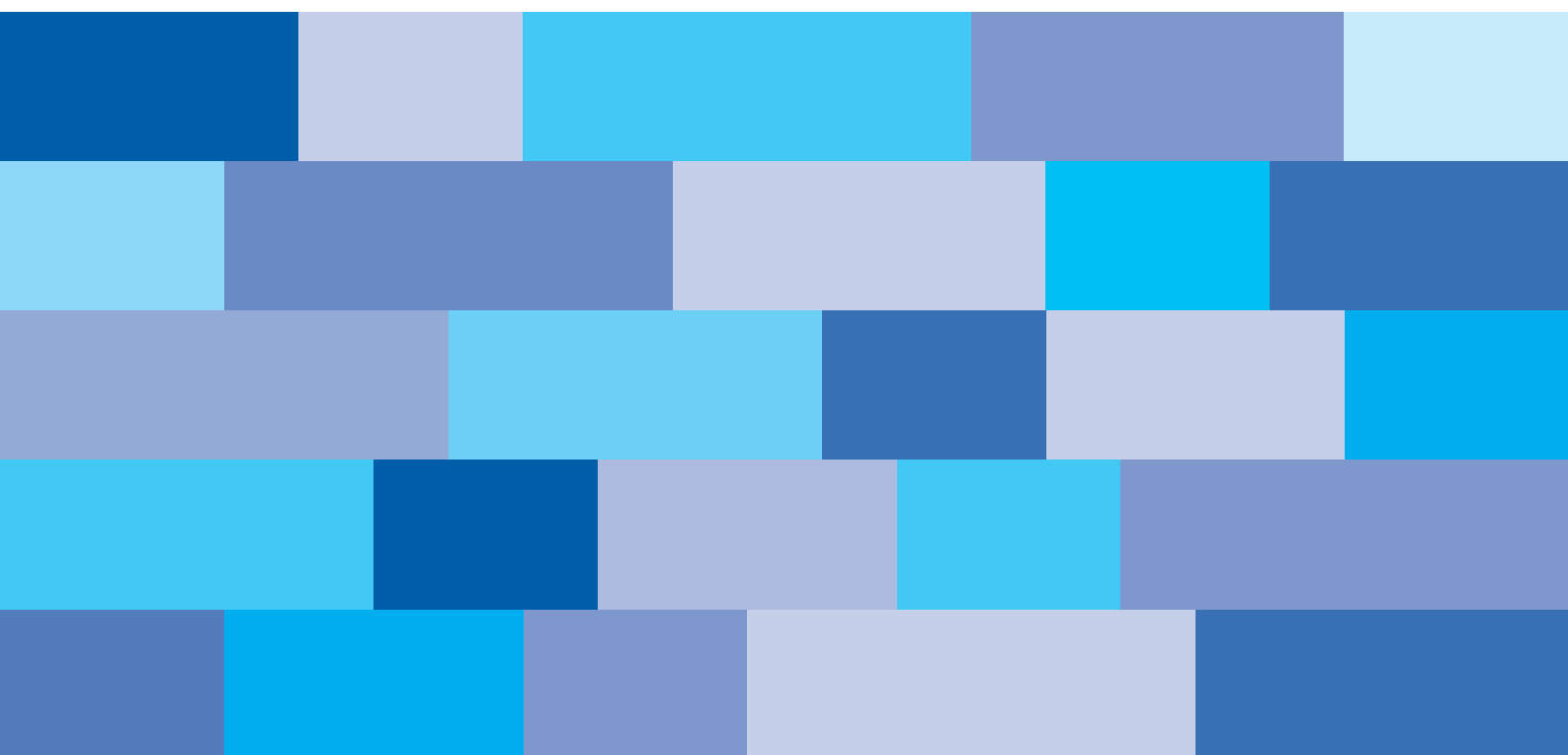


Knowsley Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy

2005-2008



Foreword

by Chief Superintendant Mark Barrow, Chair of Knowsley CDRP

As Area Commander in Knowsley, it gives me great pride and pleasure to present the third Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy to be produced by the Knowsley Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP).

The Crime and Disorder Partnership is one of the thematic groups which forms the Knowsley Partnership, steered by an executive board, chaired by the Leader of the Council. The CDRP is beginning to develop relationships with the other thematic groups, particularly the Strategic Housing and Environment Partnership in improving the quality of the local environment, the Children and Young People Partnership to ensure children stay safe, the Economic Forum in the area of business crime and the Health Partnership to support victims and offenders (see figure 1).

The partnership has achieved much since its establishment in 1998. There is a downward trend in many areas of crime, due to a range of initiatives supported by all partners. Key to this process is the Joint Agency Group which is seen as a model of good practice and has played a major role in developing what is promising to be an effective strategy for dealing with priority and other persistent offenders.

A great deal has been learnt from the two previous strategies and this has informed the approach taken for 2005-08. An extensive audit of crime in the borough was carried out which analysed 14 crime areas to determine whether they were increasing or decreasing in volume and to compare them with similar and neighbouring boroughs. These findings formed the basis of an extensive face to face consultation with residents through both community area forums and special interest groups. This feedback led to more detailed work in analysing priority areas of crime to look at where and when they were most likely to be committed. Added to this was information about the priority offenders, giving a detailed picture of crime in the borough.

This information is the basis on which this strategy has been developed. The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership spent two days agreeing the priorities, targets and actions for the next three years. The recommendations made by the Audit Commission following the council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment have been responded to through specific actions in the strategy. Although targets have been set for three years, and aligned with those of the Merseyside Police Authority and Merseyside Police, the Partnership have agreed to review these every 12 months in the light of how it has performed and how other boroughs are performing. For some of the priorities there is currently no detailed information, so the first task will be to collect data on which to base a target.

Of course it is not enough just to produce a strategy - the targets and actions in it have to be delivered. Neighbourhood working will be one of the most effective ways of doing this. Each partner is committed to ensuring that they undertake the work for which they are responsible and reports on progress will be fed regularly to Community Area Forums and published in the Knowsley Partnership Annual Report.

