

Safer Barnsley Partnership Annual Report 2022-23



**SAFER BARNSLEY
PARTNERSHIP**

Barnsley people and communities feel safe,
able to contribute to community life and
take responsibility for their actions.



South Yorkshire
POLICE

Our partnership

The Safer Barnsley Partnership believes that no single agency can deal with community safety and crime on its own. Our approach is to work together to tackle crime and disorder with all our communities.



What we do

Our partnership oversees the community safety of the borough by working with multiple partners and the communities across Barnsley.

For 2022 to 2023, the partnership considered a range of information from various sources. This included feedback from our public consultation in the summer of 2022, which informed the Safer Barnsley Partnership's priorities and commitments for the year ahead.

This approach to setting our priorities also helps us to make sure our actions also reflect the broader priorities of:

a) [Barnsley 2030](#) and [Our Council Plan 2021-24](#)

Barnsley - the place of possibilities			
Healthy Barnsley	Learning Barnsley	Growing Barnsley	Sustainable Barnsley
People are safe and feel safe.	People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.	Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all.	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.	People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.	Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy.
We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough.	People have access to early help and support.	People are supported to have safe, warm, sustainable homes.	Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking.
Enabling Barnsley			
We are a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council			

b) Police and Crime Plan 2022-25

Aim: South Yorkshire to be a place where it is safe to live, learn, work and travel.

Priorities:

- Protecting vulnerable people
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- Treating people fairly under each priority



Underlying principles:

- Put victims first
- Show value for money

How we delivered against our priorities during 2022-23

The Safer Barnsley Partnership delivered against its priorities through multi-agency groups. Each is led by senior officers from South Yorkshire Police and Barnsley Council.

Each group focussed on specific priorities and worked collaboratively to tackle challenges across Barnsley affecting community safety.

Our partnership's annual report highlights some of the key achievements and aspects of our partners' work for 2022-23 through various case studies.

Our Priorities

Anti-social behaviour
Environmental crime
Neighbourhood crime
Violence against women and girls
Organised crime
Serious violence
Domestic abuse
Substance misuse
Multiple needs
Community tension
Hate crime
Prevent





SAFER BARNSLEY PARTNERSHIP

Case Studies

A quick look at how we did in 2022-23



Tackling anti-social behaviour

One of the ways we tackle anti-social behaviour is by making sure we have more CCTV in the town centre and principal towns in 2022-23.

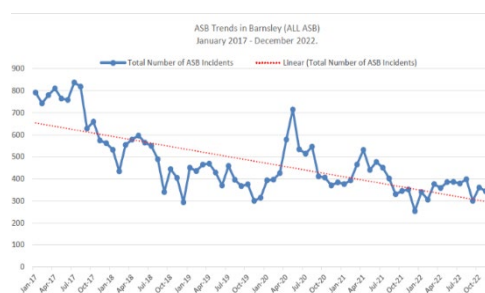
We are working together even more with the police and community to provide a more visible presence around the borough. This continues to help prevent anti-social behaviour during the day and late evenings and provides more assurance to the community.

We continue to respond quickly and reduce anti-social behaviour by tackling issues early. We work in partnership with multiple agencies and communities through a group called the 'Multi-Agency Actions Group (MAAG).

More legal powers are being used to stop housing-related anti-social behaviour and protect victims.

Results

- We are noticing more people visiting the town centre.
- Barnsley town centre has been awarded the 'Purple Flag', a national recognition of Barnsley as a safe town centre.
- Overall, the number of anti-social behaviour in Barnsley continues to reduce.



Victim and witness support service

Barnsley is one of few areas with a dedicated anti-social behaviour victims support service. This provides a single point of contact to those most affected by anti-social behaviour. The service offers support and advice while problems are ongoing. Victims are at the heart of how we respond to anti-social behaviour, recognising the effects on people's lives. Here is some feedback:

"No one has ever stood by us like you have and we have relied on you to give us strength, time and listening to how we feel. Without you we have been invisible"

"I could not have got through the last year without you. You have been a tower of strength to me and I don't know how or if I would have got through it all if you hadn't been there. Even when I've been rock bottom which has been nearly every day for 2 years, you have picked me up even at my lowest"

"You have been the only one there for us, with unwavering advice, kindness, professionalism and understanding. All we want is a normal family life where we feel safe. Thanks to you representing us we have had a voice that no one wants to hear, and you have given us hope to be brave enough to speak up no matter what"

"I know I've been hard work at times but you never gave up on me. I can't thank you enough for all your support without you I don't know if I would have still been here"

Tackling neighbourhood crime

We tackle neighbourhood crime by working with all our communities. Our approach is to focus on problem-solving, building trust and confidence. We do this through the following:

- 'Partners And Communities Together' (PACT) meetings are regularly advertised locally.
- Regular street-based pop-up engagement events.
- Neighbourhood social media publicity.

