

Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Copeland District

October 2015



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1 Local Context

1.1 ACORN profile

- Copeland has the greatest proportion of residents living in ACORN Category 4 postcodes (Financially Stretched); 43.4% compared to 29.1% for Cumbria, and almost double the national (GB) average of 22.4%.

1.2 Geography

- Copeland is Cumbria's second smallest district, covering 732 square km.
- Average population density of 95 people per square km
- Slightly more densely populated than the county average (74 people per square km)
- Much more sparsely populated than the national average (England and Wales 380 people per square km).
- 65% 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 Copeland was estimated to be 69,800 persons as at mid-2014; an increase of 100 persons (+0.1%) since mid-2004.
- The greatest proportional decrease was seen in Millom Without ward (-6.7%) while the greatest proportional increase was seen in St Bees ward (+14.5%).
- Compared to England and Wales, Copeland has an older age profile; with lower proportions of residents in each of the three younger age groups and higher proportions of residents in the older age groups. When compared to Cumbria, Copeland's age profile is very close to the county average.
- The age profiles of Copeland's wards vary considerably. Sandwith ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 0-15 (Sandwith 21.7%, Copeland 16.8%, Cumbria 16.5%, England and Wales 18.9%). Inversely, Gosforth ward has the greatest proportion of residents aged 65+ (Gosforth 32.2%, Copeland 20.5%, Cumbria 22.2%, England and Wales 17.4%).
- 1,924 (2.7%) residents in Copeland are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups in their 2011 Census (Cumbria 3.5%, England and Wales 19.5%). Across the district's wards, the proportion of residents from BME groups ranged from 1.2% in Holborn Hill ward to 7.8% in Haverigg 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 300 persons in Copeland, while international migration (to and from overseas) accounted for a net increase of 300 persons.
- 2,026 residents in Copeland were born outside of the UK (2.9%).

1.4 Housing

- The median house price in Copeland was £103,500 in 2015. This was lower than the county average of £139,900 and the national (GB) average of £175,100.
- House prices varied considerably across the district's wards; Sandwith ward had the lowest median house price (£68,700), while Millom Without ward had the highest (£237,300).
- The median house price in Copeland was 4.1 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.
- Frizington and Arlecdon wards had the lowest median affordability ratios (both 3.1).
- Millom Without ward had the highest median affordability ratio (8.2).

1.5 Labour market and economy

- The median household income for Copeland was £25,300 in 2015. This was similar to the county average (£25,300) but lower than the national average (£28,700).
- The median household income varied from £19,300 in Sandwith ward to £38,800 in St Bees ward.
- 13.9% of households in Copeland had an annual income of less than £10k in 2015 (Cumbria 13.8%, GB 12.2%).
- Sandwith ward had the greatest proportion of households with annual incomes of less than £10k (21.3%) while St Bees ward had the smallest proportion (6.6%).
- During 2013, a total of 30,800 people were in employment in Copeland.
- Main employment sector is manufacturing with 10,500 employees, 34.1% of the district's workforce.
- 3,900 people work in the health sector (12.7%), 2,600 in the professional, scientific and technical sector (8.4%) and 2,200 in retail (7.1%).
- In the quarter to July 2015 there were 698 job postings in Copeland, 10.1% of the county's total.
- In August 2015 there were 917 people claiming either Jobseeker's Allowance or Universal Credit (those not in employment) in Copeland. The claimant rate is 2.1%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the national (GB) rate of 1.9%.

1.6 Poverty and deprivation

- Copeland has five communities that rank within the 10% most deprived of areas in England.
- One of Copeland's communities is classified as being within the 3% most deprived nationally (this community is located in the Sandwith ward).
- 14 communities across the district rank amongst the 10% most deprived in England in relation to geographical barriers to services; with five of these communities falling within the 3% most deprived in the country for this measure (these communities are located in the Seascale, Bootle, Millom without, Ennerdale and Gosforth wards).
- 16.6% of children (0-19 years) living in Copeland are living in poverty, below national levels of 18.6% for England. Despite this rates of child poverty are the second highest in the district. There are pockets of severe child poverty across the district in areas such as Sandwith ward where these figures rise to 41.0%.

1.7 Health and wellbeing

- Average life expectancy for men is 77.7 years, significantly less than the average for England (79.4 years)
- Average life expectancy for women is 81.3 years, significantly less than the average for England (83.1 years)
- Life expectancy is 12.4 years lower for men and 6.4 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Copeland than in the least deprived areas.
- 20.6% of Year 6 children are obese (England average is 19.15). 28.3% of adults are classified as obese. Adult obesity is significantly higher than the average for England (23.0%).
- 8.1% 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 (20.3) is higher than the England rate (16.6). The rate for women (5.2) is lower than the England rate (7.5).
- Alcohol specific hospital admission rate (crude rate per 100,000 population) for under 18 year olds 2011/12 – 2013/14 (105.8) is higher than the rate for England (40.1).