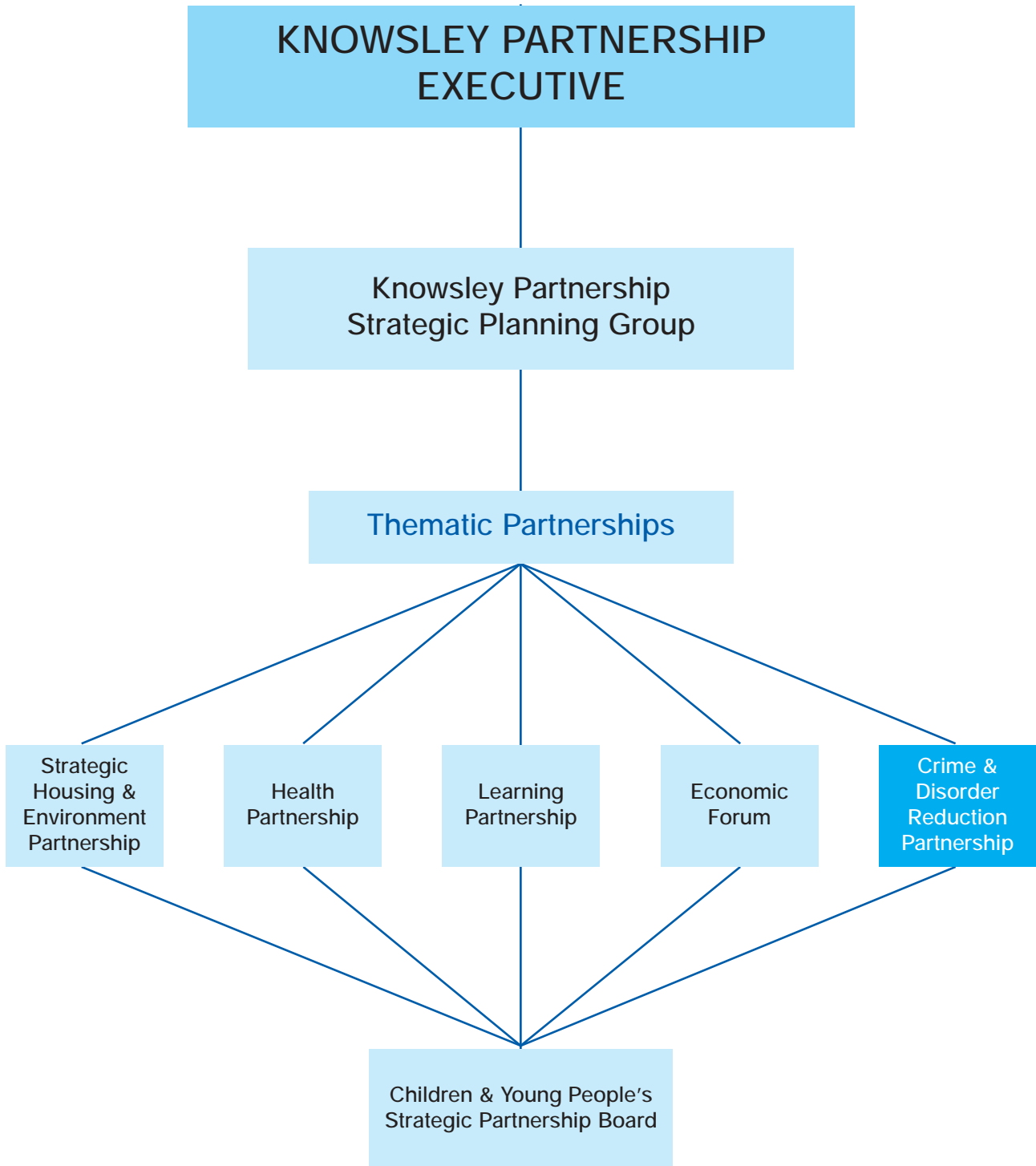
However, crime and disorder affects everyone and will only be reduced effectively by the whole community working together. My colleagues and I look forward to working with residents during the next three years to make Knowsley a safer place to live and work.



Partners ■ Merseyside Police ■ Merseyside Police Authority ■ Merseytravel ■ Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service ■ Knowsley Primary Care Trust ■ Crown Prosecution Services ■ National Probation Service ■ Knowsley Council ■ Community Empowerment Network ■ Government Office for the North West ■ Connexions Greater Merseyside ■ Knowsley Housing Trust ■ Jobcentre Plus ■ Knowsley Business Watch ■ Knowsley Council for Voluntary Services ■ Knowsley Youth Offending Team ■ Knowsley Drugs and Alcohol Action Team

This strategy and the Crime and Disorder Audit can also be viewed on the Knowsley Partnership Website at <http://crime.theknowsleypartnership.org.uk>

2 Local strategic partnership structure



1. Introduction - The Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley

Location and size

Knowsley is one of the five metropolitan districts of Merseyside. Located between Liverpool and Manchester, it is connected to these cities by the M57 and M62 motorways, and the A580 East Lancashire trunk road. It covers an area of 33 square miles (8,651hecares) and has a population of approximately 150,861, living mainly in a number of suburban townships including Huyton, Kirkby, Prescot, Whiston, Halewood, Stockbridge Village and Cronton.

Based on the latest Registrar General's Mid Year Estimate (2003), Knowsley's population is relatively young, with nearly 22% under 16 - compared to a national average of around 20% - and with only 6.1% aged 75 or over, compared with 7.6% nationally. Other characteristics of the population emerging from the 2001 Census include:

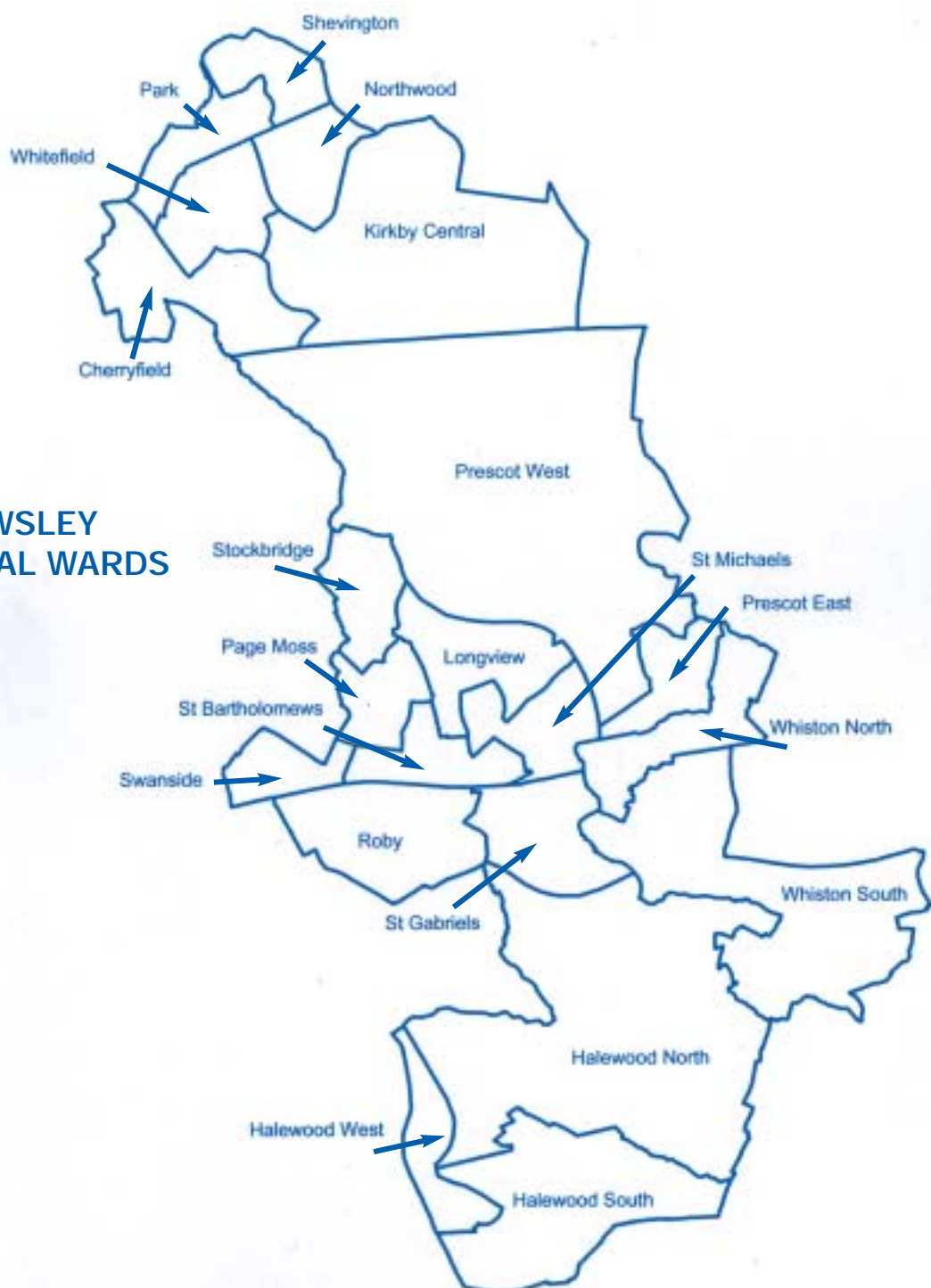
KNOWSLEY	NATIONALLY
Male:Female ratio - 47:53	49:51
42% of households with no car or van	Less than 27%
29% single person households	30%
Almost 12% lone-parent households with dependent children	6.5%
Only 1.6% of population are of black, minority ethnic background	9%
49% employed	61%
25% of residents state they have a limiting long term illness	18%
10% with a degree or higher level qualifications	20%
62% of owner-occupied houses	69%

