



The Safer Somerset Partnership is a statutory group of organisations who work collaboratively to formulate and deliver strategies for tackling crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and reduce re-offending in Somerset.

The partnership works to deliver community safety priorities as part of the broader strategy of integrated care, health and wellbeing.

The community safety plan is part of a strategic framework alongside the Improving Lives strategy, Fit for my Future strategy, Children and Young People's plan and the Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board strategic plan.

This plan also compliments the police and crime plan for Somerset; setting out the strategy that the partners will employ to tackle community safety issues in the county of Somerset for the period June 2022 - March 2025.

The priorities selected for this plan seek to address those crimes which have the most impact on our local communities, including anti-social behaviour and hate crime. It aims to support and protect victims of abuse, serious violent crime, including violence against women and girls, youth crime and county lines.

We invite you to join us in our efforts to make the goals set out in this plan a reality, so that Somerset continues to be a place where people of all ages can flourish, assured of their safety and wellbeing.

Cllr Heather Shearer,
Chair of the Safer Somerset Partnership

Safer Somerset Partnership

Community Safety Plan

2002 - 2025



"As the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), my vision and ambition is for the police to have a culture of prevention to ensure that our communities feel reassured. One way I believe this can be achieved is through collaborative partnership work and our local authorities are one of the most important partners of policing.

Local authorities have legal duties relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, safeguarding, domestic abuse and many others. Some of this work is delivered through Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).

CSPs are a very important mechanism under which the police, your local authority and other agencies work together to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending. These local plans, which have been developed by your CSP, are tailored to the policing and safety needs of your local area, so they will be an effective tool to support achieving the strategic aims of my Police and Crime Plan.

As your PCC, I will work closely with CSPs to implement these important plans and ensure prevention, which is the overriding goal, is the forefront of this collective so that you feel safe a where you live."

Mark Shelford,
Police and Crime Commissioner



With the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, a range of statutory requirements are in place for Somerset Council and other partner agencies. This includes a new statutory definition that all agencies must adhere to when identifying those who are experiencing domestic abuse. As part of this Somerset Council has commissioned a new integrated service with 5 'lots' to work together to deliver a range of specialist domestic abuse support to better enable victims and those who cause harm to seek support in the county.

Short Term

The partnership supports the newly-formed Somerset Council to meet the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act (2021).

Establish controls and processes to ensure Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) quality assurance.

Increase professional and community awareness of the services offered to children who experience domestic abuse.

Introduce an effective mechanism for alerting GPs to high-risk domestic abuse cases.

Priority 1:

Protect people from the harm of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Medium Term

Embed the MARAC improvement plan into practice.

Establish clear and effective support pathways and services for both domestic abuse victims and for those who cause harm.

Increase performance data capture and analysis for domestic abuse support services, using KPI-based performance reporting to drive system-wide improvement.

Long Term

Ensure that more people are supported to reduce the harm they cause, year on year.

Ensure that more victims are living in safe accommodation, year on year.



Serious violence is a local and national priority under which falls a number of crime types with the exploitation of vulnerable people sitting at the heart. To prevent violence, the partnership must build on the good work already taking place to identify those at risk early, use a public health approach to understand why and where violence is happening and prevent the spread within our communities.

Short Term

Refine the partnership's structure to deliver an effective response to exploitation and serious and organised crime.

All statutory partners embed standardised practice and policy in relation to modern slavery.

The Violence Reduction Partnership is supported in its work to coordinate multi-agency plans to reduce youth violence.

Priority 2:

Improve our response to Serious Violence

Medium Term

Somerset's Channel Panel introduces improved processes to continue reducing the risk of people from being drawn into terrorism.

The partnership delivers an effective response to the Serious Violence Duty.

