

Communities Scrutiny Panel

DATE	27 th February 2025
REPORT OF	Carolina Borgstrom – Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure
SUBJECT	Safer Streets 5 Annual Review
STATUS	Open

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

This report contributes to the Council's strategic aims; in particular three outcomes which benefit the people in North East Lincolnshire, namely to:-

- Enjoy good health and wellbeing.
- Benefit from a strong local economy.
- Live in a safe environment, and have their say about things that are important to them and participate fully in their communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safer Streets 5 is funded through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and supports the reduction of crime and disorder within the Grimsby Town centre. There are 5 interventions supporting this programme as follows: -

- To develop a youth hub in the centre of Grimsby town centre to divert young people away from causing Anti-social Behaviour and crime.
- To improve Business security by enhancing the Grimsby Retail in Partnership (GRIP) programme to include licenced premises.
- To enhance the street scene and improve the perception of the town centre as a safe place free of crime and disorder.
- To enhance the night time street scene in support of the Night Time Economy (NTE) and Violence Against Women Girls (VAWG) agendas
- To improve the visible aesthetics of the town centre area by removing graffiti and working with graffiti artists to provide a safe place for them to tag.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Communities Scrutiny Panel members are asked to:

1. Note the Safer Streets 5 annual review as set out in the appendix.
2. Make any recommendations that can be forwarded to the Safer Streets 5 Delivery Manager and the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities for consideration.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 1.1. As set out in the appendix, historically, Grimsby Town centre has experienced many calls for service in relation to crime and anti-social behaviour, including retail theft and acts of violence both in the day and night time economy. Young people have historically congregated in the town centre, and this in turn created concern for members of the public, with many perceiving that the young people were committing offences which was more than often not the case, but still had the effect of driving up the fear of crime.
- 1.2. There were also daily reports of street drinkers causing public disorder, rough sleepers and aggressive begging, all creating an unsafe environment within the town centre. Graffiti was also a problem within the town centre especially with commercial property voids.
- 1.3. More recently the Town Centre has begun to benefit from a substantial amount of government funding that has seen the redevelopment of St. James Square and Riverhead Square, and wider regeneration projects in train such as the forthcoming Leisure Scheme, redevelopment of St. James House and Horizon Youth Zone.
- 1.4. The Safer Streets 5 initiative was developed and funded to support the physical regeneration by aiming to provide a safer environment for people working in and visiting the Town Centre.
- 1.5. Therefore, the project devised a collective of 5 interventions all dovetailing each other to create a community safety plan to minimise the threat of crime and disorder in the town centre.
- 1.6. The Safer Streets 5 Annual review (appendix) highlights the work that has been developed and delivered by the partnership in answer to the issues identified, and details the outcomes achieved to date. Due to the success of the project funding has been extended to cover the full financial year of 25-26 which will enable wider investment to be sought for future years.

2. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- 2.1. This programme of activity has been extended to cover 25-26 financial year and will deliver the same interventions as detailed above, this extension has been possible through further external grant funding (UK shared prosperity Fund) and wider aspects being supported through core budget such as the HAVEN centre for young people.
- 2.2. Wider funding will be sought for 26-27. If funding is not identified, there does remain a risk that some of the initiatives will be undeliverable which in turn could lead to an increased incidents and perception of crime and anti-social behaviour. However, there remains robust strategic mechanisms in place where funding opportunities can be discussed mitigating the chances of initiatives ceasing at the end of 26-27.

3. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. The actions taken within this programme have proven very successful to date, especially those relating to the reductions of crime and disorder, which have included the deployment of Town Centre Uniformed Marshals enforcing the Public Space Protection Orders, the Violence Against Women and Girls Town Centre Ambassadors, additional CCTV capability, supported by the Grimsby West Local Policing Team.
- 3.2. All crime reductions achieved through this operation are detailed within the Safer Streets 5 annual review (appendix).
- 3.3. The above actions have resulted in a number of positive joint comms releases by the Council and Humberside Police, which has had a positive reputational affect.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. This programme of activities has been funded through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside, Activation Funding, UK Shared Prosperity Funding and a small amount of Youth Justice Grant funding.
- 4.2. Recently the HAVEN centre has been fully supported by asset management as it has been identified as a key council service building.

5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The HAVEN centre was developed to offer young people somewhere to go in the town centre to reduce youth related ASB. This centre has been extremely successful with many young people attending the activities.
- 5.2. The HAVEN centre has been developed further by the Council's Young and Safe, Youth Engagement team in collaboration with the development of the Horizon Youth Zone.
- 5.3. Regular meetings have been convened to ensure collaboration between the Council and Horizon Youth Zone in the development of a systematic youth offer from universal to targeted for all children of the borough. It is key to ensure duplication of services is avoided.
- 5.4. The town centre enforcement process through the Public Space Protection Orders is adult related as no child can be issued with a fixed penalty ticket. For children caught breaching legal orders, prevention and diversion is always developed.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. There are no perceived implications on climate change relating from this report. Environmental implications are detailed in the main body of the report.