Knowsley is made up of six neighbourhood areas:

1. North Huyton
2. North Kirkby
3. South Huyton
4. South Kirkby
5. Prescot, Whiston, Cronton & Knowsley Village
6. Halewood

Merseyside Police Force have adopted neighbourhood policing and organise police activity around these same neighbourhoods. Each neighbourhood team is lead by an inspector, several sergeants and constables. Similarly members of the Basic Command Unit (BCU) and extended police family such as Police Community Support Officers are also deployed to the same neighbourhoods. In addition to this Neighbourhood Wardens, employed by the local authority, also organise their patrols around these neighbourhood boundaries.

KNOWSLEY ELECTORAL WARDS



Deprivation

Until now the standard unit for presenting local statistical information has been the electoral ward division but this system had its drawbacks.

It was therefore decided to develop a range of areas that would be of consistent size and whose boundaries would not change. These would be built from groups of 2001 Census Output Areas (OAs) and would be known as Super Output Areas (SOAs). There are 32,482 Super Output Areas in England.

All the successes of the last 10 years have been achieved against a background of economic deprivation that is both severe and persistent. In 1991, 44% of Knowsley children lived in households where there was no adult in employment, compared with only 19% nationally. In 2001 this had decreased to 33% in Knowsley and 18% nationally. 9% of the borough's children lived in lone parent households in 1991 compared with 3.7% nationally. By 2001 the figures had risen to 11.8% and 6.5% respectively. In 2003, 15.7% of Knowsley's workforce was receiving Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance, and 10% were in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. According to the revised index of Multiple Deprivation (2004) Knowsley is the 8th most deprived district in England and is in the most disadvantaged 10% of employment-deprived districts. Of Knowsley's 99 Super Output Areas (SOAs), 52 were among the most deprived 10% of all SOAs in England.

The health of Knowsley residents is poor. Deaths overall are 20% higher than the national average, with high rates of heart disease, cancer and respiratory disease. Men's life expectancy is 3 years less than the national average. As well as diseases relating to poor diet and smoking, diseases due to excessive consumption of alcohol are an important factor in reducing men's life expectancy in Knowsley.

6 2. Findings from Crime, Disorder and Drugs Audit - summary

A key element of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 was the recognition that the task of crime and disorder was a concern for everyone. The act, therefore, placed a statutory obligation on local authorities and the police, along with other agencies and the community to work together in order to develop and implement a strategy for reducing crime and disorder. These partnerships are known as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs). The main responsible authorities are the local authorities, police authorities, police forces and health authorities. Other local agencies may include fire services, Drug and Alcohol Action Teams, Youth Offending Teams, the Probation Service, Crown Prosecution Service, voluntary organisations and local business groups, all of which are represented on the Knowsley CDRP.

Section 5 of the act holds local authorities and the police accountable for this process. The Crime & Disorder Strategy is used to inform the Partnership as to how they will deploy resources and particular interventions in order to deliver reductions in crime and how to sustain these reductions in the locality.

The overall aim of Sections 5 and 6 of the act are to ensure that responsible authorities:

- (i) are aware of the nature of crime and disorder in their area by conducting and publishing an audit of local crime and disorder problems;
- (ii) consult locally on the issues identified by the audit;
- (iii) are able to identify the methods of developing and implementing effective action to help reduce crime and disorder;
- (iv) formulate and publish a crime and disorder reduction strategy setting out the findings of the audit and putting the strategy into practice; and
- (v) monitor progress.

Recent changes in Section 6 of the act have required CDRPs to take into account anti-social behaviour and the quality of the local environment. The partnership must therefore consider this as part of its performance and devise appropriate actions to address issues identified.

This process has to be repeated every three years. Audits have been completed in 1998 and 2001 with subsequent strategies covering the periods 1999-2001 and 2002-2005.

An audit has been carried out, covering the years 2001-2004 and has been used, along with significant public consultation, to inform the detail of the Crime and Disorder and Drugs Strategy for Knowsley for the period 2005-2008.

The audit is an analysis of crime, disorder and drugs information from a number of sources from key partners and agencies from within Knowsley. In addition, the audit was designed to identify key areas of concern that are priority areas for action for the partnership over the period of the strategy. In order to carry out the analysis a number of quantitative methods were used.

Views from Knowsley's residents and special interest groups around levels of crime, disorder and drugs were also considered. This included holding workshops at each of the six area forums which were attended by over 300 people and analysis of questionnaires. Discussions were held with a number of groups including the Community Empowerment Network, Older People's Voice, Youth Parliament, Survivors of Domestic Abuse and secondary and primary school head teachers.

The crime areas that were analysed are as follows:

- Disorder
- Domestic abuse
- Drug offences
- Non-domestic burglary
- Theft from motor vehicle
- Hate crime
- Violent crime
- Juvenile disturbance
- Possession of drugs
- Domestic burglary
- Robbery
- Theft of motor vehicle
- Racially aggravated offences
- Arson

The audit contains data from all of the responsible authorities and other agencies and services that are represented on Knowsley's CDRP.

Although there has been a heavy emphasis on iQuanta and Home Office Data, this has been equally supported by data from many other agencies and organisations across the borough, such as: Victim Support; Mersey Fire & Rescue, Merseyside Ambulance Service, Merseyside Police, Business Watch and Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services.

Some data has been reported at ward level but where this was not possible it has been recorded at postcode level dependent on how agencies data sets are recorded. This data was collated by the Crime and Disorder Strategy and Performance Team from Knowsley Borough Council with a seconded officer from Merseyside Police. Comparisons have then been made with other similar CDRPs in England and Wales and other boroughs of Merseyside.

