

Chorley Partnership Annual Report

2010/11



Executive Summary

This report outlines the performance of the Chorley Partnership over 2010/11.

This past year has been a busy and exciting one for the Partnership. One of the major achievements has been to develop a new Sustainable Community Strategy, based on the needs of our communities and consultation with over 1,000 residents and over 50 partner organisations. This Strategy ensures that we are well placed to work together to deliver our shared vision and priorities for the communities of Chorley. The partnership has developed an annual Delivery Plan to enable us to deliver the strategy, with commitments from key partners for the year ahead. This annual report will be the last one based on the structure of the previous Sustainable Community Strategy 2007.

Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020



Vision Chorley will smile as the most attractive and supportive place in the North West to live, work, invest, play and visit. People will be healthy and happy in safe communities where they can achieve their ambitions									
Theme	You and Your Family			You and Your Community			You and Chorley		
Priority	Strong Family Support	Education and Jobs	Being Healthy	Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Communities	Safe Respectful Communities	Quality Community Services and Spaces	Vibrant Local Economy	Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	Sustainable Places and Transport
Long term outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure early intervention and prevention of health and wellbeing problems Use a whole family approach to address problems and provide support Support the ageing population to be healthy and independent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve skills across the family Improve links from good quality education to employment Promotion and uptake of local job prospects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the quality of local health services Reduced Health Inequalities Families enabled to make healthy lifestyle choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of quality affordable housing Clean streets Communities that residents actively take care of and improve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe communities Cohesive communities where people get on well together Reduce death and injuries from fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality coordinated public services Clean, safe and well used open spaces Empowered local people managing community assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote knowledge based inward investment Support a strong, indigenous business base Ensure families and communities reach their full economic potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A contemporary market town with good quality shops Places to visit, play, enjoy as a tourist destination Thriving local villages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce energy consumption Ensure sustainable modes of transport
Reducing Public Expenditure by Working Together									

Based on the work to refresh our Sustainable Community Strategy, the partnership has changed its structure to ensure that we are fit for purpose for the future. The new structure will be in place since April 2011 and ensures that the LSP Executive has a greater focus, with the wider partnership coming together once a year through the annual conference, whilst keeping in touch through the online Chorley Partnership Network on a more regular basis. The introduction of the Champions will provide an important link for partners, and these changes will ensure that we are working as efficiently and effectively as possible to achieve great outcomes.

As well as all this improvement work, the partnership has maintained high standards of business as usual. This annual report reflects the hard work of partners to achieve outcomes through working in partnership to deliver projects. A particular success has been the delivery of the Alcohol Intervention Programme and the impact that this has had in reducing alcohol related harm. The report also shows the sustained high levels of performance in areas such as crime, economy and health.

Headlines from this year's report are:

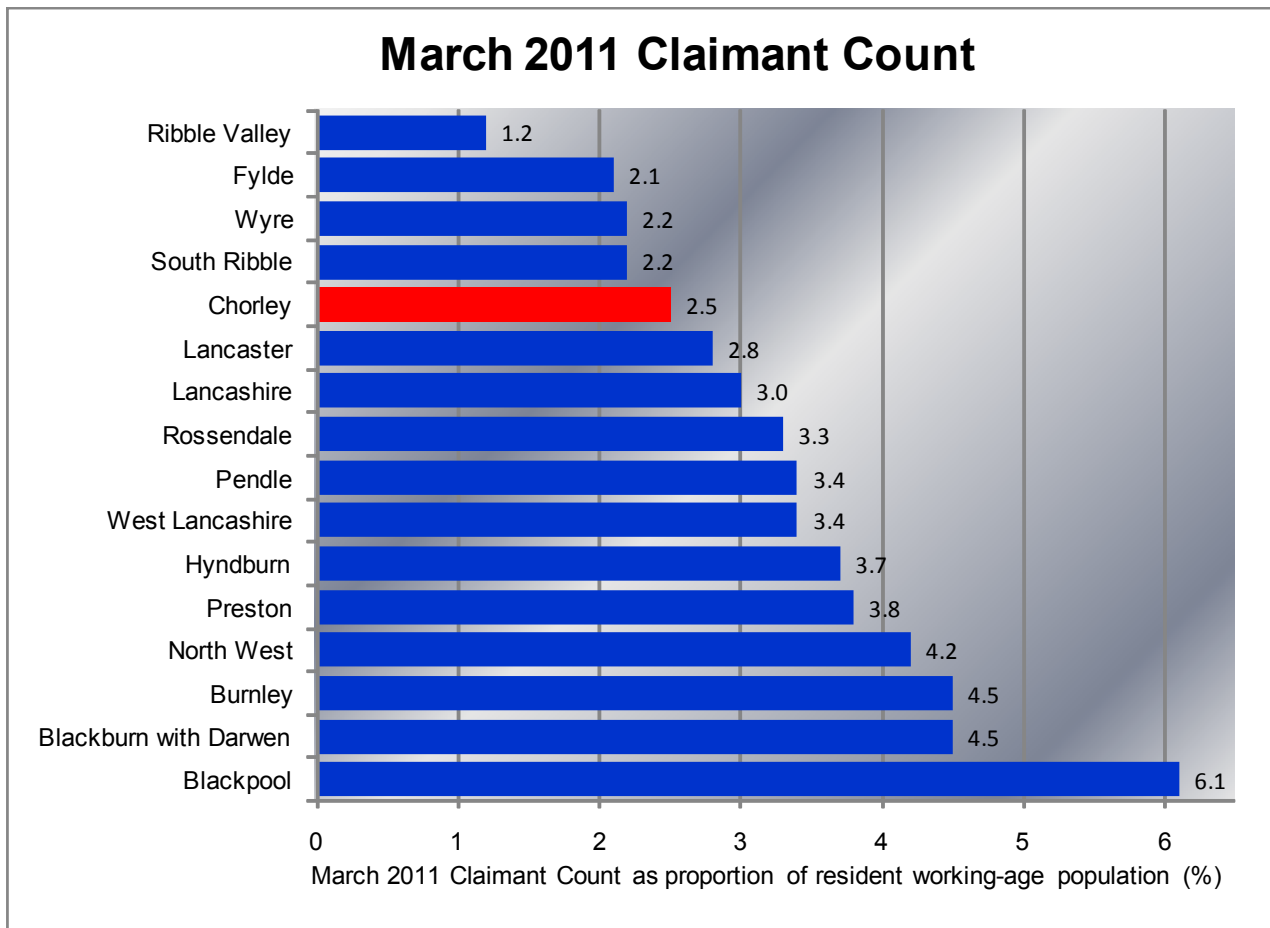
- Unemployment has reduced by 2.5% since last year
- The number of people in temporary accommodation is on target
- House prices in Chorley have decreased slightly over the last year but only at a rate of 1%
- Crime is down overall by 1.7% compared to last year
- Anti Social Behaviour is down by 11.7% and Criminal Damage is down by 15.4%
- Teenage pregnancies across the borough have been reducing in numbers and, as a borough, our figures are now lower than the Lancashire and North West average at 38.7 per 1,000
- The rate of alcohol related admissions has reduced and is now lower than the North West average
- There have been 67 new business start ups in the last year compared to a target of 53
- Delivery of affordable homes has increased by 62% since last year
- CO₂ emissions have continued to reduce and is exceeding target
- 84.7% of people feel that Chorley is a place where people get on well together
- The level of street cleanliness is exceeding target

The State of Chorley 2010/11

Each year we provide an overall view on the picture of Chorley. The economic picture this year is more optimistic than the last as the UK economy has emerged from recession.