7. MONITORING COMMENTS

- 7.1. In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources (people, finance or physical assets). As a result, no monitoring comments have been sought from the Council's Monitoring Officer (Chief Legal Officer), Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) or Strategic Workforce Lead.

8. WARD IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. This project is concentrated on the West Marsh ward of the borough; however this being the commercial element of the ward.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1. Safer Streets Annual report (appendix).

10. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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Carolina Borgstrom
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10/1/2024

Safer Streets 5 Annual review Oct 23 – Sept 24



Paul Caswell (NELC) Head of Safer Towns and
Communities
North East Lincolnshire Council

Safer Streets 5 Project Summary – Historical Context

Historically, the top town area of Grimsby has experienced many calls for service for all age related anti-social behaviour and crime, especially retail theft and acts of violence both in the day and night time economy. Young people have historically congregated in the town centre, and this in turn created concern for members of the public, with many perceiving that the young people were committing offences which was more than often not the case, but still had the effect of driving up the fear of crime. Several joint problem-solving initiatives have taken place in the town centre during 2024 with the aim of engaging young people and reducing youth related crime and anti-social behaviour. However, whilst prevention measures can play their part, it was acknowledged that there was nowhere for young people to congregate, with the Youth Zone development not due to open its doors until late in 2025.

There were also reports of street drinkers causing public order, rough sleepers and aggressive begging, all adding to a perceived unsafe environment within the town centre. Graffiti was also a problem within the town centre especially with disused commercial properties.

This negative picture and perception brought on scrutiny of both Humberside Police and the Councils engagement and enforcement tactics, both reactive and proactive in tackling these issues. The Town Centre has also benefited from millions of pounds of external funding from central government in respect of levelling up, regeneration and heritage funding with work ongoing and it was imperative that as well as the physical regeneration taking place, people were able to feel safe when visiting and enjoy what the town centre has to offer.

Safer Streets 5 Programme

In this context Safer Streets 5 was developed with the purpose of making the town centre safer for people to shop, socialise and enjoy visiting in their spare time. The Safer Streets 5 programme primary aims were to directly tackle Crime & Disorder and Violence Against Women and Girls.

The project devised a collective of 5 interventions all dovetailing each other to create a community safety plan to minimise the threat of crime and disorder in the town centre as below:-

- To develop a youth hub in the centre of Grimsby town centre to divert young people away from causing ASB and crime.
- To improve Business security by enhancing the Grimsby Retail in Partnership (GRIP) programme to include licenced premises.
- To enhance the street scene and improve the perception of the town centre as a safe place free of crime and disorder.
- To enhance the night time street scene in support of the Night Time Economy (NTE) and Violence Against Women Girls (VAWG) agendas
- To improve the visible aesthetics of the town centre area by removing graffiti and working with graffiti artists to provide a safe place for them to tag.

PROGRESS

Intervention 1 - The Haven



Since opening in Jan 2024, The Haven has steadily grown and has developed into a safe space for young people to access services and build relationships with trusted adults. From initially attracting a small amount of young people, the centre has grown month by month, increasing its attendance, even during what are historically the quieter summer months. Over the 10 months since its opening, there have been **1487** attendances over **115** sessions. The centre now sees over **200** young people come to the drop in youth clubs every month.



After consultation with young people and professionals it was felt that consistency was important and that regular sessions were important to young people and allowed them to build trusted relationships with regular staff. The Haven Centre has consistently opened on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings as advertised and has so far not had to close for a single session over the last 4 months. The centre has now expanded to a Saturday afternoon session thanks to establishing a core group of staff and bank of casual youth workers. This further session attracts younger children and offers them a free activity over the weekend and somewhere to go, away from home for support and a friendly face. The Haven Centre now runs **20** separate sessions a month, an increase of **100%** on the original **10** sessions a month when the centre first opened.



The Centre continues to offer a weekly drop in from “We Are with You” discussing drug & alcohol support and a weekly drop in from Young People Support Service for young people to come and gain advice around education, interview techniques and compiling a Curriculum Vitae.

The Centre regularly run pool tournaments, friendship bracelet making and video game competitions. In turn, this has given young people a sense of belonging, companionship with each other and allowed them to build relationships with a trusted adult. This is a primary motivator in helping young people through difficult times to go on to lead successful, happy lives. Local businesses support the centre in these competitions by providing free prizes, such as cinema or swimming tickets.

