

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN 2018

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT LOCAL PROFILE

Blackburn with Darwen is a unitary authority in East Lancashire that contains 17 wards. The area has around three times the average number of people per square kilometre than England and Wales average.

Health varies compared with the England average. Blackburn with Darwen is one of the 20% most deprived districts in England and about 21% (7,300) of children live in low income families.

Blackburn College is located in the town centre offering a university centre validated by Lancaster University. There is a large hospital and a football club.

Blackburn with Darwen Community Safety Partnership aims to improve the quality of life for all those who live, work and socialise in the borough. The vision is to work together to make the borough a safer place and improve the quality of life for everyone.

*Most deprived wards of Blackburn with Darwen (dark shading)
Blackburn with Darwen ranked 24/326 in Index of Multiple Deprivation, against all local authorities in England.*

Repeat offending: the local rate is 27%, the Lancashire rate is 29%. Financial gain crimes (robbery and theft) are strongest at predicting future reoffending.

Repeat victimisation: the rate is 23%, similar to the Lancashire rate of 21%. Victims are more likely to be targeted within 3 months of the index offence.

Anti-social behaviour: local issues are noise, mental health, problems with neighbours.

83% of local residents consider their local area to be safe.

The interdependency and interactions between factors affecting Community Safety



THREATS AND RISKS

A threat assessment undertaken by Lancashire Constabulary using **Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORILE)** methodology found these crime types were the highest risk across Lancashire.

- Terrorism
- Violence: domestic assault
- Hate: incidents and crime
- Collisions: Killed / Serious Injury
- Child abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Human trafficking
- Sexual: rape

HARM AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION IN BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN

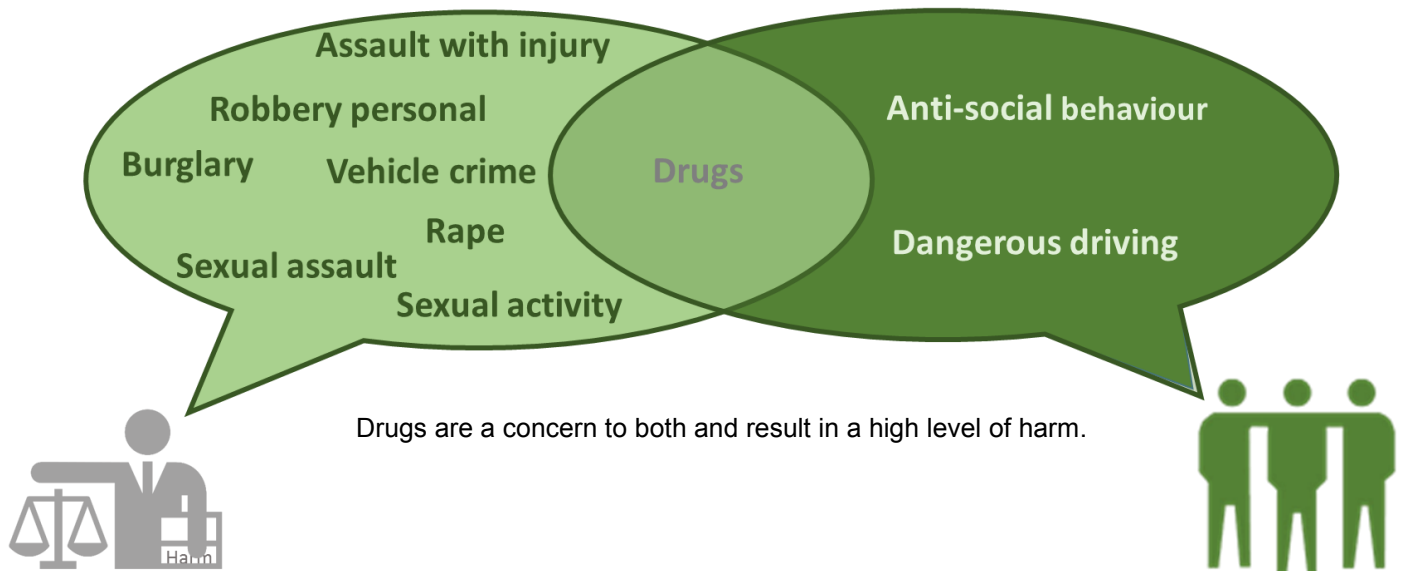
The **Office for National Statistics Crime severity tool** was used to calculate the level of harm of crime in Blackburn with Darwen.

