

# Ashfield Community Safety Partnership

Who we are, how we work  
and what we achieve



**Respect**  
for Ashfield

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## **The aim of this booklet**

Welcome to this booklet which has been produced by Ashfield Community Safety Partnership (ACSP) to briefly explain what the Partnership is, who is involved, what it aims to achieve and how it works to succeed in these aims.

It provides examples of the Partnership's work and shows some of the results and outcomes achieved.

It ends with a look at some of the actions being delivered during the current year, 2012/13.

## **What the Partnership is**

Ashfield Community Safety Partnership was set up by law under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

It is the role of the partnership to coordinate the activities of those agencies who deliver services to keep people safe in Ashfield so that a better, more joined up and effective approach is taken.

Partnership working means that expertise, information, resources and costs are shared, increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

## **Who is involved**

ACSP involves a wide range of organisations, some of which are responsible authorities and others which play key roles within our communities.

### **The responsible authorities are:**

Nottinghamshire Police  
Ashfield District Council  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service  
NHS Nottinghamshire County  
Nottinghamshire Probation Trust

### **Other members of the Partnership include:**

Ashfield Homes  
Women's Aid Integrated Services (WAIS)  
Elected Members  
Third sector organisations  
Positive Futures  
Registered Social Landlords

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## **Our vision**

Ashfield Community Safety Partnership's vision is:

**"To work to make our communities safe and our residents feel safer"**

## **The way we work**

We work together on a set of joint priorities that are determined by a strategic assessment. This uses multi-agency crime figures and data as well as the findings of public surveys and research to identify the crime types that present most risk and threat.

Since 2011 the assessment has moved away from focus on individual crime types and moved towards geographic priorities. By focussing on geographic areas all of the crime types prevalent in that area can be addressed in a more holistic manner.

The Partnership Plan which covers the period from 2012 to 2015 is at the centre of this approach. It sets out what our shared priorities will be, what actions we are going to take to address them and how we will measure their success.

We have set up geographical action groups - covering what are known as Partnership Plus areas - with delivery plans that have been developed for the area concerned. Further details about the Partnership Plus areas can be found on P6 of this booklet.

The Partnership also has a number of themed action groups.

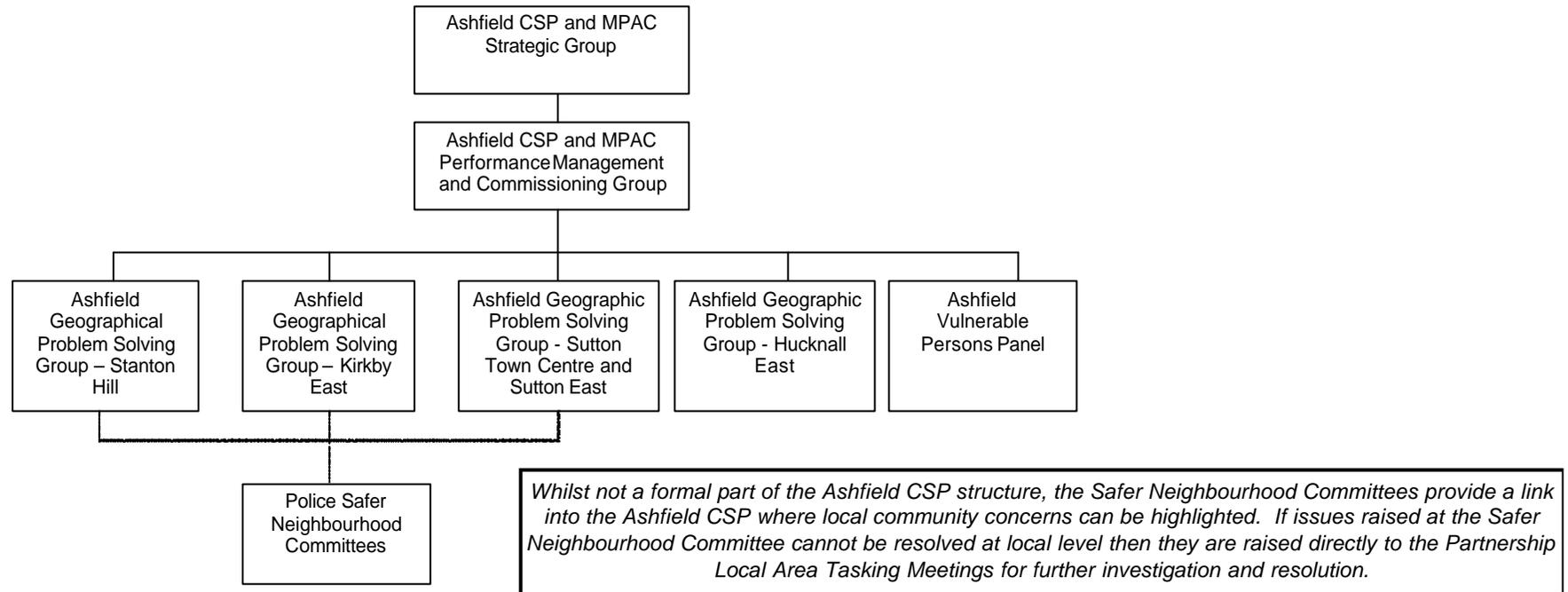
Copies of the ACSP Partnership Plan 2012 - 2015 can be viewed at [www.ashfield-dc.gov.uk](http://www.ashfield-dc.gov.uk)

