

# Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan

2025



**SAFER BARNLSLEY  
PARTNERSHIP**

Barnsley  
**20  
30**



# Contents



1. Foreword

2. Our partnership

3. Barnsley Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA)

4. Our priorities and commitments

5. Monitoring and delivering our plan





We are pleased to present the Safer Barnsley Partnership plan.

The partnership works to deliver its duties and responsibilities linked to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The partnership includes statutory and non-statutory organisations that work together to keep our communities safe.

We meet six times a year and focus on making Barnsley a safe place for everyone to live, work, study and visit. We aim to deliver the priorities in this plan by working together to respond to local and national challenges. We will align our work to the priorities in the [South Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan](#) to help to build a safer South Yorkshire.

Our plan underpins our commitments and reflects local priorities. We want Barnsley to be the place of possibilities. We will continue to work together to provide a safe community for Barnsley's residents, businesses and visitors.



**Phil Hollingsworth**  
Service Director – Communities  
Barnsley Council  
Safer Barnsley Partnership Board co-chair



**Simon Wanless**  
Barnsley District Commander  
South Yorkshire Police  
Safer Barnsley Partnership Board co-chair



# Our partnership



The Safer Barnsley Partnership is Barnsley's statutory community safety partnership. We co-ordinate how Barnsley tackles crime and disorder, protects vulnerable people, and reduces re-offending.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent legislation places statutory duties on community safety partnerships to:

Produce an annual Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA).

Establish an information sharing agreement.

Prepare and deliver a partnership plan.

Oversee domestic homicide reviews and reviews of drug and alcohol related deaths.

No single agency can deal with community safety and crime on its own. Our approach is to work together to tackle crime and disorder. We remain committed to:

Provide efficient and effective services across the borough.

Prevent, intervene and enforce where appropriate to keep our communities safe.

Support residents to solve problems early and focus resources at the right place and time.

Engage with our communities to put our residents at the heart of everything we do.

# Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA)



The partnership continues to build on and strengthen its joint working with key partners each year.

Our annual consultation and Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment captures the public's views alongside data from partners to inform current crime and disorder trends in Barnsley.

Communities across the borough have provided lots of feedback on their views on areas for the partnership to prioritise. 2025 saw the eighth year of the JSIA.

**1,468** people responded to the survey in 2025  
 1,171 online responses (up from 749)  
 297 young people in focus groups (up from 277)

The public's view on their top five priorities has changed slightly since the last survey. These are the top five priorities based on the public's main concerns:

The survey suggests that perception of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) is slightly worse than last year. People feel slightly less safe in the town centre and local villages than the year before.

Overall feelings of safety have significantly improved in the last 5 years. This is despite increased footfall into the town centre and more recently increased numbers of young people using the town centre in the evenings.

2024	
1	Substance misuse
2	Neighbourhood crime
3	Youth related ASB
4	Community cohesion
5	Child abuse and exploitation

2025	
1	Antisocial behaviour
2	Environmental crime
3	Neighbourhood crime
4	Substance misuse
5	Violence against the person



# Our priorities



Anti-social behaviour	Environmental crime	Neighbourhood crime	Human exploitation	Organised crime
Combatting drugs and alcohol	Domestic abuse	Violence against women and girls	Serious violence	Reoffending and offender management
Counter terrorism	Community cohesion	Hate crime	Road safety	Youth justice

The delivery partnerships below are responsible for tackling our priorities:



# Anti-social behaviour



- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) includes actions that cause harassment, alarm or distress to other people in your neighbourhood. It can include anything that affects someone else's quality of life.
- Housing related ASB is behaviour that causes nuisance or annoyance around people's homes. The effects of this can be even more harmful.



The JSIA 2023/24 shows perceptions of safety across the borough have improved, even more so in the town centre.

However, ASB and neighbourhood crime feature as two of the three highest priorities for the public.

The number of recorded ASB incidents overall remained the same, with an increase in nuisance from off road bikes.

Incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour decreased.

Led by the Safe Places Delivery Group, the partnership will:

Focus its efforts on early help and prevention to deter young people from becoming involved in serious ASB and ensure we are delivering victim focused services.

Use problem solving approaches to reduce community nuisance caused by off road biking.

Put victims firmly at the heart of our decisions and responses, ensuring their voices are heard and allocating a single point of contact at the earliest point needed.

[More information and how to report](#)



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# Environmental crime and blight



Environmental crime includes any illegal activity that harms the environment.