The crime groups with the highest harm were assault with injury, residential burglary and rape.

The **Blackburn with Darwen Community Safety Survey 2018** provided an indication of the issues important to the public of Blackburn with Darwen. .

83% of residents considered their local area to be safe.

The areas of most concern were dangerous driving, drugs and anti-social behaviour.



ROAD SAFETY

- 75% of public surveyed considered dangerous driving to be a problem.
- Numbers of casualties of road traffic collisions continue to fall across Blackburn with Darwen.
- Child pedestrian casualties remain an issue for Blackburn with Darwen.
- 17-24 year old car occupants remain the most at-risk casualty group in Blackburn with Darwen.
- Significant reductions in young motorcyclist casualties recorded during the previous 4 years.
- No pedal cyclists of high school age were seriously injured or killed in the last 5 years.
- Serious motorcyclist casualties halved in 2017, with a five year low being recorded.
- One child fatality has been recorded in Blackburn with Darwen within the last 5 years.

VICTIMISATION

REPEAT VICTIMISATION rate for Blackburn with Darwen is **23%**

Theft offences were the most common crime group for repeat victimisation, followed by **violence against the person**.

Predominant group of repeat victims were **White British, aged 25-34 years**.

Alcohol was a factor in 13% of repeat victimisation cases.

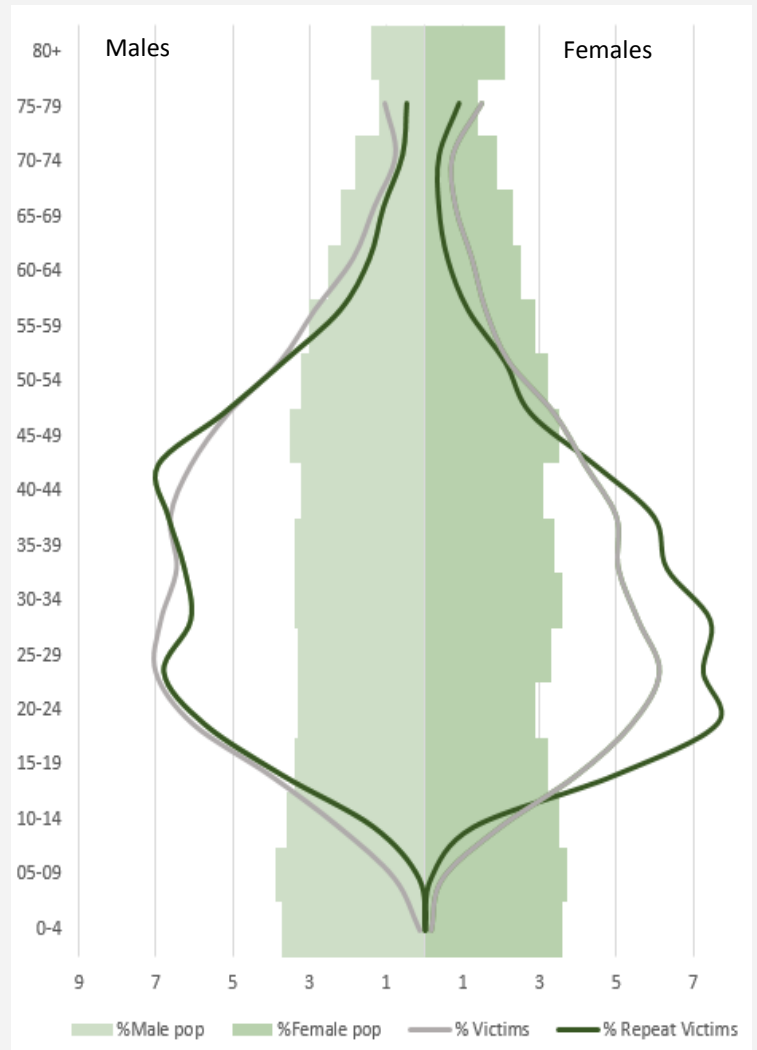
Domestic abuse was a factor in 16% of repeat victimisation cases.