As part of the initiative to tackle anti-social behaviour in the town centre, the Haven held Graffiti Workshops throughout the Summer holidays. Young People were engaged in an art project that enabled them to be part of their community and provide something to improve the town that they live in, with the project culminating in the unveiling at St James’ Square. This project received match funding to the value of £12,000 from the High Street Accelerator Fund.





To see the media clip, please use this link. https://youtu.be/UMttUfY_Krs

As part of promoting the centre, Haven have created a Facebook and Instagram page as a way of communicating with young people, their families and professionals. The centre is currently running a 'Meet the Staff' feature where every week they post a picture of a specific staff member and what they offer at Haven. Due to this, Haven has had increased drop ins from children who have never previously accessed the centre, including young people looking for advice on college courses, how to access free contraception and information on how to sign up for support from "We Are with You".

Girls Group.

In response to reports around the lack of opportunity and aspirations for girls in North East Lincolnshire, Young & Safe has developed a girl's group specifically aimed at raising the confidence and expectations of young girls. The 8-week group focuses on image, external pressures and positive role modelling. At the end of the 8 weeks, the girls leave with an updated CV and 6 AQA (Assessment & Qualifications Alliance) qualifications.



Intervention 2 - Grimsby Retailers In Partnership (GRIP) support to communications - Licencing trade

GRIP was set up as a Community Interest Company in August 2019 and has been operating for 5 years. Initially focusing on Grimsby Town Centre, it offered a communication system using 2-way radios and a phone app to deliver an effective crime reduction scheme. It connects retailers, businesses, police teams, local authority officers and security workers to provide a safer shopping experience in Grimsby Town Centre for shop workers, shoppers, and visitors. It is a proactive member of the national #Operation Shop kind Campaign: Shop Kind (nbcc.police.uk)

GRIP successfully signed up 40 members in Grimsby Town Centre including both large and small retailers, the top town market, enforcement team, CCTV control room and the bus company Stagecoach. Briefing events have been held in the town centre, hosted by McDonald's whose franchisee holder is GRIP's Chair and proactively supports and promotes town centre businesses. GRIP representatives have also proactively engaged in days and weeks of action in the town centre.

When the town centre regeneration programme needed to engage and involve more businesses in its development work GRIP was commissioned to set up and host the Project 2025 Group. Its members include E-Factor, Abby's Shopping Centre, McDonalds and Wilkin Chapman solicitors. The 2025 Group has added value to GRIP membership and strengthened joined-up partnership working across Grimsby Town Centre between all partners in addition to supporting community safety work.

More recently, following investment from the Humberside Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Safer Street 5 programmes in the town centre, GRIP have now added 12 licensed premises to its membership with access to the GRIP radio network and the phone app. These members are supported by the Safer Street Ambassadors and Neighbourhood Policing Team officers when on duty and available in the evening up to 11pm.

All GRIP members are signed up to radio user protocols and comply with the requirements of the phone app operating license. GRIP is registered with Companies House, keeps membership information GDPR compliant and has an approved Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) with Humberside Police which was updated in January 2024.

The annual fee for new members is increasing to £300 to cover the increased radio and accessory costs. GRIP has a total membership of 95 at present covering 4 network areas, having rolled out into Freeman Street in 2022, Grimsby Road in 2023 and Cleethorpes in 2024 thanks to investment from Humberside OPCC's community safety fund. Each radio network area has support from a community support worker, security team member, and Neighbourhood Police Officers when issues arise and as part of routine briefings, drop-ins and days of action.

GRIP also takes part in the National Safer Business Week ensuring that each GRIP network area has its own bespoke support.

In Grimsby Town Centre GRIP Directors, other representatives and partners continue to promote GRIP's services, inviting members to complete feedback surveys and offering support and advice about how to prevent and reduce retail related crime including ASB towards shop workers and shoppers. The overall aim being to create a more connective and supportive retail community.

Intervention 3 a– Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

To reduce alcohol related crime and disorder within Grimsby Town Centre, it was agreed, through the development of the Safer Streets 5 programme, to review the current prohibitions within the ASB Public Space Protection Orders and include prohibitions around alcohol related incidents. The below details cover the process that the Council went through and what the PSPOs now cover.

There are seven Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) in place across North East Lincolnshire. Public consultation in 2023 identified anti-social behaviour as the public's number one concern and as having the largest negative impact on a community or neighbourhood if left unaddressed, and there was overwhelming support for the existing and amended PSPOs.