This includes offences relating to the collection and dumping of waste, fly-tipping and graffiti.

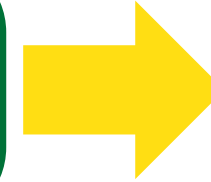
Environmental blight contributes towards neighbourhood decline and the way an area looks and feels.

[Litter and Environmental Crime Plan](#)

[More information](#)

The JSIA 2023/24 shows

An increase across all categories of environmental crime.



Fly-tipping accounts for over half of this.

In response, more criminal prosecutions were secured for fly-tipping and waste carrier offences than in any other previous year.

The Safe Places Delivery Group will focus their efforts on the commitments made in the Litter and Environmental Crime Plan 2024-2030 to:

- Improve our enforcement responses to deter offenders.
- Take a needs-based approach to tackling neighbourhood decline.





# Neighbourhood crime

Neighbourhood crime includes residential burglary, robbery and vehicle offences. This includes the theft of and theft from motor vehicles. These crimes have a financial impact on the victims and serious health and social impacts on wider communities.

The JSIA 2023/24 shows a slight reduction in people who perceive Barnsley as both unsafe and very unsafe. There is a reduction in people's perceived worsening of crime.

This indicates that engagement measures to inform the public when positive action is taken is likely to have an impact on people's opinions of crime in Barnsley.

The JSIA indicates a noticeable increase in retail crime of 35%.  
Neighbourhood crime remains a high priority for Barnsley, as it was chosen as the second top choice priority for respondents in the JSIA.

The Safe Places Delivery Group will:

Tackle neighbourhood crime through good partnership working with all communities and focus on problem-solving, building trust and confidence.

Support vulnerable people who are repeat victims of neighbourhood crime to limit re-offending opportunities.

Use a problem-solving approach to policing to tackle offending behaviour and target harden at risk locations.

[How to report crimes to the police](#)



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# Human exploitation

Exploitation is a serious and complex form of abuse that can affect anyone, of any age, gender, ethnicity, or background.

This can take many forms, such as sexual, criminal, financial, labour, or online. It can involve grooming, coercion, manipulation, violence, and threats.

Exploitation can have devastating impacts on physical, emotional, and mental health of victims and survivors, their families and communities.

The Safe Places Delivery Group will:

- Focus on organisations across the partnership being able to recognise the signs of exploitation and respond appropriately to protect victims. They will do this by delivering a program of training to create a network of Single Point of Contacts (SPOCs).
- Increase awareness across organisations and the voluntary sector of all forms of human exploitation and improve the intelligence picture for individuals affected.
- Develop an exploitation strategic plan.

We recognise there are intelligence gaps in the number of people affected by exploitation. This is especially around adult victims.

We aim to improve the intelligence picture for individuals affected by exploitation in Barnsley.

This will help us to take a preventative approach.



# Domestic abuse and sexual violence



The Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP) oversees implementing the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and Barnsley's local strategy.

We work with partners to tackle and prevent domestic abuse by focusing on:

Providing victims and survivors with the right support.

Ensuring a strong multi-agency response.

Holding perpetrators accountable and supporting their behavioural change.

We will raise awareness of domestic abuse and support available through key communications and campaigns, such as the washing line art installation project.

We continue to review domestic abuse and sexual violence services to ensure the needs of victims and perpetrators are being met.



Support

Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-27

# Key areas of progress and focus



## Training

- We are offering domestic abuse training to agencies and services in Barnsley. This includes Safe and Together training for social workers and joint training with Barnsley Hospital.
- We will ensure comprehensive training packages are available to help practitioners to identify and offer support including referring to specialist services.

## Safe accommodation

- We have purchased additional safe accommodation properties and agreed to develop a domestic abuse crash pad at the Refuge.

## Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse (MADA)

- We have piloted a daily MADA with a focus on high-risk domestic cases where children are affected.
- We have commenced a MARAC review and revised the operating protocol and action tracker.
- We will implement the revised MARAC protocol, track actions and impacts resulting from the MADA pilot.

## Children and young people

- We continue to work to improve support for children and young people who experience or are affected by domestic and sexual abuse and ways for the voices of children and young people to be heard.

## Domestic homicide reviews (DHRs)

- We are reviewing the domestic homicide review process and will continue to make improvements.

## Sexual violence

- We have increased the focus on sexual violence, completed a sexual violence health needs assessment and held a sexual violence conference in February 2025.
- We will further develop the sexual violence workstream including implementing the health needs assessment recommendations.