As a result of this audit and public consultation, three key themes have arisen as areas of priority for Knowsley CDRP and Knowsley's residents. These are:

1. Acquisitive crime

- Domestic burglary
- Non-domestic burglary
- Theft from motor vehicle

2. Violent crime

- Violence against the person
- Domestic abuse

3. Anti-social behaviour

- Youth disturbance
- Arson
- Disorder

In addition to these three broad themes, there is recognition that there are some underpinning themes that impact on all of these crime areas. This recognition is supported by the findings from the public consultation and these underpinning themes are:

- anti-social behaviour fuelled by excessive use of alcohol amongst young people and adults
- links between acquisitive crime and the use of drugs
- increased fear of crime levels
- the impact these crimes have on victims
- the majority of crimes are committed by prolific and other priority offenders

8 3. Previous plans and key achievements

Key achievements since 2002-05 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy:

Since the formulation of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for the period 2002-2005 there have been some key achievements made in Knowsley:

- Knowsley's Joint Agency Group has developed over three years since the last strategy with representation from a wide range of partners including, police, local authority, Crown Prosecution Service, Probation, Progress2Work, Knowsley Housing Trust, YOT, Social Services, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

This group meets every two weeks and its emphasis is on prolific and other priority offenders.

Members of the Joint Agency Group also discuss location issues and trends in particular crimes across the borough.

This group is seen as the operational arm of the CDRP and as such, tasks agencies to implement particular actions in order to address problem locations and prolific and priority offenders, and monitor the impact of interventions by partner agencies.

- Since the Prime Ministers announcement to introduce the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy, Knowsley has developed a steering group to take all elements of this strategy forward to ensure our partnership reduce re-offending rates and crime levels across the borough.

The steering group is made up of representatives from key agencies that deal with offenders and aims to offer what is described as a premium service to prevent and deter, catch and convict and resettle and rehabilitate Knowsley's prolific offenders population.

The group's mechanism for identifying prolific offenders is transparent, robust and objective and has been seen across Merseyside and other parts of the country as excellent practice.

- Job Centre Plus has developed a programme to work with Prolific Offenders.

- Merseyside Police adopted Neighbourhood Policing in 2002 and have since organised their policing activity around six neighbourhoods within the borough of Knowsley. In addition to this members of the extended police family such as Police Community Support Officers also organise their activities around these neighbourhoods. This has been very beneficial to the borough of Knowsley and has also allowed the local authority's Neighbourhood Warden Schemes to organise their patrols and teams around the same areas.

- An evaluation of Knowsley's Neighbourhood Warden Schemes, commissioned by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, found that the scheme was having a positive impact on the local community and was an example of excellent practice.

Based on this success it was agreed that the scheme should be expanded to cover the whole of Knowsley, making it the largest scheme in the UK. The expansion of the Neighbourhood Warden Scheme complements the Neighbourhood Policing approach and enables each of the schemes to report on performance to community area forums.

- A protocol has been developed to allow for Police Community Support Officers and Neighbourhood Wardens to work in partnership therefore avoiding duplication. The protocol sets out an agreement that Neighbourhood Wardens and Police Community Support Officers

will develop patrol routes together and will not patrol the same route at the same time. Managers of Neighbourhood Warden Schemes and Neighbourhood Inspectors meet regularly to discuss specific issues.

- Knowsley CDRP has recently been the subject of an independent review to improve its partnership working. This has allowed the CDRP to examine the way it operates and how partners can contribute to the Crime, Disorder and Drugs agenda more effectively.

This has led to the formulation of an improvement plan where actions are regularly monitored and partners are now better able to see their contribution to crime and disorder reduction across the borough.

The review has led to a more formalised partnership where joint working is becoming second nature.

- Knowsley has developed an Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group to deal with issues of disorder across the borough. This is a multi-agency working group that reviews incidents of anti-social behaviour and initiates applications for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Section 30 Dispersal Orders that are agreed at the Joint Agency Group meetings.

- The DAAT has enabled 698 people to enter treatment for drug abuse.

- Knowsley's Youth Offending Team has improved performance over the last three years and is currently in the top third of all Youth Offending Teams in the country.

- Knowsley Borough Council has developed a mentoring programme called Bridges to Inclusion Mentoring Education (BTIME). BTIME provides mentoring support for young people in Knowsley. The programme guides young people away from crime and anti-social behaviour. Through one-to-one coaching and support, a volunteer mentor encourages and challenges the young person to make positive choices in their life.

- The 'Freedom Programme' has been running in Knowsley for over two years, and aims to help women find out how to make a new start in life. The programme involves a 12 week course aimed at enlightening those who are victims of domestic violence so that they can see what choices, and help, is available to them.

The programme seeks to encourage those who take part to be empowered to take that first step to change their lives, and break the cycle of domestic abuse.

- A Safer Schools Working Group has been established and a schools security adviser has been appointed.

- The 14-19 Collegiate has been established and is working with some of the most challenging young people.

- Walking buses have been developed in all areas of the borough providing a safer, healthier way for young people to travel to and from school.

- Knowsley was one of only 11 authorities that were successful in applying for designated area status under the new Countryside and Rights of Way Act which enables us to apply for permanent closure of footpaths and alleyways that are subject to persistent criminal and anti-social behaviour.
- Links with Government Office for the North West and the Merseyside Police Authority have been strengthened.
- Representatives from the Schools Council and Youth Parliament attend the CDRP and have influenced work of the partnership and this strategy.
- The first 'Crackhouse Closure' notice has been issued.
- A Tenancy Enforcement Unit has been established.
- A fear of crime amongst older people strategy has been developed.

4. Acquisitive Crime

This is any crime where something is stolen, either from a person, a car, a house, or from a business or school premises.

In Knowsley the acquisitive crimes committed most often and are of most concern to its residents are:

- Domestic burglary
- Non-domestic burglary
- Theft from motor vehicle

Outcomes for acquisitive crime: 2005 - 2008

- Residents are confident that their cars and homes are safe.
- Criminals are caught, convicted, resettled and rehabilitated.
- Schools, leisure facilities, businesses, retail premises and business parks are free from crime.

Findings from the audit and public consultation:

Domestic burglary

Between the period 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 there were 15.5 burglaries per 1,000 dwellings in Knowsley.

This increased during the period 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2004 to around 16 burglaries per 1,000 dwellings, a 2.8% increase. This increase is significantly lower than in some other similar local authority areas. However, domestic burglary is still an area of concern and Knowsley's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will continue to treat this as a strategic priority.

30% of questionnaire respondents reported that domestic burglary was a problem in Knowsley.

Target to reduce domestic burglary by 2008:

30% reduction in the number of domestic burglaries between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

Performance indicators:

2003/04 Performance	04/05 Projected Performance	2005/06 Reduction	2006/07 Reduction	2007/08 Reduction
16.8	15.68	15.00	12.50	11.76

Actions by Knowsley CDRP to reduce domestic burglary

Action	Lead organisation
Develop a Crime Prevention Reduction Programme to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Distribution of home and garden security devices ■ Raising awareness of distraction burglaries 	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Work with other thematic partnerships to secure resources to improve home security	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit

Non-domestic burglary

Between the period 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 there were around 6.5 non-domestic burglaries per 1,000 population in Knowsley.