Geographical areas covered by the PSPOs include:

- Grimsby Town Centre
- Cleethorpes Town Centre and Seafront
- Cleethorpes Town Centre to North Sea Lane
- Peoples Park

- Cleethorpes Country Park
- Haverstoe Park
- Sidney Sussex Recreation Ground

These PSPOs are intended to support a wider intelligence-led place-based problem-solving approach to address ASB in defined geographical locations.

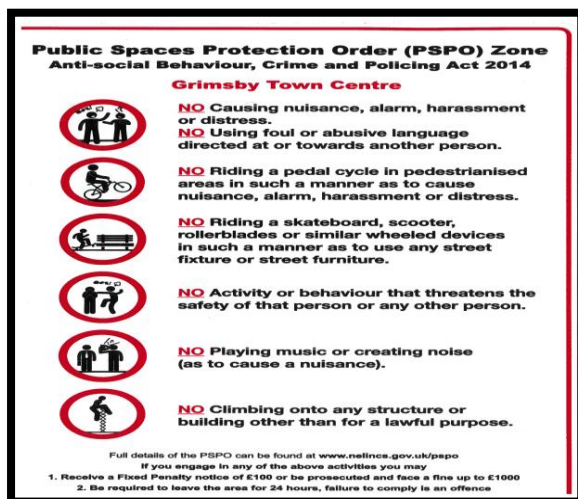
During 2024, after a public consultation exercise, conditions to control alcohol-related ASB were incorporated into the PSPOs covering Grimsby Town Centre, Peoples Park and Cleethorpes Town Centre & Seafront.

Each of the existing PSPOs have a variety of conditions to control location specific ASB issues. With regard to the proposal, the conditions are set out in Section 63 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014; the scope of the PSPO will state that whilst it is not an offence to consume alcohol within a “designated” area, a Police Constable or authorised person does have powers to control the consumption of alcohol within that place where they reasonably believe that a person:-

- Is or has been consuming alcohol in breach of the prohibition in a Public Spaces Protection Order, or
- Intends to consume alcohol in circumstances in which doing so would be a breach of such a prohibition where anti-social behaviour is likely to occur.

The constable or authorised person may require a person: -

- Not to consume alcohol in breach of the Order, or anything which the constable, or authorised person, reasonably believes to be alcohol. This means that there must be associated anti-social behaviour or a reasonable apprehension of such anti-social behaviour.
- To surrender anything which is, or which the constable, or authorised person, reasonably believes to be, alcohol, or a container for alcohol and may require that person to leave the area for up to 24 hours.

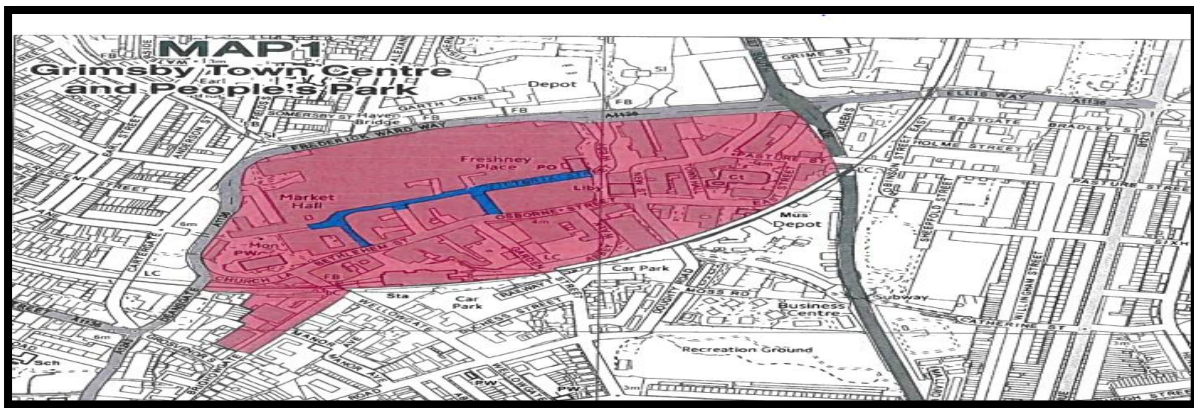


Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) are intended to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour in a local area that is detrimental to the community’s quality of life. They do so by imposing conditions on the use of that area to ensure everyone can use and enjoy public spaces without experiencing

nuisance and annoyance. Given the wide-ranging scope of a PSPO, they are used sparingly and only after every other option has been exhausted. Breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence subject to a fine on conviction of up to £1,000 however, you may be offered a fixed penalty notice (FPN) as an alternative to prosecution. Payment of the FPN discharges liability to conviction of the offence. The council works in partnership with the police to ensure the effective enforcement of PSPOs.

These PSPOs were renewed on the 14 July 2022 for a period of 3 years and varied on the 30 January 2024. If not renewed, or discharged, they would be due to expire on the 13 July 2025.

