



North East Lincolnshire

**Community Safety
Partnership**

Violence against women and girls

End of year report 2025-2026

What is violence against women and girls (VAWG)

VAWG is an umbrella term and includes crimes and behaviour such as rape and other sexual offences, domestic abuse, stalking, so-called honour based abuse (including female genital mutilation, forced marriage, and honour killings), as well as many others, including offences committed online.

We have adopted a Public Health Approach focusing on early intervention and prevention, supported across the Partnership and beyond to address the wider determinants of crime and community safety such as health, housing, social inequalities, skills and employment. We aspire to trauma awareness across our member organisations, acknowledging that trauma can be caused, overlooked, or amplified by our interactions with our residents.

The North East Lincolnshire VAWG task group has been established to raise awareness, engage with communities, provide education and training to groups, encourage provision of support and increase reporting. The task group meets bi monthly and works to an agreed action plan to ensure work streams are progressed.

Members include the Community Safety Partnership, the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, Humberside Police, North East Lincolnshire Council, representatives from education, Women's Aid, and Voluntary Sector organisations supporting local communities.



Franklin

Franklin Sixth Form College – Aspire Sessions (Year 12)

Once again we returned to Franklin Sixth Form college to deliver Aspire sessions to Year 12 students, focusing on banter, street harassment, and bystander intervention.

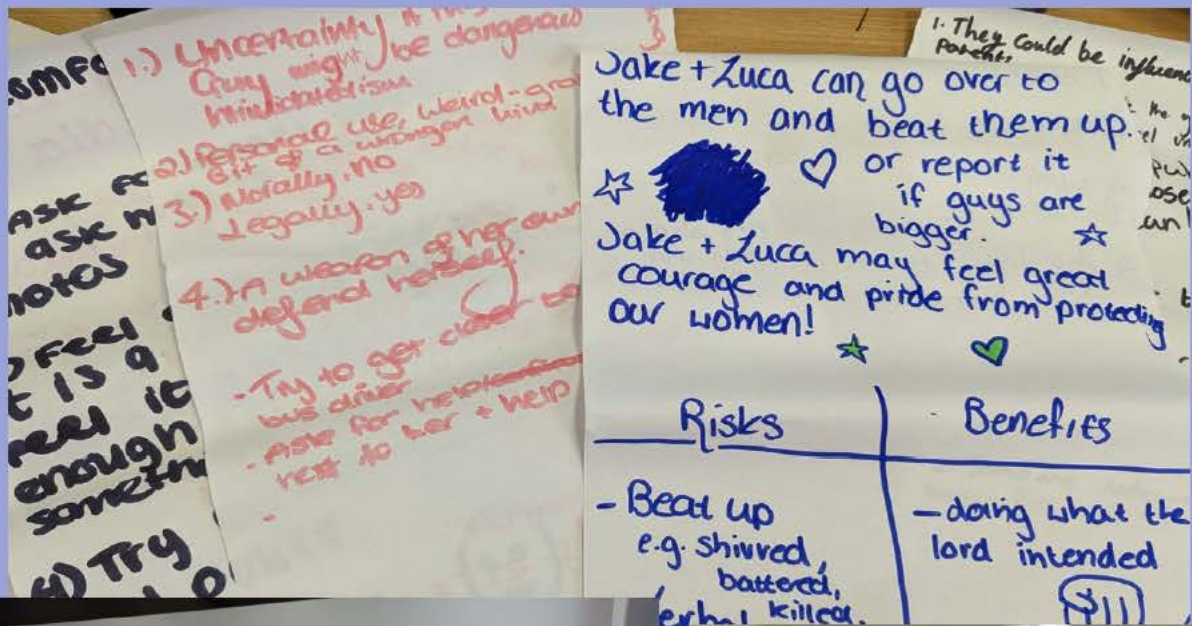
Across the week, we facilitated 21 sessions, totalling 31.5 hours of delivery.

The sessions created a safe and open space for discussion, and it was encouraging to see such high levels of engagement from students. We explored:

- The impact of “banter” and how it can cross into harmful behaviour
- Understanding street harassment and its real-world effects
- The role of bystanders and practical ways to safely intervene
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Students contributed throughout, some more than others, with valuable discussions and some honest reflections and challenge.

Overall, it was a good week, with positive engagement and meaningful conversations that supported awareness and encouraged responsible behaviours.



Franklin

Personal safety drop in

We visited Franklin with Beth from Humberside Police in October to speak with students about personal safety. We had some keyrings to give out and we promoted downloading the Hollie Guard App onto their phones.

Engaging directly with young people is really important to us. It helps build trust and confidence in local services, gives us the opportunity to challenge misconceptions, and supports students in feeling safer as they enjoy their daily lives.



Thrive Monday

We were invited to attend Franklin for their Thrive Monday in January. We spoke with students about personal safety, promoted the Hollie Guard app from the Hollie Gazzard Trust and distributed DrinkSafe drink toppers to support safer nights out and spoke to students about personal safety and keeping safe whilst enjoying a night out with friends.

We were also pleased to share postcards designed by Sarah Palmer, which proved very popular with the students.



Franklin

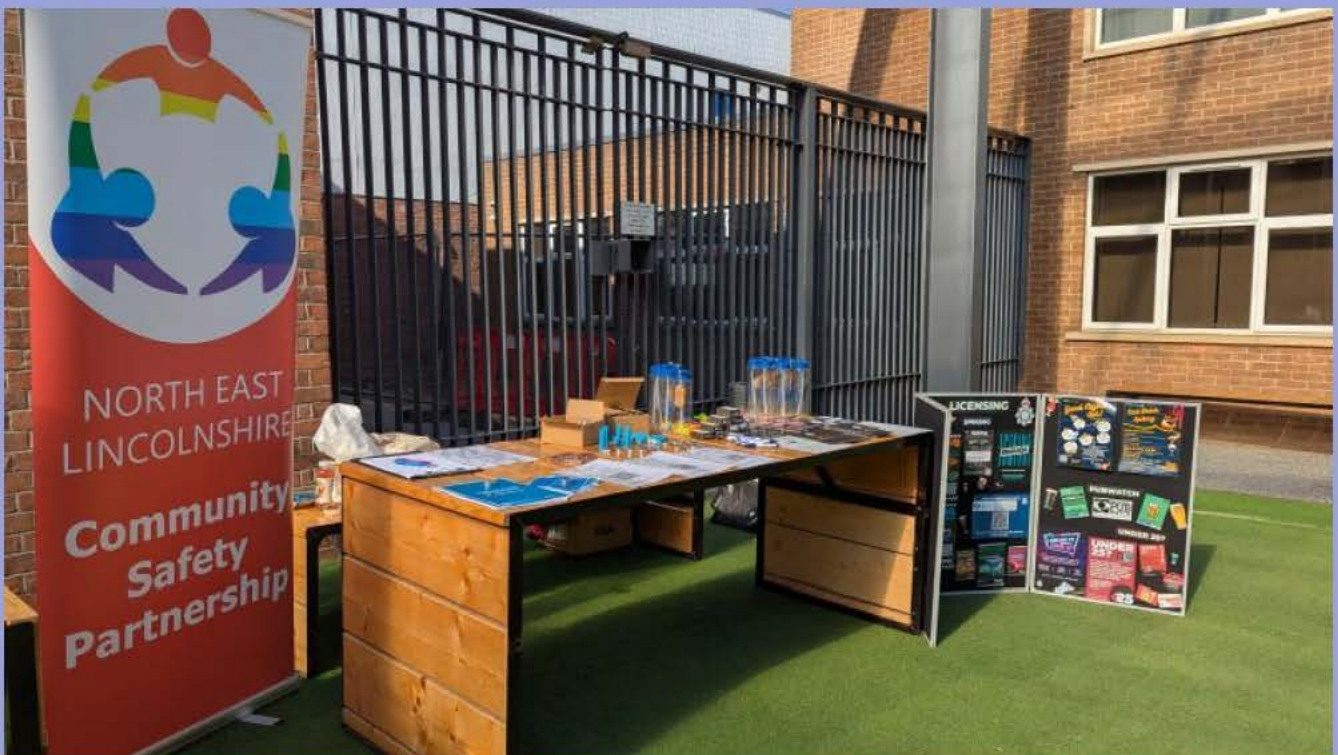
Franklin Keeping Safe Day

We visited Franklin College in September for their Keeping Safe Day, where we hosted a stand alongside Alison from Humberside Police.

We spoke with students about online safety, including the topic of nude image sharing, with a short anonymous survey for them to complete, helping us understand their perspectives while encouraging open and informed conversations. We also promoted Report Remove. Report Remove helps young people under 18 to confidentially report sexual images and videos of themselves and remove them from the internet.

Students who engaged with us also received some of our promotional items.

Alison spoke to students about staying safe on nights out, including promoting the Ask for Angela scheme and offering practical advice on safer drinking.



Getting Chatty with Hattie

Chatty with Hattie in Grimsby Town Centre



In December we were out in Grimsby town centre delivering our “Chatty with Hattie” engagement sessions alongside partners from Stagecoach Group Limited, North East Lincolnshire Council, Freshney Place, and Humberside Police.

During the sessions, we spoke with shoppers about feeling safe when travelling by bus, while also raising awareness of the Strut Safe initiative. Strut Safe is a UK-wide support line designed to help people feel safer when walking alone. Volunteers provide a friendly voice on the phone, offering reassurance and company until callers reach their destination safely.

It was great to speak with members of the public, share safety advice, and promote practical support available within the community.

**Making your way
home alone?**

**From
bus
door**



**to
front
door**
we've
got you

Feel unsafe on the bus or at the stop? Go to the driver and **#AskForAngelStreet**
Walking home? Call **Strut Safe** for a friendly voice until you're through the door.
0333 335 0026

 **Stagecoach** in partnership with



 **NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE
Community Safety Partnership**

Supporting Workplace Safety Across North East Lincolnshire

In partnership with Humberside Police and North East Lincolnshire Council, we've been working to promote personal safety in the workplace, with a particular focus on lone workers, and especially female lone workers.

Through this collaborative approach, we've been sharing practical advice and raising awareness of the simple steps individuals and organisations can take to help ensure people feel safer and more confident while at work.

This work continues to highlight the importance of partnership working and the positive impact it can have across our communities. It brings a real sense of pride to know that these efforts are helping to make a meaningful difference to people's day-to-day experiences.



WELLNESS
IN THE 
WORKPLACE

**HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT
EMPLOYEE SAFETY AND WELLNESS?**

MAKING THESE SMALL CHANGES CAN CHANGE A LOT

- ✓ Think about completing a risk assessment to identify potential hazards or risks, like travelling or lone working, then try to work with your employees to mitigate these risks.
- ✓ Think about having code words for your employees to use if they feel unsafe or at risk.
- ✓ If possible, create a buddy system if staff are lone working or working late.
- ✓ Create an environment where employees feel safe to voice any concerns and encourage them to suggest improvements.
- ✓ Have regular check ins or one to ones with staff. This helps to build trust so any issues will be shared with you.
- ✓ Check external lighting, solar PIR lights are inexpensive and can improve feelings of safety.



 **Strut safe**
Strut safe is a UK wide phone line - 0333 335 0026. If you are walking alone on Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights, then volunteers at Strut Safe will keep you company and help you get home.

 **Hollie Guard app**
Hollie Guard is an app that can track a person's location as they go about their day. If they feel unsafe, all they need to do is shake their phone to send an alert to a group of contacts to warn them that they may be in danger. Once the phone has been shook, it will then start recording both audio and visual footage of what's happening around them.

 **VAWG ambassadors**
If you're feeling worried or vulnerable in Grimsby town centre and need a friendly face then the violence against women and girls ambassadors are here to help. They work Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 4pm. They will wait with you until your taxi arrives or walk with you to the bus stop, taxi rank or train station.

TEC Partnership safeguarding week



In September we attended Grimsby Institute for their Safeguarding Week to deliver presentations to students on simple actions they can take to challenge harassment.

This is a really important topic to raise with young people, helping to build awareness of what harassment can look like and empowering them to respond in a safe and appropriate way. We focused on practical, everyday actions that anyone can take, reinforcing the message that everyone has a role to play in creating a respectful and safe environment.

Whether it's intervening directly, supporting a friend, or reporting concerns, we highlighted that even small actions can make a big difference. Importantly, we also emphasised that any response should always be based on what feels safe and comfortable for the individual.

It was great to see students engaging with the sessions and sharing their thoughts. We hope the conversations will stay with them and give them the confidence to challenge unacceptable behaviour where it is safe to do so.



