

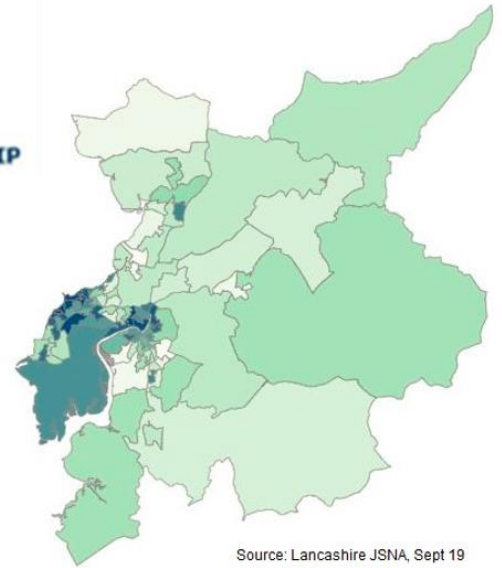


LANCASTER 2021

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT LOCAL PROFILE

Lancaster is the second largest Lancashire authority geographically. It covers 568 square kilometres and has 27 wards.

The number of people per square kilometre in Lancaster is well below the national average.



Source: Lancashire JSNA, Sept 19

Lancaster Lower Super Output Area deprivation map. The darker the colour the more deprived the area.

Health varies compared with the England average.

Lancaster is ranked 112/317 **most deprived** district in the Index of Multiple Deprivation against all local authorities in England.

Approximately 14.9% (3,390) of children live in low income families.

Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the England average. There are also inequalities within the district, between the most deprived areas and least deprived – 9.5 years lower for men and 7.1 years lower for women.

Alcohol related hospital stays are worse than the England average but similar to the regional average and are increasing.

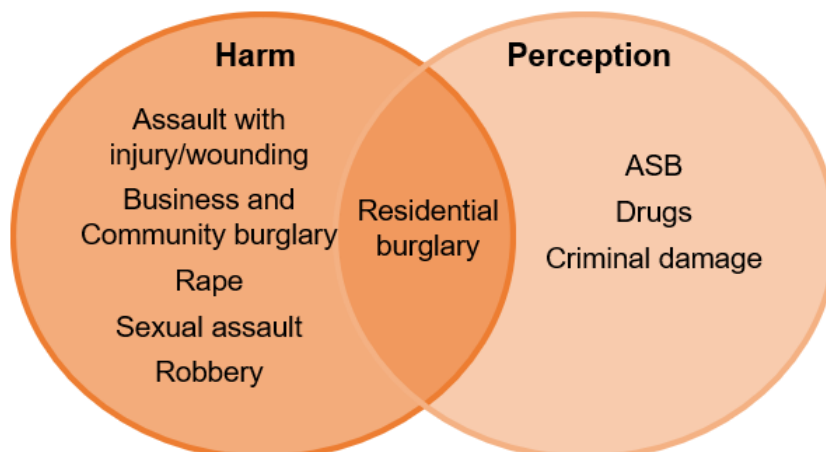
Hospital admissions for **intentional self-harm** are increasing but are similar to the national average, and suicide rates are above the national average.

Hospital admissions for **violence** (including sexual violence) are decreasing and are below the regional average but similar to the England average.

HARM AND PERCEPTION

Office for National Statistics crime severity tool was used to calculate the level of **harm** of crime in Lancaster.

Lancashire Talking provided an indicator of the public's **perception** of the crime and community safety issues important to Lancaster.



Residential burglary is of concern to the public and results in a high level of harm.

RISK AND THREATS

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

- Gun & knife crime
- Domestic abuse
- Violence linked to drug supply
- County lines
- Modern day slavery/trafficking
- Child criminal & sexual exploitation
- Anti-social behaviour
- Road safety
- Cyber crime
- Fraud
- Homicide
- Robbery & burglary

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

As part of Operation Genga (partnership approach to tackling organised crime) the following were highlighted in the **Serious Organised Crime** profile as **key issues** for Lancaster:

- County lines drug dealing in the area.
- Cuckooing linked to county lines groups.
- Exploitation of children and vulnerable drug users to deal drugs.
- Organised crime group (OCG) violence including the use of offensive weapons.
- Cannabis grows with links to modern day slavery.
- Ammonia attacks linked to OCG activity.