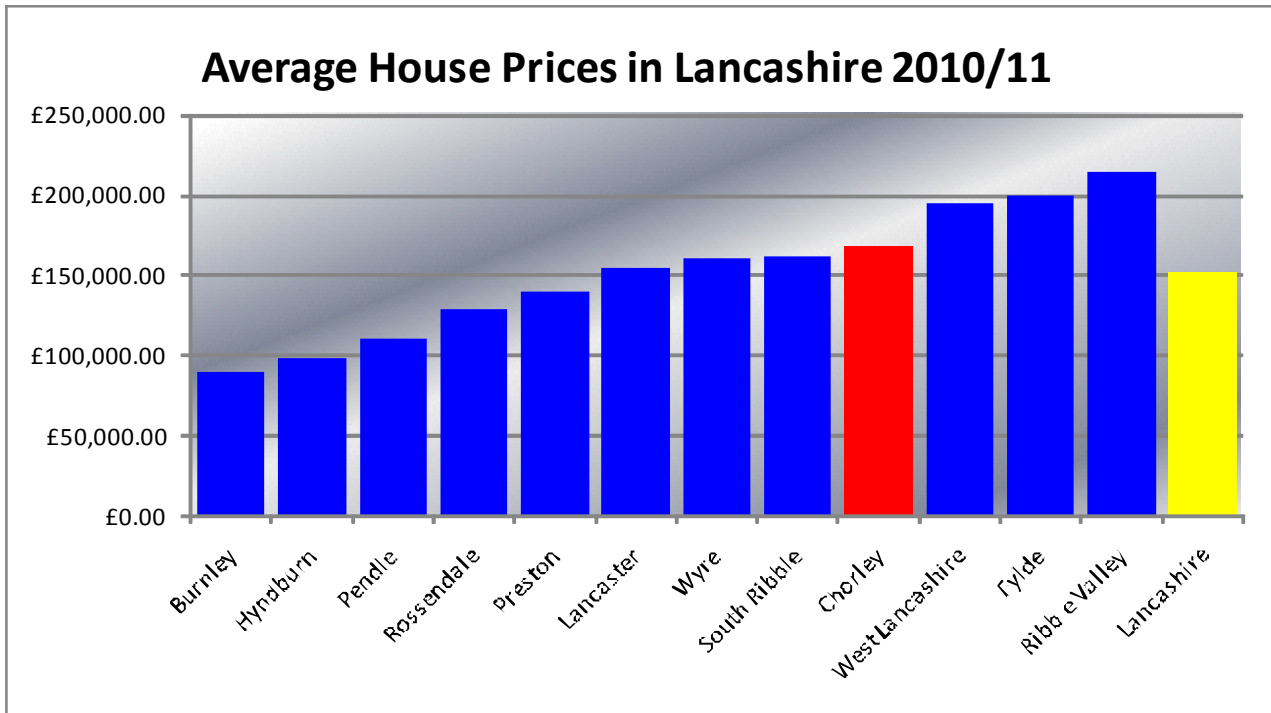
Unemployment

Over the last year, the unemployment benefit claimant count has decreased; and it is now less than when the recession first started. In March 2011 it was at 2.5% of the working age population, compared to 3.3% in March 2009 and 2.9% in March 2010. In numerical terms, it amounts to 1726 claimants, a decrease of 444 claimants on the figure of 2170 claimants in 2009.



House Prices

At the end of 2010/11, the average house price in Chorley was £168,434, which is a slight decrease of 1% on 2009/10. Although this illustrates that house prices in Chorley have reduced slightly over the past 12 months, they are 9.7% above the Lancashire average.



