Tackling repeat burglary and crime

– Lancashire Constabulary
Working in partnership with the community to tackling repeat burglary and vehicle crime in Lancashire


The problem

- A local resident with no-fixed abode was identified as a “foraging criminal” who committed crimes for financial gain, typically burglary and vehicle crime.
- Repeat crimes were committed around the ward, including the area where they had family and often visited.
- The offender generally evaded capture as he knew the neighbourhood well enough to identify low-risk opportunities to commit crime.

The neighbourhood policing approach

- The officer established collaborative relationships with local residents and worked with them to track the movements and activities of the offender.
- The officer worked with the family of the offender to secure a restraining order, disrupting the routine of the offender and their ability to visit the area.
- The officer partnered with local businesses to obtain CCTV evidence against the offender.

The results preclude firm statements of cause and effect in the absence of a fully randomised control design. Further analysis is required to understand the longer term impact on crime in the area.