## **Partnership Resources**

Partnership resources are agreed at both the Strategy Group and Performance Management and Commissioning Groups. (More details on partnership structure can be seen on page 4). The Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) agrees a budget at the beginning of the financial year for each Partnership Plus area. This is reviewed on an on-going basis to ensure the resources available to the Partnership are used effectively.

Each of the responsible authorities is required to be represented on the Strategic Group. In addition the Community Safety Portfolio Holder for Ashfield District Council is a statutory member.

# Ashfield Community Safety Partnership structure



## Our link with Mansfield Partnership Against Crime (MPAC)

Ashfield Community Safety Partnership and Mansfield Partnership Against Crime (MPAC) are the statutory Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) for each District. For some years, the two have worked jointly where appropriate in order to make best use of resources.

A review of support functions was undertaken to respond to likely reductions in resources for CSPs. This resulted in re-organisations managed by each authority and led to an agreement to share partnership posts across the two areas.

Since July 1st, 2011 therefore, the two CSPs have one small dedicated team of officers providing support functions. The posts are: Community Safety Officer; Analyst and Domestic Violence Co-ordinator.

This step has helped achieve greater efficiencies increased by having joint performance and steering groups for the two partnerships.

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## **The areas and themes we cover**

The 2012/13 Strategic Assessment as we explained on Page 4 moves towards geographic prioritisation, whereby thematic crime types for each geographical area can be addressed through an holistic action and delivery plan.

The thinking behind this is that causes of crime and disorder, as well as symptoms, can be addressed through this holistic approach and that, by focussing on the geographical areas that are suffering from the greatest impact of crime, the quality of life will improve.

Given current financial and resource concerns, this offers an efficient means of tackling crime; ensuring resources are targeted where they will have the largest impact on crime reductions and on communities.

### **Partnership Plus areas**

Community Safety funding which comes from the Home Office via the County Council is also given to the 15 areas in Nottinghamshire that it is felt will best benefit from a partnership approach to their issues.

These areas are called Partnership Plus areas and in Ashfield for 2012/13 we have five. They are: Hucknall East, Kirkby East, Stanton Hill, Sutton East and Sutton Town Centre.

The map on the opposite page shows the locations of these Partnership Plus areas.

We have action groups for these areas which meet regularly to plan, deliver and evaluate actions and projects. The groups focus on key crime types within the areas concerned.

