

The Banbridge District Community Safety Partnership was formed in February 2003 following the Review of The Criminal Justice System in Northern Ireland (2000). This is the first Community Safety Strategy to be published by Banbridge District CSP.

This strategy has been produced following an audit of community safety issues across Banbridge and consultation with partner agencies and the community.

This strategy will focus the work of the partnership for the next three years. By setting ourselves demanding and challenging targets we will strive towards our vision of making Banbridge a healthy, inclusive, prosperous and safe environment for all those who reside, work and visit within the district.

OUR PURPOSE

For the Banbridge District to become a safer environment, to reduce the incidence of crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, improve the quality of life for all and promote local confidence in voicing opinions.

For a copy of the Community Safety Strategy contact us at:

The Community Safety Partnership
Civic Building
Downshire Road Banbridge
Co Down BT32 3JY

T 028 4066 0609
E csp@banbridge.gov.uk

Further information about NI-wide community safety issues may be obtained by contacting the NIO Community Safety Unit:

NIO Community Safety Unit
Millennium House
Great Victoria Street
Belfast BT2 7AQ

T 028 9082 8555
F 028 9082 8556
www.communitysafetyni.gov.uk

Other useful contact numbers:

Banbridge PSNI
T 028 4066 2222

Crime Stoppers
T 0800 555 111

Victim Support
T 028 3025 1321

Banbridge Domestic Violence Drop-in Centre
T 07731 394 297

Banbridge NIHE
T 028 4066 2721

Alternative formats including Braille, large print, disc, audio cassette or other languages are available on request.



Northern Ireland Office



COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY
2005-2008



BANBRIDGE DISTRICT
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
DEVELOPING SAFER COMMUNITIES

OUR PRIORITIES

Community safety priorities in the Banbridge District are:

- fear of crime;
- offences against individuals including domestic violence;
- youths causing annoyance;
- anti-social behaviour;
- business and retail crime;
- domestic burglary and distraction burglary;
- drugs, substance and alcohol abuse.

This local strategy has reflected local circumstances and issues whilst taking account of the nine key issues identified in the NI Community Safety Strategy:

- car crime;
- domestic burglary;
- business & retail crime;
- offences against individuals, particularly domestic violence and sexual assault;
- youth offending & reducing criminality;
- offences motivated by prejudice and hatred;
- drug, substance & alcohol abuse;
- anti-social behaviour and low-level neighbourhood disorder;
- fear of crime amongst older people, vulnerable adults and children;

COMMUNITY SAFETY AUDIT: MAIN FINDINGS

- Banbridge ranked 16 out of the 26 districts with 1 having the highest level of crime.
- a high level of anti-social behaviour was reported in Banbridge town centre at night, as well as a large proportion of offences against the person;
- the number of incidents involving domestic violence in Banbridge is higher than the Northern Ireland average;
- youths causing annoyance was highlighted as one of the most common problems;
- the elderly experience the highest level of fear of crime;
- many victims of crime are not aware of the support available to them;
- dog fouling, noise and litter are the most common anti-social behaviour problems;
- in Banbridge many incidences of crime are unreported.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO

- impact positively upon the reporting of crime;
- address crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour;
- implement reciprocal communication systems;
- impact positively on the quality of life of residents.



PROGRESS/ ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

As of March 2005:

- Community Watch Initiatives in Gilford, Laurencetown and Scarva;
- Community Watch: Primrose Gardens, Legions Court and Downshire Gardens;
- Rural Watch, Kinallen;
- safer play area, Lissize;
- education programme on solvent abuse;
- Radio Link scheme;
- domestic violence drop-in centre;
- tackling fear of crime amongst the vulnerable;
- marshalling training for bonfires;
- marshalling equipment for bonfires;
- Get Home Safe scheme;
- Cross-Border Community Safety Network;
- Mary Adams Memorial Homes security fence;
- youth project tackling alcohol abuse;
- Kinallen Youth Project.