



**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date Monday 31 October 2016
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend. Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's agreement.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held 23 September 2016 (Pages 1 - 12)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Checkpoint: (Pages 13 - 16)
 - (i) Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships.
 - (ii) Presentation by the Chief of Staff, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner.
8. Community and Organisational Resilience for Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery: (Pages 17 - 34)
 - (i) Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships.
 - (ii) Presentation by the Civil Contingencies Officer, Transformation and Partnerships.
9. Overview and Scrutiny Review Updates:

Verbal Update by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Transformation and Partnerships.

10. Police and Crime Panel:
Verbal Update by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Transformation and Partnerships.
11. Safe Durham Partnership Update: (Pages 35 - 40)
Report of the Head of Planning and Service Strategy – presented by the Community Safety Manager, Planning and Service Strategy.
12. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
21 October 2016

To: **The Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)
Councillor T Nearney (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors J Armstrong, J Charlton, J Cordon, S Forster, J Gray, C Hampson, M Hodgson, G Holland, S Iveson, H Liddle, J Maitland, N Martin, J Measor, K Shaw, W Stelling, P Stradling, F Tinsley, J Turnbull and C Wilson

Co-opted Members: Mr A J Cooke and Mr J Welch

Co-opted Employees/Officers: Chief Fire Officer S Errington and Chief Superintendent A Green

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of **Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Friday 23 September 2016** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Armstrong, J Charlton, S Forster, J Gray, C Hampson, S Iveson, N Martin, T Nearney, F Tinsley, J Turnbull and C Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr J Welch

Co-opted Employees/Officers:

Chief Fire Officer S Errington and Chief Superintendent A Green

Also Present:

Councillors J Allen

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Hodgson, G Holland, H Liddle, J Maitland, Mr A J Cooke and Temp Assistant Chief Constable H McMillan.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes of the Meetings held 21 June, 29 June and 25 July 2016

The Minutes of the meetings held 21 June, 29 June and 25 July 2016 were agreed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

There were no items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties.

6 Media Relations

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the recent prominent articles and news stories relating to the remit of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes). The articles included: motorists taking photographs and video while at the wheel, with some drivers “streaming” video; Durham Constabulary catching over 100 speeding drivers per day; linking to the Organised Crime item, 11 arrests being made in connections with drugs across South Shields, Durham and Sunderland; and linking to the Youth Offending Service item, a pet charity had teamed up with the Youth Offending Service in terms of “status dogs” and on issues of the animals’ welfare.

The Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Councillor J Allen noted that following the success of the “Dying to be Cool” water safety campaign, the Local Government Association (LGA) were taking the issue forward nationally, with Durham as a key contributor and the work undertaken being seen as best practice.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

7 County Durham Youth Offending Service - Youth Justice Plan

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Manager, County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS), Gill Eshelby who was in attendance to give a 2015/16 update for Members in respect of the Youth Justice Plan 2015/17 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager, CDYOS referred Members to the report circulated with the agenda papers and associated appendix which set out the refreshed Youth Justice Plan 2016/17. Councillors noted that number of First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System was the lowest ever, being 161 a reduction of 16.6% when compared to 2014/15 and an 85.7% reduction since 2007/08. It was added that use of custody had also reduced by 60% compared to 2014/15, with the figure of 8 being better than the regional and national figures and that the number of remand bed nights had also reduced by 35.9% on the previous year. Members were reminded that the costs of remand bed night were met by the Local Authority, partly offset by a grant from the Youth Justice Board (YJB), and 227 bed nights in 2015/16 represented an overall reduction of 78.1% since 2010/11.

The Committee noted that Ministry of Justice (MoJ) data showed that the re-offending rate was 44.7% from a cohort of young people sentenced in court or cautioned. The Strategic Manager CDYOS highlighted the table on page 5 of the Youth Justice Plan 2016/17 which shows the impact of successful diversion and robust case management. Since 2007/08 the number of young people in the cohort has reduced by 80.2% (from 2145 to 425); the number re-offending has reduced by 73.9% (from 728 to 190); and the number of re-offences committed has reduced by 68.7% (from 1950 to 611).

The Strategic Manager, CDYOS explained that there had been a 54.6% reduction in the number of offences committed and the number of young people offending since 2010/11 (see page 5 of the Youth Justice Plan).