The anti-social behaviour that these PSPOs are intended to address is persistent, long term and recurrent and these orders are intended to improve the lives of residents and visitors to North East Lincolnshire. It is anticipated that an application will be made during 2025 to extend these PSPOs for a further 3 years due to their effectiveness. Below is the geographical footprint for Grimsby Town Centre with the blue highlighted line being Victoria St.



Alcohol related ASB. Grimsby Town Centre between Jan-Sep 2023 and Jan-Sep 2024

Grimsby Town Centre ASB with Alcohol Qualifiers between January-September 2023 and January-September 2024																			
Sum of Count	Year		MonthName												2023 Total	2024		2024 Total	Grand Total
Street Name	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug				
Bethlehem St	1				1	2		1	1		1			1			4	4	8
Frederick Ward Way					1												1		1
Freshney Pl					1												1		1
Friargate							1										1		1
Old Market Pl					2						1						2	1	3
Osborne St												1					1		1
St James Sq				3	4	1								1			8	1	9
Station Appr			1				1										2		2
Victoria St	2		1			1		1	1	1		2		2	1		4	8	12
Grand Total	3		1	1	4	8	5	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	1	23	15	38

Compared to Jan-Sep 2023, reported alcohol related incidents have fallen by 35% from 23 to 15 (-8). The hotspot areas were along Victoria Street, St James' Square and Bethlehem Street. The main Spring/Summer months have historically been the worst for the town centre.

This data clearly shows a reduction in alcohol related ASB. The below testament comes from the 2025 Group Grimsby Town Centre Ambassador who has engaged with local business regarding the impact of the PSPO in the town centre.

1. Positive Impact on Local Businesses:

The Hotel Manager of St James Hotel reported a particularly successful summer. Thanks to the enforcement of PSPOs, they experienced no disturbances from street drinkers, who had previously caused issues with their outdoor dining area. This has significantly enhanced the guest experience, promoting a more welcoming atmosphere for both locals and visitors alike.

2. Enhanced Town Centre Atmosphere:

From daily observations in the town centre, the overall atmosphere has visibly improved. The area feels safer, more relaxed, and less tense than in previous years, particularly during peak shopping times and in the evenings.

3. Feedback from Businesses:

Many local business owners and staff members have noted a reduction in tension and a greater sense of security. Employees, especially those leaving work late, feel reassured by the visible presence of Safer Street Ambassadors and Police Officers. Their presence, along with regular days of action has boosted the confidence of the workforce, who now feel the measures in place are actively protecting their well-being.

4. Building Relationships with Challenging Groups:

As the Town Centre Ambassador, I've worked closely with some of the more challenging groups in the town centre, including the homeless, street drinkers, and young people who have historically caused issues. Through forming relationships and taking the time to educate them about the impact of their behaviour, I've noticed improvements in how they conduct themselves in public spaces. Although there are still ongoing issues, this engagement has led to better overall behaviour and a more respectful use of the town centre. It's a step forward in fostering understanding and encouraging positive change.

5. Community Sentiment:

Members of the public have also expressed feeling more secure while shopping and visiting the town centre. They report that their fear and concerns about ASB have decreased significantly, with noticeable improvements in the overall environment over the last six months.

In conclusion, the implementation of PSPOs, coupled with relationship-building efforts and visible enforcement, has had a tangible, positive effect on both the local business community and the public. These initiatives are contributing to a safer, more enjoyable town centre experience for all.

Intervention 3 b – Police Hot Spot Patrols

For Safer Streets 5, the Local Policing Team have been reviewing data, engaging with the public and speaking with retailers to understand the issues and ensure resources are in the right location; targeting the right people. Policing activity within the 4 strands include:

Prepare

- Engagement with the public and stakeholders.

- Building trust and confidence and being involved in the regeneration discussion through the 2025 group and the high street accelerator strategic group.
- Using Safer Business Action days to engage and provide education and support the retail communities.

Prevent

- Hot spot patrolling and problem solving
- Using police data and retail engagement to identify locations of concern and ownership given to officers, ensuring resources are visible to prevent crime and reassure retailers.
- This is used in conjunction with problem solving to tackle the root cause of the problem.

Protect

- Using resources available to protect and deter offenders from our town centre. Such as plain-clothes proactive policing and passive drug dog use.
- Working with CCTV operators, town centre ambassadors and GRIP (Grimsby retailers in partnership) to do this.
- Area based tasking meetings are conducted to ensure a multi-agency response is used to ensure the right agencies are involved in any concern from initial identification.
- Risk Management meeting is also undertaken to discuss – across agencies, those that are causing the community the most harm

Pursue

- Where a suspect is identified ensuring the victim/ retailers have a voice and offenders are held to account, preventing re-offending in the future.
- Where the offender is a prolific and a repeat offender, targeted enforcement -this includes arrest, charges, remand and criminal behaviour orders.
- Where offenders are eligible for an OUT OF COURT RESOLUTION such as community resolution, community protection warning or conditional caution, we work with partners- such as “We are with You” to ensure we divert offenders away from criminality.