There was an equal split between **male** and **female** victims.

Females were more likely to be a repeat victim of violence against the person, and males were more likely to become a repeat victim of theft offences.

The **elderly** are less likely to be victims of crime and are less likely to become repeat victims.

The chart highlights the percentage population of Blackburn with Darwen by gender overlaid with the percentage repeat victim population in Blackburn with Darwen and the percentage victim population in Blackburn with Darwen



DOMESTIC ABUSE

During a one year period, there were 1047 domestic abuse victims recorded by police.

The life style of nearly half of all domestic abuse victims belong to two main groups (MOSAIC)

25% of domestic abuse victims are from "Family Basics" group

- Age 25 - 40
- Families with children
- Limited resources
- Fewer employment options
- Some own low cost homes
- Some rent from social landlords

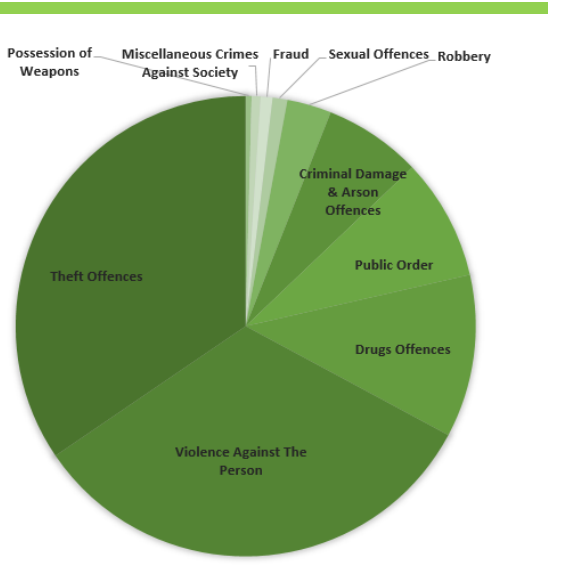


21% of domestic abuse victims are from "Transient Renters" group

- Singles, home shares
- Age 26-30 years
- Short term private renters
- Victorian Terraces
- Income £15-19k
- Often get a lift to work



REOFFENDING

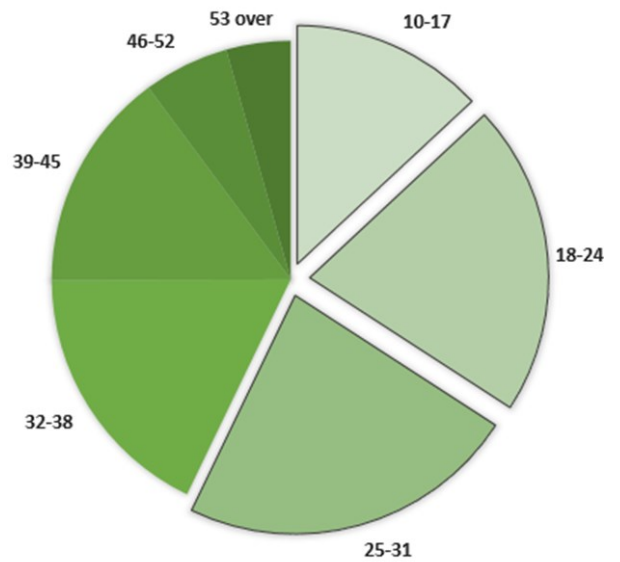


Last offence distribution of reoffenders

Peak crime types committed: **shoplifting, assault with injury and assault without injury.**

19% of reoffenders were involved in a domestic related offence during the last 12 months.

