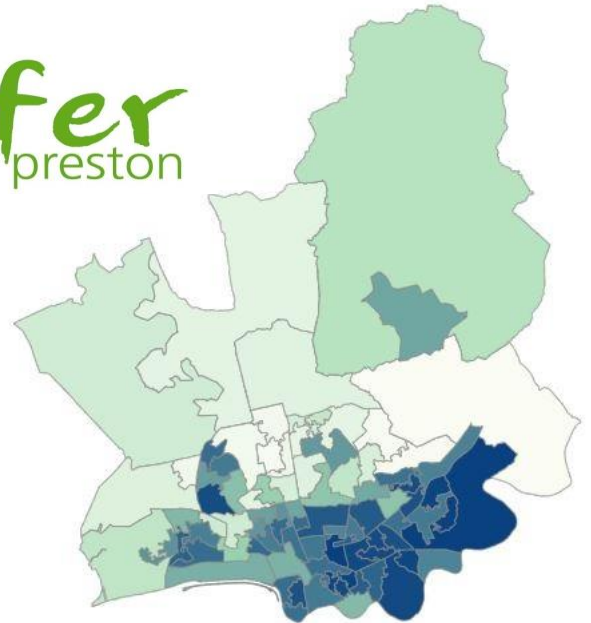# PRESTON 2021

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT LOCAL PROFILE

Preston is an authority in Central Lancashire that contains 16 wards and has a population of 143,135.

Preston has twice the average number of people per square kilometre than England and Wales.

The city contains a university, hospital and prison and also an active night time economy.

Source: Lancashire JSNA, Sept 19

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

Health varies compared with the England average. Preston is one of the 20% **most deprived** districts in England and approximately 17.9% (4,995) of children live in low income families.

Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the England average, and there are also inequalities within the district for the most deprived areas and least deprived – 10.5 years lower for males and 8.7 years lower for women.

Alcohol related hospital stays are worse than the England and region average and are increasing.
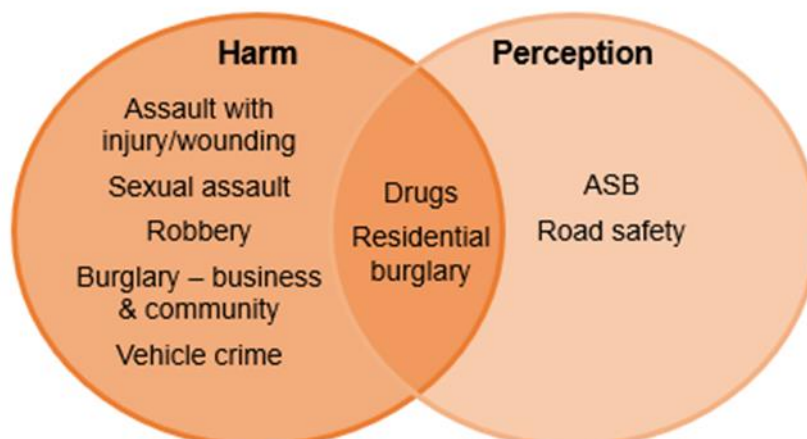
Hospital admissions for **intentional self-harm** are above the national average and are increasing, as are suicide rates.

Hospital admissions for **violence** (including sexual violence) are slightly above the England average and are decreasing.

HARM AND PERCEPTION

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

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

Drugs and residential burglary are of concern to the public and result 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 Preston:

- Local Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) dealing Class A drugs.

- Grooming of children to deal drugs and involve them in gang activity.

- OCG violence between local areas, often involving weapons and or firearms.

- OCGs launder money through semi legitimate business to try to legitimise the cash.

- Cannabis grows run by Vietnamese nationals or West Balkan based OCGs.

- Organised thefts of vehicles.

- Illicit tobacco and alcohol sales funding OCGs.

ROAD SAFETY

- Preston records the highest count of road traffic collision casualties in Lancashire.

- Preston ranks third in the county in terms of killed or seriously injured (KSI) casualties.

