

**NORTH  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**



Community Safety  
Partnership



# **Community Safety Plan**

2026 to 2029

# Foreword

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# 1. Introduction

Feeling safe is an essential part of enjoying life. If we see or hear about crime in our neighbourhoods, we naturally feel unsafe or worried. Crime comes in many forms and affects people in different ways. Some crimes have been long standing issues that have affected society for generations and some are new and emerging, or they are committed using new methods.

Violence remains a challenge across the entire country and it continues to affect the lives of so many people, especially young people. Drug supply and the associated organised crime groups (OCGs) and drug lines continue to cause harm in our communities, and they have far reaching negative effects; not just on the drug users but the young people recruited into criminality and the victims who are targeted to fund drug addiction.

Domestic abuse remains a priority for the Community Safety Partnership with over 4,600 crimes recorded this year in North Northamptonshire.

Anti-social behaviour is a blight on our communities with many decent citizens suffering due to the inconsiderate and, often illegal, behaviour of a minority. The police recorded over 6,800 incidents of ASB this year with almost 10% of victims suffering two or more incidents. The CSP knows how much of a concern this is to the residents of North Northamptonshire and they will continue to take action, invest in, and develop, new ways of tackling this problem.

It's very easy to say, "we need more police on our streets, or where were the police when that crime happened?". Whilst police officers are vital in preventing and detecting crime, we must also consider what can be done to prevent people from committing crime or getting involved in gangs. We must also make sure we protect the most vulnerable people from criminals. It's very important that all agencies work together to achieve this.

The North Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership is in place to make North Northamptonshire a safer place to live, work and visit.

This document is its plan to make that happen.



# 2. About North Northamptonshire

North Northamptonshire is a significant area, both in terms of geography, diversity, opportunities and challenges. Major road and rail links connect it to many parts of the UK, thus making it an important place for enterprise and employment.

The 2021 census reported the population of North Northamptonshire to be 360,418 and records show that at the end of 2024 it was 373,871. This is an increase of 13,453. Since 2019 the population of North Northamptonshire has increased by an average of 4.9% which is higher than the national average of 4.1%.

The population of North Northamptonshire is growing and the partnership must be ready and able to meet the challenges this will present.



# 3. North Northants Community Safety Partnership

North Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership's (CSP) role is to:-

- Identify and understand the community safety issues North Northamptonshire is experiencing now and is likely to in the future.
- Set out specific outcomes that will make a difference to people's safety, lives and wellbeing.
- Decide what actions it can take collectively, using shared resources to achieve those outcomes.
- Monitor and report its performance in achieving the above outcomes.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) places a legal duty on the following organisations to be part of the CSP. They are called 'responsible authorities': -

- Local authority (North Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire Children's Trust)
- Police constabulary (Northants Police)
- Fire and rescue authority (Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner)
- NHS (Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board)
- Probation service

Success in making North Northamptonshire a safer place to live, work and visit, requires help and support from many other organisations. The CSP is also supported by:-

- Northants Fire and Rescue Service
- Registered Housing Providers
- Voluntary sector organisations including support providers
- Community-based associations and groups
- Businesses
- Town and parish councils
- Schools and other education providers

More details about the CSP, meeting papers and other documents can be found at [Community safety | North Northamptonshire Council](#)



## 4. How does the CSP identify priorities?

Partnerships like the CSP can't do everything and must prioritise the things where, working in partnership, it can make the biggest difference and add value to what its members can achieve as separate organisations, and on the things that need the most attention.

Datasets and information are readily available on where crime is most prevalent, and which groups and localities are being targeted. Some of that information is used on a daily and weekly basis by the responsible authorities to judge where resources are needed, or where an initiative or project will help tackle a problem.

In addition the CSP partners have developed a range of other strategies and plans based on data and intelligence and in some case in direct response to statutory duties as a result of legislation, to inform what they do. It is important that the Community Safety Plan considers these existing strategies and aligns its priorities wherever relevant to ensure we are all working towards shared goals.