74% of shoplifting offences committed by reoffenders were aged over 32 years.



Age distribution of reoffenders

Peak age groups for all were 18-24 and 25-31 years.

Peak age group for females was 32 - 38 years

Peak offences for youths, 10-17 years were assault with injury and shoplifting.

Peak age group for reoffenders who committed assaults was 18-24 years.

Blackburn with Darwen **REPEAT REOFFENDER** rate is **27%**.

Reoffender gender split is 88% male, 12% female.

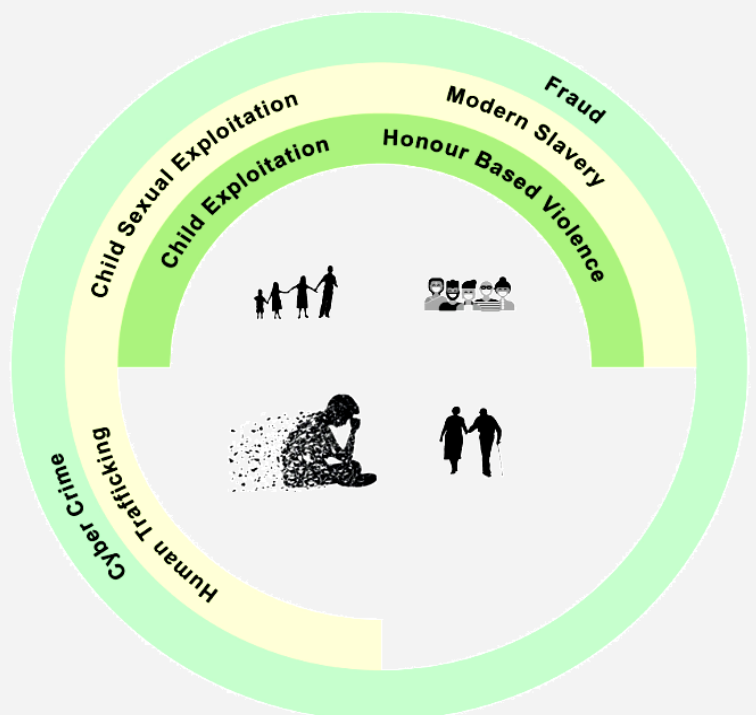
EXPLOITATION

- Almost 50% of respondents in a Lancashire survey are worried about being a victim of **online crime**.
- 45% of respondents in Blackburn with Darwen felt **people using or dealing drugs** was a problem.
- **Child sexual exploitation** and 'county lines' drug dealing issues are being addressed along with 'cuckooing'.
- **Modern slavery** intelligence reports have increased in Blackburn with Darwen and relate to sexual, labour and criminal exploitation.
- Labour exploitation includes car washes, restaurants and takeaways.
- Criminal exploitation primarily involves Vietnamese tended cannabis farms.

Vulnerable groups include:

Young people and children, diverse communities,

People with mental health issues and the elderly.



SUBSTANCE MISUSE



Alcohol was a factor in 23% of violence against the person crimes compared with 13% of all crime.

Two thirds of **sexual offences** in the night time economy hours

occurred when either the victim or offender had consumed alcohol.

Over a quarter of all **domestic violence** offences were alcohol related.

The number of alcohol related harm **hospital stays** are much higher than the national average.

The relationship between alcohol licensed outlets density and hospital admissions is largely the same for men and women, though this appears more pronounced for older people. This appears to be **the same in deprived areas and affluent areas**.

Whilst the number (per 100,000) of **claimants of benefits** due to alcoholism has decreased in England the number is significantly greater in Blackburn with Darwen and is increasing.



Drugs are the most common commodity of **organised crime groups** in Blackburn with Darwen.

The use of '**county lines**' telephone numbers are used by groups from outside of Lancashire.

There are drug supply connections with surrounding counties and further afield.