This increased during the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004 to almost eight non-domestic burglaries per 1,000 population; this represents a 22.77% increase. This increase is significantly higher than in some other similar CDRP areas where there was an average increase between the two years of 7.98%. Similarly, across Merseyside, Knowsley has experienced the highest increase in the number of non-domestic burglaries.

33% of questionnaire respondents reported this to be a problem across Knowsley stating school burglaries to be of the most concern.

Target to reduce non-domestic burglary by 2008:

31% reduction in the number of non-domestic burglaries between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

Performance indicators:

2003/04 Performance	04/05 Projected Performance	2005/06 Reduction	2006/07 Reduction	2007/08 Reduction
7.99	6.8	6.2	6.0	5.5

Actions by Knowsley CDRP to reduce non-domestic burglary

Action	Lead organisation
Increase safety of schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop a Security of Schools Strategy ■ Further develop a School Security Working Group to encompass the wider portfolio of public buildings ■ Appoint a School Security Advisor 	Department of Environmental and Operational Services (DEOS)
Conduct a review of Knowsley's business, retail and public sector buildings and develop an action plan	Department of Regeneration and Development (DRD)

Theft from motor vehicles

Between the period 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 there were approximately 9.41 thefts from motor vehicles per 1,000 population in Knowsley.

This increased during the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004 to almost 12 thefts per 1,000 population. This represents a 25.5% increase over the three-year period. This is significantly higher than in other similar CDRP areas where the average change over three years was a 1% reduction with some areas experiencing reductions as large as 28%.

Similarly, across Merseyside, Knowsley has experienced the highest increase in thefts from motor vehicles.

Over half of all questionnaire respondents reported that this crime is a problem in Knowsley.

Target to reduce theft from motor vehicles by 2008:

28% reduction in the number of thefts from motor vehicles between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

Performance indicators:

2003/04 Performance	04/05 Projected Performance	2005/06 Reduction	2006/07 Reduction	2007/08 Reduction
11.81	14.3	11.81	10.00	8.5

CDRP actions to reduce theft from motor vehicles

Action	Lead organisation
Target prolific offenders in line with PPO strategy	PPO Steering Group
Improve lighting and signage in car parks	DRD
Maintain and develop 'park and access' programme	DRD

Generic actions to reduce acquisitive crime

This action relates to all areas of acquisitive crime, including domestic burglary, non-domestic burglary and vehicle crimes.

Action	Lead organisation
Develop a CCTV Rapid Deployment Policy to allow rapid response cameras to be deployed in crime and disorder hotspots.	DEOS
Develop and introduce crime prevention initiatives based on detailed statistical analysis	Police / Department of Corporate and Customer Services (DCCS)
Develop a 'designing out crime' strategy linked to the planning process	DRD
Deploy intelligence led high visibility patrolling in hot spot areas in line with strategic priorities	Police / Police Community Support Officers / Neighbourhood Wardens
Work in partnership to influence appropriate level of punishment within criminal justice system	Chair of CDRP
Develop communications and awareness programmes across Knowsley including ringmaster	Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy Unit
Develop sustainable solutions to acquisitive crime via Neighbourhood Action Groups and other thematic partnerships	DRD
Actively encourage local people to become magistrates	Chair of CDRP

145. Violent Crime

Violent crime is any act or threat of violence towards a person, whether it is a stranger or an acquaintance.

In Knowsley, the violent crimes that are committed most often and are of most concern to residents are:

- Violence against a person
- Domestic violence or abuse

Outcomes for violent crime: 2005 - 2008

- People will feel confident that they can report violent crimes and abuse without fear of retribution
- Perpetrators of violence and abuse are appropriately dealt with and subsequently rehabilitated.
- Survivors of domestic abuse are supported both physically and emotionally and have a safe place to go and are easily able to access support services.

Findings from the audit and public consultation:

Violent crime

There has been a significant increase in the number of violent crimes over the period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2004. However, some of this increase can be attributable to changes in the National Crime Recording Standard. These changes were made in April 2002 and meant that all reports of incidents from victims, witnesses or other third parties must be recorded whether crime-related or not. This has impacted on Knowsley's crime figures particularly in relation to violent crimes. For example, if an officer was called to a pub fight but no-one wished to press charges, in the past, with no complainant, this may not have been recorded. However, with changes to the National Crime Recording Standard, this must and will be recorded as a violent crime.

In Knowsley between 1 April 2001 and the 31 March 2002 there were around 10 violent crimes per 1,000 population. This increased during the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004 to over 16 incidents per 1,000 population, representing an increase of 59.6%.

This, in comparison with other similar CDRP areas is significantly higher than the average change, placing us 12th of 15 in the family group.

However, across Merseyside, the increase is below average but still presents itself as a major concern for Knowsley CDRP.

Target to reduce violent crime by 2008:

15% reduction in the number of violent crimes between 2003/04 and 2007/08

Performance indicators:

2003/04 Performance	04/05 Projected Performance	2005/06 Reduction	2006/07 Reduction	2007/08 Reduction
16.37	16.4	16.00	15.00	13.92

Actions by Knowsley CDRP to reduce violent crime

Action	Lead organisation
Promote DELL's anti-bullying policy across all schools	DELL
Promote anti-bullying campaign designed by young people for young people	DELL
Develop effective methods for reporting bullying	DELL
Development of a strategy to support victims of racial harassment and hate crimes	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a programme of sustainable activities to reduce alcohol induced violent crime among young people	Youth Service
Strengthen the enforcement agencies ability to close licensed premises consistently associated with violent crime and make full use of the Licensing Act	DCCS

Domestic violence/abuse

Knowsley has experienced a 17.5% increase in the number of reported incidents of domestic abuse between 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2004. In 2001/02 there were around 13.5 reported incidents per 1,000 population increasing to 16 reported incidents per 1,000 population in 2003/04.

When compared with the rest of Merseyside this is the third highest increase and early indications of 2004/05 figures suggest that this is continuing to increase.

Around 30% of questionnaire respondents reported that this was a problem in Knowsley. This is a relatively high percentage when taking into consideration the sensitivity of this issue and the reduced likelihood that people talk openly about this crime.

It is evident that these reported incidents are only a fraction of the numbers of actual incidents. For example, Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services received 243 calls between April 2003 and September 2004 from survivors of domestic abuse. Of these 243 callers only 31 had reported an incident to the police.

Also, there are 28 people receiving a floating support service from Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services and 64% of these people have not reported any incidents to the police.

These figures give an indication of the amount of un-reported domestic abuse incidents.

