



# Gosport CSP Strategic Assessment

## 1.0 Introduction

This assessment has been produced by the Gosport Community Safety Partnership (CSP) as a legal requirement and it will be used to inform its strategic priorities for the 2021/2022 financial year.

The report contains a summary of the key statistics and issues regarding Crime and Disorder, including Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). These have been identified through a high level analysis of information from a range of national and local information sources as well as community feedback.

## 2.0 Demographic Overview

The Borough of Gosport is a peninsula situated on the Solent coastline and lies between the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton. The population of Gosport is 85300.<sup>1</sup> Deprivation is seen at a local level within the wards of Grange, Forton and Leesland ranked in the 20% most deprived areas in the Country and Town in the 10% most deprived areas in the Country.<sup>2</sup> Approximately 15.5% (2,370) children live in low income families. Life expectancy for both men and women is similar to the England average.<sup>3</sup>

## 3.0 Performance Overview

A range of data sources has been used to help provide a picture of Crime and Disorder (including ASB) however these data sources will have their limitations. The performance data included in this assessment will be influenced by a range of additional parameters including changes in police recording practices, policing activity/focus, COVID19 and willingness of victims to report.

Gosport has seen an overall decrease in recorded crime of 13.2% and Hampshire figures show a decrease of 14%<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), Mid-2019 Population Estimates – Next release of Population Estimates is not due until July 2021

<sup>2</sup> The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), 2019 – IMD report is produced every 4-5 years

<sup>3</sup> Public Health England, Health Profile for Gosport 2019 – This is the latest Public Health England Profile

<sup>4</sup> Interact data

#### 4.0 Gosport's Crime Statistics

12-month Period	GOSPORT			
	2019/2020	2020/2021	Difference	% Difference
1a Homicide	3	0	-3	-100%
1b Violence with Injury	910	739	-171	-18.7%
1c Violence without Injury	1765	1681	-84	-4.7%
2a Rape	86	83	-3	-3.4%
2b Other Sexual Offences	132	145	13	9.8%
3a Robbery of Business Property	5	6	1	20%
3b Robbery of Personal Property	41	39	-2	-4.8%
4a1 Burglary Residential	224	186	-38	-16.9%
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	121	47	-74	-61.1%
4b Vehicle Offences	416	307	-109	-26.2%
4c Theft from the Person	38	20	-18	-47.3%
4d Bicycle Theft	211	101	-110	-52.1%
4e Shoplifting	583	272	-311	-53.3%
4f All Other Theft Offences	528	371	-157	-29.7%
5a Criminal Damage	687	652	-35	-5%
5b Arson	41	19	-22	-53.6%
6a Trafficking of Drugs	37	55	18	48.6%
6b Possession of Drugs	117	210	93	79.4%
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	71	79	8	11.2%
8 Public Order Offences	622	715	93	14.9%
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	116	130	14	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6754</b>	<b>5857</b>	<b>-897</b>	<b>-13.2%</b>
<b>ASB</b>	<b>1893</b>	<b>1968</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

#### 4.1 Violence against the person

1a Homicide – the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 100% decrease from 2019/2020.

1b Violence with Injury - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 18.7% decrease from 2019/2020.

1c Violence without injury - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 4.7% decrease from 2019/2020.

Due to the low figures data trend analysis is not appropriate for the homicide data. Violence offences show a reduced overall trend.

July 2021

## **4.2 Sexual offences**

2a Rape - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 3.4% decrease from 2019/2020.

2b Other Sexual Offences - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 9.8% increase from 2019/2020.

Rape shows a decrease however other sexual offences show an increase.

## **4.3 Robbery and burglary**

3a Robbery of a business property - the 2020/2021 statistics showed an increase of 20% from 2019/2020. Figures are low so single occurrences significantly impact the statistics.

3b Robbery of a personal property - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 4.8% decrease from 2019/2020.

4a1 Burglary Residential - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 16.9% decrease from 2019/2020.

4a2 Burglary business and community - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 61.1% decrease from 2019/2020.