Cannabis grows are a continuing issue.

There is an increase in demand to services from the number of reports of new psychoactive substances "**spice**".

The first choice of substance misuse in **young people** referred into partners is cannabis, then alcohol; there is an increase in young people taking cocaine (18-20 years).

Over half the individuals in treatment services are aged between 35 - 49 years.

There is an increase in rise in female 20-40 years deaths due to drug and alcohol.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Approximately 36% of people **surveyed** in Blackburn with Darwen considered anti-social behaviour to be a problem, and approximately one third did not consider it to be a problem.

Anti-social behaviour is over represented in the same MOSAIC profile groups as Domestic Abuse: "**Transient Renters**" living in low cost sub-divided older accommodation and aged 26-30 years.

Mental health is reported in nearly half of high risk anti-social behaviour cases, this is greater in cases between **direct neighbours**.

There is a significant correlation between **mental health** and lower tolerance to **noise**.

Alcohol and drugs are common factors relating to anti-social behaviour, this has increased among **females 20-40 years living in social housing**.

Youth related anti-social behaviour focuses on groups congregating being **rowdy and abusive** with smaller localised trends of **motorbike noise nuisance** and dangerous behaviour incorporating **criminal damage** when objects are thrown.

Blackburn with Darwen accounted for 15% of the **hate crime** reported across Lancashire, and predominantly in the central and eastern wards of Blackburn where diverse groups are most likely to come into contact.

The most common offending group of racist or religious crimes are **males aged 35-39 years**, whilst the most common victim group are males between 30-34 years.



VULNERABILITIES

The **elderly population (+65 years)** is expected to increase by 3.8% over the next three years, the elderly are vulnerable to domestic abuse, fraud, scams, health related injury, and missing episodes and anti-social behaviour.

There is an increase in demand for mental health services as well as combined services for those affected by mental health and substance misuse.

An increase in demand for domestic abuse services together with recent reductions and changes in services reveals a need to overhaul the current service provision for adults, young people and children.

Health and deprivation are determining and interlinking factors in community safety.

Blackburn with Darwen is one of the 20% most deprived districts in England and about 21% (7,300) of children live in low income families.

Crime and anti-social behaviour is more prevalent in deprived areas.

A large proportion of health indicators including life expectancy are significantly worse in Blackburn with Darwen than the England average.

A lack of appropriate facilities and services for children and young people to thrive is highlighted by the partnership.

The **young (0-15 years) population** is expected to reduce by 0.8% over the next 3 years.

Young people are vulnerable to criminal exploitation. Intelligence suggests active 'county lines' with young people involved in drug supply and 'cuckooing'.

Emerging issues of young females involved in drug taking with links to child sexual exploitation.

Disputes between organised crime groups have included violent incidents incorporating young people.

There is an increase in malicious communication and sexualised behaviour on cyber technologies criminalising young people.

Mental health problems in England affect 1 in 10 children (depression, anxiety, conduct disorder, self harm) and link to substance misuse.

A lack of appropriate facilities and services for children and young people to thrive is highlighted by the partnership.

Research suggests children are now less likely to meet informally with friends and feel less safe on transport than 10 years ago.



PROCESS

This profile forms part of the output of the 2018 Pan-Lancashire Strategic Assessment – it is accompanied by 13 other profiles covering the Lancashire district authorities and unitary authorities, along with a strategic overview at a pan-Lancashire level. Here you will find more detailed references.

Analysis in this profile is underpinned by the strategic threat matrix, developed on a Lancashire wide footprint and highlighting key threats at a local level. Existing Partnership Intelligence Assessments and local analytical products have been used to provide supporting evidence; additional research and analysis has been conducted where necessary.

Consultation with local stakeholders has taken place through the Pan-Lancashire Strategic Assessment Stakeholder Conference (April 2018) and local area Consultation Workshops (May 2018).

The date parameters for analysis within this profile (unless otherwise stated) is the last 3 year period. Author: Lynda Waddington, Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Analyst team.

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