# Violence against women and girls



Our strategic aims are to:

Put victims and survivors at the centre.

Build trust and confidence.

Create and promote safer spaces.

Relentless pursuit of perpetrators.

The use of public campaigns.

Led by the Violence and Organised Crime Group, we continue to be committed to:

Increasing awareness of support and interventions available to women and girls of ethnic heritage or black and other ethnic minority women and girls.

Strengthening partnerships and raising awareness with organisations.

Improving the intelligence picture around exploitation of women and girls and sex work in Barnsley.

Improving women and girls' safety in public and cyber spaces.

Making links to domestic abuse and domestic violence.

Implementing support for individuals exposed to adverse childhood experiences.

Increasing trauma awareness and its impact with associated professionals.

Educating targeted cohorts around VAWG.

Strengthening the commitment to evening and nighttime economy work.

**Support and reporting**



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# Serious violence



Our strategic aims are to:

Understand serious violence in our area using partnership data.

Respond to the causes and result of violent crime.

Build strong, empowered communities.

Led by the Violence and Organised Crime Group, the partnership will:

Reduce weapon-related crime in Barnsley by preventing the escalation of weapon use and disrupting the activities of criminals who rely on weapons.

Identify and protect at-risk adults in our communities and target offenders who exploit these residents.

Reduce youth violence and the impact of violence on young people in Barnsley town centre. Through partnership working identify young people at risk of becoming involved in violence.

Ensure we meet the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty.

Have regard for the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit knife crime approach and the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Knife Crime Strategy 2025.

Take recommendations from JSIA around engagement with schools and further work to understand rise in knife enabled robberies and hot spot areas.



# Organised crime



Our strategic aims are to:

Reduce vulnerability.

Relentlessly disrupt and pursue organised crime groups (OCGs).

Increase problem solving.

Led by the Violence and Organised Crime Group, the partnership will continue to:

Make sure members of our communities feel safe from violence and harm from organised crime.

Have a joint understanding of who is being harmed, where it is happening and who is causing it to tackle it.

Have the correct support services to meet the needs of our communities, informed by what they tell us they need.

Identify those at risk of harm or at risk of becoming involved in causing harm at an early stage and intervene appropriately.

Have a joint, robust, and proactive approach to tackle perpetrators, enablers, and places where harm is caused.

Identify OCGs that impact the Barnsley community using effective scanning of emerging crime and OCG hotspots.

Encourage more intelligence submissions from a wide range of partners. A new online reporting system has launched with training delivered.

Analyse mapped and emerging OCGs by using intelligence products with partnership data to inform our multi-agency tactical and prevention response.

Pursue and disrupt OCG activities through an intelligence led approach. We will work in partnership to achieve this with a joint robust approach.



# Reoffending and offender management



Our strategic aims are to:

Reduce crime and re-offending.

Work in partnership to problem solve.

Utilise Integrated Offender Management (IOM) to work and engage with persistent offenders.

Led by the Violence and Organised Crime Group, the partnership will continue to:

Tackle re-offending through integrated offender management and rehabilitation.

Work with partners to create successful pathways away from re-offending.

Work effectively with partners to identify and safely manage IOM nominals.

Utilise rehabilitative interventions.

Make sure we have effective information sharing between partners.

**Support and report for Integrated Offender Management**



# Combatting drug and alcohol related harm



The Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) actively oversees how the national drug strategy '**From Harm to Hope**' is put into action locally.

It is responsible for delivering the national strategy's priorities and ensuring that Barnsley performs well against a national outcome framework.

The partnership looks at both alcohol and drug use.  
It considers local needs alongside the national priorities.

## Combatting Drugs Delivery Plan

Responds to the national drug strategy priorities and local requirements.

Sets out how we will address and reduce drug and alcohol related harm and crime in Barnsley.



# Barnsley substance misuse delivery plan

Our vision is that Barnsley works collaboratively, to prevent and reduce the harms caused by drug and alcohol use to individuals, families and communities so that:



Children and young people have the best start in life and future generations grow up protected from the impact of drug and alcohol use.	Everyone can live well and age well, in safe, strong and resilient communities.	People who need help with their drug and/or alcohol use can access the right support at the right time and place to recover and live fulfilling lives.	People who drink alcohol choose to do so responsibly and safely.	Local communities will experience less crime and disorder related to drugs and alcohol.
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<b>National priorities</b>	Reducing drug supply and drug related crime.	Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system.	Achieve a generational shift in the demand for drugs.
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<b>Local priorities</b>	Reducing drug supply and drug related crime.	Reducing drug and alcohol related deaths and harms.	Reducing the impact of drug and alcohol harm on communities	Improving treatment and recovery.	Reducing the impact of parental drug and alcohol use.	Reducing and preventing drug and alcohol use and demand.
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<b>National outcome framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce drug related crime.</li> <li>Reduce the levels of drug supply.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing drug use.</li> <li>Increasing engagement with treatment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing drug use.</li> <li>Reducing drug related deaths and harm.</li> </ul>
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## Supporting indicators