For the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004 there were 2,413 incidents of domestic abuse reported to the police in Knowsley. This represented a 17.5% increase since 2001/02. An increase such as this can be considered to be positive as survivors of domestic abuse are more willing to report these incidents than they were in the past. Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services in partnership with pan-Merseyside organisations have targeted a substantial amount of their resources at encouraging survivors to report incidents with this in mind, Knowsley CDRP feel it to be counterproductive to impose targets to reduce incidents of domestic abuse. The CDRP have therefore agreed the following actions that will enable the positive work to continue and also to continue and expand on some of the preventative interventions to support both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

CDRP actions to reduce domestic abuse

Action	Lead organisation
Develop a domestic abuse strategy for the partnership to include a policy of zero tolerance and support for victims	Coordinator Domestic Violence
Appoint a dedicated health worker for domestic abuse	PCT
Complete construction and open Domestic Violence Refuge	Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services
Maintain anger management courses for perpetrators of domestic abuse	Probation Service
Develop a programme, in partnership with DAAT, for drug and alcohol using perpetrators	DAAT
Complete and open the First Step Domestic Violence Centre	Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services
Further develop a multi-agency approach to supporting children involved in domestic abuse	PCT
Ensure 100% compliance with Police Force target for arrest	Police
Develop domestic abuse access training programmes for front line staff in all partnership agencies	PCT / KDVSS

For the purposes of obtaining an anti-social behaviour order, the definition of anti-social behaviour is set out in section 1 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998:

Acting in an anti-social manner is a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the complainant.

In Knowsley, the anti-social behaviour that occurs most and is considered to be more of a concern to residents is:

- Disorder
- Youth disorder/disturbance
- Arson
- Hoax calls to the emergency services

Outcomes for anti-social behaviour: 2005 - 2008

- Young people are valued
- Young people have an exciting and varied choice of activities to take part in during the week and weekends
- Knowsley is a quieter and more peaceful place in which to live
- Residents know who to contact regarding anti-social behaviour and receive an appropriate and timely response.
- Long-term, sustainable local solutions to local problems owned by the community
- Less alcohol-induced disorder from both young people and adults

Findings from the audit and public consultation:

Youth disorder

Knowsley has actually experienced a 67% reduction in the number of calls made to the police regarding youth disorder. However, this reduction is slightly lower than the average reduction across other boroughs in Merseyside.

In addition to this, public consultation has lead the partnership to believe that youth disorder is still a major concern for Knowsley's residents with almost 70% of questionnaire respondents reporting to this effect.

It is also recognised that the figures analysed for the purpose of the audit are calls made to the Police Command and Control Centre and residents have informed the partnership that many such incidents are reported to Neighbourhood Wardens, council officers and elected members. Therefore these figures are not truly representative of the actual incidents that are occurring.

The public consultation also indicated that although it may be likely that youth disorder is reducing, the fear of disorder and the fact that young people often congregate in large numbers can often lead to a perception of youth disorder that is higher than the actual number of incidents occurring thus creating a 'reassurance gap'.

There is currently no sound baseline of incidents of youth disorder to allow the CDRP to set targets to reduce these incidents. However, the following set of actions have been agreed by the partnership in order to establish such a baseline based on multi-agency intelligence, and to develop diversionary activities to reassure the public:

CDRP actions to reduce youth disorder

Action	Lead organisation
Develop a baseline and set a target for youth disorder	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a package to educate people around the effects of anti-social behaviour	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a programme of targeted support to children and young people at risk of anti-social behaviour or offending	DLCS
Develop a series of sustainable diversionary activities for children and young people focussed on 'hot spot' areas of youth disorder	DLCS
Set targets in 2005/06 to reduce incidents of youth disorder in 2006/07 and 2007/08 using the baseline developed	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit

Disorder

As with youth disorder, Knowsley has experienced a reduction of 23% in the number of calls made to the police regarding disorder. This reduction is slightly less than the average reduction across the other boroughs of Merseyside.

Public consultation revealed that although the numbers of calls made to the police may have gone down, disorder is still perceived to be a major problem across Knowsley with 66% of questionnaire respondents reporting to this effect.

As with youth disorder, there is often a perception that disorder is worse than the actual numbers of incidents based on a series of isolated incidents therefore developing a reassurance gap.

There is currently no sound baseline of incidents of disorder to allow the CDRP to set targets to reduce these incidents. However, the following set of actions have been agreed by the partnership in order to establish such a baseline based on multi-agency intelligence, and to develop activities and interventions to reduce both the incidents and the perception of disorder across Knowsley:

CDRP actions to reduce disorder

Action	Lead organisation
Discourage sales campaigns that encourage binge drinking	DCCS
Develop early intervention approaches for problematic tenants	Housing Strategy Unit
Develop targeted education programmes to reduce disorder	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Maximise effective use of Section 30 legislation	Police
Use trend analysis to produce base lines and action plans for disorder	Police and Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a mechanism to appropriately manage community and neighbourhood disputes	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit

Arson

According to Merseyside Police figures Knowsley has experienced a significant increase in the number of deliberate fires during the period 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 of 84.6%. This includes deliberate fires to business premises, residential properties, wheelie bins, litter bins, and motor vehicles.

This increase is much higher than the average change for other similar CDRP areas and other boroughs of Merseyside.

When data from Mersey Fire and Rescue was analysed there was a downward trend for vehicle fires and hoax calls made to the fire service, however the number of incidents are still high and remain a cause for concern. In addition to this there has been an increase in what can be termed 'anti-social behaviour fires' including secondary fires to such things as wheelie bins, rubbish and uninsured property.

The results of public consultation also indicate that vehicle fires and anti-social behaviour fires remain a problem to residents of Knowsley with over 40% of questionnaire respondents reporting it as a major concern.

Target to reduce arson and hoax calls

Each area has its own targets for reductions that are set year on year, the targets for 2005/06 are as follows:

Area	2005/06 target for hoax calls per 1,000 population	2005/06 target for vehicle fires per 10,000 population	2005/06 target for ASB fires per 10,000 population
E3 - HUYTON	1.8	32	120
E4 - PRESCOT AND WHISTON AREA	1.0	18	80
E6 - KIRKBY AREA	1.8	32	120

NB: Halewood is covered by Speke and Garston Fire Stations therefore the appropriate fire stations will have similar targets for hoax calls, vehicle fires and ASB fires. Knowsley CDRP will therefore monitor the progress made against these targets for the Halewood area.

CDRP actions to reduce arson and hoax calls

Action	Lead organisation
Develop intelligent working practices to identify hotspots for arson	Mersey Police and Fire Rescue Police
Use CCTV to prevent and deter hoax calls to emergency services	DEOS
Second an Arson Reduction Officer to Knowsley CDRP	Mersey Fire and Rescue

Generic actions to reduce anti-social behaviour

This action relates to all areas of anti-social behaviour, including youth disorder, disorder and arson.

Action	Lead organisation
Develop an Anti-social Behaviour Strategy for the CDRP	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a strategy in line with Strategic Housing and Environmental Partnership to reduce environmental crime including graffiti, fly tipping and litter dropping in line with recent amendments to the Crime and Disorder Act	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Continue to Deploy High Visibility Patrols	Police Neighbourhood Wardens Police Community Support Officers
Develop a CCTV Rapid Deployment policy to allow rapid response cameras to be deployed in crime and disorder hotspots	DEOS
Develop sustainable solutions for anti-social behaviour through Neighbourhood Action Groups for local problem solving with links to Children and Young People Area Partnerships	DRD
Develop and support the reassurance project in the context of Neighbourhood Policing	Police
Develop a multi-agency intelligence solution to deal with reports of anti-social behaviour	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop a 'designing out crime' strategy linked to the planning process	DRD

227. Drugs and alcohol

Outcomes for drugs and alcohol: 2005-2008

- Less alcohol misuse
- Less anti-social behaviour fuelled by alcohol, particularly around licensed premises
- Premises where drugs are dealt from are closed
- Problematic drug users and offenders are effectively dealt with and rehabilitated

Alcohol

There are currently no alcohol-related statistics collected however, public consultation revealed that there are concerns around the excessive consumption of alcohol particularly amongst young people that often results in incidents of anti-social behaviour.