Due to the low figures trend analysis is not appropriate for robbery of business property. Robbery of personal property, burglary residential data and burglary business and community all show a decrease.

## **4.4 Theft**

4b Vehicle Offences - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 26.2% decrease from 2019/2020.

4c Theft from the person - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 47.3% decrease from 2019/2020.

4d Bicycle theft - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 52.1% decrease from 2019/2020.

4e Shoplifting - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 53.3% decrease from 2019/2020.

4f All other theft offences - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 29.7% decrease from 2019/2020.

All theft offences show a reduced overall trend.

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#### **4.5 Criminal Damage including Arson**

5a Criminal Damage - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 5% decrease from 2019/2020.

5b Arson - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 53.6% decrease from 2019/2020.

Criminal Damage and Arson data both show a decrease.

#### **4.6 Drugs offences**

6a Trafficking of Drugs - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 48.6% increase from 2019/2020.

6b Possession of Drugs - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 79.4% increase from 2019/2020.

All drug offences show an increased overall trend<sup>5</sup>.

#### **4.7 Weapons**

7 Possession of weapons offences - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 11.2% increase from 2019/2020.

Due to the low figures data trend analysis is not appropriate for Possession of Weapons offences.

#### **4.8 Public Order**

8 Public Order Offence - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 14.9% increase from 2019/2020.

#### **4.9 Miscellaneous crimes**

9 Miscellaneous crimes against society - the 2020/2021 statistics showed a 12% increase from 2019/2020.

#### **4.10 Hate Crime**

Gosport's data for 2020/2021 is 111 offences and the statistics showed a 27.5% increase from 2019/2020.<sup>6</sup> Hate Crime England and Wales year ending 2020 shows a national increase of 7.83% for such offences.

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<sup>5</sup> Drug offences are typically based on successful Police interventions not reported occurrences

<sup>6</sup> Interact Hate Crime records – Gosport district

## 5.0 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Gosport's data for 2020/2021 statistics showed an increase of 3.9% from 2019/2020 and Hampshire figures show a 0.83% decrease from 2019/2020<sup>7</sup>. ASB can be categorised into three main types and Gosport's ratio of each type is comparable with national ratios:

- **Personal** - incidents that the caller, call-handler or anyone else perceives as either deliberately targeted at an individual or group or having an impact on an individual or group rather than the community at large. It includes incidents that cause concern, stress, disquiet and/or irritation through to incidents which have a serious adverse impact on people's quality of life. At one extreme of the spectrum it includes minor annoyance; at the other end it could result in risk of harm, deterioration of health and disruption of mental or emotional well-being, resulting in an inability to carry out normal day to day activities through fear and intimidation.

Gosport's data for 2020/2021 was 387 offences showing a decrease of 4.9% from 2019/2020.

- **Community** - captures those incidents where an act, condition, thing or person causes trouble, annoyance, inconvenience, offence or suffering to the local community in general rather than to individual victims. It includes incidents where behaviour goes beyond the conventional bounds of acceptability and interferes with public interests including health, safety and quality of life. Just as individuals will have differing expectations and levels of tolerance so will communities have different ideas about what goes beyond tolerable or acceptable behaviour.

Gosport's data for 2020/2021 was 1485 offences showing an increase of 5.5% from 2019/2020.

- **Environmental** - deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments. This category is about encouraging reasonable behaviour whilst managing and protecting the various environments so that people can enjoy their own private spaces as well as shared or public spaces.

Gosport's data for 2020/2021 was 96 offences showing an increase of 21.5% from 2019/2020.

## 6.0 Domestic Violence

In 2020/2021 there were 1129 recorded offences in Gosport which show an increase of 1.3% from 2019/2020 (1114 offences). Hampshire-wide there was an increase of 4.6% (24,954 offences recorded in 2020/2021 compared to 23,849 offences recorded in 2019/2020).<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Interact Anti-Social Behaviour Records

<sup>8</sup> Interact Domestic Violence records

**July 2021**

In 2020/2021 Stop Domestic Abuse received 45% more adult referrals than in 2019/2020, this is partly due to a change in Hampshire Police's referral process in Autumn 2019 and partly due to an increase during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Hampshire Police procedure change resulted in 64% more referrals in Gosport (across Hampshire the increase was 58%). The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in 17% more referrals in Gosport (across Hampshire the increase was 15.5%).

