



Cumberland Community Safety Partnership

Community Safety Bulletin January 2026

16 Days of Activism

Our commitment to stand against violence towards women and girls continues.



We marked the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence in November and December, and our work is far from over.

The event at the Beacon Portal in Whitehaven featured keynote speakers from the council and police.

Mary-Claire Telford, Cumberland councils strategic lead for domestic abuse said, "Our heartfelt thanks go to all the organisations who supported our event to launch the '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' campaign."

"We also welcomed the public to an information event before the launch, and a walk of solidarity along the harbour."

"Thank you for helping us spotlight this issue. It is one of our priorities and, with our partners in the Cumberland Community Safety Hub, we hope to build a future where everyone can feel safe."

Working closely with WaF CSP, we arranged eighteen 'lunch and learn' presentations for professional partners during the length of the campaign. These sessions include inputs into Trauma Informed Language and Stalking and Harassment Awareness. Last year, the sessions were delivered to around 600 professionals. This year we exceeded this, delivering to a total of 1050 individuals across many organisations. We have already started planning next year's campaign.

Walksafe app



We continued to support and promote the WalkSafe app throughout the festive period.

It's designed to help people who live, work or visit Carlisle to plan their journeys home and nights out in the safest way, while letting their friends and family know where they are on an online map.

The free app has received the backing of organisations and agencies including Cumbria Police, Cumberland Council, Armstrong Watson and the University of Cumbria.

[Download on the Apple Store here](#)

[Get it on Google play](#)

Anti-Spiking campaign

Carlisle United supports anti-spiking campaign in Carlisle



Community safety partners in Carlisle and Workington were out and about on Friday the 19th of December to promote awareness of spiking. Carlisle United and Workington rugby league worked with partners from the

Community alcohol partnership from 5pm until 8pm handing out anti-spiking devices and encouraging people to celebrate safely. The team were accompanied by Carlisle United players and their Olga the Fox mascot and, in Workington, the town's rugby league team mascot, Spike.

In Carlisle the team were in the Citadel area at the top of Botchergate, supported by council safer streets officers. In Workington, Spike and his colleagues were out and about around the town centre and its licensed premises.

These events were supported by the Cumberland Community Alcohol Partnership, which is chaired by Cumberland Council.

WHAT IS SPIKING?

Spiking is giving someone else drugs or alcohol without their knowledge or permission.

DRINK SPIKING -

adding drugs or alcohol to someone else's drink

NEEDLE SPIKING -

injecting drugs into someone else's body with a needle or auto-injector pen

VAPE OR CIGARETTE SPIKING -

giving someone drugs in a cigarette or e-cigarette

FOOD SPIKING -

adding drugs to someone's food



New devices, new risks: staying safe online



Christmas is often a positive and exciting time – especially when children and young people get new phones, games and tablets. Most of their time online will be safe and harmless.

But some people do use the internet to spread hate and extremism, and to groom others into believing that violence is the answer.

You might notice changes in a child, teenager or young adult you know, such as:

- spending much more time online or hiding what they're looking at
- talking as if "it's us against the world"
- repeating extreme or hateful views they've seen online
- becoming more angry, intolerant or withdrawn

You don't have to be sure something is wrong before you talk to someone. It's okay just to feel unsure and ask for advice.

Share a concern

If you're concerned about a friend or family member being drawn towards extremist ideas, you can get **confidential, non-judgemental support**:

Call the ACT Early Support Line on 0800 011 3764. It's open 24 hours a day, every day. Specially trained officers will listen, answer questions and talk through possible next steps.

[Cumberland Council - Preventing radicalisation link](#)

Winter of action

Cumberland CSP is coordinating local activity in support of The Action in Winter initiative.



The campaign is being led by Cumbria's police, fire and crime commissioner David Allen and focuses on tackling violence against women and girls, retail crime, night-time economy offences, dangerous driving and anti-social behaviour. Partners involved include Cumbria Police, Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.

Throughout December and January we are supporting the initiative through taxi Marshalls on key dates, joint patrolling between council staff and police, homelessness visits, pub watch campaigns and business partnership days of action.

Councillor Justin McDermott, Cumberland's portfolio holder for public health and communities, said: "We all have a role to play in creating safer communities; if you see something that concerns you, please report it to the police or council."

ASB case reviews

About the anti-social behaviour case review

Anti-social behaviour can have an overwhelming impact on its victims and, in some cases, on the wider community. Anti-social behaviour is defined as conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person.



If you are a victim of persistent anti-social behaviour and you have already reported this to any of the main responsible agencies (such as the council, police, housing provider) you can request a review of your case to find out if further action can be taken to resolve the ongoing anti-social behaviour.

How it works

To apply for a case review you must meet the following threshold test:

- if you have reported three or more separate incidents of anti-social behaviour to the local authority, police or housing provider within the last six months, and the problem persists and there has been either no, or an inadequate response from agencies', then you can request an anti-social behaviour case review
- a senior manager decides that a case review is necessary to safeguard a vulnerable victim of anti-social behaviour or identifies a case that would benefit from the process and would meet the threshold regardless of whether an application has been received or not.

[Find out more about the process](#)

Local Focus Hubs



There are 3 local focus hubs (LFH's) across Cumberland, based in the 3 former district council areas.

The Hubs promote partnership working to prevent antisocial behaviour and crime and disorder, engage with local communities to proactively identify complex problem areas, and tackle issues having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of the local community.

The focus hubs co-ordinate much of the community safety work across Cumberland including ASB case reviews and unauthorised encampments.

The hubs are made up from a range of partners including the Cumberland council, Cumbria police, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service, probation, local registered providers of social housing, mental health services, liaison and diversion, third sector agencies and other partners as necessary.

We measure the work of the hubs each quarter, based on the number of referrals made and the number of those referrals that are required to be re-opened if the problems continue.

Measure	Carlisle Q1	Carlisle Q2	Carlisle Q3	Carlisle Q4	Total
Total number of referrals into the hub	10	6	7		23
Number of recurring problems - reopened cases	0	1	0		1
Number of community engagement events	12	13	11		36

Measure	Workington Q1	Workington Q2	Workington Q3	Workington Q4	Total
Total number of referrals into the hub	7	12	6		25
Number of recurring problems - reopened cases	1	1	1		3
Number of community engagement events	4	5	4		13

Measure	Whitehaven Q1	Whitehaven Q2	Whitehaven Q3	Whitehaven Q4	Total
Total number of referrals into the hub	5	3	4		12
Number of recurring problems - reopened cases	0	0	0		0
Number of community engagement events	0	6	2		8

Partners in focus - December

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

Crimestoppers

Cash reward for crime information

Do you know who's responsible for crime in your area, but do not want to talk to the police?

The Crimestoppers charity pays cash rewards of up to £1,000 if the information you give them leads to an arrest or is of significant use. Crimestoppers is not the police, and nobody will ever know that you have helped them. They will never trace your call or your computer's IP address.

You can share information on things like those responsible for dumping rubbish, selling fake cigarettes, people suspected of carrying knives, and much more.

[Find out more here](#)

Useful Links

[Cumberland CSP website](#)

[Cumberland Council | Community Safety](#)

[Cumbria Police](#)

[Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service](#)