ROAD SAFETY

- Lancaster has a diverse and complex travel and road network, with a significant stretch of motorway running north to south through the district, accompanied by the centre of Lancaster being known as the Cycling City of Lancashire.
- Lancaster has recorded a 41% reduction in road traffic collision (RTC) casualties compared to the Lancashire rate of 36% (2010 – 2019).
- 11% of RTCs in Lancaster are derived from M6 collisions.
- 12% of killed or seriously injured (KSI) casualties are riders of pedal cycles.



VICTIM PROFILE

Where **gender** details were recorded 53% of all victims are female and 47% are male.

The most prevalent group of victims were **White British**, aged **25-29 years**.

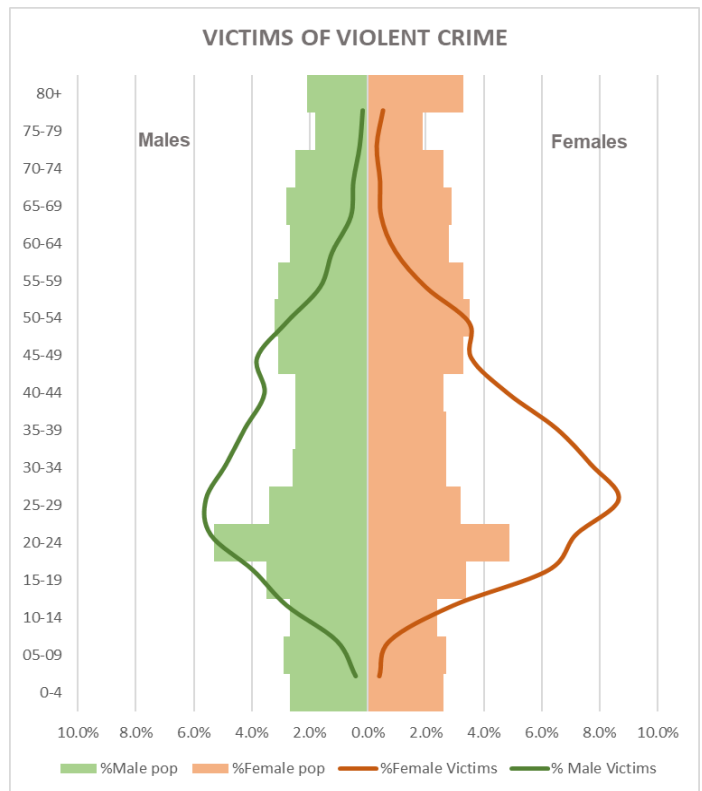
Domestic Abuse was a factor in 15% of cases.

Assault without injury was the most common recorded offence type for both males and females.

There is an overrepresentation of **male** victims of **violent crime** aged 25-49 compared to the overall male population breakdown for those age groups.

A greater disproportionality can be seen amongst **female** victims of **violent crime** aged 15-44 compared to the overall female population breakdown for those age groups.

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



The chart depicts the Lancaster **population** breakdown by age and gender within the bar charts, whilst the line depicts the breakdown of **victims of violent crime** by age and gender.

DOMESTIC ABUSE

- Females accounted for around 77% of victims of domestic abuse (DA) and males 23%.
- The peak age group was 25-34 years.
- Victims were predominantly White British.
- A quarter of domestic abuse offences were alcohol related.
- Assault without injury was the most commonly reported DA crime type in Lancaster, followed by assault with injury.
- The highest number of DA offences were recorded in Poulton and Harbour wards.

In Lancaster, 43% of all domestic abuse victims fell within the “Urban Adversity” category (ACORN, MADE Apr19-Mar21), which key characteristics include:

- Age – 25-34
- House – flat or terraced
- Children at home – 3+
- House tenure – social renting



This is disproportionate when compared to the Lancaster district population, where 15% make up this category. Therefore, showing an overrepresentation of DA victims within the Urban Adversity category compared to the district population.