Crime

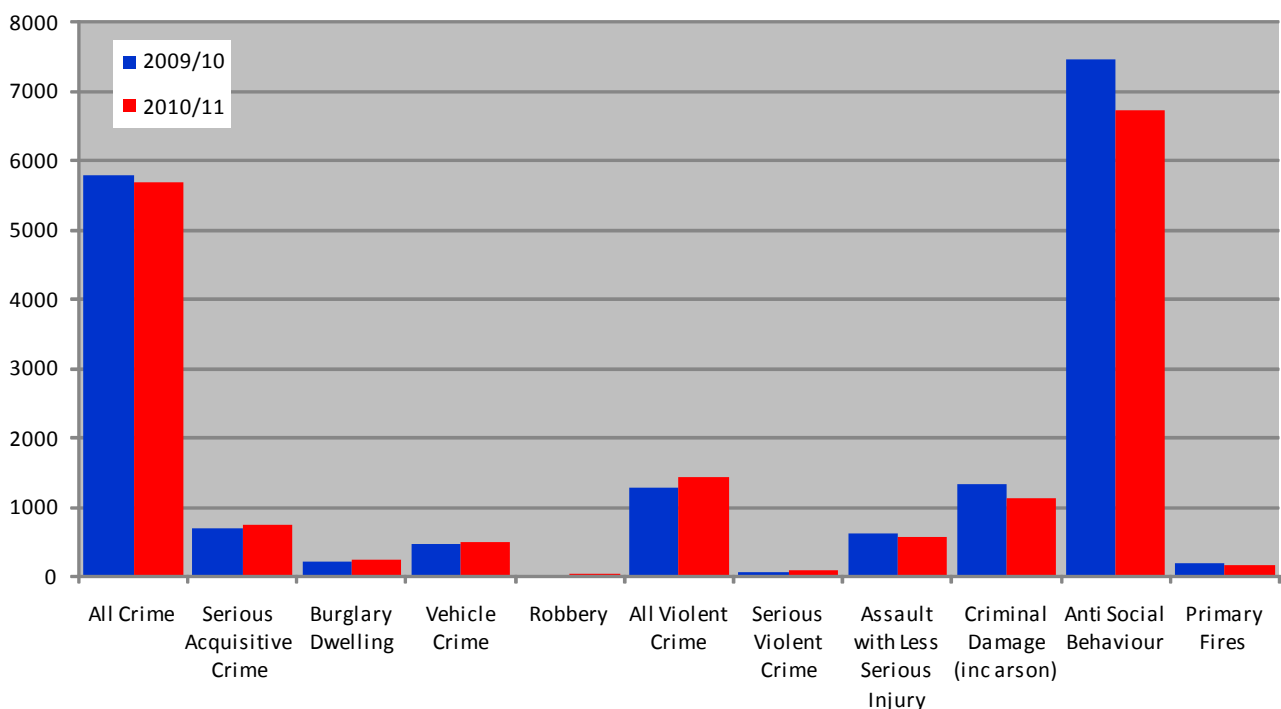
In 2010/11 overall crime fell in Chorley by 1.7% since last year. Anti Social Behaviour is down by 11.7% and Criminal Damage is down by 15.4%

It is important to note that Chorley still remains one of the safest places to live, compared to the national average.

This table shows the number of incidents of crime by type in Chorley and how it compares with last year's figures.

Category	2009/10	2010/11	Year To Date % Change
All Crime	5783	5687	-1.7%
Serious Acquisitive Crime (NI16)	701	753	+7.4%
Burglary Dwelling	210	231	+10.0%
Vehicle Crime	475	484	+1.9%
Robbery	16	38	+137.5%
All Violent Crime	1293	1424	+10.1%
Serious Violent Crime	68	79	+16.2%
Assault with Less Serious Injury (NI20)	615	584	+6.8%
Criminal Damage (inc arson)	1321	1117	-15.4%
Anti Social Behaviour	7472	6716	-11.7%
Primary Fires	189	176	+6.7

Comparison of Crime in Chorley 2009/10 to 2010/11



Health

The health profile summary published by the North West Public Health Observatory in 2009 shows that the health of people in Chorley is varied. Some indicators are worse than the England average; but a similar number are better.

Health Inequalities

There are significant health inequalities within Chorley, by gender and level of deprivation. For example, men in the least deprived areas can expect to live nearly seven years longer than men in the most deprived areas.

Risk taking behaviour is a key area of concern for Chorley. The number of women who smoke during pregnancy is significantly worse than the England average. Also, although teenage pregnancies on average are reducing in numbers, in some wards (particularly deprived wards); teenage pregnancies are still double the national average.