The Strategic Manager CDYOS also highlighted the service's innovative work on speech language and communication needs. Two members of staff were awarded a joint Butler Trust Award 2015/16 for their innovative work and leadership of the CDYOS's Speech and Language Communication Needs Strategy and development of ClearCut Communication resources. Members noted this was evidence of the focus in Durham on quality, adding that the CDYOS having achieved the Restorative Service Quality Mark (RSQM) was another demonstration of this, noting that the CDYOS was the only service in County Durham and Darlington to have achieved the RSQM. Councillors noted other achievements included the renewal of Investing in Volunteers Quality Mark and achieving Investing in Children status. The Strategic Manager, CDYOS noted that Lord McNally and Colin Allars, the Chairman and Chief Executive of the YJB, were in Durham today to present the RSQM, Investing in Volunteers and Investing in Children awards to CDYOS. The Strategic Manager CDYOS added that Lord Ramsbotham, the former Chief Inspector of Prisons and Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Speech and Language Difficulties, had commended CDYOS staff for their work in this area. Councillors noted that the ClearCut Communication resources were copyright to Durham County Council, recognised by the Butler Trust and purchased by other youth offending services/teams nationally.

The Strategic Manager, CDYOS concluded by encouraging Members to read the executive summary within the Youth Justice Plan if they had not already done so and added that the message to take away was that reductions in re-offending meant in turn that there were fewer victims of youth crime.

Councillor S Iveson noted the excellent work of CDYOS and congratulated the Strategic Manager, CDYOS and her staff. The Strategic Manager, CDYOS thanked Councillor S Iveson. Linking to the Media Relations Item, the Strategic Manager CDYOS noted another example of partnership - the Paws4Change programme with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), one of only two pilots in the country. Young people help to train abandoned dogs to get them ready for rehoming, with a graduation ceremony after completing the programme.

The Chairman noted the reducing resources in the public sector and also the huge successes made to date. He asked the Strategic Manager, CDYOS if the service would be able to continue to see improvements or would performance level out; would the service still be able to ensure young people were in suitable accommodation after custody. The Strategic Manager, CDYOS explained that there were very few young people from Durham in custody, and having reduced from over 3,000 to a under nine hundred nationally over a number of years. It was added that now any young person in custody was classified as a "looked after child", with this not being an issue for County Durham as numbers were very low.

Councillor F Tinsley noted that the huge reduction in the number of FTEs and asked whether this was through restorative approaches and as this seemed to be going against national trends, was there pointers for the wider culture beyond young people specifically.

The Strategic Manager, CDYOS explained the service was fully engaged in the partnership arena and shared good practice with the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP), Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and Checkpoint and the service's out of court disposals work and early intervention helped to reduce the number of FTEs. It was added that the Taylor Review of the Youth Justice System had an interim report in February 2016 and had suggested secure schools that would have between 70-80 young people and that education would be at the heart of youth justice. Members noted there was no due date as yet in terms of the final report from the Taylor Review. It was noted the Strategic Manager, CDYOS and the Head of Children's Services, Carole Payne had met Charlie Taylor in March and he had understood the issues in terms of speech language and communication needs. Officers were awaiting the final report.

The Strategic Manager, CDYOS reminded the Committee that the CDYOS was fully integrated into Children's Services; there were excellent relationships with partner agencies and this was vitally important in ensuring success.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report and Youth Justice Plan 2016/17 be noted.
- (ii) That a progress update be received by the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 12 months.

8 Progress of Recommendations following the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Organised Crime

The Chairman introduced the Detective Chief Inspector Dave Ashton, Durham Constabulary who was in attendance to give an update presentation in respect progress of recommendations following the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Organised Crime (for copy see file of minutes).

DCI D Ashton thanked Members for the opportunity to speak to the Committee and reminded Councillors of the definition of serious and organised crime, namely: serious crime was planned, co-ordinated, conducted by people working together on a continuing basis, with the motivation being often, but not always, financial gain. It was added that since a national strategy was launched in 2013, the estimated cost nationally of organised crime was £24 Billion annually. Councillors noted that the Police worked in partnership with other agencies to look to be able to affect organised crime groups (OCGs) in their many areas of activity to help provide many benefits. It was explained that these benefits were not only in human terms by ending misery for those exploited by OCGs, such as drug addicts, those being defrauded and those subject to sexual exploitation, but also in terms of financial benefits in terms of early intervention in cases such as waste management fraud, the Committee being aware of the recent examples in our area from the Scrutiny Review.