2 Crime and Community Safety Information for Copeland District

Different aspects of crime and community safety are explored in the following sections to provide an overview of issues that affect Copeland. 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

Total crime figures for Copeland district indicate an upward trend having increased by +4.1% (+141) compared with the previous year, and +24.0% (+686) over three years. 14.3% (3,550) of all the county's crimes were committed in Copeland.

Subsequent sections provide more detail regarding rates and trends 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

Thefts from motor vehicles increased by +11.4% (+9) in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, and represent an increase of +3.5% over a three year period. Whilst this appears to be an upward trend, it should be noted that the actual numbers involved are relatively small.

2.2.2 Theft of a motor vehicle

Numbers of vehicle thefts in 2014/15 totalled 23, the lowest of any district. Thefts have decreased by -32.4% (-11) over a three year period. Copeland has the lowest rate per 1,000 population for vehicle theft of all the county's districts (0.3 per 1,000).

2.2.3 Burglary (dwelling)

Domestic burglary rates in Copeland remained stable during 2014/15, with a total of 81 incidents recorded, three more than the previous year (+3.8%).

2.2.4 Burglary (other)

Burglary (other) reported crimes fell in Copeland in 2014/15 by -21.1% (-43) compared to the previous year.

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

Violence against the person reported crimes for the Copeland district showed the lowest increase (+17.5%, +157) of all Cumbria's districts during 2014/15. However, the increase over a three year period (+60.3%, +397) is the highest of all Cumbria's districts.

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 570 recorded instances of alcohol-related crimes in Copeland district. This represents 16.1% of all recorded crimes in the district, and makes up 34.6% (365) of violence against the person offences, and 16.3% (14) of sexual offences. Alcohol-related recorded crimes have increased by +6.7% (+36) compared to the previous year.

2.3.3 Domestic abuse

Reported instances of domestic abuse decreased in 2014/15 compared to the previous year by -8.7% (-119), the largest decrease of all the county's districts. Repeat incidents also decreased by -21.6% (-148) over the same period, with repeat victims accounting for 42.8% of all domestic abuse incidents in 2014/15, a decrease of -7.1 percentage points compared with the previous year.

2.3.4 Sexual offences

Copeland district had the smallest increase in the number of reported crimes in 2014/15 of all the county's districts (+10.3%, +8). However, reported sexual offence crimes have increased by +109.8% (+45) over a three year period. Alcohol-related sexual offences accounted for 16.3% (14) of the total in 2014/15.

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 decreased by -20.7% (-116) in Copeland in 2014/15 compared to the previous year. Shoplifting makes up 32.1% (143) of the total business crime in Copeland. Criminal damage and other theft offences account for 27.2% (121) and 24.7% (110) respectively.

2.4.2 Anti-social behaviour

Copeland district has seen the largest proportional reduction in the number of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents of all the county's districts (-19.6%, -695). Youth anti-social behaviour incidents also decreased by -21.1% (-152), continuing a downward trend over a three year period.

2.4.3 Criminal damage

Recorded criminal damage (including arson) crimes decreased very slightly in 2014/15 compared to the previous year (-1.1%, -10). However, as the numbers involved are very small, the general trend appears to be static. Arson crimes accounted for 3.4% (30) of the total, higher than the average for the county. The crime rate at 12.5 per 1,000 population is also higher than the average for the county.

2.4.4 Deliberate fires

Copeland saw 116 deliberate fires in 2014/15. Although this represents a slight increase compared to the previous year (+2.7%), the numbers involved in the increase (+3) are very small, and the increase is therefore not considered to be significant. Copeland district has the highest rate for deliberate fires of all the districts (1.7 per 1,000 population). The number of all fires has decreased by -21.1% (-54) over the same period.

Three wards in Copeland are amongst the 10% of wards in Cumbria with the highest number of deliberate fires. These are set out below:

Ward	No of deliberate fires	% of total deliberate fires in the county
Mirehouse	15	2.7%
Egremont South	14	2.5%
Kells	13	2.3%

(Source: Cumbria County Council, 2015b)

2.4.5 Hate crime

Reported hate crimes increased by +88.0% (+22) in Copeland district in 2014/15 compared to the previous year, continuing an upward trend. Racial motivation accounted for over half of all hate crimes (53.2%) and sexual orientation made up a quarter (25.5%).

2.5 Offending and reoffending

2.5.1 Offending

Robbery and violence account for 33.8% (128) of all offences committed by offenders managed by the Workington office of the Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, higher than the county average of 31.8%. Drug possession and / or supply are also slightly higher than the county average, 12.7% (48) compared to 12.0%. Two other main areas with higher incidences than the county average are theft (non-motor), 9.5% (36) and burglary, 9.2% (35) (Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, 2015).