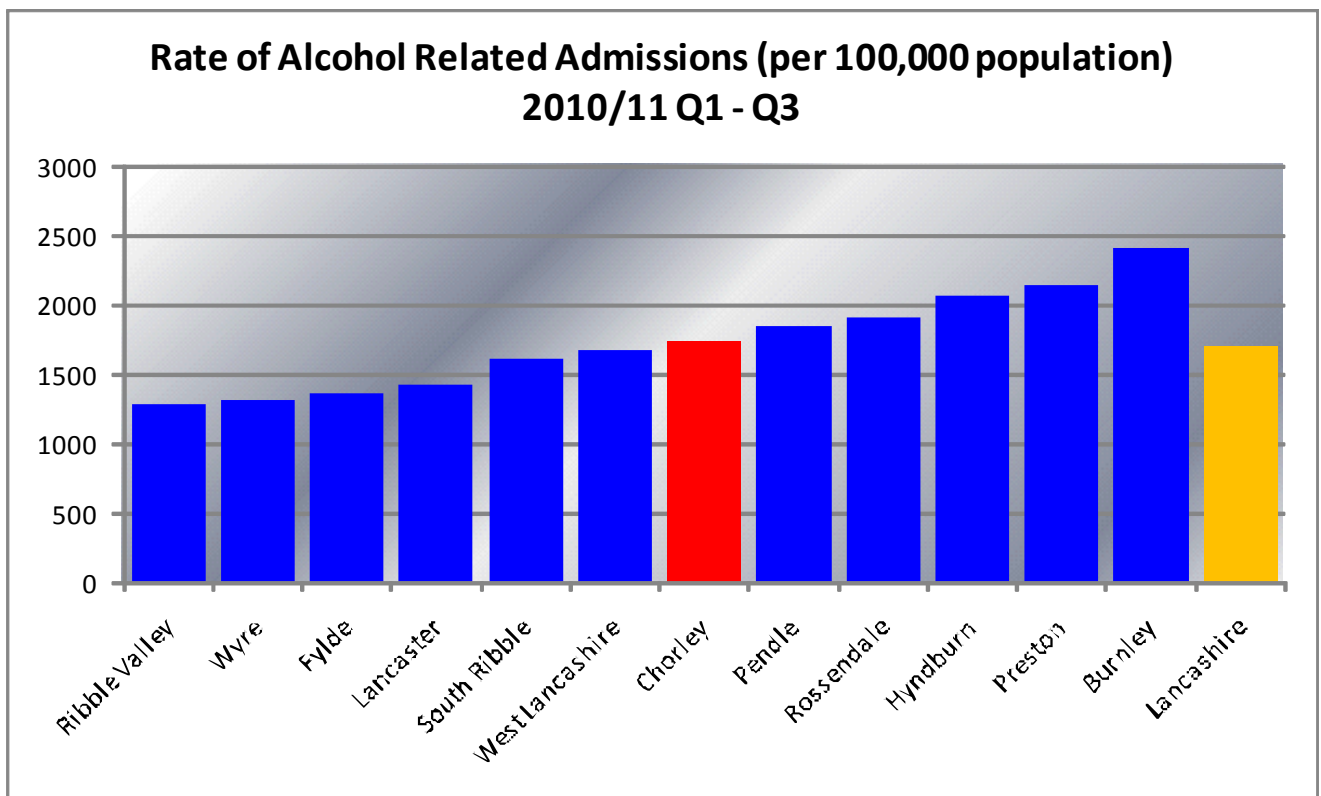
The Chorley Partnership has produced a Health Inequalities Strategy and an associated action plan, which sets out how we will tackle the most pressing health issues for Chorley. The three key areas for action are:

- Reducing alcohol related harm
- Reducing teenage pregnancy
- Tackling the most common causes of early death

Alcohol Related Harm

Alcohol related harm remains a key focus for the Chorley Partnership and much work has taken place over the past year to improve in this area.

- Chorley has improved over the last year now having the 6th highest rate of alcohol related admissions in Lancashire, compared to the 2nd highest last year (based on Q3 2010/11 provisional figures)
- At the end of quarter 3 2010/11 (provisional figures) the rate of alcohol related admissions per 100,000 population was 1,746 compared with 1,782 at the end of quarter 3 2009/10, this is a decrease of 2%. In comparison the Lancashire average is 1,715 with an increase of 5%.
- Chorley's rate of alcohol related admissions is also lower than the North West average with rates per 100,000 of 1,840, this equates to 5% lower than the North West average.
- Although alcohol related admissions are 19% higher than the national average, this is an improvement compared with 28% last year.



Over the past year, the Chorley Partnership has developed an alcohol intervention programme, to tackle the issues of alcohol related harm in the borough. This includes innovative use of partnership resources, including an empty town centre outlet.

The programme includes a number of different projects. Some of these include working with young people through the high schools and through street work (Healthy Shotz Project and Smart Response Project). The programme also commissioned brief intervention training, where 50 front line staff from a range of partner organisations received training to enable them to recognise and deal with signs of alcohol abuse.