<b>Local delivery plan</b>	Our delivery plan sets out how we will meet the six local priorities, while aligning with the Drug Strategy and National Outcomes Framework.
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# Key areas of progress



Established our Local Drug Information System (LDIS) for intelligence sharing across a wide range of partner organisations. This helps us to reduce the number of non-fatal overdoses by informing people of any emerging drug trends and immediate risks.

Jointly funded a South Yorkshire Police (SYP) Drug and Alcohol Related Death (DARD) prevention officer with the other South Yorkshire councils to assist in the prevention of drug related deaths and harms by contributing to the drug and alcohol related deaths review and the LDIS processes.

Jointly funded drug testing equipment with South Yorkshire Police with other South Yorkshire councils to test substances to provide timely and appropriate harm reduction interventions.

Reviewed the Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths Review process and purchased an electronic surveillance system (QES) to improve information collected to review cases, prevent further deaths and inform changes to working practices across the partnership services.

Implemented an Individual Placement Support (IPS) service to support people in treatment into employment. The service has helped a higher proportion of people into work than any other service in the country.

Developed a multi-agency service to support people aged 16 and over with mental health and drug and/or alcohol problems. The service has a joint approach to mental health and substance use and makes sure individuals receive the right support to achieve their goals for recovery. The children's social care and the drug and alcohol service are working together to improve support for parents who struggle with drug and alcohol use to enhance the well-being of children and families.



# Key developments



**The number of people who successfully complete treatment in Barnsley is higher compared to both regional and national rates.**

Barnsley has a higher number of people who are making substantial progress in their treatment programme compared to national and regional figures.

Barnsley has a higher number of adults in treatment in stable accommodation compared to national and regional figures.

Barnsley has a higher number of parental and family interventions delivered to those in treatment compared to national and regional figures.

The number of people receiving treatment in prison for their drug and alcohol use who continued to receive support from our community drug and alcohol service upon release from prison is significantly higher than the national rate.

There has been an increase in the Drug Testing on Arrest (DToA) diversionary work from police custody and the use of out of court disposals.

There has been a rise in drug possession and trafficking offences in Barnsley over the last year. This is attributable to proactive initiatives and operations conducted by South Yorkshire Police.

Drug seizure incidents in Barnsley have also seen an increase which is to be expected given the rise in drug related offences.



# Key areas of focus



## **Drug and alcohol related deaths:**

Identify key themes to inform changes to working practices and support provision to prevent future deaths.

Such themes include trauma, mental health, offending and homelessness.

## **Hospital admissions related to drugs and alcohol:**

Investigate referrals, presentation reasons, coding, internal and external pathway mapping, and case file reviews. The aim is to gain a better understanding of patient journeys to identify barriers and challenges, and to recommend potential improvements.

## **Homelessness with a drug and alcohol dependency need:**

Identify gaps within service provision as well as offering joint support for individuals who are living in supported housing.

## **School suspensions and exclusions that are drug and alcohol related:**

Look into the suspensions and exclusions that are drug and alcohol related including a new offer of support from the young person's drug and alcohol treatment and support service.





# Community cohesion

The Cohesive and Resilient Communities Group works together to make Barnsley a more welcoming place for all.

Community tensions are reported as low, but we continue to monitor trends for increased tensions in some communities.

Some tensions in local communities are reflected in the hate crime reporting and local social media platforms.

Tensions are also recognised from the response to the violent disorder that took place in the summer of 2024. Over 50% of the people who attended the riots at Manvers were from Barnsley.

We work together to raise awareness and dispel the myths about asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Barnsley. We aim to improve the understanding of what asylum seekers are entitled to and promoting the benefits of migration.



# Hate crime



The overall trends for hate crime based on the reporting are low, however reporting doesn't always reflect the issues happening in communities.

The Cohesive and Resilient Communities Group will:

Continue to monitor trends and raise the awareness of hate crime reporting across the borough, including who can report and where you can report.