This makes sure that the community's voice is heard to identify local problems and solutions. As a result, engagement has increased during 2022/23.

Cannabis grow aware scheme

Tackling organised crime

Private rented properties are the biggest target for cannabis grows. Approximately 100 cannabis grows a year are detected in Barnsley.

Stickers are displayed on windows of vacant properties. In addition, landlords are provided with advice on signs to look out for and what steps to take to reduce the risk in our communities.

The 'Cannabis Grow Aware Scheme' raises awareness of cannabis issues with local landlords and promotes property checks. It also deters and disrupts the growing of cannabis in properties in Barnsley.

Working in partnership with South Yorkshire Police, all cannabis grows discovered result in landlords and letting agents being contacted. This helps detect landlords whose properties have been used on multiple occasions.

Operation ABYSS

- Cannabis cultivation operations targeting organised crime
- Nine warrants executed
- Over 1000 plants recovered



Clear Hold Build

Tackling serious organised crime

Joining Forces: South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Barnsley Council, Berneslai Homes and Twiggs Environmental Services are involved in a pilot project called 'Clear Hold Build' to address serious and organised crime. The Home Office supports the pilot and is about

1. **CLEAR** – Clearing the area of organised crime by addressing those involved.
2. **HOLD** – Holding on to the progress made after the CLEAR phase by protecting the area and community.
3. **BUILD** – Rebuilding the right conditions in the community to prevent organised crime groups from growing again.

What is serious organised crime

Where people work together for an extended period to plan, co-ordinate and conduct serious crime. Examples: drugs and county lines, child sexual exploitation, financial fraud, business crime, cyber-crime and car crime.

Results

- one person currently sentenced to three years.
- 16 people pending charges.
- two people are known to be involved with the gang arrested.
- two vehicles and one motorbike were seized.
- one imitation firearm was recovered.
- £4,000 in cash seized.