It is also important to listen to the concerns of our communities, to address perceptions around the fear of crime and public safety. This Plan has taken account the findings from the 'Big Conversation' undertaken by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner across the county during 2024, which indicated that residents 'feel less safe in urban areas, with the closure of shops and community assets like youth services, and a decline in maintenance contributing to a sense of insecurity.' It also recognises that in the recent resident's survey undertaken by North Northamptonshire Council feeling safe in their communities and concerns about anti-social behaviour were the top issues raised by local residents.

The most significant areas the CSP needs to tackle are:-

- Serious violence prevention and reduction (including knife crime)
- Domestic abuse, sexual violence and exploitation
- Violence against women and girls
- Community cohesion
- Anti-social behaviour

For this Plan the CSP Board are committed to directly championing two of the five priorities relating to Community Cohesion and Anti-social Behaviour. The three remaining priorities all relate to statutory duties held by the CSP partners.

While the five priorities are identified, work will continue to provide joined-up services for improving road safety, protecting our communities from the risk of extremist behaviour, tackling the harm caused by substance and alcohol abuse and reducing re-offending.







Community safety works both 'responsively' and 'proactively'. Responsive services focus on managing cases concerning anti-social behaviour, hate crime and domestic abuse; enforcing legislation and providing support in critical incidents. Proactive services help embed community safety into community development and regeneration projects and our work with local communities to help them feel safer.

This Plan also details a set of principles and methods by which the CSP partners commit to work, focussing on integrated place-based delivery through the work of our seven Local Area Partnerships, Place Based Partnerships and our Family Hub Network, and on prevention and early intervention wherever possible. These will ensure that we work with our voluntary and community and social enterprise sector organisations and residents in local communities as equal partners; and seek to provide joined up services to support our residents when they need our help.

# 5. CSP Plan 2025 - 2029

## OUR VISION:

To make North Northamptonshire safer for our residents, businesses and visitors, by working together to reduce the risk of harm caused by crime, violence & anti-social behaviour, protecting the most vulnerable and creating neighbourhoods that are safe & cohesive

<p><b>Preventing serious harm from violence, knife crime and exploitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce levels of violence and knife crime</li> <li>• Increase earlier Identification of vulnerable victims and offenders and refer into specialist support</li> <li>• Promote and enable outreach support</li> <li>• Reduce re-offending in 18–25yr olds</li> <li>• Expand education and awareness amongst children and young people</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Protecting and supporting people from Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence &amp; Exploitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe and appropriate accommodation for victims and their families</li> <li>• Ensure victims receive support at the earliest opportunity</li> <li>• Reduce repeat victimisation</li> <li>• Expand education and awareness amongst young people</li> <li>• Increase participation in perpetrator programmes</li> <li>• Increase professionals trained in professional curiosity</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Protecting and supporting women &amp; girls</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce levels of violence against women and girls</li> <li>• Develop and adopt a Women's Safety Charter to help change attitudes</li> <li>• Develop a local DRIVE programme to manage high risk perpetrators</li> <li>• Increase detection and prosecution rates for violent crimes and stalking</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Our communities are cohesive and stable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve awareness, reporting and partnership responses to hate crime</li> <li>• Review the partnership structure for responding to hate crime</li> <li>• Develop and deliver a community cohesion action plan</li> <li>• Bring communities together to celebrate diversity</li> <li>• Work together to prevent opportunities for violent extremism</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Our neighbourhoods and towns are safer for everyone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve collation and analysis of ASB data across partners and services</li> <li>• Deliver neighbourhood, safety and infrastructure improvements in vulnerable locations</li> <li>• Take effective partnership action in priority locations</li> <li>• Provide increased youth offer to divert young people from anti social and criminal behaviour</li> <li>• Increase satisfaction with services</li> </ul> 	<p><b>Our Principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person-centred, Prevention and Early Intervention</li> <li>• Provide a fair and equitable service to all communities</li> <li>• Effective partnership working and data sharing</li> <li>• Partnership and Problem Solving</li> <li>• Data and Evidence led activity</li> <li>• Measure and evaluate impact</li> </ul> 

# PRIORITY 1

## Preventing serious harm from violence, knife crime and exploitation

### The CSP's key area of focus will be:

- Multi-agency and intelligence-led work that prevents people from being drawn into gangs, county lines and organised crime, as well as extremist ideologies.
- Northamptonshire police report they are investigating ten organised crime groups (OCGs) and 37 drug lines of which 10 are county lines.
- In the year to the 31st March 2025, they recorded 497 knife enabled crimes and 317 offences of producing or supplying controlled drugs.