- One in every eleven KSI casualties are from a motorway collision (M6 or M55).

- Child casualties, all injury and KSI, remain high in Preston.

- 64% of child KSIs are pedestrians (2016-2020).

VICTIM PROFILE

Where **gender** details were recorded 51% of all victims are female and 49% are male.

Predominant group of victims were **White British,** aged **30-34 years.**

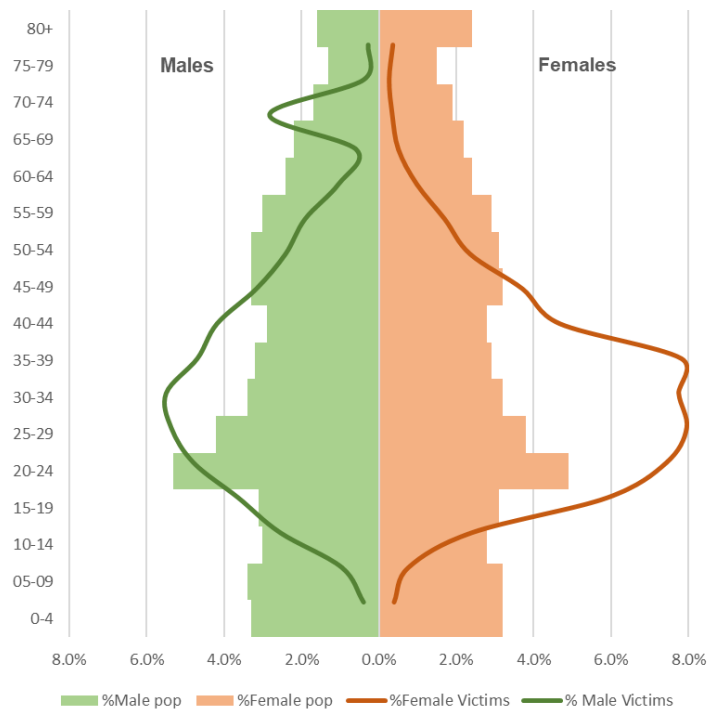**Domestic Abuse** was a factor in 16% of cases.

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 – 44 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 – 49 compared to the overall female population breakdown for those age groups.

Elderly males are more likely to be victims of a **violent crime** than **elderly females.**

VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME

*The chart depicts the Preston **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 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 Preston, followed by assault with injury.

- The highest number of offences were in the St Matthews ward, followed by the City Centre.

In Preston, over half (58%) 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 Preston district population, where 29% make up this category. Therefore, showing an over representation of DA victims within the Urban Adversity category compared to the district population.

PARTNERSHIP INTELLIGENCE

REOFFENDING

The reoffending rate for Preston is 31.8%, which is slightly higher than the Lancashire average of 27.8%. (MoJ release May 21).

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

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 Preston in the Lancashire Talking Survey.

The wards with the highest volume of ASB reported were **City Centre**, **St Matthew's** and **Plungington**.

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

25% of all ASB in Preston is **youth related**, which involves groups **congregating**, being **rowdy** and causing **other issues**.

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 Preston **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: WAWY)

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 Preston were above the national average.

(Source: National Drug Treatment Monitoring System)

PARTNERSHIP INTELLIGENCE

SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC INEQUALITIES

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

Preston is one of the 20% most deprived districts in England.

Preston has the 5th lowest **life expectancy** in Lancashire – in the most deprived areas of Preston this is 10.5 years lower for men and 8.7 for women.

Preston's rate of out of work **benefits claimants** is 6.7% compared to the North West rate of 7% (2020).

There is a higher rate of **employment** within Preston than both the regional and national rates.

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.

Preston has a higher average rate of **NEET** (not in employment, education or training) individuals than Lancashire.

Within Lancashire, Preston has the highest rate of fixed and permanent **school exclusions**.

Preston has the 3rd highest **attainment 8 score** in Lancashire. (average grade across 8 core subjects)

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.

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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PARTNERSHIP INTELLIGENCE