At a glance

188
hours

Patrols undertaken by Police and Barnsley Council

Over
1900

Cannabis plants worth approx. £1.9M

159

Residents engaged with community pop-ups

2

Environmental impact days

2

Items of graffiti removed

Yorkshire Mentoring initiatives

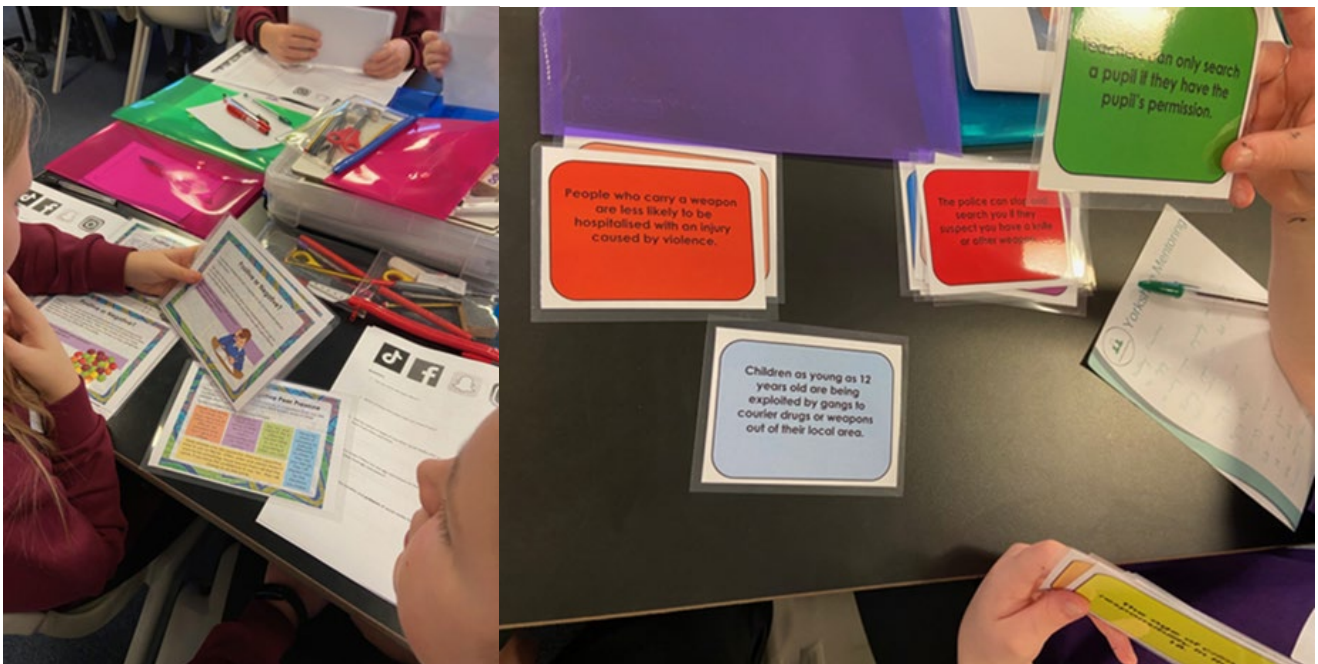
Tackling serious violence

Yorkshire Mentoring, with the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit and Astea Academy Trust, have taken part in a mentoring initiative in schools with children in year six.

The scheme teaches young people about dangerous situations, how to avoid them, and who to turn to if they need help.

Results

- All the children knew the age of criminal responsibility was ten.
- All could name five trusted adults to help in difficult situations, even if they feared getting into trouble themselves.
- All felt they understood what an unsafe choice was and provided examples.
- All knew how to say no.
- 80% would be confident to say no in most situations.
- 80% would be confident to help a friend to get out of a difficult situation if they were in trouble.



Night Life Angels

Tackling violence against women and girls

South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit and partners have launched all female patrols in Barnsley to protect women from attacks on nights out.

Employed by a local security company, Night Angels find and support potentially vulnerable women in the town centre on Saturday nights between 10pm and 4am.

There is somebody friendly and able to help to make sure women get home safely.



Results

Dozens of women supported since the scheme was set up late last year.

More training for bar staff and security staff.



Joining Forces days

Joining Forces is the alignment of uniformed services from a range of agencies and organisations with a collective mission to make our town and villages safe and welcoming.

It has been particularly prominent in Barnsley Town Centre and has provided an umbrella for many targeted multi-agency operations, all designed to improve public safety and the perceptions of safety.

During the year, Joining Forces days have been enjoyed in the new Glassworks Square where town centre visitors have been able to engage and interact with services including South Yorkshire Police, Fire, Ambulance and Council Wardens.

One such event in August 2022 increased the footfall in the town centre by 13.6% when compared to an average Thursday. Communications on social media platforms with a reach of around 9,000 and 850 engagements added to the success of the day.



Tackling substance misuse

Our collaborative working has resulted in more people accessing drug and alcohol treatment service. There are also more people who are recovering and staying free from alcohol and drugs.

- In 2022/23, the number of successful completions from substance misuse treatment continues to be higher than the national average.
- 55% of opiate users who reported using at the beginning of treatment had stopped using at their six-month review.



We continue to see an improvement in people's mental and physical health and a reduced likelihood of deaths as a result of alcohol and drug use.

- A review of the pathways and support involving substance misuse and mental health is underway.
- Recruitment of a clinical psychologist to support staff to take a trauma-informed approach to support.
- Working closely with the Mental Health Forum and the Working Together Group (people who are in/have received treatment for substance misuse) to explore how mental health and substance misuse support can be more closely linked.
- The drug and alcohol-related death review process has been reviewed to improve the process of collecting real-time data on drug and alcohol-related deaths to form an in-depth analysis of drug and alcohol-related deaths in Barnsley.



We are reducing the impact of parental alcohol and/or drug misuse on children and families.

- A 'Hidden Harm' strategy has been coproduced along with a delivery plan to improve outcomes for families where alcohol and other drug misuse is a key feature.



We continue to reduce drug and alcohol-related hospital admissions by:

- Working with the Integrated Care Board, Public Health colleagues and the Hospital to agree on a data-sharing agreement on attendees to A&E, hospital admissions and discharges. This will improve care pathways, joint working, and referrals into treatment services.
- Improving our understanding of the journey of those who attended the Emergency Department and the most appropriate support that would help best.



