

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXAMPLES

Manchester's Community Safety Partnership brings together the Council, Greater Manchester Police (GMP), offender management services, Public Health Manchester, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, housing providers, the universities, voluntary and community organisations, and the newly appointed Mayor of Greater Manchester. The current three-year Community Safety Strategy contains the following eight priorities:

- » Reduce antisocial behaviour
- » Tackle alcohol and drug-related crime
- » Change offender behaviour
- » Support vulnerable people
- » Tackle serious and organised crime
- » Tackle the crimes of most impact (domestic abuse, violent crime, robbery and burglary)
- » Tackle hidden crimes (child sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation, modern slavery, honour-based violence, and forced marriage)
- » Make the city centre safer.

Meeting these priorities contributes towards the delivery of the Our Manchester strategy and the vision of clean, safe, attractive and cohesive neighbourhoods. (Please click on the links to read about some of the work the CPS have supported over the past three years, along with some crime statistics.)

1. Partnership working

Background: In a large entertainment complex in Manchester there was a serious problem with antisocial behaviour from a large group of youths. This involved verbal abuse, threats of violence, damage, harassment and intimidation, which caused alarm and distress to members of the public and employees working at the complex. Through partnership working, the youths were identified, and action has been taken to significantly reduce the antisocial behaviour in this area. The Antisocial Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) was involved in supporting the victims and gathering evidence. The entertainment complex issued some of the youths with banning letters preventing them from going to the complex. GMP supported this and helped to gather evidence and secure statements to support civil legal action. They also used dispersal powers to try and prevent young people from causing antisocial behaviour and to prevent them from returning to the complex for 48 hours.

The local housing provider worked with ASBAT to deliver joint warning interviews with some of the youths. ASBAT supported the entertainment complex in working with the security staff and explained how to record incidents. ASBAT secured four civil injunction orders against individuals to prevent them from returning to the complex and prohibit antisocial behaviour in the surrounding area. Youth Justice and the Early Help Hub were also consulted, and they undertook assessments to ensure that timely and appropriate support was offered to families of those involved.

Outcome: Without everyone playing their part and taking shared responsibility for resolving this issue, we would not have successfully reduced the antisocial behaviour that was impacting on so many people's lives.

2. Cheshire and Greater Manchester Community Probation Company

Background: A father of three had long-standing addictions to crack, heroin and alcohol. At 13 he started to play truant from school and began to smoke cannabis and take amphetamines. He spent the next ten years addicted to drugs, which resulted in him being homeless and robbing from his parents to feed his drug addiction.

He finally managed to quit drugs after being sentenced to two and half years in custody; this sentence was followed by a Community Order and supervision by a probation officer. During this community rehabilitation he realised he had to stop drinking alcohol after concerns were raised about his and his partner's ability to look after their children. He was recommended for a Self-Management and Recovery Treatment (SMART) programme by his probation officer.

Outcome: The service user has been clean of drugs for 14 years and alcohol for five years. When he had completed the course he asked if he could continue to participate, which he did. The probation officer couldn't believe the change in him and the way he turned his life round. He was extremely grateful for the support of his probation officer and the services that helped him to stop taking drugs and alcohol.

3. Hidden crime

Background: As part of Operation Challenger, the Greater Manchester Police Modern Slavery Unit held a number of weeks of action, focusing on enforcement, disruption, and prevention activity across all forms of modern slavery. This included partnership visits with officers from the Council, Immigration, Health and a number of businesses. At the beginning of 2016 the modern slavery unit received a number of reports about adult females being trafficked and forced to work as sex workers in the Manchester area. Through partnership working, intelligence gathering and sharing, officers from GMP and Manchester Adult Safeguarding Hub (MASH) identified female victims and those responsible for the trafficking. During the operation, GMP made two arrests and charged two individuals with controlling sex workers and trafficking. The female victims were given support by MASH to return home.

Outcome: The two individuals arrested pleaded guilty to controlling sex workers and trafficking offences and were sentenced to over twenty years in custody.

4. Canal towpath

Background: Over the past few years there have been a high number of antisocial behaviour incidents and crimes committed on a short stretch of canal towpath in Manchester city centre. Owing to a number of concerns raised by partners and agencies, the Community Safety Partnership began an extensive consultation with members of the public and partners about how to improve the area and reduce crime and antisocial behaviour. A number of plans were suggested to address the safety issues on this stretch of canal path. Following the consultation, the CSP and other agencies drew up plans for the area to be gated, and a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) has been put in place to close the towpath at night to prevent antisocial behaviour and deaths from people falling into the canal.

Outcome: The PSPO and gated area came into force on 24 April 2017. This was to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour in the area, and to protect visitors and keep them safe in the city centre.