### The CSP will work to achieve the following outcomes: -

- Reduced levels of violence
- Reduced levels of gang-related violence
- Reduced knife crime incidents
- Reduction in re-offending rates for young offenders and those transitioning into Adult Services.
- Increased number of schools signed up and receiving the POL/ED programmes
- Increased referrals into specialist support programmes
- Increased outreach support to address the causes of violence
- Increased number of partners committed to Prevent training

### To achieve these outcomes, the CSP's priority actions will be:-

- Development of a strategy/plan alongside Family Hubs and Youth Offer programmes for the delivery of Prevention Partnership Panels to identify and support 10-17 year olds vulnerable to being drawn into crime.
- Continue to develop our multi-agency tasking arrangements.
- Deliver an online / digital safety awareness programme through POL/ED.
- Continue to deliver Prevent training packages across partner organisations.
- Promote the use of social media platforms to direct people to support services.
- Identify risk and protective factors that may be causing violence due to their presence or absence and ensure access to support.
- Continue to take a Public Health approach to develop, trial and evaluate interventions to reduce risks and enhance protective factors and roll out effective interventions based on evidence of what works.

# PRIORITY 2

## Protecting and Supporting people from Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Exploitation

### The CSP's key area of focus will be:

Safeguarding victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and exploitation.

- In the twelve months to September 2025 the police recorded 7181 domestic abuse crimes.
- 19% of victims suffered two or more offences.
- The police also recorded 6243 offences of violence against women and girls (VAWG).

### The CSP will work to achieve the following outcomes:-

- Victims receive support at the earliest opportunity
- Increased number of victims from Global Ethnic Majority communities being referred for, and receiving, support
- Reduced numbers of repeat victims needing Multi-Agency Risk Management (MARAC) in line with the national average.
- Increased numbers of young people receive age-appropriate healthy relationship education.
- Provide safe and appropriate accommodation for victims, survivors and their families.
- Increased percentage of victims who report feeling safer as a result of the support they have received.
- Increased number of perpetrators attending/completing perpetrator programmes.
- High levels of satisfaction with services.

### To achieve these outcomes, the CSP's priority actions will be:-

- Develop effective and appropriate pathways to safer accommodation.
- Deliver effective publicity and awareness campaigns with particular focus on ethnically diverse communities.
- Expand the offer of robust perpetrator programmes.
- Deliver training programme across partners to improve professional curiosity.
- Increased number of professionals completing domestic abuse training.
- Develop pathways for earlier intervention and support for 'standard' risk victims of domestic abuse.
- Deliver health relationships education programme for young people.
- Ensure the voice of the victim is heard in all that we do.
- Develop and embed contextual safeguarding to ensure victims and their families get the right support when they need it most.
- Increase capacity for children's outreach support.
- Support the DA health coordinator function to continue to increase awareness in primary care settings.

# PRIORITY 3

## Protecting and supporting women and girls

### The CSP's key area of focus will be:

Spearheading a cultural shift and systemic change in attitudes towards women and girls

- In the year 2024/25 the police recorded 6243 offences related to violence against women and girls.
- Of this 20% were repeat victims.

### The CSP will work to achieve the following outcomes:-

- Reduce reported repeat incidents of violence against women and girls.
- Organisations from across the sectors will have signed the Women's Safety Charter.
- Strengthen the support for victims and survivors across the whole system to protect them from further harms and enable them to recover.
- Increased detection and prosecution rates for Domestic Abuse, sexual offences and stalking, using both civil and criminal orders.
- Increased awareness of healthy relationships education amongst young people.