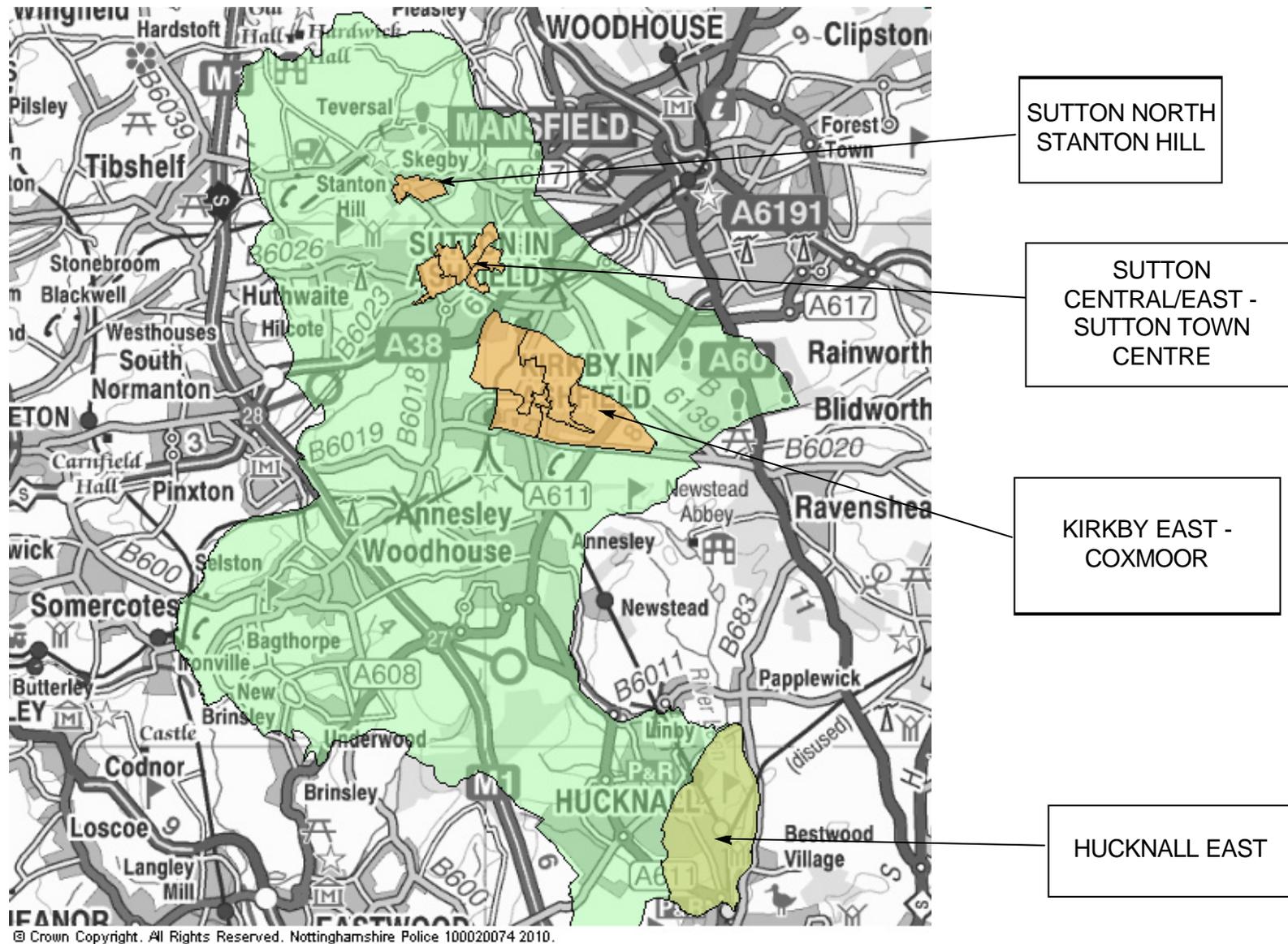
The key challenges identified through our strategic assessment in Ashfield are: Serious Acquisitive Crime, Violent Crime, Domestic Violence, Anti-Social Behaviour, Hate Crime, Drug and Alcohol Misuse and Youth Issues.

### **Other action groups**

In addition to the geographical groups, we have geographical enforcement meetings and the Ashfield Vulnerable Persons Panel.

There is also an Ashfield/Mansfield Domestic Abuse Working Group and an Alcohol Implementation Group.

# Map showing our Partnership Plus areas



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# **Samples of our work and the outcomes**

The projects which are briefly described on the next two pages are a very small sample of those delivered by Ashfield Community Safety Partnership's action groups and members over the previous year.