A major part of the programme includes the 'free health checks' project, designed to target the highest proportion of our alcohol related admissions, people with high blood pressure. This was developed by Chorley Council and NHS Central Lancashire and initially undertaken as a pilot using the Chorley Smile Trailer in various locations. Healthy Lifestyle experts were on hand to check blood pressure, height and weight, carbon monoxide levels for smokers and alcohol awareness.

The scheme has since been extended, by transforming an empty town centre outlet into a 'One Stop Health Shop'. This is located in Chorley at 10 Cleveland Street and is open four days a week and alternate Saturdays, for people to just drop in for a mini MOT and to talk to health experts about help in stopping smoking, free weight management courses and alcohol awareness advice. Since opening in January 2011, it has received over 250 visitors.



Teenage Pregnancy

Teenage pregnancies across the borough have been reducing and, as a borough, our figures are now lower than the Lancashire and North West average at 38.7 per 1,000. Between 2006-8 and 2007-9 teenage conceptions across the borough have reduced by 2%. However, there is still a clear link both nationally and within Chorley between deprivation and higher than average levels of teenage pregnancies.

A variety of actions are currently being undertaken to tackle teenage pregnancy; including further roll out of the Girls Allowed and Boys Own projects and new reducing risk taking behaviour projects to be commissioned by the Children's Trust.

Life Expectancy

There are significant inequalities in life expectancy within Chorley by gender and level of deprivation.

- Life expectancy at birth in Chorley is lower for men. Based on 2007-2009 figures for men it is 77.5 years and for women it is 81.4 years. Since 1991-3, life expectancy for both men and women in Chorley has increased by 6% and 4% respectively.

- Life expectancy at birth in Chorley is lower for those that live in Chorley's most deprived wards. However, it is also a problem in some of our more rural wards. Chorley East, Brindle and Hoghton, Coppull, Chorley South West and Clayton-le-Woods North are in the bottom 20% nationally for life expectancy.
- However, although people are living longer, the general trend is that people are experiencing more ill health after the age of 65 than other areas.

The Sustainable Community Strategy - Performance and Projects

Priority 1: Ensuring that Chorley is the pulse of a thriving Central Lancashire economy

Manage Your Money Better

The ‘**Manage Your Money Better**’ project has provided advice on a wide range of financial matters to individuals, groups and communities across Chorley. The project has also built capacity in the public and voluntary sectors through partnership working and the delivery of training to front line staff. It was delivered by the Chorley and South Ribble Citizens Advice Bureau.

45 workshops have been delivered with 233 attendees. Feedback responses completed by delegates have indicated that 100% found the workshop content relevant & 91% were confident in the subject and able to put what they had learnt into practice.

The workshops have been instrumental in improving the financial capability of local people and also by supporting workers to help their clients make better financial decisions and being more likely to have a sustainable tenancy. Some people had never completed a budget before and this has proven the most popular activity undertaken. A welcome by-product has also been that some delegates have improved their basic numeracy.

Additional comments received were that people felt more able to recognise potential financial problems, understood the consequences for non payment of bills and debt and that they know what questions to ask before taking out credit. They also knew where to seek help.



Indicator	2009/10 Outturn	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Outturn	Performance against target	Direction of travel
Number of new businesses established per year	74	53	67	😊	↓
New businesses established and sustained for 12 months	94%	91%	95%	😊	↑
New businesses established and sustained for 24 months	79%	89%	91%	😊	↑
Vacant town centre floor space	7.75%	7.5%	8.23%	😞	↓

Priority 2: Improving Life Chances for All

Our Cotswold Community Kitchen

The ‘Our Cotswold Community Kitchen’ project was used to educate residents of Cotswold Supported Housing how to cook healthy food. These residents then in turn share their new found knowledge with new residents moving in to Cotswold Supported Housing giving the residents ownership of the project.



The group have benefited not only by gaining practical skills but by working on improving personal skills such as



team work, communication, skills, building confidence, self esteem and motivation. The group has now opened up to ex-residents of the service and the wider community.

Participants of this project are also participating regularly in another project called ‘Great Food at Cotswold’ which is a community food growing project, and wish to expand their skills by holding taster sessions to encourage other resident’s to attend future groups.