### To achieve these outcomes, the CSP's priority actions will be:-

- Identify risk and protective factors that may be causing violence due to their presence or absence and ensure access to support.
- Developing and adopting a Women's Safety Charter for the county.
- Increase the uptake of schemes to reduce VAWG within commercial and non-statutory agencies.
- Gaining a better understanding of the reasons for the increase in repeat victims for rape and sexual violence, through insight and focus on common traits for victims and on a targeted cohort of perpetrators of one, two or more crimes.
- Using insight to develop a programme of risk stratification to increase earlier identification of both victims and potential perpetrators of violence against women and girls.
- Develop a local response to the national Drive Perpetrator programme for the multi-agency risk management of high-risk perpetrators for domestic abuse and sexual violence.

# PRIORITY 4

## Our communities are cohesive and stable

### The CSP's key area of focus will be:

Co-producing a Community Cohesion Plan with voluntary, community sector and social enterprise sector organisations to develop an enhanced programme to improve social connections across our diverse communities and to tackle the root causes of hate crime.

North Northamptonshire has a diverse population with people of different race, religion, culture and belief living together.

The ethnicity of the population is reported in the 2021 census as:

Ethnicity	Percentage
White	90.3
Asian	3.5
Black	3.1
Mixed/ multiple	2.3
Other	0.8

The religious/ faith beliefs of the population are reported as:

Religion/ Faith	Percentage
Christian	47.9
None	42.6
Not answered	5.6
Hindu	1.3
Muslim	1.2
Sikh	0.5
Other	0.5
Buddhist	0.3
Jewish	0.1

In 2024/25 Northamptonshire police recorded 538 hate crimes with the majority relating to race.

## **The CSP will work to achieve the following outcomes:-**

- Increased reporting of hate crimes.
- Strengthened relationships between communities and key public sector organisations, including the Police, Local Authority, interfaith groups, places of worship, and voluntary sector organisations.
- A clear action plan for crisis response when local, regional, national or international events threaten community safety in order to promote proactive engagement rather than reactive responses.
- Proactive multi-agency planning to address community concerns and crisis preparedness.
- Increased engagement with schools and young people to facilitate discussions on cohesion and the impact of global events on local communities and on intercultural dialogue and community activism.
- Increased number of community celebrations and opportunities for different communities to come together to learn about one another, to foster unity and diversity.
- Increased number of community members trained to effectively engage with public services regarding Prevent.

## **To achieve these outcomes, the CSP's priority actions will be:-**

- Co-producing and adopting a Community Cohesion Action Plan.
- Review the partnership structures for assessing, investigating and responding to hate crime.
- Strengthen our resources for dealing with hate crime and community tensions.
- Developing a mechanism for swift mobilisation of community networks in response to incidents that impact local communities.
- Training community members on how to effectively engage with emergency services around Prevent.
- Work together to foster trust and confidence to increase the reporting and sharing of community intelligence.
- Engagement with schools and young people to facilitate discussions on cohesion and the impact of global events on local communities and on intercultural dialogue and community activism.
- Provide a framework for regular community celebrations and opportunities for different communities to come together to learn about one another, to foster unity and diversity.
- Create youth engagement programmes focused on intercultural dialogue and community activism.

# PRIORITY 5

## Our neighbourhoods and towns are safer for everyone

### The CSP's key area of focus will be:

Tackling the root causes of ASB, with particular emphasis on our town centres and most deprived neighbourhoods.

- In 2024/25 Northamptonshire Police recorded 6857 incidents ASB.
- Rowdy behaviour accounted for 44% of reports.
- Inconsiderate use of vehicles accounted for 24% of reports.
- Neighbour issues accounted for 21% of reports.
- The police also recorded 135 offences of arson.

### The CSP will work to achieve the following outcomes:-

- Reduced levels of ASB and repeat incidence of ASB.
- Reduced levels of arson.
- Increase joint working on obtaining and enforcing civil orders relating to crime and disorder.
- Increased percentage of victims satisfied with the service they have received from Police and / or Local Authority.
- Increased number of partnership problem solving plans for cases and places successfully delivered.
- Improved collation and analysis of ASB data across all partners and services.
- Increase the public perception of safety in public places.

