



# Neighbourhoods and Housing Community Safety



**Main responsibilities of Leeds Community Safety are:** To tackle crime, drugs and disorder and to address the fear of crime and drug misuse in Leeds, through a number of specific programmes delivered under the Safer Leeds Strategy and through supporting the Safer Leeds Partnership in its work.

## **Budget highlights 2007/08:**

**Anti-Social Behaviour Unit:** Leeds has just been announced as a Government Respect Area to tackle anti-social behaviour and its causes. We will be leading on and coordinating the Respect Programme. The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit are continuing, with our partners, to develop a problem-solving and early intervention approach to anti-social behaviour, taking enforcement action where required. For reasons of service effectiveness and efficiency, we are intending this year to restructure and bring the three teams together into one base.

**Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs):** The council continues to increase the number of PCSOs through match-funding with West Yorkshire Police. 170 match-funded PCSOs are now on Leeds streets to provide a high-visibility patrolling service in each ward. This is reflected in the 2007/08 Budget at a gross cost of £1.401m.

**Leeds Watch:** Leeds Watch monitors the city for crime and records CCTV images 24 hours, 7 days a week. At the present time there are three monitoring systems operating as stand alone control rooms, however, it is aimed to combine all 3 monitoring systems into one fully operational system during 07/08, which would bring about operational improvements and be more cost effective. The expansion of fixed CCTV systems is continuing and the mobile CCTV vans are now established, especially supporting the targeted multi-agency operations using Automated Number Plate Recognition Systems. The gross cost of providing both services is £1.339m. Plans are also under discussion to introduce a city centre ANPR system during 07/08.

**Burglary Reduction Unit:** The Burglary Reduction Unit commissions target hardening services to improve the security of domestic properties, particularly of repeat victims in order to reduce burglary and repeat victimisation. Other crime reduction activities include the use of property marking (Smartwater), promotion of crime reduction advice and with work with partners, such as ALMOs to improve security to properties. 'Alley gating' (a ginnel gating programme) will continue in targeted locations to reduce offending. It will move beyond the pilot areas of Harehills and Headingley. A provision of £0.505m has been made to continue this work.

**Leeds Inter Agency Project (Women and Violence):** The primary aim of Leeds Inter-Agency Project is to improve services to women and children by supporting agencies to deliver the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy. Training has been delivered to a range of service providers and Break the Silence resource packs have been distributed to schools. Four Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences have been established to improve protection to high risk victims and children. Work continues to improve the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System, particularly the Domestic Violence Court. LIAP will be refocusing its activity following a review of provision being undertaken to meet the needs of the Leeds Domestic Violence Strategy. A budget of £0.191m has been provided to fund this service.

**Safer Leeds Drugs Team:** The Safer Leeds Drugs Team leads on the strategic development of substance misuse delivery and its related activities to meet performance targets set nationally, regionally and locally. The team also has responsibility for the commissioning and performance management of both treatment and intervention services aimed at reducing the level of crime committed by substance misusers, especially prolific and persistent offenders. Key areas of focus include to help young people resist drug and alcohol use, protect communities from drug and alcohol related anti-social and criminal behaviour, provide treatment to enable those with drug and alcohol problems to overcome them. This delivery has substantial funding streams within the responsibility of its commissioning group. These are the Pooled Treatment Budget (Department of Health), Drug Interventions Programme grants (Home Office) and mainstream contributions from major partnership stakeholders.

**Safer Leeds Partnership Support Team:** The Safer Leeds Partnership Support Team services and supports the Safer Leeds Partnership. It is responsible for ensuring the links between city-wide and locally based work are managed. It coordinates service planning and performance management for both the Council and the Partnership and coordinates and monitors the priority control strategies. It coordinates the implementation of the Hate Crime Strategy and leads on the corporate Section 17 programme for the Council to mainstream community safety. The team provides support for Strategic Leads, Divisional Partnerships and coordinates both city-wide and local programmes and projects.