2.5.2 Reoffending

Ministry of Justice proven Reoffending data (2012/13) shows that 26.0% (189) of offenders in the Copeland district went on to reoffend, a decrease of -1.2 percentage points compared to the previous year. The average number of re-offences per reoffender is 2.9, a slight increase of +1.3%. The average number of re-offences per offender is 0.8, representing a small decrease of -3.0% (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

The number of reported drug crimes decreased overall in Copeland in 2014/15 compared to the previous year (-12.8%; -24), continuing a downward trend over a three year period. Drug possession decreased by -11.0% (-16) and trafficking by -19.0% (-8).

2.6.2 Substance misuse

During 2014/15, 414 service users in Copeland came into contact with Unity (the provider of statutory drug and alcohol services in Cumbria), a decrease of -4.2% (-18) compared to the previous year. Just under half of all clients (49.5%; 205) use the service for drug related issues; 50.5% (209) for alcohol related issues. Heroin is the primary drug for 33.6% of drug users in Copeland. Men account for 64.0% of all service users; over half (51.7%) of all service users are aged from 30 to 44; and 21.0% of all service users have children living with them (*Unity, 2015*).

2.6.3 Alcohol specific mortality

The alcohol specific mortality rate for males in Copeland district for 2011-13 (20.3 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is better than the regional average (23.3 per 100,000) and not significantly different to the average for England (16.6 per 100,000).

For females, the rate (5.2 per 100,000) is also better than the regional average (11.4 per 100,000) and again not significantly different to the average for England (7.5 per 100,000).

Male and female mortality rates have not changed significantly compared to the previous period (2010-12). In total, 23 males and 6 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 Copeland district in 2013/14 for all persons and all age groups (517.9 per 100,000 population, directly standardised rate) is higher than the average for the county, but slightly better than the regional average. It is significantly worse than the average for England (373.8 per 100,000). However, the rate has not increased significantly over a three year period (*Public Health England, 2015b*).

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

The rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions in Copeland during 2011/12 to 2013/14 for young people aged under 18 years (105.8 per 100,000 population, crude rate) is worse than the regional average (60.4 per 100,000) and significantly worse than the average for England (40.1 per 100,000). There were 45 admissions during 2011/12 to 2013/14. However, hospital admissions have decreased by -16.5% compared to figures available for 2010/11 to 2012/13 and by -13.6% compared to 2009/10 to 2011/12 (*Public Health England, 2015b*). Copeland has the highest rate of hospital admissions for under 18 year olds of all the county's districts.

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

Copeland has the second lowest number of people killed or seriously injured on its roads compared to other districts in the county. There were 29 KSI incidents in 2014, an increase of four from the previous year (*Cumbria Road Safety Partnership, 2015*). This represents an increase of 16%. However, as the numbers involved are relatively small, the increase is not considered to be significant. The Public Consultation Survey carried out in 2013 by Cumbria Constabulary highlighted the main concern of Copeland'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 Copeland district with county comparison

Indicator	Copeland			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
Total crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2014/15	3,550	50.8	Up	24,803	49.8	Up
Acquisitive crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Theft from a motor vehicle	88	1.3	Up	737	1.5	Down
Theft of a motor vehicle	104	0.3	No change	293	0.6	Down
Burglary (dwelling)	81	1.2	No change	717	1.4	Up
Burglary (other)	161	2.3	Down	1,226	2.5	Down
Violent crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Violence against the person	1,055	15.1	Up	6,558	13.2	Up
Alcohol related offences	570	8.2	Up	2,212	4.4	Up
Domestic abuse	1,251	17.9	Down	7,046	14.2	Up
Sexual offences	86	1.2	Up	701	1.4	Up
Other crime (rates per 1,000 population) 2014/15						
Business crime	445	6.4	Down	4,533	9.1	No change
Anti-social behaviour	2,853	40.9	Down	20,201	40.6	Down
Anti-social behaviour involving young people	568	8.1	Down	3,792	7.6	Down
Criminal damage (including arson)	870	12.5	No change	4,948	9.9	Down
Deliberate fires	116	1.7	No change	565	1.1	Down
Hate crime	47	0.7	Up	338	0.7	Up
Reoffending (re-offences / rate per reoffender) 2012/13	545	2.88	No change	4,146	3.1	Up

Indicator	Copeland			Cumbria		
	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)	Number	Rate	Trend (change over 12 months)
Drug and alcohol misuse						
Drug possession and supply (per 1,000 population, 2014/15)	164	2.3	Down	1,383	2.8	Down
Alcohol specific mortality: males (all ages, DSR, per 100,000 population 2011-13)	23	20.3	No change	119	15.4	No change
Alcohol specific mortality: females (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2011-13)	6	5.2	No change	62	7.7	No change
Alcohol specific hospital admissions: all persons (all ages, DSR per 100,000 population 2013/14)	365	517.9	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)	45	105.8	Down	195	68.0	Down
Road Safety: Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) statistics (rate per 1,000 population) 2014	29	0.4	No change	226	0.5	Down

(DSR: directly standardised rate)