Residents taking part in the project said:

“I’m always cooking for my family now and they love it, especially my cauliflower cheese”

“It has taught me how to cook from scratch using fresh ingredients, instead of tins or packets”

Indicator	2009/10 Outturn	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Outturn	Performance against target	Direction of travel
Reduction in teenage pregnancy rate for under 18 year old girls	39.5/1000	38.7/1000	38.7/1000	😊	↑
Number of affordable homes delivered	107 units	50 units	173	😊	↑

Aspects

The '**Aspects**' project delivered by the Arts Partnership provided places for young people who have been excluded or are on a limited or restricted timetable. The project provided opportunities in arts and music as well as a variety of social and interpersonal skills, and also helped with literacy and numeracy and provided accreditation to Silver Arts Award level which is equivalent to GCSE grade A* - C.

The project helped 30 young people aged 15 + struggling to remain engaged either within school or needing additional support to find a place in a training scheme or entry to college. They took part in 6 week programmes to gain confidence using art/music and drama. The project also worked with around 20 young people under 15 who now regularly attend other programmes run by the Arts Partnership. 10 young people found places at Rathbones Training and 5 have taken part in The Princes Trust scheme and work experience with the Arts Partnership helping as volunteers on the Disability Drama sessions.

'We are fortunate to be able to offer support on a longer term as although initial outcomes were good; raised self esteem, increased confidence, better timekeeping and better communication skills; their lives change quickly and their situation can alter how they feel, often continuity is key to good results and remaining a constant has increased our success.'

Healthy Shotz

The '**Healthy Shotz**' project delivered an alcohol education programme to 874 young people between the ages of 13 and 15, attending one of the six high schools within Chorley or the Pupil Referral Unit at Shaftsbury House. The young people gained factual information about alcohol and are more aware of the long and short term damage alcohol can do to their bodies and the subsequent consequences relating to alcohol consumption.

Two specialist workers from Addaction delivered the work within the schools, and teachers from the various schools have said that having a professional organisation delivering the sessions has helped with consistency and up to date information.

Sessions included alcohol awareness, alcohol safety and a harm reduction messages competition. Harm reduction messages have been entered into a competition across the schools in the area and were judged by a panel consisting of representatives from Chorley Partnership. The winners will receive a personal prize and the chance to see their message produced.

Each young person was given an educational pack at the end of the sessions to take away and some of the funding was used to purchase up to date resources to be utilised in the sessions and left with the schools to continue work and education.

The project was successful, in particular, with the



The winning entry in the harm reduction messages competition

project exceeded the initial target set of 600 young people accessing the project.

LevelUp

The purpose of the '**LevelUp**' project was to use creative arts and media to research the experiences of vulnerable women in Chorley. Over 70 sessions were conducted with over 50 female participants, all of whom have experienced mental health problems, domestic violence, abuse, isolation or racism. The sessions have taken place in 12 community venues across Chorley, including mental health inpatient wards, children's centres, women's refuge and participant's homes.

This research aims to inform both strategy and practice for community development, service delivery and mental health and wellbeing.

LevelUp has been very well received by the participants, who have welcomed the opportunity to have their voices heard. Common themes raised have included the experience of overt and subtle racism, difficulty accessing support, social isolation, fear and poor housing.

Smart Response

The purpose of the '**Smart Response**' project was to offer capacity to deliver targeted outreach with young people and families on a regular basis in response to local need, rather than ad hoc pieces of work. Directed by local intelligence from partner agencies, 'Smart Response' delivered evening street work, targeted family work interventions and targeted group work interventions.

- A total of 152 young people were engaged in street work or group work where harm minimisation and personal safety information was discussed.
- 922 young people were engaged in targeted group work.
- There was a 100% engagement with all young people targeted through outreach and group work.
- There have been 8 clients so far referred into treatment services as a result of the Smart Response Project. One client is abstaining from Mephedrone and 5 have reported reducing their alcohol and drug use. In quarter 4, a client has been discharged as drug free and another two have been discharged as occasional users.

Feedback from parents has been positive:

"We found the meeting very, very useful we learnt about the different drugs and the effects, side effects from withdrawal etc."

"You have been a great help thank you."

"I feel there should be more services like this at parent's evenings."