We aim to keep everyone up to date with we are doing and the results our work is achieving by producing newsletters, writing articles for partner publications and their websites and issuing press releases. We also attend or provide material for a range of community events.

## **Dragons' Den**

Priorities: Alcohol Misuse, Anti-Social Behaviour, Violent Crime, Youth-Issues

Noisy house parties, car accidents, playground scuffles and rape all featured in videos made by pupils from five of Ashfield's secondary schools for a Dragons' Den-style competition organised to raise awareness about the dangers of alcohol.

Co-ordinated by Ashfield Community Safety Partnership, the competition invited pupils to produce a short film, radio advert and video clip focusing on alcohol and violent behaviour. It was designed to encourage young people to think and talk about the effects and consequences of drinking alcohol.

Overall winner was Selston Arts & Community College whose team produced a film that included drink spiking, drunken aggression, physical abuse and loss of sense of danger as a result of being drunk.

The Selston team's film is now being shown in year 10 PSHE sessions, has been used in assemblies and on the canteen TVs and their sound bite aired on the community radio station Radio Salistune.



## **Darker Nights**

Priority: Acquisitive Crime

Reductions in house burglaries and car crime together with an increased number of arrests were achieved with the help of a project funded by Ashfield Community Safety Partnership.

The Darker Nights project saw extra plain clothes police patrols and use of a capture car to identify and catch offenders. As a direct result of the Darker Nights work, which ran from early December 2011 to March 2012, 36 arrests were made from which 24 individuals were charged with at least one offence.

Identification of offenders was then used in follow-up partnership work, including sharing information with housing providers and directing work of other services in connection with the individuals. The work focussed on Kirkby East and Sutton North, South and Central.

# Samples of our work and the outcomes

## Love is ...

Priority: Domestic Abuse

With the launch timed to coincide with Valentine's Day, a domestic abuse campaign used drinks mats and posters to make people think about relationships.

Rather than using images of victims, Nottinghamshire Women's Aid took a different approach. One side of the mats said: "Love is .... Caring Trusting Respectful Equal Supportive Non-violent" with a line at the bottom saying: "If love isn't". The flip side continued the message by providing details of where help is available together with emergency and help-line numbers.

A number of partner organisations were involved in the distribution and display of the materials including the police, Ashfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Sure Start Children's Centres and NHS Nottinghamshire County.



## Ashfield Safety Week

Priority: Anti-Social Behaviour, Youth Issues

Ashfield Safety Week based at Ashfield Fire station saw over 500 young people attend and receive safety information in the form of hands-on scenarios from the Police (personal safety) Notts Fire (arson and water safety) Notts. County Road Safety team (seat belts and road safety) St John Ambulance (recovery position) and Ashfield District Council Community Protection Officers (litter and ASB). Partnership funding was used for transport and catering.



## Clean-up events and diversionary activities

Priority: Anti-Social Behaviour, Youth Issues

The Partnership has supported a wide range of diversionary activities designed to provide young people with positive things to do and to divert them away from anti-social behaviour..

These have been delivered as stand-alone projects and also as part of community clean-up days involving Ashfield Homes, Ashfield District Council Community Protection Officers, Catch 22, and Ashfield District Council Leisure Officers. Anti-Social behaviour has decreased in the areas concerned and members of the community have anecdotally reported an increase in confidence and the way the area feels.



# What we have achieved

The table below shows significant reductions in crime achieved in Ashfield in 2011 - 12.

Indicator	Total in Baseline Year 2010-11 (What the target is measured against)	2011-12		2011-12 Year to Date Comparison (Apr 2010 - Mar 2011 compared to Apr 2011 - Mar 2012)	Actual volume reduction	Target end of year (March 2012)
		Percentage Reduction	End of year target figures			
Serious Acquisitive Crime	1435	-27.26%	1046	19.94% reduction	1148	Over 5% of meeting target
Dwelling Burglary	593	-18.50%	483	39.02% reduction	361	Better than target
Vehicle Crime	778	-32.90%	522	7.71% reduction	718	Over 5% of meeting target
Robbery	64	-36.10%	41	7.81% Increase	69	Over 5% of meeting target
VAP with Injury	943	-23.40%	722	25.90% reduction	701	Within 2% of meeting
All Crime	8675	-17.30%	7174	7.24% reduction	8042	Over 5% of meeting target
Anti Social Behaviour	6823	-10.00%	6141	8.91% reduction	6215	Within 1% of meeting

