

Lincolnshire Police Area

The police:	The service covers an area of almost 2,300 square miles, serving a population of almost 650,000 people. The police employ about 1,150 officers and 430 support staff.
The area:	Lincolnshire Police covers the county of Lincolnshire, excluding the unitary authorities of North and North East Lincolnshire, which fall under Humberside Police. Below county level, the police has units covering the county at borough level: East & West Lindsey, the City of Lincoln, North and South Kesteven, South Holland and Boston Borough. Overall, these areas show many features common to much of the UK including high and low extremes of multiple deprivation, the former predominantly towards the east of the county, the latter towards the west. The county has a substantially lower percentage of working age people from BAME backgrounds compared to the rest of England at 5.7%, although the agricultural industries have attracted relatively recent migrants from the EU, particularly the A10 countries of Central and Eastern Europe.
Crime:	<p>Lincolnshire Police recorded the lowest number of crimes in highest number of crimes in the East Midlands region, at just over 44,000 in 2011-12; overall, crime in Lincolnshire is low in the national context, ranking 33rd out of 43. The police service is the cheapest in the country in per capita terms, and also has the lowest staffing numbers per head of population.</p> <p>Between November 2011 and October 2012, there were 1560 arrests for possession of drugs across the police force area.¹</p> <p>Overall, at 2 per 1,000 people, offences directly relating to drugs are around 50% lower than the national average of 4 per 1,000. Drug related crime is also low as a percentage of all recorded crime at 3.5%, compared to 5.6% nationally.²</p> <p>There were over 6,347 recorded instances of burglary, robbery, theft of a vehicle or theft from a vehicle in 2010-11.³ This is broadly below the national rate of offending per 1,000 of population, with the exception of Lincoln which has</p>

¹ http://www.ukcrimestats.com/Police_Force/Lincolnshire_Police

² <http://www.clinks.org/services/sfc/sfcresources/sfc-statistical-toolkit>

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above average offending around burglary and thefts from vehicles.

Over the period November 2011 to October 2012, there were 4297 offences of shoplifting.⁴

The Needs Assessment of Young People's Substance Misuse Treatment Services raises a number of noteworthy points, including an increase in poly drug / poly substance use but a decrease of referrals for heroin and crack cocaine use.⁵ The link between substance misuse and offending means that specialist services have a role to play in reducing the risk of custody and acquiring a criminal record.

Drugs and health:

From data from 2008, hospital admissions relating to drugs appear to be below the average for England, with 109 for drug poisoning (overdose) and 372 for mental health or behavioural reasons with drug use as a primary or secondary diagnosis.

The most recent figures for admissions relating to alcohol suggest that for most of the county, admissions are below the national rate of 942 per 100,000 population, although there are significant variations with Lincoln City again being above national trends at 1137 per 100,000.

Drug Intervention Programme:

DIP is provided by Addaction. DIP in the police area received £479,355 in 2012-13, with £166,563 coming from the Home Office, the remainder from the Department of Health. The budget for policing Lincolnshire for 2012-13 is £109.8m, a reduction of £3.6m on the previous year's budget.

Drug services:

Drug services are provided by a range of agencies from the public and voluntary sector. In 2010-11 254 people successfully completed treatment out of almost 1900 people in receipt of specialist treatment for 12 weeks or more.⁶ Both figures show a general upwards (i.e. improving) trend that reflects national patterns.

Penetration rates (the percentage of people who need treatment who are actually receiving it) in the Lincolnshire Police Area are generally good, aided by the substantial number of referrals who arrive at treatment providers via

⁴ http://www.ukcrimestats.com/Police_Force/Lincolnshire_Police

⁵ http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/2012_13_Young_Persons_drug_and_alcohol_treatment_needs_assesment.pdf

⁶ <https://www.ndtms.net/viewit/Adult/ExecutiveSummary.aspx?datCode=E08B>

the criminal justice system (including prisons) which appears to be in the range of 27-35%.

Drug use:

Self-reported drug use in the East Midlands region is lower than the national average and has fallen to 2.6% in 2011-12 from a peak of 3.4% in 2006-7; this is again broadly reflected by similar patterns nationwide.⁷

Interviews with Community Safety Partnerships were carried out by the Drug and Alcohol Action Team as part of the process to produce the Drug Misuse Needs Assessment 2011-12. Only Lincoln City made reference to heroin and crack as problematic, with the other 6 areas citing cannabis and ketamine as drugs which caused their areas most difficulties.⁸

A report by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons in August 2012 highlighted a number of concerns about facilities, support, substitute opioid and opiate prescribing and illicit drug use within the prison.⁹

Drugs in the media:

The local press has shown a consistent interest in drugs, particularly around arrests for supply, but also around offending where drugs may have been a factor, cannabis production and use of illegal drugs within Lincoln prison.¹⁰

Perceptions of drug related crime:

In the 2010-11 British Crime Survey, 16% of residents of the police area indicated that they thought that drug related crime was a very or fairly big problem, against a national average of 26%.

⁷ <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/drugs-misuse-dec-1112/>

⁸ <http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Drug%20Misuse%20Needs%20Assessment%202011-12.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/publications/inspectorate-reports/hmipris/prison-and-yoi-inspections/lincoln/lincoln-2012.pdf>

¹⁰ <http://www.thisislincolnshire.co.uk/Lincoln-Prison-unsafe-overcrowded-dirty-says/story-17556469-detail/story.html>