Priority 3: Developing local solutions to global climate change

Chorley Community Food Growing Fund: Sustainability and Carbon Reduction

The ‘Community Food Growing’ project delivered by NHS Central Lancashire Public Health, established a one off community capacity building / engagement fund for the promotion of community food growing and sustainable carbon reduction across the neighbourhood footprint of the Borough of Chorley.

The project assisted community groups, land owners and schools to establish community food growing schemes or improve existing schemes to ensure continued success.



The Food Growing Fund provided money in the form of small grants along with professional advice that assisted groups to make their ideas into reality. Grants were awarded in the region of £500 to £750, supporting community change at the local level. The grant was also used to establish the infrastructure of the Community Food Growing Sites, for example fencing, paths, soil, seeds, fruit trees, raised beds, water butts, tools, greenhouse, shed. The grant was also used to run training courses about cooking and horticulture and celebration/promotional events.

Grants have been awarded to 14 organisations meaning that 14 Community Food Growing sites have been developed in Chorley in the last 12 months as a result of the funding from The Chorley Partnership.

Indicator	2009/10 Outturn	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Outturn	Performance against target	Direction of travel
Household waste recycled and composted	47.53%	50%	48.67%*	☹️	⬆️
A reduction in Chorley's overall CO2 emissions (% reduction based on 2005 figure)	5.3%	5.15%	5.6%	😊	⬆️

* This figure is provisional and may be subject to a minor change on receipt of final confirmed figures from Lancashire County Council.

Priority 4: Developing the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live, work and play

Street Pastors

The ‘**Street Pastors**’ project is an active partnership between the Church, Chorley Council and the Police. The Street Pastors engage with people on the streets and in night time venues. They are there to care, listen and offer practical help during weekend evenings, for example accompanying people to hospital, ensuring vulnerable people are able to get a taxi home and talking to those in distress.





There have been 13 new recruits over 2010 – 2011 who have almost completed their training and will be going out on the streets very soon.

Each week they find not just the general public but the landlords and doormen are very friendly towards them and show so much appreciation for the work they are doing, one particular case helps to illustrate their work;

A young girl came running up to the Street Pastors in the town centre expressing her thanks for listening and understanding during a conversation that had taken place 3 weeks earlier about her suffering from very bad low self esteem. She explained that this gave her the courage to apply for a job she'd always wanted and got it.

There are more churches offering help and support including Church leaders offering regular support on the street as observers. The Street Pastors continue to work with the Council on trying to find ways to improve Chorley regarding alcohol abuse and partnership with the Police continues on a weekly basis.

Indicator	2009/10 Outturn	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Outturn	Performance against target	Direction of travel
Reduce crime in the Borough	5783 reduction of 2.1% on last year	Reduce by 1% over three years	5687 reduction of 1.7% on last year	😊	↑
Street and Environmental Cleanliness					
Litter	6.1%	4.5%	4%	😊	↑
Detritus	9.7%	6.0%	6.0%	😊	↑
Graffiti	1.6%	1.5%	1.0%	😊	↑

Flyposting	0.8%	1.0%	0%		
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Priority 5: Building stronger communities with improved access to services

Database of Adapted Properties

The ‘**Database of Adapted Properties**’ project was to establish a virtual database of all substantially adapted properties owned by Registered Social Landlords in Chorley. The database can be accessed by landlords and other agencies to enable moves for disabled households to be proactively managed. This enables adaptations to be recycled, reducing the number of major adaptations that have to be carried out and expediting moves to more suitable accommodation for households with severely disabled family members whilst making best use of the housing stock.

Chorley Help Hub

The ‘**Chorley Help Hub**’ project was delivered by Help the Homeless, to provide flexible, quality, low cost accommodation and office services to the 3rd Sector in Chorley. The project provides a common, shared venue for agencies serving similar client groups, to enable closer working ties and easier access and referrals for clients.

Indicator	2009/10 Outturn	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Outturn	Performance against target	Direction of travel
% of people satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live	84.0%	84.0%	89.4%		
% of people who feel that their communities are places where people from different backgrounds get on well together	81.9%	81.9%	84.7%		
% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	31.7%	31.4%	45.8%		
% of people who regularly participate in volunteering	22.8%	25%	33.4%	