There has been an 11% increase in the number of children and young people referred for support in 2020/2021 compared to 2019/2020.<sup>9</sup>

## **7.0 Community Engagement**

The Gosport Community Safety Partnership uses a range of engagement activities to link in with its community, to understand local priorities and to promote Community Safety. This includes an annual event, online channels and participation in neighbourhood level activity such as surgeries and community led events.

### **Safer Gosport Community Day**

Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the annual event was cancelled and replaced with a digital offer which highlighted the services of key CSP partners. It featured a video from the Chairperson of the CSP, along with videos from South Central Ambulance Service and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service. Key information about service provision from a wide range of partners including Hampshire Constabulary, Gosport and Fareham Inshore Rescue, Stop Domestic Abuse and Motiv8 was also promoted via the website and social media.

### **Social Media**

The Partnership has a good social media presence, particularly since the introduction of the dedicated Facebook page for Gosport Police. Covid19 has had a significant impact on the key themes highlighted:

- Covid lockdown breaches and associated concerns
- ASB particularly related to vehicle disturbances
- Concern for homelessness
- Mental health and isolation
- Environmental concerns including lack of street lighting and littering

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<sup>9</sup> Stop Domestic Abuse

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## **Customer feedback**

The Council receives a number of telephone calls, emails, letters or visits regarding Community Safety. Key themes are concerns around rough sleeping and begging in the High Street and surrounding areas and ASB at various parks and open spaces during the Covid19 pandemic including the use of fenced off parks and Multi Use Games Areas.

## **101 Reports**

The 101 reporting system informs the Partnership Action Group (PAG) process, including tasking and deployment of resources, these reports show key themes of ASB at various parks and open spaces during the Covid19 pandemic and vehicle nuisance in Borough Waterfront car parks.

## **8.0 Current CSP Priorities**

The CSP has been working towards an agreed action plan developed to deliver on the overarching aim of improving community safety in Gosport. The focus is on three priority areas and progress updates are provided below:

### **Vulnerability**

16 days of action to raise awareness of all types of Domestic Abuse was completed in November, utilising the campaign materials provided by Public Health.

Key campaigns were promoted to raise awareness of different types of exploitation and included Modern Slavery Day, Safer Internet Day, Covid related Scams and Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board Adult Safeguarding Week.

The Partnership has been working proactively on reducing extremism and radicalisation via the Prevent Board and through awareness raising, specific communications and the promotion of training opportunities.

Promotion of the Hampshire *PREVENT* Partnership Board Website <http://www.hampshirepreventboard.org.uk/> has been undertaken, with links on the CSP website.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

The Partnership Action Group continued to meet monthly via a virtual platform to co-ordinate multi-agency support and enforcement to assist with vulnerable individuals, persistent offenders of ASB and problematic locations.

Due to ongoing Covid related restrictions, delivery of mediation services reconfigured to a virtual offer.

The CSP continued to encourage partners to refer young people committing ASB to PAG with a view to identify early interventions (support/enforcement) which could be put in place to prevent an escalation in offending behaviour.

Due to Covid19, Summer Passport was delivered virtually, with activity packs provided and supplemented with live workshops and pre-recorded videos. Motiv8 provided one day of face to face delivery at Toronto place due to lifting of social distancing restrictions at the time. Success of virtual delivery was limited and numbers of young people participating was drastically reduced in comparison to 2019.

The learning review process linked to PAG was reviewed and subsequently, work is being undertaken on behalf of the Local Childrens Partnership and Gosport Strategy Group to develop a School Panel concept to reduce offending by identifying young people transitioning from year 6 into year 7 who may be at risk of exclusion.

Throughout the pandemic, the Homelessness Action Group meetings have been held virtually and co-ordinated with local support services including Inclusion and voluntary sector provision.