The Local Neighbourhood Policing Team for West Marsh include 4 Police Constables and 3 Police Community Support Officers- (2 Police Constables and 1 Police Community Support Officer are dedicated to the town centre).

As well as daily patrols, the team are committed monthly to 2 passive drug dog operations in the town centre and a multi-agency day of action with agencies and retailers, to combat escalating concerns and build trust and confidence between agencies, businesses and the community.

Between March and September 2024 there have been 6 full days of action and 13 passive drugs dog deployments. These operations and deployments are delivered within the town centre and are to directly tackle issues raised by the community in Grimsby Town centre. The current issues detailed by the business community and public include the below.

- Rough Sleepers
- Begging
- ASB Youth

- ASB- environmental (Littering, cycling, fly tipping)
- ASB Nuisance motor bikes and moving Road Traffic Offences
- Retail offending
- Cleanliness

The full days of action involve deploying resources from North East Lincolnshire Council's Anti-social Behaviour team, CCTV security team, Civil Enforcement Officers, Environmental Enforcement team and the Homeless team, (especially the Rough Sleeper Coordinator who works with Navigo and "We are with You"), Humberside Police, Equans and other partner agencies to combat the issues using Engagement, Explanation, Education, and Enforcement activities.

The primary focus of this operation is on Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and civil road traffic enforcement within the town centre, particularly Victoria Street and George Street. Uniformed Police officers are present to assist with those persistent offenders who will not stop when instructed to by WISE (Waste Investigation Support and Enforcement) officers. These offenders constantly cause issues for the officers and at times become verbally abusive and threatening.

The days of action also include the deployment of the Councils CCTV Tannoy system alerting members of the public that, under the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014, Officers have powers to issue penalty tickets to those not obeying the no cycling prohibition and littering. The CCTV Tannoys are located outside of the Post Office building, near to McDonald's and at the junction of the Bull Ring. The voice activation lasts for approximately 15 seconds and is on a 15-minute loop.

Civil Traffic Enforcement officers are also present in the George Street / Victoria Street area to enforce any moving traffic violations, with Police Officers present to support Officers in the event that identified offenders are abusive and obstructive in the execution of their lawful duties. CCTV operators also support this function.

"We are With You" also take part in the operation and support those vulnerable adults who are begging and rough sleeping.

The results taken are as below.

days of action and passive drug dog patrols.				
arrests	Stop searches	Positive sanctions	Fixed Penalty Tickets (PSPO)	traffic offences
25	203	24	55	32

This multi-agency delivery has recorded positive reductions in crimes committed within the town centre. The below crime details show April - October 23/24 compared to the same period 24/25.

Safer Streets Crime and Disorder			
Classification of crime	23-24	24-25	difference %
Overall crime	441	391	-11%
Violence against the person	148	124	-8%
theft	153	128	-8%

public order	64	55	-9%
robbery	7	3	-43%

SABA (Safer Business Action) month - March 2024

- In March there was a report of 460 offences of retail crime in North and North East Lincolnshire.
- This was 25.7% reduction from the previous month.
- 41.8% received a positive outcome which was 5% increase on the previous month.
- There were 384 store visits over the month of March. With advice given in relation to retail security and visibility.

These days have continued and gone from strength to strength....

A Further SABA week of action was held in October 24. The SABA / Op Mastery Day of action received feedback from residents on how they feel, whilst tackling crime in the area- to make retailers and shoppers feel safe.

Rough Sleeping concerns within the town centre.

The Town centre continues to attract several rough sleepers who have been identified for support and action. Whilst there are potential criminal and common law offences that will be investigated, the methodology is to provide support and signpost to specialist services. As such, the Council’s homeless team and the Rough Sleepers Coordinator are intrinsically involved in the whole development of this operation. This operation also delivers the below aspects:

- The temporary boarding up / security of any voids will be supported by Queensbury and Equans.
- The Councils Street Cleansing team who provide a full deep clean of the area following an operation.

Before



After



All aspects of the project are being covered in a film production by Hammond House Productions. Below is the link to the Q1 production.