We continue to support individuals in their ongoing recovery.

- The Recovery Hub based at Barnsley Recovery Steps has been developed to support people through their treatment journey and ongoing recovery.



Humankind, Barnsley Recovery Steps

Tackling substance misuse

Barnsley Recovery Steps and The Basement Recovery Project have built a Recovery Community in Barnsley. This is to develop support available to people at the Barnsley Recovery Steps Community Hub which is located in the McLintock's Building. Below are some of the supports that people with drug and alcohol problems can access.

Weekly breakfast club

To engage and encourage people to participate in activities, increasing connections and mutual support.

Here and Now groups

This is an open forum to provide a unique opportunity for people to receive and provide support and encouragement from others in a safe and confidential environment.

Choices calls

Calls are made by people who are already using the recovery service to explain recovery and treatment options in a non-clinical, recovery-friendly way.

'Barnsley in Recovery'

This is an independent community association that provides a variety of support and social groups throughout the week including in the evening and at the weekend. Groups include:

- Recovery and Narcotics Anonymous groups
- Guided Meditation group
- Self-Care Sessions
- Women's Group
- Scrabble Club
- Book Club
- Coffee Mornings



These provide a range of opportunities for support. This gives people the chance to socialise and build their networks, to support and encourage each other in their recovery. This approach is intended to make recovery happen in the community and inspires people suffering from alcohol and drug problems to have more confidence that recovery is possible.



540 meals served at the breakfast club

308 meals served at the lunch club

This was achieved in the first six months of this new project.

"I find the groups extremely helpful, and it's got me on the right road to recovery, I'm now 4 weeks abstinent and I couldn't do it without the help here"

"The Café is a source of extra help and a sanctuary for when you are feeling vulnerable"

"The breakfast club is a great idea; it brings people together in a safe environment and builds strength in our Recovery Community"

Tackling domestic abuse

The total number of people supported by the 'Independent Domestic Abuse Service' (IDAS) continues to increase.

- In the third quarter of 2022-2023, 834 people were supported by IDAS. This is up from 747 in second quarter of the year and 677 in the first quarter of the year.
- The number of women in refuge remains high. In the third of 2022-2023, ten women were in refuge, and six refuge referrals were received.



IDAS specialist Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAS) for LGBTQ+, ethnic minorities, children and young people have been recruited.

Some examples of the work of specialist IDVA's include:

- Weekly LGBTQ+ group is held at 'ChilyPep' and attended by 6-12 young people aged 16+.
- Weekly group held in central Barnsley for women and children who are asylum seekers, refugees, or a migrant in the UK. These provide workshops and information sessions, English classes and more.
- Healthy relationship presentations to 500 pupils at Barnsley College, ages 16-18.



Barnsley Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Services (BSARCS) have worked with an average of 562 adults and 200 children every three months of the year from April to December 2023.

Evaluations completed across the period from April to December 2023, showed at least 90% of clients reporting:

- Improved health and wellbeing as a direct result of BSARCS support.
- An improvement in their ability to cope with everyday life and take control.
- An increase in their feelings of safety.



'CRANSTOUN', our commissioned service's 'Inspire to change perpetrator programme' continues to deliver in-person group work, online group work and 1:1 support.

September 2022 marked a year of the Inspire to Change Programme.



362 referrals received

12 perpetrators supported to complete the intervention successfully

8 professional briefing sessions held

Community Iftar 2022

Tackling community tension

A group met at the Barnsley Muslim Community Centre to be part of Barnsley's Community Iftar.

Ramadan is one of the holiest months of the Islamic calendar. This year Ramadan started from 2/3 April to 2/3 May (depending on the sighting of the moon). Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim lunar calendar.

Healthy adult Muslims fast in Ramadan from dawn until dusk. This includes abstaining from drinking, eating, immoral acts and anger. Other acts of worship include additional prayers, the reading of the Quran and charity are also encouraged during the holy month of Ramadan.



The event was organised between the Imam of Barnsley's Muslim Community Centre and the Head of Stronger Communities at Barnsley Council. The community came together at the Mosque to experience the breaking of the fast with the Muslim community. On this evening, the fast was broken when the sunset. Before breaking the fast, there was a call to prayer, and the Imam led the evening prayers.