Members were reminded of the national tools used to capture data and to score and map OCGs based upon their intent and capability and linked to their level of criminality to give an overall threat assessment score. DCI D Ashton referred Members to a graph showing 39 OCGs within Durham, and that the threat assessment determined that 44% of the OCGs had low-level or infrequent criminality and that their impact was primarily local. Councillors noted the types of activities included: drugs; violence; money laundering; theft; economic crime; environmental crime; and child sexual exploitation.

DCI D Ashton noted the disruption tactics used to target OCGs, under the Police branding of “Sledgehammer” and successes had included: significant seizures of Class A drugs; tackling animal cruelty linking to environmental offences; environmental crimes, including the examples of the site in Darlington Members were familiar with from the Review; and dwelling burglary, with a gang operating in our area recently imprisoned for 10 years.

Members noted that areas for development included the stolen goods and counterfeit markets and the rise in the use of psychoactive substances, and there was a need to be vigilant in terms of the signs of activities such as human trafficking, modern day slavery and child sexual exploitation.

DCI D Ashton reminded Members that this was tackled by working in partnership to disrupt OCGs’ activities with the Partnership Disruption and Intervention Panel coordinating activities. Councillors were reminded of the 4 Ps in terms of the Action Plan to tackle OCGs, Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare and that a lead for areas could come from the Police or a partner as appropriate. Members learned of the national Government Agency Intelligence Network (GAIN) as a tool to be able to share information and make referrals to other agencies as required.

Members were reminded that intelligence was vital in terms of being able to tackle OCGs, with the smallest piece of information sometimes being the key to unlocking a larger picture. It was added that an important aspect for partners was to look to say “does my work take me behind closed doors” and if so and signs of child sexual exploitation, drugs, slavery, or any form of criminality then this should be shared with the Police and relevant agencies for further consideration.

Councillor N Martin noted that economic crime was a concern, with more frequent attempts by telephone and e-mail by fraudsters to try and trick people out of their personal information and asked how people could forward information to the Police and also should a fraudster be successful, what support was available. DCI D Ashton noted that these types of OCGs were typically national or international and there was information contained within an Action Fraud leaflet as regards what to look out for, and what you can do if you are subject to such fraud.

Councillor T Nearney noted during the Scrutiny Review, Police had spoken in terms of Proceeds of Crime (PoC) monies that could be fed back into local communities and also of the links between anti-social behaviour and OCGs. Councillor T Nearney asked had the community Trigger and Community Remedy been used, and if so how effective had they been, and also asked as regards any issues in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding where the Council worked with the Environment Agency. DCI D Ashton noted that there were links between ASB and OCGs, and highlighted initiatives such as the Haggrid project to engage with young people with high risk factors and to divert them away from criminal activities. Members noted horticultural schemes where the activities provided an opportunity to engage with the young people in order to help them look at attitudes and it was added that Home Office funds meant this scheme could be rolled out more widely. Councillors were reminded of another scheme that looked to try and change perceptions of authority, including the Police, included the “Mini Police” project. DCI D Ashton added that Durham Constabulary worked very well with the Environment Agency and noted that the strategic “Gold Group” that included the Chief Constable, met to discuss at a strategic and tactical level and noted there was good agreement from all those involved.

The Chairman referred to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Review, set out as Appendix 2 to the report with DCI D Ashton noting recommendations 1 to 4 having been touched upon and with enhanced awareness raising as set out in recommendation 6 including presentations at the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) and Partnership Forums as well as the roll out of an associated online training package, by the end of the year.

Councillor J Allen explained that intelligence was key and that Councillors could help to feed in information, though the successful “In the Know” tool, and through Crimestoppers and their local Police Teams.

It was added that cybercrime had been identified by the SDP as an increasing risk and that within the Authority, the Director of Transformation and Partnership would be looking to appoint cyber-champions within departments to raise awareness of potential issues. Councillor J Allen added that as Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, she was a Member of the Gold Group which looked at the issues of disruption and reiterated that partners all worked hard together to ensure that all avenues were pursued in order to catch out OCGs and put a stop to their activities.