[HSA Final \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSA-Final)

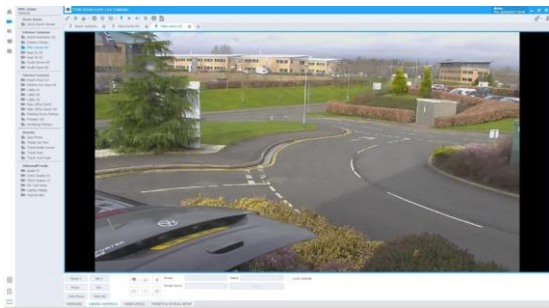
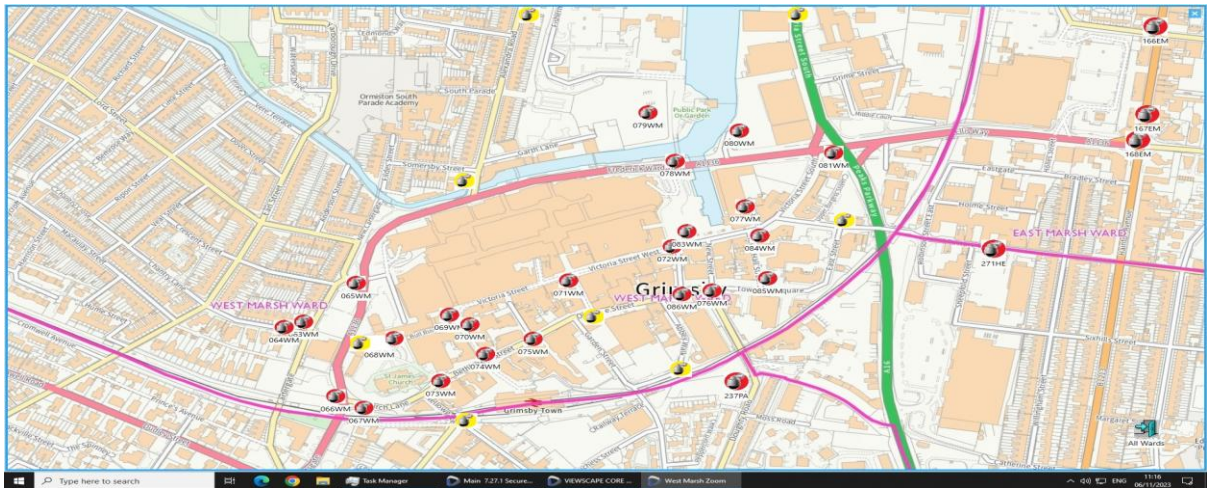
Intervention 3c – CCTV enhancement

Building on the success of the Council's £2.2m CCTV project in 2022, which saw the ageing CCTV network upgraded with a new state of the art control room, supporting 129 public facing CCTV cameras across the Borough. Safer Streets 5 enabled the CCTV operational group to complete a 'gap analysis' of possible blind spots in the Town Centre, consulting with CCTV operatives. Eight sites in and around the town centre were identified and in January 2024, eight new public facing CCTV cameras were installed, bringing the total number of Town Centre cameras to 36, at a cost of £73K. The town centre currently hosts 28% of the CCTV camera network across the Borough.

Control Room



Town Centre Camera Locations



To ensure a proactive use of the town centre CCTV enhancement, Safer Streets 5 funding has employed a dedicated CCTV security operative, who monitors the town centre cameras during the agreed working pattern Thursday – Sunday 1530 – 0130.

January 2024 to August 2024 Data

KPI	Grimsby Town Centre
Number of times CCTV has supported an incident involving emergency services.	559 (33% of overall support to incidents involving emergency services)
Number of incidents caught in progress by CCTV operatives and reported to Humberside Police	271 (48.5%)
Number of incidents captured on CCTV and supplied to Humberside Police	113 (42%)

CCTV supported 1690 incidents attended by emergency services across the Borough, 33% (559) of this activity was in Grimsby Town Centre.

The enhanced operating capabilities of the network of cameras has resulted in earlier detection of crime and Anti-social behaviour. Ultimately, this has allowed CCTV operatives to be proactive rather

than reactive. Of the 559 times CCTV supported an incident in the Town Centre, 48.5% of the incidents were captured in progress by CCTV operatives and reported to the Police.

This has seen major improvements in the way the control room and the Policing teams operate. They are able to react quickly and efficiently. Using these facilities to identify a potential threat, locate a suspect and with improved live tracking capabilities has enabled them to provide real, in time, information to officers on the ground, which is seeing positive results.

Events and incidents recorded in Grimsby Town Centre during this period includes, graffiti and damaged street furniture, anti-social behaviour, shop theft, violent disorder, drug dealing and reports of a person with a fire arm. The improved capabilities in tracking events, collating and archiving footage which is of a greater quality is reflected in the larger proportion of CCTV evidence supplied to Humberside Police. Of the 271 incidents caught in progress, 42% of footage was supplied to Humberside Police as evidence in support of a prosecution.