The CDRP sees this as a key strategic priority that underpins many of the other priorities such as anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse and violent crimes and has therefore identified the following actions:

Action	Lead organisation
Deliver Knowsley's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- a system for gathering and reporting data and information on alcohol issues- objectives of strategies are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- an informed, engaged, healthy and safe community- a responsible alcohol industry- safe, healthy, learning and educated young people- a strong workforce	DAAT

Drugs

During the period 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 there were around 2.34 per 1,000 population, arrests made for possession of drugs in Knowsley. This decreased to around 2.2 arrests per 1,000 population during 2003/04 representing a reduction of 5.7%.

Although this figure is relatively low especially compared with the rest of Merseyside the results of the public consultation reveal that drugs are an area of concern.

It is recognised that drug offences and possession of drugs are not always the reason for arrests particularly where acquisitive crime is concerned and therefore the CDRP sees drugs as an underpinning issue around many acquisitive crimes that are a priority for Knowsley. Therefore a number of key actions have been identified:

Action	Lead organisation
Develop, manage and implement the Drug Intervention Programme for drug using offenders	DAAT
The DAAT and Police to develop the existing working relationship to increase the effective and appropriate use of Crack House Closure Notices	Police DAAT
Commission appropriate drugs and alcohol services for over 18's	DAAT PCT
Commission appropriate drugs and alcohol services for young people in consultation with young people	DAAT PCT
Develop a programme that rehabilitates drug users and supports their integration and development within their local community	DAAT DRD

24 8. Fear of crime

As discussed previously, there is often a perception of crime and disorder that is not in line with the number of actual incidents that have occurred thus increasing fear of crime levels amongst the community and creating a 'reassurance gap'.

Often this can be attributable to the way in which people are informed about crimes through the local media and via word of mouth that can often increase peoples' fear of crime levels.

There are several factors that can increase peoples' fear of crime levels such as:

- those who live in high crime areas
- those who feel particularly vulnerable
- those who are subjected to persistent anti-social behaviour
- local public transport networks and infrastructure
- those who have been a victim of crime
- those who feel powerless and isolated
- the local environment
- lack of response/action by partnership agencies

Outcomes for fear of crime: 2005 - 2008

- People feel safe in Knowsley
- People feel safe inside their homes
- People feel informed about different agencies crime and disorder activities and performance
- People feel included in local policing and problem solving

These outcomes and results of the public consultation have lead to the CDRP developing several actions to assist in the understanding of fear of crime levels in Knowsley and to help reassure its local community:

Action	Lead organisation
Roll-out of Reassurance Policing across Knowsley in the context of neighbourhood policing	Police
Create a profile methodology for targeted hotspots which embeds fear of crime levels, perceptions of crime, environmental issues and public transport networks and infrastructure.	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit Merseytravel
Communicate CDRP actions, performance and good news quarterly to the local community through a range of media	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Promote and develop Knowsley's Fear of Crime Group with a clear role, responsibilities and reporting structure	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop improved intelligence on crime and disorder associated with the public transport network	Merseytravel
Develop a coordinated approach to unscrupulous business activities	Trading Standards
The Knowsley Warden Service to be a permanent part of the councils response to crime and disorder	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit

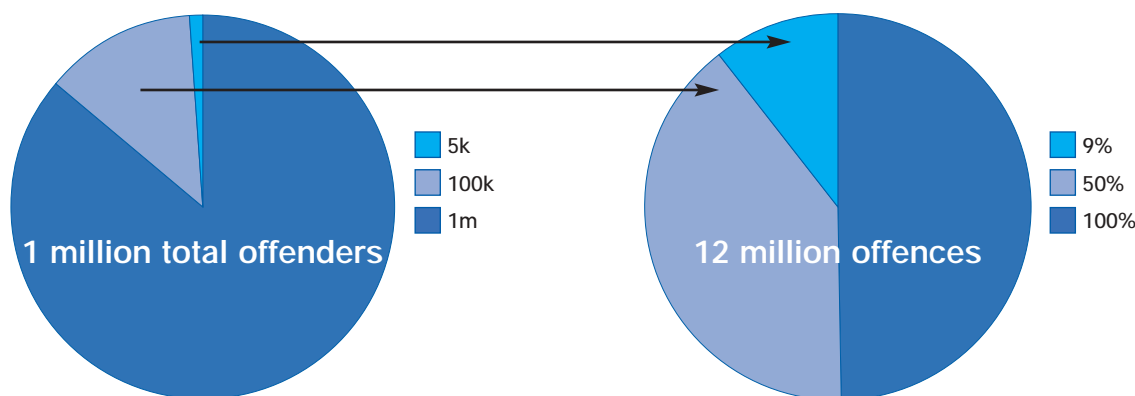
Many of the other actions that are included within this strategy document such as high visibility patrols, rapid response CCTV cameras, crime prevention campaigns and local problem solving groups will also help to reassure the local community and reduce fear of crime levels.

Currently, the systems for monitoring victims of crime are undeveloped and the CDRP aim to improve this along with the expansion and development of various victims of crime support groups. Therefore the CDRP has agreed several actions in support of victims of crime.

Action	Lead organisation
Develop a strategy for supporting victims of crime linked to the Vulnerable Adults Strategy and Child Protection Strategy	Police / Department of Social Services
Develop victim profiles to gain a clear picture of specific crimes	Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit
Develop systems to better monitor and analyse why people are victims of crime and to identify potential repeat victims	Police
Explore opportunities to support the witness service for Knowsley	CDRP

26 10. Prolific and other priority offenders

It is estimated that out of a million active offenders, 100,000 offenders have three or more convictions and are responsible for half of all crime. The active offender population is not static, 20,000 individuals leave this pool every year and are replaced by another 20,000 offenders. The most active 5,000 of this group are estimated to be responsible for one in ten offences.



- 100,000 offenders (10%) responsible for around 50% of all crime
- 5,000 offenders (0.5%) responsible for around 9% of all crime

On 30 March 2004, the Prime Minister announced an end to end strategy to address this group of offenders. This was followed-up by a letter, on 1 April 2004, from the Home Secretary, Lord Chancellor, Attorney General and the Secretary of State for the Department for Education and Skills, which included more detail on the strands of the programme.

In three complementary parts:

- Prevent and deter - to stop people (overwhelmingly young people) engaging in offending behaviours and graduating into prolific offenders;
- Catch and convict - actively tackling those who are already prolific offenders; and
- Rehabilitate and resettle - working with identified prolific offenders to stop their offending by offering a range of supportive interventions. Offenders will be offered the opportunity for rehabilitation or face a very swift return to the courts.