The Chief Fire Officer, S Errington noted that the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) would be keen to see what they could do to help, with FRS now falling within the remit of the Home Office and with OCGs having been identified as a strategic priority. Members were reminded of the CDDFRS’s Safe and Wellbeing Visits (SWVs), a topic also being looked at by a Working Group of the Committee, and that while this presented a “foot in the door” and an opportunity to alert agencies should safeguarding issues be noted, there was also a need to ensure that the good reputation of the CDDFRS was maintained. DCI D Ashton noted that there were different way of reporting information, and reinforced that if there was a safeguarding issue then this would be something to be passed to the Police as a priority. It was added that there were various sophisticated methods by which the Police could protect sources of information and also should a member of the public wish they could utilise the anonymous Crimestoppers service.

Councillor F Tinsley noted that there were very low levels of immigration into County Durham and noted that some people were of the opinion that OCGs were as a consequence of such immigration and asked whether there was any evidence of this or whether it was simply a misconception. DCI D Ashton noted there were OCGs operating across all types of communities and at all levels of society from those working on the streets, to accountants and solicitors, so indeed there was no one particular group OCGs were limited to. Chief Superintendent A Green added that it was also to be understood that in fact some of those in immigrant communities were in fact amongst the most vulnerable to exploitation by OCGs and cited examples nationally where some immigrants had been trafficked to Norway to work as slave labour.

Councillor C Wilson noted the example that had been given in terms of the waste management fraud and asked if there had been and further progress. DCI D Ashton noted that this was being led by the Environment Agency, however, feedback and discussion with local people would likely be best served via the relevant local Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That a progress update be received by the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 12 months.

9 Road Safety Reduction Partnership

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Traffic Manager and Chair of the Road Safety Partnership, Dave Wafer who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Road Safety Reduction Partnership (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Traffic Manager thanked Members for the opportunity to address the Committee and noted that there were a lot of statistics and trends identified regionally and within the County. Members noted that the North East in general performed better than the country as a whole, with the number of casualties in 2015 being the second lowest since records began in 1979. It was added that the number of collisions was 2% less than the 2005-2009 baseline and this was in the context of traffic levels having increased almost back to pre-recession levels.

The Committee noted that for County Durham it was more a of a mixed pattern, with overall casualties reducing however the number killed or seriously injured (KSI) had increased by 16%, albeit lower than the 2005-2009 baseline figure. It was added that as the figures in terms of numbers of people was low then a few incidents can result in large increases in the percentages, however, it was highlighted that vulnerable groups appeared to be disproportionately effected and that one incident involving 86 child casualties was skewing figures. The Strategic Traffic Manager noted that while this was the case, the national comparators in terms of child casualty numbers remained unfavourable.

Members noted decreasing trends in 2015 in relation to pedestrian casualties and significant improvements to bus occupant casualties and increasing trends in terms of a slight increase in the number of motorcycle casualties. It was added that while the number of pedal cyclists remained relatively static, the number of cyclists seriously injured had increased 125% on the previous year.

The Strategic Traffic Manager noted benchmarking using the latest available data from 2014 and that North East Council's generally perform well in comparison to the other 139 English Councils. Members noted County Durham performance was in general good, however, the County did not compare well in terms of the safety of bus occupants and child casualties.

Members were referred to graphs showing the rate of casualties per billion vehicle miles against Local Authorities within the Country, and noted Durham was within the second quartile and performing better than the England average. Councillors noted that County Durham also performed well in terms of rate of casualties per million population, however, was below the England average in respect of the rate of child casualties per billion vehicle miles. Members noted that when looking at rate of child casualties per 100,000 child population then Durham performed poorly, being second from bottom.

The Strategic Traffic Manager explained that regionally a link between deprivation and casualty numbers was being seen and that car passengers were more likely to come from deprived areas, especially those aged 18-24. Members noted that deprived areas also tended to have higher levels of pedestrian casualties and child casualty rates in deprived areas were 3 times greater than for those of the least deprived areas.

Members noted a number of current and future actions including from April 2015: 12,785 young people engaging in practical road safety training working with AAPs; 97 older people having received SAGE driver assessments; 148 safe and fuel efficient courses being delivered to drivers for companies in South Durham and 39 riders had attended BIKESAFE post-test workshops.

The Committee noted actions since November 2015 included: 3,706 young people having completed the practical child pedestrian training course; 920 young people having received EXCEerate presentations; 2,287 Year 5 and 6 pupils having completed bikeability training and 39 young people having completed the EXCEerate post-test practical training course.

