

Bath and North East Somerset Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (2025–2029)

Foreword

This strategy sets out our collective commitment to reducing crime and disorder across Bath and North East Somerset. It reflects the shared vision of our community safety partners and the voices of our residents. Together, we aim to build safer, stronger, and more resilient communities.

Background

Bath and North East Somerset has a diverse population and unique challenges in community safety. This strategy builds on previous initiatives and incorporates the latest data, research, and best practices. It is informed by local consultations and aligns with regional and national priorities.

Legislative Requirement for the Strategy

This strategy is developed in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which requires local authorities and their partners to work together to reduce crime and disorder. It also aligns with the Police and Crime Plan and other statutory frameworks guiding community safety and safeguarding.

Vision

To create safer, stronger, and more resilient communities across Bath and North East Somerset by reducing crime, disorder, and the fear of crime through collaborative, evidence-based approaches.

Strategic Objectives

Prevent and Reduce Serious Violence

- Expand multi-agency interventions through the Violence Reduction Partnership.
- Target hotspots identified in crime data (e.g., Beechen Cliff, Oldfield Park).
- Support trauma-informed practices and early intervention for at-risk youth.

Tackle Domestic Abuse and Safeguard Vulnerable Individuals

- Secure long-term funding for domestic abuse services.
- Strengthen safeguarding frameworks for children and adults through BCSSP.

- Promote whole-family approaches and improve practitioner confidence in safeguarding laws.

Address Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental Crime

- Enhance community reporting mechanisms and rapid response teams.
- Use data-driven approaches to identify repeat locations and offenders.
- Integrate environmental crime (e.g., fly-tipping) into community safety priorities.

Improve Community Engagement and Public Confidence

- Develop local forums and digital platforms for community feedback.
- Increase visibility of neighbourhood policing and community wardens.
- Promote transparency through regular publication of crime data and outcomes.

Strengthen Multi-Agency Collaboration

- The strategy is delivered through the Bath & North East Somerset Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP), comprising:
 - Police
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Local Authorities
 - Health Partners
 - Probation Services
- Align local priorities with the Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Plan.
- Share intelligence and resources across health, education, housing, and justice sectors.

Key Priorities (2025–2029)

Priority Area	Description
Violence Reduction	Targeted interventions in high-crime areas, youth diversion, and trauma-informed care.
Domestic Abuse	Prevention, survivor support, and multi-agency safeguarding.
Anti-Social Behaviour	Community-led responses, hotspot policing, and environmental enforcement.
Safeguarding	Whole-family approaches, exploitation prevention, and adult self-neglect support.
Community Empowerment	Public engagement, data transparency, and confidence-building initiatives.

Performance Indicators

- Reduction in violent crime incidents in top 5 hotspot wards.

- Consistent or increase in domestic abuse survivor support service uptake.
- Decrease in repeat anti-social behaviour reports.
- Improved public perception of safety (via annual surveys).
- Increased multi-agency referrals and joint operations.

Funding and Resources

- Leverage Home Office funding secured for violence reduction.
- Explore additional grants and public-private partnerships.

Governance and Review

- The strategy is implemented via the Community Safety Partnership Work Plan.
- Strategy overseen by the Bath & North East Somerset Community Safety and Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP).
- Annual review and public consultation to ensure relevance and responsiveness.
- Transparent reporting through council and police channels.
- Alignment with regional and national plans ensures consistency and effectiveness.

Alignment with Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Plan (2024–2029)

- **Strengthen Neighbourhood Policing:** The strategy emphasises visible policing, community engagement, and tackling anti-social behaviour, mirroring the Police and Crime Plan's focus on neighbourhood visibility and public confidence.
- **Reduce Violent Crime:** The strategy supports targeted violence reduction in hotspots, trauma-informed youth interventions, and multi-agency collaboration, aligning with priorities on gendered violence against women and girls, youth violence, and knife crime.
- **Prevent Crime:** The strategy promotes early intervention, education, and diversionary activities, consistent with the Police and Crime Plan's emphasis on proactive crime prevention.
- **Support Victims:** The strategy includes survivor support services, safeguarding frameworks, and whole-family approaches, directly supporting the Police and Crime Plan's goal to improve services for victims of domestic abuse, sexual violence, and ASB.
- **Improve Standards of Policing:** The strategy fosters transparency, performance indicators, and community engagement, contributing to public trust and accountability as outlined in the Police and Crime Plan.

Strategy Timeline (2025–2029)

The following timeline outlines key milestones for the implementation, review, and evaluation of the Bath and North East Somerset Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (2025–2029).