Once the prayers were complete, there was a lot of activity to bring out the huge mats, which were placed on the floor between all the people. The fast was broken with lots of lovely fruit, dates, and some lentil soup. We then shared some excellent curries, rice, and naan bread.

The evening was an excellent opportunity to chat with the people who attend the Muslim Community Centre in Barnsley, break down some of the barriers, and increase the understanding of Ramadan. We plan to run this event yearly through the month of Ramadan.



Tackling hate crime



The Partnership is supporting training programmes to continue to raise the awareness of hate crime in the borough and the hate incident reporting centres in Barnsley.

Hate crime awareness week promoted how to report a hate crime, where to report it and why. This will run each year in Barnsley, and we will continue to develop our reach to our communities.

The No place for hate campaign is shared each year. This works well by tackling online hate and promoting a one-voice ethos, tackle negative media, and dispelling myths.

The school alliances network for secondary heads has received training on hate crime and is asked to make sure they are providing training to pupils. This raises awareness among young people about how and when to report and support hate crime champions in schools.



Established links with the TransBarnsley network, the multi-agency drop-in for asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants, and the LGBTQIA+ and faith communities.

Supporting the Pride event by promoting it locally. This led to a successful event in Barnsley last year. We will build upon this year on year.

A new partnership with Barnsley City of Sanctuary has led to conversation classes, reading groups and a school's art project. The group will lead a new project called, 'Who is my neighbour'. This will be a targeted approach to prevent hate crimes and reduce discrimination in areas where community tensions arise from cultural differences.

Tackling community tensions

The multi-agency drop-in group that discusses community tensions issues meets weekly in Barnsley. This provides excellent insight into the barriers people face in our communities and how we might overcome these. Many partners are involved in the drop-in, which is a positive way of reducing the risk to communities.



A Migration Partnership has been set up in the voluntary and community sector. We have regular updates about the barriers these communities may face in Barnsley, and we look at solutions to these barriers in the group.

The training sessions delivered by Migration Yorkshire provide insight into the national, regional, and local picture affecting migration in the UK. They also help to understand how migration affects Barnsley and how national policy affects us locally.

10

Introduction to Migration training sessions delivered by Migration Yorkshire this year

Over

250

participants trained this year



The migration response group meets to discuss asylum seekers, refugees and migrants. The group supports the partnership on the developments in this area to make sure we have a good understanding of any concerns that may occur in Barnsley.

The Homes for Ukraine scheme and the asylum dispersal in Barnsley both work together to share information and insights across both groups, which is positive for the communities.

Linking with the Latvian community in Barnsley to extend our support to them in understanding what is offered locally, how we can support them to deliver events, and ensuring they have good connectivity across the partnership.



Supporting the delivery of the Community Iftar at the Muslim community centre in Barnsley each year. The event brings people together at the Muslim community centre to break the fast together and raise local communities' awareness of what happens through Ramadan.

Reducing the risk of terrorism

The partnership continues to raise awareness of PREVENT - a part of the counter-terrorism strategy called CONTEST. It aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Partners continue to work together to make sure positive messages are relayed to local communities for how to keep communities safe. Concerns and risks in the borough are shared through key messages through various organisations.

Partnership groups are making significant inroads to build positive relationships with communities in Barnsley.

The partnership continues to share information about hate crimes and local tensions to inform solutions and preventative actions. Working with the communities locally has meant that data and local intelligence provide the group with a good insight into the nature of the issues before it becomes a serious problem.



You say and we will do our best to respond

The partnership is committed to continuing to strengthen its joint working arrangements with its key partners into 2023-24.

In 2022-23, communities from across the borough provided lots of feedback on their views on areas that should be prioritised. Input from the public was captured through the partnership's annual Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment survey. This year 2,437 people responded to the survey.

The public views on areas of priority for Barnsley remain primarily unchanged since the last survey. Child abuse and child exploitation remain the areas of focus, followed by substance misuse and violent crime.

Alongside ongoing commitments from 2022-23, the Safer Barnsley Partnership will focus on the priorities listed below during the next period.

Domestic Abuse	Substance Misuse	Hate Crime
Multiple Needs	Prevent	Community Tension
Violence Against Women and Girls	Organised Crime	Environmental Crime
Serious Violence	Anti-social Behaviour	Neighbourhood Crime

The partnership will report back in its next year's annual report on its key achievements again against how it did in respect of these priorities.