REOFFENDING

The reoffending rate for Lancaster is 30%, which is slightly higher than the Lancashire average of 27.8%. (MoJ release May 21).

Previous research has shown that the **gender** split is 79% male, 21% female – with the Lancashire picture being 85% male, 15% female.

Peak crime types are **theft from shop, assault with injury** and **assault without injury**.

Peak age groups are **25-31** and **32-40 years** – almost half of all reoffenders are within this age range.

More than half of all **female reoffenders** are aged 32 years and over.

Female reoffenders commit a higher proportion of theft from shop offences than males.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) features as one of the primary concerns for the people of Lancaster in the Lancashire Talking Survey.

The wards with the highest volume of ASB reported were **Castle, Poulton, Harbour** and **Westgate**.

Mental health is a common factor in anti-social behaviour and **neighbour** disputes.

22% of all ASB in Lancaster is **youth related**, which involves groups **congregating**, being **rowdy and abusive**, and causing **other issues** including **criminal damage**.

Seasonal trends within ASB include **moto-nuisance** in and around parks, open fields and residential areas.

There is a direct correlation between the increase in ASB and the **Coronavirus pandemic**.



SUBSTANCE MISUSE



For young people in Lancashire, **Cannabis** is the primary substance, followed by alcohol use.

In young adults, there is an increase in the use of illicit **Benzodiazepines**, commonly linked with mental health issues. (Source: WAVY)

40% of individuals in treatment services are aged between **40-49**. (Source: CGL Inspire Lancashire)

Of the adults that required substance misuse treatment following **release from prison**, 41% successfully engaged in community-based structured treatment, compared to the national average of 37%.

The number of individuals entering **drugs treatment** – opiate, non-opiate, alcohol and alcohol with non-opiate – who were also identified as requiring **mental health** support, was higher than the national average.

The number of **deaths** in treatment for opiate, non-opiate and alcohol in Lancashire were above the national average.

(Source: National Drug Treatment Monitoring System)

SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC INEQUALITIES

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

Lancaster is the 112th **most deprived** district in England.

Life expectancy in Lancaster is lower than the UK average – in the most deprived areas of Lancaster this is 9.5 years lower for men and 7.1 years lower for women.

Lancaster has a lower rate of out of work **benefits claimants** at 5.3% compared to the North West rate of 7% (2020)- the rate is higher for those aged **25-49**.

78.6% of those aged 16-64 are in **employment**, compared to the North West rate of 74.2%.

Hate crime impacts individuals and communities. A high proportion of hate crimes are **racially motivated**, however there is currently a rise in **sexual orientation** and **transgender** motivated offences. The monitoring of **community tension and cohesion** increases confidence.

The **elderly** are more susceptible to cybercrime (including **fraud** and **online scams**) anti-social behaviour and health related injuries.

The growing elderly population coupled with **technological advancements**/changes and the impact of **COVID** (more people reliant on technology than ever before) has led to an increased risk of the elderly becoming a victim of these sorts of crimes.



Lancaster has the 5th lowest rate of **NEET** (not in employment, education or training) individuals in Lancashire.

Lancaster has the 4th highest rate of fixed period **school exclusions** in Lancashire.

Lancaster's **attainment 8 score** is 46.4% which is similar to the Lancashire average of 46.7%. (average grade across 8 core subjects)

The impacts of COVID have affected not just the elderly, but the wider community. With young people and the vulnerable likely feeling the effects of **isolation**, increasing the risk of them being coerced into **exploitation**.

The **economic downturn** and **deprivation** as a result of COVID has **reduced living standards** for many, and again links to the possibility of more people becoming victims and being exploited.

PROCESS

This profile forms part of the output of the 2022-25 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 was conducted where necessary.

Consultation with local stakeholders has taken place through local area Consultation Workshops (June 2021).

The data parameters for analysis within this profile (unless otherwise stated) is within the last 3-year period.

For any queries relating to the information and analysis contained within, or underpinning, this profile, please contact the **CSP analyst team using the email address:**

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