Ribble Valley is an authority in East Lancashire that contains 24 wards. The rural nature of the area means the average number of people per square kilometre is the lowest in the county and a third of England and Wales average.

Ribble Valley is one of the 20% least deprived districts in England however about 6% (500) of children live in low income families.

Ribble Valley has by far the largest number of farm holdings in the county. It has the largest percentage of working age residents working mainly at or from home in the county, and average earnings are the highest in Lancashire.

Ribble Valley has the lowest crime rate in Lancashire.

From an historic point of view there have been dramatic changes and the pace of future change is liable to increase.

Repeat offending: the local rate is 13%, lower than the Lancashire rate of 29%. Financial gain crimes (robbery and theft) are strongest at predicting future reoffending.

Repeat victimisation: Ribble Valley and Lancashire rate is 21%. Victims are more likely to be targeted within 3 months of the index offence.

Anti-social behaviour: local issues are youth related, neighbour disputes, noise and mental health.

92% of local residents consider their local area to be safe.

The interdependency and interactions between factors affecting Community Safety:

- **Drugs**: 45% of public surveyed think it is a problem
- **Alcohol**: 311 alcohol related hospital stays
- **Crime**: Most harmful crimes - Rape, Burglary and Assault with injury
- **Exploitation**: Youths involved in organised crime
- **Domestic Abuse**: 18% of reoffenders involved in DA
- **Reoffending**: 13% of offenders commit further crimes
- **Deprivation**: 6% of children live in low income families
- **Health**: Dementia diagnosis high - Killed / serious injury on roads
- **Anti-social behaviour**: Mental health, Youth related and neighbour disputes
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

ROAD SAFETY

- 36% of public surveyed considered dangerous driving to be a problem.
- Numbers of road casualties continue to steadily reduce across Ribble Valley.
- Despite the topography of the district being attractive to cyclists and the county-wide initiative to promote ‘Green and Healthy Travel’, the number of killed and seriously injured pedal cyclists remains extremely low.
- Following many years of steady reductions, a sharp rise in 17-24 year old road car occupant casualties was recorded in 2017.
- Child casualties within all casualty groups have reduced over the past five years.
- Average Speed Cameras are now live along the A682 from Gisburn in the north to Barrowford (Pendle) in the south.

HARM AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION IN RIBBLE VALLEY

The Office for National Statistics Crime severity tool was used to calculate the level of harm of crime in Ribble Valley.

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

The Living in Lancashire Survey provided an indication of the community safety issues important to the public of Ribble Valley.

92% of residents considered their local area to be safe.

The areas of most concern were drugs, cyber crime, and dangerous driving.

Residential burglary is a concern to both and results in a high level of harm.
**VICTIMISATION**

**REPEAT VICTIMISATION** rate for Ribble Valley is 21%.

Theft offences were the more commonly reported crimes in relation to repeat victimisation, followed by **violence against the person**.

The predominant group of repeat victims were **white British**, aged 45 to 49 years, followed by 20 to 29 years.

**Alcohol** was a factor in 12% of repeat victimisation cases.

**Domestic Abuse** was a factor in 13% of repeat victimisation cases.

There were a higher number of **male** repeat victims, than females. **Females** were more likely to be victim of **violence against the person** and **males** more likely to be repeat victim of **theft offences**.

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

*The chart highlights the percentage population of Ribble Valley by gender overlaid with the percentage repeat victim population in Ribble Valley and the percentage victim population in Ribble Valley.*

**DOMESTIC ABUSE**

During a one year period, there were 124 domestic abuse victims recorded by police.

The life style of a third of all domestic abuse victims belong to two main groups (MOSAIC).

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

23% of domestic abuse victims are from “Transient Renters” group

Families, mature couples and older singles
Homeowners
Rural locations, inexpensive homes
Agricultural employment

12% of domestic abuse victims are from “Rural Reality” group
REOFFENDING

Last offence distribution of reoffenders

Peak crime types committed: shoplifting, burglary in a dwelling and assault with and without injury.
18% of reoffenders have been involved in a domestic related offence during the last 12 months.
63% of shoplifting offences committed by reoffenders aged 25-40 years.

Age distribution of reoffenders

Peak age group for all was 18-24 years.
Peak offence for youths 10-17 years was burglary in a dwelling.
Peak age groups for reoffenders who committed assaults were 24 years and under.
REPEAT REOFFENDER rate for Ribble Valley is 13%
Reoffender gender split is 87% male, 13% female.

EXPLOITATION

- 45% of Ribble Valley respondents in a Lancashire survey are worried about being a victim of online crime.
- 45% of respondents felt people using or dealing drugs was a problem, but did not perceive a problem with violence, sexual exploitation or organised crime.
- There is a knowledge and evidence gap of the extent of modern slavery and child exploitation.
- There exists vulnerability of the elderly population at risk of fraud and exploitation.

Vulnerable groups include:
Young people and children, diverse communities,
People with mental health issues and the elderly.
**SUBSTANCE MISUSE**

Alcohol was a factor in 28% of violence against the person crimes compared with 13% of all crime.

Over half of sexual offences in the night time economy hours occurred when either the victim or offender had consumed alcohol.

Over a third of all domestic violence offences were alcohol related.

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

On trade sale of alcohol is above the England average and the second highest rate per head of population in Lancashire.

The number of alcohol related harm hospital stays in the Ribble Valley is significantly better than the national average.

There are intelligence and knowledge gaps in relation to the extent of drug abuse and prevalence of drug dealing in the Ribble Valley.

Limited intelligence suggests that in some areas with high levels of disposable income consumption of cannabis and cocaine may be an issue.

Throughout Lancashire 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**

Almost two-thirds of people surveyed in Ribble Valley would report crime and anti-social behaviour to their Local Authority and 88% would report same to the police.

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.

Ribble Valley accounted for less than 2% of the hate crime reported across Lancashire, and were predominantly in the central areas of Clitheroe and Whalley where diverse groups are most likely to come into contact with others.

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 5.4% over the next three years. The elderly are vulnerable to domestic abuse, fraud, scams, health related injury and missing episodes and anti-social behaviour.

The number of people diagnosed with dementia in Ribble Valley is significantly worse than the England average.

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.

Ribble Valley is one of the 20% least deprived districts in England however about 6% (500) of children live in low income families.

A large proportion of health indicators including life expectancy are significantly better in Ribble Valley than the England average.

The young (0-15 years) population is relatively stable and expected to increase by only 0.3% over the next 3 years.

Young people are vulnerable to criminal exploitation. Intelligence exists that a small number of vulnerable young people in the Ribble Valley are targeted by organised crime groups to deal drugs.

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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