### To achieve these outcomes, the CSP's priority actions will be:-

- Patrolling and enforcing Public Spaces Protection Orders.
- Targeting and delivering the Clear Hold Build programme in neighbourhoods experiencing highest levels of ASB and criminality.
- Focussing on improving vulnerable locations through infrastructure investment and environmental improvements.
- Review and improve the CCTV provision across North Northamptonshire.
- Diverting young people from opportunities to commit crime, arson and ASB.
- Supporting neighbourhood improvement activity undertaken in conjunction with Community Payback and Immediate Justice programmes.
- Improve the use of partnership problem solving plans.
- Improve partnership triage and joint working of appropriate ASB cases.
- Make it easier for residents to report ASB.
- Promoting the Community Trigger as a tool to improve partnership response to ASB.

## 6. Key Principles and ways of working

The Community Safety Partnership is committed to delivering against the following principles:

- Being person-centred in our case work in support of residents and communities, joining up our service offer to support people in the right way at the right time.
- Focussing on prevention and early intervention wherever possible.
- Effective and collaborative partnership working and data sharing.
- Taking a data and evidence-led approach to inform what we do, how we do it and evaluating the impact it has.
- Taking a place-based approach to ensure that activities are tailored to the strengths and needs of local towns and neighbourhoods.
- Being clear and concise about what we are trying to achieve.
- Undertaking robust measurement of our performance and evaluating any new initiatives.
- Provide a fair and equitable service to all communities.

### Working in Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership will use a place-based approach to solving problems and achieving its outcomes. This approach is called Place-Based Partnership (PBP) working and it is based on the principles of local people and agencies working together in local areas to solve problems and improve the lives of residents. North Northamptonshire comprises of seven areas where PBP working is used to achieve positive outcomes for the community. Each area has a multi-agency group, or partnership, that works together on local issues and this is called a Local Area Partnership (LAP).

Please [go online](#) for more information.

### Clear, Hold, Build

The LAPs work together to support the police in the delivery of the Clear, Hold, Build initiative. This initiative will form an important part of the CSP response to achieving its outcomes.

Clear, Hold, Build is a Home Office initiative that brings police and public services together to tackle offending and address underlying issues affecting communities.

This methodology has been successfully implemented into areas across North Northamptonshire, including Queensway and Hemmingwell in Wellingborough and Highfield in Kettering.

The initiative aims to:

- Tackle organised crime groups (OCGs) within an area.
- Build community resilience.
- Improve confidence and trust in the police and partners.
- Make the area a safer place to live.

This is achieved through three flexibly deployed phases of activity – clear, hold and build (CHB).

## Clear

The clear phase involves:

- Understanding key issues in the area and building an intelligence picture.
- Engaging the community around problems/issues.
- Targeted enforcement activity.
- Focus on OCG's: members, networks, business interests, criminality, and spheres of influence.
- The police using all powers and levers to impact on their ability to operate, creating safer spaces to begin restoring community confidence.

## Hold

The hold phase involves:

- Consolidating and stabilising the initial clear phase to stop remaining or other OCG members capitalising on the vacuum created.
- Partnership approach to identify and tackle vulnerabilities identified.
- Reassurance from Police and partners – visible patrols in hot spot locations.
- Continued engagement with community – other agencies and groups to support in preparation for build phase.

## Build

The build phase involves:

- A whole-system approach to delivering community-empowered interventions that tackle drivers of crime, exploitation of vulnerabilities and hotspots of harm.
- Improved engagement with services.
- Increased confidence within the community.
- Improved reporting through to police and partnerships.
- LED BY partners and the community – Local Area partnerships, community groups, funded projects.

The CSP will, through its LAPs, work together to improve the lives of the residents of North Northamptonshire by applying the Clear, Hold, Build methodology.

# 7. Delivery of this plan

This plan covers the period 2026 to 2029. It's expected that the priorities and the main areas of focus will not change over that period; however, the CSP will carry out a review each year to help guide and shape its action plans.

The action plans will be important as they will set out what partner organisations will contribute to and help deliver to achieve the plan's outcomes.

The CSP is structured to allow it to deliver this plan, with strategic boards, operational groups, panels and tasking teams set up to take the lead on specific areas.

Each year, the CSP will publish an annual report to tell residents, businesses and other local leaders how progress is being made on the delivery of the plan.

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