Prevent and deter	Catch and convict	Rehabilitation & resettle
Preventing people from becoming Prolific Offenders with a particular focus on young people	Catching and convicting those who are already prolific offenders	Offering real alternatives to those serving sentences - whether custodial or in the community - who are otherwise likely to resume their career as prolific offenders

The new strategy builds on the work done under the existing persistent offender scheme and will replace it. The new strategy has allowed Knowsley to identify and select offenders using the following criteria:

- The nature and volume of the crimes they are committing
- The nature and volume of other harm they are causing
- Other **local** criteria based on the impact of the individuals concerned on their local communities

This process has identified those individuals who are the most **prolific** offenders, the most **persistently anti-social** in their behaviour and those who pose the **greatest threat to the safety and confidence** of their local communities.

The new strategy is CDRP led. The emphasis is on a multi-agency approach towards tackling the problem, with Police, CPS, Youth Offending Team, PCT, Prisons and Probation working together, with Local Criminal Justice Based (LCJB) coordination, to effectively catch, convict, monitor and manage these offenders in the community or custody and work towards rehabilitating them.

The strategy was implemented nationally from 6 September 2004.

In response to this strategy, Knowsley CDRP developed a Steering Group to help implement the strategy locally to take all three strands of the strategy forward.

The group developed a robust, transparent and objective mechanism in order to accurately identify its prolific offender population. This mechanism has been suggested as excellent practice and continues to be monitored and continuously improved.

The Steering Group and the CDRP have identified and agreed a number of offenders across all three strands of the strategy.

The offenders are reviewed every two weeks at the Joint Agency Group and organisations in attendance provide updates on individuals both positive and negative. Tasks are also distributed in relation to offenders in order to ensure a 'premium service' is provided to reduce the risk of re-offending.

The Steering Group will be maintained and will continue to work on the prolific and other priority offenders agenda.

28 11. Performance management

The newly formed Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit will take a lead role in monitoring the performance of the partnership in achieving the targets within this strategy for each of the following priorities:

- **Acquisitive crime**
- **Violent crime and domestic abuse**
- **Anti-social behaviour including arson reduction**
- **Fear of crime and victims of crime**
- **Drugs and alcohol**
- **Prolific and other priority offenders**

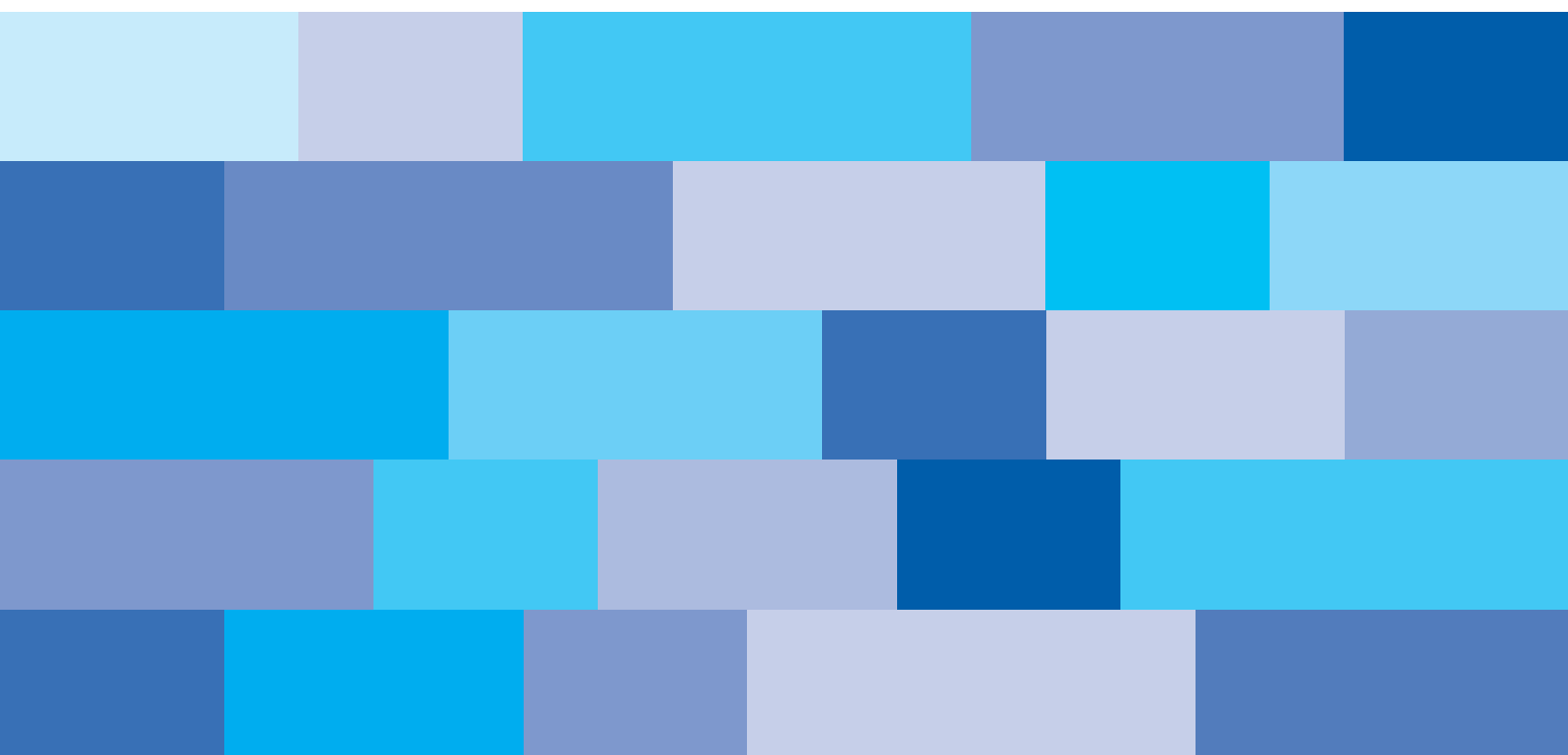
Lead officers for each of the priorities will be identified to monitor performance against the strategy and to coordinate regular meetings of the relevant agencies. It is likely that lead officer duties will be added to the duties of existing officers where appropriate. Where this is not appropriate lead officers will be appointed. Representation on the CDRP will be reviewed annually.

Performance reports will be produced quarterly by the Lead Officers in conjunction with the Crime and Disorder Strategy Unit. These reports will be produced using iQuanta which is an internet-based tool that provides up-to-date reports of performance compared with other similar CDRPs across time. The system analyses monthly crime data and is the system used by Government Office North West and the Home Office to monitor CDRP performance.

iQuanta reports will be presented to CDRP each quarter where performance will be discussed by all partners. Outstanding issues will be noted and be subject to further reports. Areas of continual under-performance will be referred to the Partnership Executive who will take any relevant action in conjunction with the appropriate partners.

Annual performance information will be reviewed to ensure that targets and performance indicators are still appropriate and that performance is on track. This information and details of CDRP performance will also be included in the Local Strategic Partnership Annual Report.

Verbal updates and reports on CDRP performance will be presented at local community area forums on a regular basis where crime and disorder is the theme.



You can also get this information in other formats.
Please phone Customer Services on 0151 443 3197,
or email customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk