

# Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Barrow District

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## 1 Local Context

### 1.1 ACORN profile

- Barrow-in-Furness has the greatest proportion of residents living in ACORN Category 5 postcodes (Urban Adversity); 28.0%, which is more than double the county average of 12.7%.
- The district also has the lowest proportion of all the districts for residents living in ACORN Category 1 postcodes (Affluent Achievers) at 12.3%, lower than the Cumbria average of 20.3%.

### 1.2 Geography

- Cumbria's smallest district, covering 78 square km.
- Average population density is 868 people per square km
- Most densely populated district in the county, much more densely populated than the county and national average (Cumbria 74 people per square km, England and Wales 380 people per square km).
- 34% of the district's residents live in rural areas (54% across Cumbria; 18% across England and Wales)

### 1.3 Demography including Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups and migration

- Resident population of Barrow-in-Furness estimated to be 67,600 persons as at mid-2014, a decrease of 3,200 persons (-4.5%) since mid-2004; the second biggest decrease out of all local authority districts in England and Wales.
- Greatest proportional decrease was seen in Hawcoat ward (-9.4%) while the greatest proportional increase was seen in Newbarns ward (+3.2%).
- Older age profile compared to England and Wales, with lower proportions of residents in each of the three younger age groups and higher proportions of residents in the oldest four age groups. Compared to Cumbria, Barrow has slightly higher proportions of residents in each of the three younger age groups and slightly lower proportions of residents in the oldest four age groups.
- Ward age profiles vary considerably. Risedale ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 0-15 (Risedale 21.9%, Barrow-in-Furness 17.7%, Cumbria 16.5%, England and Wales 18.9%). Inversely, Hawcoat ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 65+ (Hawcoat 36.9%, Barrow-in-Furness 20.3%, Cumbria 22.2%, England and Wales 17.4%).
- 2,014 (2.9%) of residents in Barrow-in-Furness are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups (Cumbria 3.5%, England and Wales 19.5%). Across the district's wards, the proportion of residents from BME groups ranged from 1.6% in Walney South ward to 5.2% in Central ward.
- Between mid-2004 and mid-2014, internal migration (to and from other parts of the UK) and other changes (i.e. changes in prisoners, armed forces personnel etc.) accounted for a net decrease of 3,200 persons in Barrow-in-Furness, while international migration (to and from overseas) accounted for a net decrease of 100 persons.
- 2,014 residents in Barrow-in-Furness were born outside of the UK (2.9%).

### 1.4 Housing

- The median house price in Barrow-in-Furness was £100,700 in 2015. This was much lower than the county average of £139,900 and the national (GB) average of £175,100.
- Barrow Island ward had the lowest median house price (£56,500), while Hawcoat ward had the highest (£183,700).
- The median house price in Barrow-in-Furness was 4.4 times the median annual household income in 2015. This ratio was lower (more affordable) than the median affordability ratios for the county and nationally (GB); where median house prices were 5.5 and 6.1 times the median annual household income respectively.
- Barrow Island ward had the lowest median affordability ratio (3.0).
- Hawcoat ward had the highest median affordability ratio (6.7).

## 1.5 Labour market and economy

- The median household income for Barrow-in-Furness was £22,700 in 2015. This was lower than the county average (£25,300) and the national average (£28,700).
- The median household income varied from £17,100 in Hindpool ward to £30,300 in Roosecote ward.
- 16.3% of households in Barrow-in-Furness had an annual income of less than £10k in 2015 (Cumbria 13.8%, GB 12.2%).
- Hindpool ward had the greatest proportion of households with annual incomes of less than £10k (25%) while Roosecote ward had the smallest proportion (9.5%).
- During 2013, a total of 28,900 people were in employment in Barrow.
- Main employment sector is manufacturing with 7,500 employees, 26.0% of the district's workforce.
- 5,000 people work in the health sector (17.3%), 3,300 in retail (11.4%) and 2,400 in education (8.3%).
- In the quarter to July 2015 there were 768 job postings in Barrow, 11.1% of the county's total.
- In August 2015 there were 1,182 people claiming either Jobseeker's Allowance or Universal Credit (those not in employment) in Barrow. The claimant rate is 2.8%, the highest of all the districts, and 0.9 percentage points higher than the national (GB) rate of 1.9%.

## 1.6 Poverty and deprivation

- Barrow-in-Furness has 13 communities that rank within the 10% most deprived of areas in England.
- Six of Barrow-in-Furness's communities are classified as being within the 3% most deprived nationally (these communities are located in the Barrow Island, Central, Hindpool and Ormsgill wards).
- Two communities across the district rank amongst the 10% most deprived in England in relation to geographical barriers to services.
- 20.4% of children (0-19 years) living in Barrow-in-Furness are living in poverty, the highest rate in the county and above national levels of 18.6% for England. There are pockets of severe child poverty across the district in areas such as Central ward where these figures rise to 48.4% - almost half of all children.
- 13.1% of households in Barrow-in-Furness are in fuel poverty, above national levels of 10.4% for England. This increases to 48.2% in the ward of Barrow Island.

## 1.7 Health and wellbeing

- Average life expectancy for men is 76.9 years, significantly less than the average for England (79.4 years)
- Average life expectancy for women is 81.6 years, significantly less than the average for England (83.1 years)
- Life expectancy is 13.0 years lower for men and 8.4 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Barrow than in the least deprived areas.
- 20.5% of Year 6 children and 22.7% of adults are classified as obese (rates for England are 19.1% and 23.0% respectively)
- 6.5% of people on GP surgery lists 2013/14 have diabetes, significantly higher than the England average (6.2%)
- Alcohol specific mortality rates 2011/13 (all ages, directly standardised rate per 100,000 population) for men (24.8) and women (7.8) are higher than the rates for England (16.6 for men; 7.5 for women)
- Alcohol specific hospital admission rate (crude rate per 100,000 population) for under 18 year olds 2011/12 – 2013/14 (93.6) is higher than the rate for England (40.1).

## **2 Crime and Community Safety Information for Barrow District**

Different aspects of crime and community safety are explored in the following sections to provide an overview of issues that affect Barrow district. An overview is provided for the following: all crime; acquisitive crime; violent crime; other crime; offending and reoffending; drug and alcohol misuse; road safety; and a summary of crime rate statistics. Unless stated otherwise, crime data has been provided by Cumbria Constabulary via the *Crime and Disorder Dashboard* to 31 March 2015.

### **2.1 All crime**

Barrow district has the highest recorded crime rate of all Cumbria's districts (65.2 per 1,000 population). Overall crime levels rose by +2.4% (+105) compared to 2013/14, and +6.7% (+278) over three years, indicating an upward trend. 17.8% (4,412) of all the county's crimes were recorded in Barrow.

The following sections provide more detail regarding individual categories of crimes.

### **2.2 Acquisitive crime**

Acquisitive crimes are those in which an offender acquires or takes items from another person, and it therefore covers a number of different offence types. The following sections look at theft from a motor vehicle, theft of a motor vehicle, domestic burglary and other burglary.

#### **2.2.1 Theft from a motor vehicle**

The number of recorded thefts from motor vehicles totalled 67 in 2014/15, the smallest number of all Cumbria's districts, the greatest percentage decrease (-49.2%, -65) and the second lowest rate in the county at 1.0 per 1,000 population. These results continue an overall downward trend.

#### **2.2.2 Theft of a motor vehicle**

Vehicle thefts continued to fall in Barrow over 2014/15, down -12.5% (-5) compared to the previous year. Theft has reduced by -50.7% (-36) over a three year period.

#### **2.2.3 Burglary (dwelling)**

Domestic burglary rates for Barrow district in 2014/15 remain relatively stable compared to the previous year. There were 147 burglaries in 2014/15, a fall of -3.9% (-6). However, Barrow continues to have the highest domestic burglary rate of all Cumbria's districts (2.2 per 1,000 population).

#### **2.2.4 Burglary (other)**

Barrow district has seen a dramatic reduction (-50.8%, -100) in the number of recorded burglary (other) crimes in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. This continues a downward trend over a three year period. Barrow also has the lowest crime rate per 1,000 population for burglary (other) of all the county's districts (1.4 per 1,000).

### **2.3 Violent Crime**

Violent crime is a crime in which an offender uses or threatens force upon a victim. The following sections look at various aspects of violent crime: violence against the person; alcohol related offences; domestic abuse; and sexual offences.

### 2.3.1 Violence against the person

Of all the districts, Barrow has the highest crime rate per 1,000 for reported violence against the person crimes (20.6 per 1,000 in 2014/15). Violence against the person crimes increased by +25.0% (+278) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, and by +43.2% (+420) over a three year period.

Increases are thought to reflect changes in police recording practices rather than an actual rise in violent crime (*Office for National Statistics, 2015a*).

### 2.3.2 Alcohol related offences

During 2014/15, there were 850 recorded instances of alcohol-related crimes in Barrow district. This represents 19.3% of all recorded crimes in the district, with a crime rate of 12.6 per 1,000 population, the highest proportion of all Cumbria's districts. This figure makes up 36.4% (507) of violence against the person offences, and 20.3% (30) of sexual offences, both proportions higher than the average for the county.

Alcohol-related recorded crimes have increased by +22.5% (+156) compared to the previous year, the highest increase of all the districts. The crime rate for alcohol-related violence against the person offences has increased from 6.6 per 1,000 population to 7.5 per 1,000 population compared to the previous year, the second highest increase of all the districts.

### 2.3.3 Domestic abuse

Barrow district continues to have the highest crime rate per 1,000 population for domestic abuse incidents (21.3 per 1,000 in 2014/15). The increase in reported domestic abuse crimes in 2014/15 compared to the previous year is relatively small at +2.1% (+30), but reflects an upward trend over a three year period (+10.8%, +140).

This rise may reflect increased confidence in victims of domestic abuse in coming forward to report crime (*Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner, 2015*).

Whilst there has been an increase in the total recorded instances of domestic abuse in Barrow, there has been a decrease in the number of repeat incidents, reduced by -6.8% (-42) compared to the previous year. Proportionally, repeat victims account for 40.3% of all domestic abuse incidents in Barrow in 2014/15, a decrease of -3.8 percentage points.

### 2.3.4 Sexual offences

Barrow district continues to have the highest crime rate for sexual offences per 1,000 population of all the county's districts (2.2 per 1,000 in 2014/15). Reported sexual offence crimes increased by +70.1% (+61) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, with alcohol-related sexual offences accounting for 20.3% (30) of the total.

The increase in reported crimes is generally attributed to the increased willingness of victims to come forward, in addition to improved recording of crimes (*Office for National Statistics, 2015a*).

## 2.4 Other crime

The following sections look at other areas of crime not captured in other sections. The following aspects are covered: business crime; anti-social behaviour; criminal damage; deliberate fires; and hate crime.

### 2.4.1 Business crime

Business crime has increased by +8.0% (+56) in Barrow in 2014/15 compared to the previous year and by +17.5% (+112) over a three year period. Shoplifting makes up 56.9% (428) of the total business crime, with criminal damage and other theft offences accounting for 22.2% (167) and 12.5% (94) respectively.

### 2.4.2 Anti-social behaviour

Recorded anti-social behaviour incidents have decreased by -15.6% (-799) and youth anti-social behaviour incidents by -21.8% (-245) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. However, Barrow district continues to have the highest crime rate for anti-social behaviour and youth anti-social behaviour of all the districts, 64.1 and 13.0 per 1,000 population respectively; both figures are higher than the average for the county.

### 2.4.3 Criminal damage

Recorded criminal damage (including arson) crimes decreased in Barrow district by -11.7% (-114) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, continuing a downward trend over a three year period. However, the crime rate for Barrow remains the highest of all the districts at 12.7 per 1,000 population. Arson crimes accounted for 2.8% (24) of the total, slightly lower than the average for the county.

### 2.4.4 Deliberate fires

The number of deliberate fires in Barrow district has decreased by -27.9% (-36) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, continuing a downward trend over a three year period. The percentage of all fires has also decreased by -27.4% (-79) over the same period; this is the largest decrease of all the districts for all fires.

Two wards in Barrow are amongst the 10% of wards in Cumbria with the highest number of deliberate fires in 2014/15. These are set out below:

Ward	No of deliberate fires	% of total deliberate fires in the county
Hindpool	16	2.8%
Risedale	16	2.8%

(Source: Cumbria County Council, 2015b)

### 2.4.5 Hate crime

Barrow district saw the largest increase of reported hate crimes of all the county's districts in 2014/15 (+106.3%; +34) compared to the previous year. The district also has the highest crime rate (1.0 per 1,000 population) jointly with Carlisle. This continues an upward trend in the level of reported crimes over a three year period. Nearly half of all hate crimes were racially motivated (48.5%; 32) with nearly a third (30.3%; 20) motivated by sexual orientation.

## 2.5 Offending and reoffending

### 2.5.1 Offending

Robbery and violence account for 37.8% (115) of all offences committed by offenders managed by the Barrow office of the Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, higher than the county average of 31.8%. Rates of drug possession and / or supply stand at 11.5% (35), whilst public order offences make up 10.9% (33). Theft



(non-motor) at 10.9% (33) is higher than the county average of 8.4% (*Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, 2015*).

### **2.5.2 Reoffending**

Ministry of Justice proven Reoffending data (2012/13) shows that Barrow district has the highest proportion in the county of offenders who went on to reoffend, 31.6% (269), an increase of +3.9 percentage points compared to the previous year. The average number of re-offences per reoffender is 3.2, an increase of +10.7%; the average number of re-offences per offender is 1.0, representing an increase of +26.2% (*Ministry of Justice, 2015*).

## **2.6 Drug and alcohol misuse**

The consequences of drug and alcohol misuse across the district are serious and wide ranging. The following sections explore trends relating to: drug possession and supply; alcohol specific mortality; and rates of alcohol specific hospital admissions, including admissions for under 18 year olds.

### **2.6.1 Drug possession and supply**

Overall drug crime was down by -14.8% (-35) in Barrow 2014/15 compared to the previous year, continuing a downward trend. Drug possession decreased by -7.0% (-12), with trafficking decreasing by -35.9% (-23).

### **2.6.2 Substance misuse**

During 2014/15, 739 service users in Barrow came into contact with Unity (the provider of statutory drug and alcohol services in Cumbria), representing a very slight increase (+1.5%; +11 clients) compared to the previous year. The majority of clients (59.0%; 436) use the service for drug related issues; 41.0% (303) for alcohol related issues. Heroin is the primary drug for 43.4% of drug users in Barrow. Men make up 65.4% of all service users; almost half (49.1%) of all service users are aged from 30 to 44; and 24.0% of all service users have children living with them (*Unity, 2015*).

### **2.6.3 Alcohol specific mortality**

The rate of alcohol specific mortality for males in Barrow district for 2011-13 (24.8 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is slightly worse than the regional average (23.3 per 100,000) and higher than the average for England (16.6 per 100,000). Barrow has the highest male alcohol specific mortality rate of all the districts.

For females in Barrow, the alcohol specific mortality rate (7.8 per 100,000) over the same period is better than the regional average (11.4 per 100,000), but not significantly different to the average for England (7.5 per 100,000).