Intervention 4 – Violence Against Women and Girls

Safer Streets Ambassadors were introduced in Grimsby Town centre to help reduce incidents of violence against women and girls (VAWG) and increase feelings of safety and confidence in visiting the town centre at night.

The Ambassadors provide a reassuring, highly visible presence and early intervention on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings within the town centre. As well as patrolling the streets, they are linked to the CCTV control room and licenced premises through the Grimsby Retailers in Partnership (GRIP) radio scheme. Between December 2023 and August 2024, they have dealt with 153 incidents, supporting 141 females and 80 males, engaging with 2,812 people in total. This includes giving first aid whilst waiting for paramedics to arrive; walking vulnerable people to taxis, train stations or bus stops; supporting intoxicated people to plan a safe journey home; alerting Police and Health Services to missing people found; directing young people to the Haven hub and signposting people to other support services such as Harbour Place.

The Ambassadors are in frequent contact with the CCTV control room which operates a two-way process to both direct the Ambassadors to vulnerable individuals on the street and to respond to Ambassadors' requests for monitoring of ongoing situations. Similarly, licenced premises radio through to the Ambassadors for assistance escorting lone females to their onward travel. Whilst the Ambassadors are there to provide reassurance and are not employed in an enforcement role, they report criminal or suspicious activity through to the Police to deal with as appropriate.

In one incident, the Ambassadors helped to safeguard a young female who was vulnerable due to being intoxicated. She had on previous occasions, asked the Ambassadors to walk her to the bus stop and had built up a rapport with them. The Ambassadors arranged for a family member to pick her up but the young woman started to become erratic and threatened to harm herself. The Ambassadors



called for Police assistance and continued to stay with the woman, providing reassurance until Police attended and drove her home.

In another incident, the Ambassadors were approached by a woman who was looking for her daughter. A description was taken and passed on to CCTV. Through collaborative efforts, the girl was found and returned safely home with her mother.

In addition, Safer Streets 5 has funded the purchase of 500 personal safety keyrings which have been distributed to women and girls alongside promotion of the PCC funded Hollie Guard app licences.

Intervention 5 – cleanliness within the town centre.

Safer Streets 5 funding has supported the purchase of specialist materials for the street cleaning team to not only remove graffiti but also to preserve commissioned street art with an anti-graffiti resin. This was recently used on the street art now being displayed on the hoardings at St James’ house. The street cleaning team have also supported the diversion of rough sleepers by safely storing abandoned hazardous equipment, such as tents, but also washing down areas littered with human waste. This aspect has also been supporting the days of action on many occasions.

Safer Towns and Communities and the Street Cleaning team have formed an internal partnership to not only immediately identify graffiti and document it with photographic evidence, but also safely remove it to ensure the town centre is aesthetically pleasing to business owners and visitors alike.

This anti-graffiti team was set up in August 2023. The intention for this team going forward is to be part of a 4 on 4 off shift starting in October 2024 cleaning the street furniture, dual bins and bird mess as well as their current duties.

The team are dedicated to assisting in making the borough and especially the town centre cleaner and more vibrant place.

Town centre deep cleans monthly



Graffiti cleaning daily



Street cleaning supporting the prevention and detection of crime

- The CCTV team have obtained CCTV footage with good facial images which captured two males attacking the bridge.
- The same males were responsible for the graffiti of the lion at Weelsby wood, which were captured by CCTV
- 3 separate crimes
- 2 identified suspects for all 3 crimes
- Full investigation and out of court disposal delivered to the offenders.
- Street Cleaning have removed the graffiti



Next steps.

- Safer Streets (Operation Mastery) will continue to evolve through 2025 – 2026 with a determination to develop long term sustainability by ensuring the programme interventions become normal business for the organisations involved.
- The HAVEN centre has been adopted as a service location by NELC and will re-open in February 2025 at a new location of Queen Street, this supporting the opening and continued development of the Youth Zone.

- The Crime and Disorder aspect to the programme will continue as the local policing team have now adopted Operation Mastery as normal business for the town centre team concentrating on PSPO enforcement and the prevention and detection of crime. This supporting both the Sader Streets Ambassadors and the Town Centre Marshals.
- The communication aspect supporting GRIP in the town centre will continue to be developed alongside the Night Time Economy and Pub Watch.
- Cleanliness is a continued priority and as such the NELC street cleaning team will continue to support the days of action and ensuring the town centre is void of littering and graffiti.
- Safer Streets will continue to support other funding streams in the town centre such as the High Street Accelerator and Green Spaces fund through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.