Gain a better understanding of the work happening across South Yorkshire and ensure that Barnsley is aligning itself to both regional and national initiatives.

Ensure that all communities of interest are represented at the Cohesive and Resilient Communities Group.



[More information](#)



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# Counter terrorism

Counter terrorism aims to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens and interests overseas, so people can live freely and with confidence.

Lots of work has been done locally to monitor trends and raise the awareness of counter terrorism and this has resulted in increased reporting and a greater awareness. This includes the prevent, prepare and protect duty.

Led by the Cohesive and Resilient Communities Group, the partnership will:

Continue to have a good understanding of the local issues presenting on the prevent, prepare and protect duty.

Have a good understanding of Channel and the nature of the impact locally.

Continue to promote and encourage the uptake of training to better understand the issues presenting.

Promote the understanding of Martyn's Law.

**Prevent and Channel**

**Protect Duty**

**ACT** | ACTION  
COUNTERS  
TERRORISM



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# Youth justice

The Safer Barnsley Partnership Board works closely with the Youth Crime and Anti-social Behaviour Board.

Our Youth Justice Service has a mandatory duty to:

Reduce re-offending for those young people already involved in the criminal justice system.

Reduce the number of first-time entrants to the criminal justice system.

Reduce the number of young people entering custody.

Our statutory obligations are to:

Safeguard the young people we work with.

Protect the public from harm.

Work with victims of crime.

**Support for  
youth offending**



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# Road safety



The Barnsley Road Safety Delivery Group will work collaboratively to:

- Reduce the number of road traffic collisions and casualties in Barnsley.
- Run campaigns, activities and initiatives to raise awareness of road safety.
- Promote safer road use, safer speeds, safer vehicles and post-crash care.
- Monitor traffic collisions, hotspots and speeding data to implement schemes and speed limits, such as 20mph speed limits near schools at drop off and finish times.

**Don't Drive Daft:** A campaign aimed at 17–24-year-olds with thought provoking statistics and key messages about driving such as risks of not wearing a seatbelt and being distracted whilst driving.

[More information on road safety](#)

[Our People Travel to Arrive](#)  
Barnsley's Safer Roads Strategy 2023-33



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# Monitoring and delivering our plan



## Right support, right time, right place:

Working together remains an important aspect of our ambition. Progress and key issues linked to community safety are reported to the Safer Barnsley Partnership Board.

The Safer Barnsley Partnership Board is one part of a wider partnership that aims to make **Barnsley a place of possibilities.**

This makes sure we have a joint approach to support communities, solve problems early, and focus resources where and when needed.

The Safer Barnsley Partnership is responsible for delivering the priorities set out in this plan. Key officers will deliver our commitments by working with organisations and community groups. A partnership assurance group will monitor and support those actions. The Safer Barnsley Partnership Board will oversee delivery against our priorities.

This partnership plan aligns to the **South Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.**

The partnership works to make sure any emerging trends from the JSIA are factored into future years' delivery.



# Plan on a page

**Our strategic vision is for Barnsley communities to be**

- Safe and inclusive
- Able to contribute to community life
- Able to take responsibility for their actions and how they affect others

## Our partnership groups will deliver our priorities

Safe Places	Domestic Abuse	Violence and Organised Crime	Combatting Drugs
Anti-social behaviour Environmental crime Neighbourhood crime Human exploitation	Domestic abuse Sexual violence	Serious violence duty Organised crime Re-offending and rehabilitation Violence against women and girls	Substance misuse
Youth Crime and ASB	Road Safety	Cohesive and Resilient Communities	Cross cutting themes
Youth Justice Service	Road safety	Hate crime Community tension Counter terrorism	Communication and engagement

**We will measure our achievements through key performance indicators and case studies that demonstrate:**

- The impact of the joined-up approach with all our partners.
- That the person is at the centre of the support, intervention, and enforcement.
- An increase in user satisfaction with the support they have received.
- A reduced level of crime and anti-social behaviour compared to previous periods.
- A reduction in re-offending and an increase in rehabilitation take up and completion.

# Contacting us

If you need any help  
with this document

e-mail us at:

[safer@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:safer@barnsley.gov.uk)

If you need to report an  
environmental crime such as  
graffiti, fly-tipping, or un-  
authorised encampments, visit:

[www.barnsley.gov.uk/tell-us-  
about-it](http://www.barnsley.gov.uk/tell-us-about-it)

If you need to report  
instances of anti-social  
behaviour or crime

**call 101 or 999**

in an emergency.