*While the Red Amber Green (RAG) status might make it look as if little has been achieved, the actual numbers show that significant reductions were made. For example a 25.90% reduction was achieved in VAP with injury, but even so the target was not reached. The targets set were extremely stretching and it is this that has impacted on the RAG results.*

## Key reductions

As can be seen in the table above, we have achieved significant reductions across all the strategic priorities including violent crime; serious acquisitive crime which includes domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery, violence against a person with injury and anti-social behaviour.

We have made a number of reductions in key areas over 2011-12. At the end of the financial year:

Serious Acquisitive Crime had seen significant reductions of 19.94% reduction.

Dwelling Burglary had seen a staggering 39.02% reduction, achieving better than the demanding target.

We achieved a significant vehicle crime percentage reduction of 11.24 %.

Violence against a Person with Injury has seen great achievements with cuts of 25.90% which means there were 701 fewer victims of violence in Ashfield.

**These results speak for themselves and demonstrate the success that we are having through a joined up partnership approach.**

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# What we are doing in 2012/13

For each of the priority areas we:

- Have established monthly multi-activity problem solving groups in each of the priority areas;
- Are delivering initiatives from an agreed range of strategies and interventions to reduce crime as informed by our robust analysis and research.

The list below gives examples of what we are doing/plan to do for each priority in 2012/13. It is not exhaustive and we will adjust our activities and projects to respond to problems as they arise.

## Reduce Acquisitive Crime

Deploy a capture car on hot spot streets at key times.  
Fit free burglar alarms as required in identified premises for victims within hot spot streets of target area.

## Reduce incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Continue work on a Selective Licensing Pilot under the provisions of the Housing Act 2004 Part 3 for designated streets.  
Utilise a noise monitor with CCTV recorder and sound in locations of noise complaints with ASB.  
Increase pro-active garden clean ups - with consideration of enforcement action for non compliance.

## Reduce Incidents of Domestic Violence

Make domestic abuse information available within health venues including GP practices.  
Deliver the Freedom Programme for women at venues including children's centres.

## Reduce Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Work with off-licensed premises to implement a systematic approach to

reduce opportunities for young people to access alcohol and other age restricted products.

Take robust coordinated enforcement action against any individuals and off-licences where intelligence indicates they are deliberately acting to supply young people alcohol or fail to follow advice and assistance on ways to prevent access to alcohol or other age restricted products.

## Reduce Hate Crime Incidents

Support victims through the Ashfield Vulnerable Persons Panel.  
Increase awareness of what a hate incident is and the reporting procedures amongst partners and community members in all agencies.

## Reduce Violent Crime

Continue to support the Street Pastors project in Hucknall.  
Provide a high visibility police presence during key times and on key dates.

## Youth Issues

Implement Dragons' Den 4 across all secondary schools in Ashfield with the theme of cyber bullying.  
Provide coaching sessions for young people on Morven Park - for bmx, free running, slack-lining etc.  
Positive Futures/Catch 22 - deliver initiatives across the Ashfield Partnership Plus areas to include delivery of the Sports Leader award.

## Increase communication about Partnership work

Produce regular newsletters for communities.  
Update the Partnership web pages and refresh on an on-going basis.

Look out for these and keep up to date with news about our work through our newsletters, press releases, partner websites including that of Ashfield District Council and by talking to us at the events we attend.

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# CONTACT DETAILS

To contact Ashfield Community Safety Partnership, please use the following details:

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*Front cover images clockwise from bottom left:  
Dragons' Den competitors prepare to present to the panel at The Arrow Centre; White Ribbon display by Nottinghamshire Women's Aid in Ashfield District Council reception area; young residents help Community Protection Officers at a clean-up event; a gate installed to cut ASB as a result of a gating order on the Carsic estate in Sutton; Hucknall Street Pastors at work in Hucknall town centre; and diversionary activities at Stanton Hill.*