Lifestyle and associates
- Emotional wellbeing

PREVENTION

CCTV

The Council maintains a comprehensive CCTV system in Eastleigh town centre plus some outlying cameras are patched into the control room. The records below show the level of incidents actively monitored by the 24 hour control room and when the Police and town rangers were called. It also shows the number of arrests made as a direct result of the CCTV intervention.

DATE	TOTAL	POLICE	RANGERS	ARRESTS
April	305	26	15	9
May	293	26	5	13
June	331	21	17	18
July	391	37	24	23
August	372	35	19	16
September	316	26	12	17
October	369	37	17	19
November	318	33	13	5
December	278	25	7	9
January	265	22	19	8
February	265	24	18	12
March	248	22	5	10
Total	3811	334	171	149
		9% of all incidents	4.5% of all incidents	45% of all police attendances

Changing Direction for Success

Background: In April 2020 it became clear that there was potentially a substantial number of year 11s who would be leaving school in July and would not be in education, training or employment (NEET) and many of these were already involved in low level criminality, anti-social behaviour and getting mixed up with drug related harm. As a result, a pilot project was started in the summer to try and engage some of these young people and prevent them being drawn further into crime and to get them gainfully occupied from the autumn onwards.

The NEET project worked with 13 young people in 2020. After a six month review, six were in college, three were engaged with the Enham Trust, two were working fulltime and two were still NEET. In addition to this good individual progress, in terms of police incidents involving the group there was a 55% fall.

Following this successful small pilot run without any funding a successful bid was made to Vivid Plus, the new charitable arm of Vivid Homes, and the CDS project

was funded for 2 years (£72,000) from April 2021. This enabled the project to employ a part time lead officer and extend the programme to work with a large number of young people. An individualised package is created including accredited training, practical support, and mentoring all with the long term aim of changing the long term direction of the young person away from a potential future of unemployment, crime and substance misuse.

At the end of the first year, the results are encouraging with 40 young people from across the Borough actively engaged. Training courses included Health and Social Care, Customer Service, Forklift Truck licence, Food Safety levels one and two First Aid level three, hairdressing and construction skills in partnership with One Horton Heath project.

15 of the group were or have been in full-time employment. Three are in apprenticeships, three work in the catering sector, one works in logistics. and nine of the group work in the construction sector. 13 were back in full time education at Eastleigh and Itchen Colleges who have been integral members of the partnership, whilst the Enham Trust have provided much needed basic skills education with a cohort whose previous school attendance was very low.

In the 3rd year of the project CDS has 57 joining the scheme including 17 year 11s who have completed courses with the aim of addressing in school behaviour and preventing exclusions.

- 36 referrals identified as male and 26 females.
- 7 of the group are or have been “looked after”
- 2 of the group were referrals from last year as they continued to need support
- 20 of the referrals are in private rented or owner-occupied properties, 17 of the group are VIVID tenants, 11 live in other social housing. 7 of the group are “looked after”, 1 is in supported accommodation. We are still trying to establish the housing status of 6 others.

Overall, the 57 young people are responsible for the 141 qualifications.

The final year of the project focused on current year 10s and 11s at risk of suspension, exclusion and anti-social behaviour. These have placed on short courses part funded by CDS and the schools/colleges. To date as at end of July 2024, 41 young people so far have gained qualifications in Hairdressing, mechanics, food safety and first aid.

Recommendations

The Community Safety Partnership because of limited resources and capacity, needs to target its work where it will be able to be the most effective and bring about long term change.

The patterns of crime and anti-social behaviour over the few years across the Borough have little changed and there continues each year to be small groups of teenagers who have a disproportionate impact on violent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Partnership has taken the view that it can have the most impact in two key ways by working closely together - early intervention to prevent younger children following this path and by targeting interventions on these individuals who are causing the most harm in the community. Such targeted interventions include both diversion and prosecution.

In reviewing the strategic assessment, the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour across the borough, and the effectiveness of partnership working with particular problem crimes, it is recommended that the CSP focuses on the following 3 priorities for the coming 2 years:

Tackling Violence amongst young people

Reducing Anti-social behaviour focusing on hotspot areas

Young people at risk of exploitation

The Partnership will deliver on a number of actions against the three thematic priorities emerging from this report, in order to reduce the impact that threat, risk and harm has on individuals and society as a whole. These actions will be laid out in the Annual Delivery Plan.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ABC	Acceptable behaviour contract
ABH	Actual bodily harm
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
BID	Business Improvement District
CDS	Changing Direction for Success
CONTEST	Counter-terrorism strategy
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
CPN	Community Protection Notice
CSE	Child sexual exploitation
CSP	Community safety partnership
DHR	Domestic homicide review
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions
EBC	Eastleigh Borough Council
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
HIOW	Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
IDVA	Independent Domestic violence advocate
ISVA	Independent Sexual Violence Advocate
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
LSOA	Local super output area
MARAC	Multi agency risk assessment conference (Domestic violence)
NEET	Not in education, training or employment
NPS	National Probation Service
OCG	Organised Crime Group
ONS	Office for National Statistics

OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
PPO	Prolific and Priority Offender
PSPO	Public Space Protection Order
RJ	Restorative Justice
RSL	Registered social landlord
SFP	Supporting Families Programme
YCPT	Youth Crime Prevention Team
YOT	Youth Offending Team