Male mortality rates have decreased by -14.4% compared to the previous period (2010-12) and female mortality rates have decreased by -19.8%. In total, 26 males and 8 females lost their lives from alcohol specific causes in 2011-13 (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

### **2.6.4 Hospital admissions – alcohol specific (all)**

The rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions in Barrow district in 2013/14 for all persons and all age groups (618.6 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is worse than the county and regional average (425.0 and 559.4 per 100,000 respectively), and significantly worse than the average for England (373.8 per 100,000). Although the rate has

not increased significantly over a three year period, Barrow district has the highest rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions of all the districts (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

#### **2.6.5 Hospital admissions – alcohol specific (under 18 year olds)**

The rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions in Barrow during 2011/12 to 2013/14 for young people aged under 18 years (93.6 per 100,000 population, crude rate) is worse than the regional average and significantly worse than the average for England (60.4 and 40.1 per 100,000 respectively). There were 40 admissions during 2011/12 to 2013/14. However, hospital admissions have decreased by -17.2% compared to figures available for 2010/11 to 2012/13 continuing a downward trend (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

#### **2.7 Road Safety: Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) statistics**

Barrow continues to have the lowest number of people killed or seriously injured on its roads compared to other districts in the county. A total of 23 people were killed or seriously injured in 2014, five more than the previous year (*Cumbria Road Safety Partnership, 2015*). This represents an increase of +27.8%. The Public Consultation Survey carried out in 2013 by Cumbria Constabulary highlighted the main concern of Barrow's residents as speeding vehicles followed by dangerous driving.

#### **2.8 References**

A full list of references is provided in the *Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Cumbria*.

### 3 Appendices

#### 3.1 Appendix: Crime rate statistical summary for Barrow district with county comparison

Indicator	Barrow			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
<b>Total crime</b> (rate per 1,000 population) 2014/15	4,412	65.2	Up	24,803	49.8	Up
<b>Acquisitive crime</b> (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Theft from a motor vehicle	67	1.0	Down	737	1.5	Down
Theft of a motor vehicle	35	0.5	Down	293	0.6	Down
Burglary (dwelling)	147	2.2	No change	717	1.4	Up
Burglary (other)	97	1.4	Down	1,226	2.5	Down
<b>Violent crime</b> (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Violence against the person	1,392	20.6	Up	6,558	13.2	Up
Alcohol related offences	850	12.6	Up	2,212	4.4	Up
Domestic abuse	1,438	21.3	Up	7,046	14.2	Up
Sexual offences	148	2.2	Up	701	1.4	Up
<b>Other crime</b> (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Business crime	752	11.1	Up	4,533	9.1	No change
Anti-social behaviour	4,335	64.1	Down	20,201	40.6	Down
Anti-social behaviour involving young people	879	13.0	Down	3,792	7.6	Down
Criminal damage (including arson)	859	12.7	Down	4,948	9.9	Down
Deliberate fires	93	1.4	Down	565	1.1	Down
Hate crime	66	1.0	Up	338	0.7	Up
<b>Reoffending</b> (re-offences / rate per reoffender) 2012/13	848	3.15	Up	4,146	3.1	Up

Indicator	Barrow			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
<b>Drug and alcohol misuse</b>						
Drug possession and supply (per 1,000 population, 2014/15)	201	3.0	Down	1,383	2.8	Down
Alcohol specific mortality: males (all ages, DSR, per 100,000 population 2011-13)	26	24.8	Down	119	15.4	No change
Alcohol specific mortality: females (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2011-13)	8	7.8	Down	62	7.7	No change
Alcohol specific hospital admissions: all persons (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2013/14)	415	618.6	No change	2,100	425.0	Up
Alcohol specific hospital admissions: under 18 year olds (crude rate per 100,000 population 2011/12-2013/14)	40	93.6	Down	195	68.0	Down
<b>Road Safety: Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) statistics</b> (rate per 1,000 population) 2014	23	0.3	Up	226	0.5	Down

(DSR: directly standardised rate)