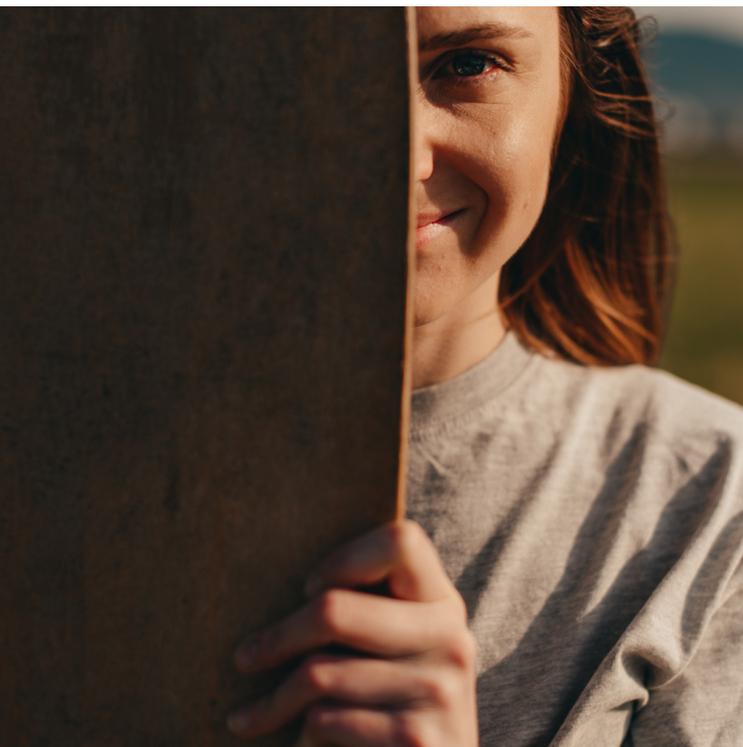
The partnership delivers an effective strategic response to sexual violence.

Develop and embed a localised model of Integrated Offender Management that is right for Somerset.

Long Term

Increase collaboration with other strategic partnerships, delivering a refreshed response to county lines.

The partnership demonstrates its commitment to support women and girls to live free from violence and harassment.



Whilst the level of individual risk and harm may not always be as high or tangible as other core crime types, it is neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour that has the most widespread community impact and harm, creating long term negative or indeed false perceptions of fear and risk. Across its various statutory agencies, the Partnership has at its disposal a range of tools and powers and with improved use of data, intelligence, and collaboration and leadership, it could make a real difference to local communities.

Short Term

Embed the partnership's role in the identification, consideration and escalation of priority crimes.

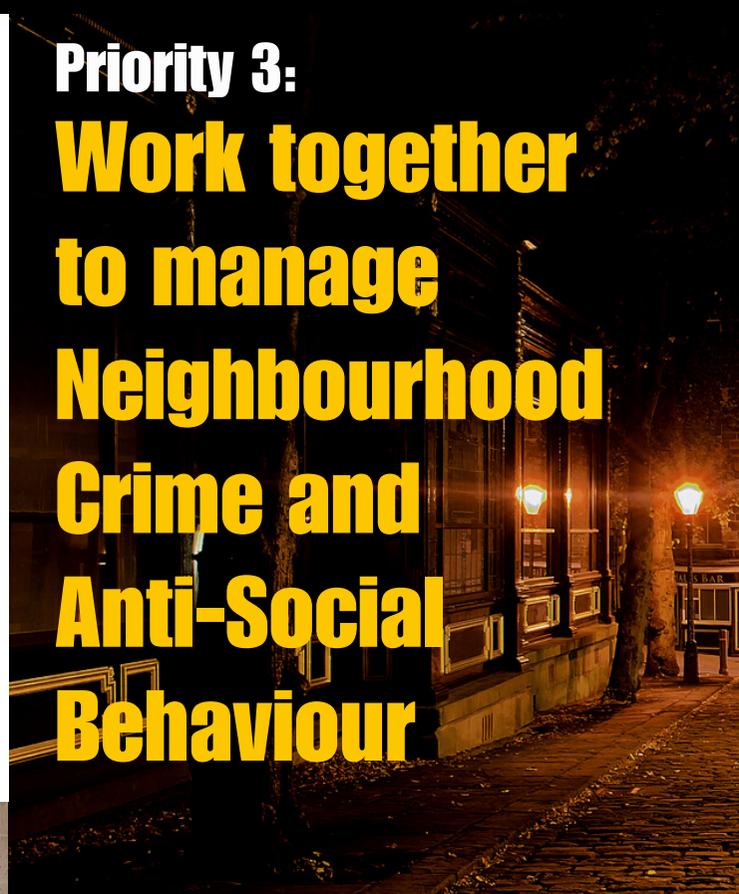
The partnership has a clear and effective communications strategy, addressing key community safety concerns.

Community engagement forms central part of the partnership's communication strategy.

Support the Hate Crime and Community Cohesion Partnership to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime in Somerset.



Priority 3: Work together to manage Neighbourhood Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



Medium Term

Embed multi-agency community safety arrangements within the new Somerset Council, ensuring an effective and consistent service.

Long Term

Establish an effective mechanism for identifying and responding to community tensions across Somerset.

Somerset has a consistent and equitable multi-agency response to antisocial behaviour.