Online campaigns such as Alcohol Awareness Week and Dry January were promoted alongside key messages linked to mental health such as Mental Health Awareness Day and Time to Talk Day highlighting the impact of alcohol and other substances. Materials from Public Health and HCC were utilised to ensure consistent messaging and links to local support services such as Solent Mind & Inclusion were promoted.

### **Community Confidence**

The Street Homeless webpage on the Safer Gosport website is regularly updated. Due to the 'everyone in' directive from Government during the first lockdown the majority of street homeless individuals were placed in temporary accommodation.

Due to Covid restrictions, it was not possible to deliver Cycle Safe events. In June 2020 the CSP funded four Bike Doctor sessions at the Motiv8 Bike Recycling store. In total 44 bikes attended and bike locks were sold and cycle coding carried out with remaining kits distributed to the local Police teams for use at neighbourhood level surgeries.

Detached youth work was carried out during the Easter holidays to discuss what young people would like to see during the summer holidays and how Covid has impacted upon them. Motiv8 Youth Voice meets weekly and will be promoted as an engagement opportunity alongside existing school models and the Hampshire Youth Commission.



Delivery of Safer Gosport Community Day was virtual as outlined above, with a 'Conversations in the Community' concept taking place at Privett Park in August 2020 – this provided the public with an opportunity to speak to a range of CSP representatives and wider partners face to face (social distanced), alongside promotion of key services including cycle coding and support from the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Hampshire Constabulary funded a Participatory Budgeting event 'Great Bridgemy Fund Off' which was successfully delivered via Zoom in March 2021 with £16,000 funding being awarded to 4 local projects with an additional project funded via Abri Housing.

Reporting of crime and ASB has been promoted periodically via social media and news posts on the website and anonymous reporting to Fearless. The 101 reports reflect an increase in online reports from members of the public.

The Covid19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns saw a surge in digital service provision, advancing the development of some existing services such as virtual meeting platforms and livestreaming on social media. New apps based on trends relating to socialising at home (Houseparty, quizzes) have been developed and the popularity of video based social media including Tiktok & Reels on Instagram has increased. Managing online safety particularly for young people, general digital safety for older generations and scam awareness particularly in relation to Covid vaccinations were some of the themes. Regular messaging and safety campaigns were shared from Public Health England, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Safeguarding Board and the Hampshire Cyber Watch scheme was also promoted.

There remains limited dedicated research into feelings of safety and the influence of media (including social media), and past Safer Gosport Community Day surveys have indicated feelings of safety are subjective and influenced by a wide variety of factors ranging from environmental (lighting, litter, graffiti) to personal (living alone, age, family/friend network etc) and community (activity provision, neighbour contact, good communication, visibility of services such as police & council). The Covid19 pandemic has had a huge impact on society in a number of ways and it has influenced people's feelings of safety, with more concerns relating Covid specific issues such as wearing of masks, social distancing and vaccination but also in relation to feelings of isolation/mental health. Whilst it is impossible to predict, it is likely Covid19 will continue to influence feelings of safety, particularly during the transition through the Government Road Map.

## **9.0 Future Challenges**

Covid-19 has had a significant impact globally, nationally and locally. It has change lifestyles and has resulted in increased vulnerability in the home, poverty, isolation and health and wellbeing impacts. Service delivery has altered and the pandemic has produced a substantial digital legacy which not only brings benefits but increases vulnerability, provides criminal opportunities, assists with organised crime, increases the perception of crime and ASB issues and provides exploitation risk.

**July 2021**

The Community and Voluntary Organisations that provide vital support to communities are facing financial and operational challenges due to changes in income, volunteer capacity, service demand and delivery models.

The forthcoming challenges in Gosport reflect a national picture of a changed society, a post Covid response, complex and organised criminality, a rise in higher harm violent crime, a focus on violence and intimidation towards women and continued threat of terrorism.

## **10.0 Gosport CSP Priorities**

The mission of the CSP is to 'improve the safety of Gosport communities'. The Partnership will aim to deliver this by continuing to focus on the following priorities, with underpinning actions reflective of the findings of this strategic assessment:

- Vulnerability
- ASB
- Community Confidence

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