Engagement

Engaging Businesses at #BusinessHiveLive 2025



In September we attended Business Hive Live 2025 at Forest Pines Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort, where we engaged with a wide range of local businesses and organisations from across the region.

During the event, we spoke with attendees about the importance of considering female personal safety in the workplace, sharing simple, practical measures that can be introduced at little to no cost. These included raising awareness, creating supportive environments, and encouraging staff to look out for one another.

It was a valuable opportunity to highlight how small changes can make a big difference, as well as to share advice and good practice.

Encouraging businesses to take proactive steps not only helps create safer workplaces, but also contributes to a stronger, more confident community overall.

Freshney Place Safer Day

In September we attended Freshney Place Shopping Centre to engage with shoppers and promote a range of personal safety initiatives designed to help people feel more confident when spending time in Grimsby town centre.

During the event, we spoke to members of the public about the Strut Safe support line, which offers reassurance and a friendly voice to anyone walking alone. We also highlighted the role of our Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Ambassadors, who are committed to promoting safety, awareness, and support within our community.

In addition, we encouraged people to download the Hollie Guard app, a practical tool that can help users quickly alert trusted contacts or emergency services if they feel unsafe.

All of these initiatives play an important role in creating a safer, more welcoming environment for everyone. By raising awareness and encouraging people to take simple steps to protect themselves and others, we hope to support increased confidence, helping more people enjoy everything our town centre has to offer.



Safer Transport Summit – Manchester

In October we caught the train across the incredibly scenic Pennines to attend the Department for Transport (DfT) Safer Streets, Safer Transport Summit in Manchester. The summit brought together partners from across the UK to share learning and best practice around safety on public transport.

The event featured a range of insightful speakers and provided a valuable opportunity to explore new approaches and ideas to support our work locally.

Key takeaways from the summit included:

- The importance of creating a hostile environment for perpetrators of sexual offences on public transport
- Shifting the burden away from victims by reducing administrative barriers, and ensuring that responsibility for prevention and detection sits firmly with authorities

It was a highly informative day, and we've returned with fresh ideas and renewed focus to help strengthen our ongoing work to improve safety across our communities. We also get well fed with breakfast, elevenses, lunch and afternoon tea, plus some fantastic freebies!



VAWG Ambassadors



The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Ambassadors play a key role in helping to improve feelings of safety and create a more welcoming environment within Grimsby town centre.

Through their highly visible presence within the night time economy, the ambassadors provide reassurance to those visiting, working, or enjoying a night out. Their work focuses on early intervention, offering support and guidance to anyone who may feel vulnerable, with a particular emphasis on supporting women and girls.

Ambassadors work closely with partners, including CCTV operators, local businesses and licensed venues, to respond quickly to requests for assistance. This joined-up approach ensures that help is available when it's needed most, contributing to a safer and more supportive town centre experience.

By investing in initiatives like this, we are demonstrating our ongoing commitment to tackling violence against women and girls, while also building confidence and encouraging more people to visit and enjoy Grimsby town centre and all that it has to offer.



White Ribbon



I PROMISE TO...
NEVER
USE, EXCUSE OR
REMAIN SILENT ABOUT
MEN'S VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN

Officers from the Community Safety Partnership are supporting North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) work towards White Ribbon accreditation. The White Ribbon campaign is a global movement dedicated to ending gender-based violence and promoting respectful relationships. By joining White Ribbon, individuals and communities can take a stand against violence and contribute to creating safer environments for everyone.

It is vital that men take the lead in ending men's violence against women and girls and we are encouraging council staff, managers and Elected Members to sign up as male ambassadors and female champions. This involves educating themselves and others, challenging inappropriate behaviour where safe to do so, and promoting the values of White Ribbon in their work roles and out of work hobbies and activities.

Behind the scenes we are checking and amending our policies, developing training courses and briefings, ensuring people are appropriately supported when they report incidents of gender-based harassment or misogyny in the workplace, and creating a communications plan to raise awareness of each of these elements.

Harmful attitudes and behaviours towards women and girls will not be tolerated and we will continue to work hard to foster culture change, whilst ensuring the necessary administrative frameworks are in place to back this up. We are accountable to our female colleagues in this workstream and we will continue to address VAWG until women and girls feel safe, are safe, and are free from workplace inequality and harassment.

IT STARTS WITH MEN 