The Strategic Traffic Manager concluded by noted actions since January 2016 had included 357 community speed watch activities having taken place and 148 speed camera deployments had resulted in 3,225 detections of excess speed.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Traffic Manager and asked Members for the question as regards the report and presentation.

The Chairman asked how the Local Authority could help in terms of targeting road safety issues. The Strategic Traffic Manager explained that visibility was an issue and therefore there was a need to keep campaigns in the public eye, such as in connection with mobile phone use.

Councillor S Forster asked as regards who decided upon where the moveable speed cameras were deployed. The Strategic Traffic Manager noted that the Police can move their equipment and also if there were complaints as regards speeding then the Council could look to measure to see if there was an issue in an area. It was added that should here be a casualty, then regular visits to an area could be factored in, and also working to any intelligence received, for example via PACT meetings. Councillor S Forster asked whether there would be feedback from PACT meetings in this regard. The Strategic Traffic Manager noted that if the Council or Police go out to a site and carry out measurements and there are no issues, enforcement action would not be looked at. Members were reminded of schemes such as Community Speedwatch, with Councillor T Nearney agreeing on its importance.

Councillor T Nearney noted the "Fatal Four" and asked if, when looking at the links to deprivation, whether there was any one of these factors that was more prevalent. The Strategic Traffic Manager noted that when looking at rural areas, there were issues in terms of drugs and alcohol late at night. Members noted that attitudes were hard to change and programmes such as EXCEerate looked to try and change people's mind-sets and to try and get across the message of the impact that drink/drug driving can have.

The Chairman noted the links to 20mph zones and also in terms of more deprived areas being more likely to have less roadworthy vehicles, and more likely to have non-qualified and non-insured drivers behind the wheel.

The Strategic Traffic Manager noted that there was joined up working, linking into the previous item on OCGs, with a lot of technology available and used in order to track and detect those types of vehicle and drivers. The Chairman added that there were a number of diverse issues across the County and the Strategic Traffic Manager noted he would be back to speak to Members more in-depth later this year.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that the issue of the Fatal Four was picked up within the Work Programme and as the Officer had mentioned a further update would be provided to Committee in December.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Quarter 1 2016/17 Performance Management Report

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management, Keith Forster and the Analyst, Durham Constabulary, Samantha Level who were in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 1 2016/17 Performance Management Report for the Altogether Safer theme (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management referred Members to the report and noted key performance achievements, including: continued good performance in relation to those using services having said those services made them feel safe and secure; the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System being better than target; and a reduction in anti-social behaviour (ASB) figures.

It was noted that the key performance issues included underperformance in respect of the number of people completing alcohol and drug treatment, noting the new provider, Lifeline had been in attendance to speak to Members at a special meeting of the Committee.

In respect of crime statistics, the Analyst, Durham Constabulary reminded Members of the changes in national timescales in terms of recording of crime and how this nationally was increasing the crime rate, however, in County Durham the rate per 1,000 population in Durham was 10.9, lower than a national figure of 11.7. Members noted that the number of harassment cases had reduced and that the number of hate incidents had seen an increase of 12.2% in comparison to the same period last year. It was explained that while the figures for theft offences had increased, the rate of theft offences in the Durham area was lower than for similar areas and the national average. Members noted the levels of anti-social behaviour, the lowest since 2014 and the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management added that the issues in terms of road safety had been covered within the presentation by the Strategic Traffic Manager.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management and noted that the 49% increase in crime was comparable to other areas across the country and appeared to be as a result of the changes in reporting crime. The Chairman added that the performance in terms of the drug and alcohol service continued to be disappointing, with the Committee to continue to monitor the situation.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Overview and Scrutiny Review Updates

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that the report of the Alcohol and the Demand on the Emergency Services Working Group would be brought to the October meeting of the Committee for consideration.

Councillor T Nearney added that two meeting of the Working Group looking at the CDDFRS's SWVs had taken place looking at the background to the new visits, and the processes and referral routes being used. It was noted the next meeting would be at the Fire Headquarters and would focus on the experiences of partners, impact on resources and outcomes.

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

12 Police and Crime Panel

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the report setting out the main issues discussed at the last meeting of the Police and Crime Panel (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted the main issues included:

- Membership of the Panel – remained unchanged
- HMIC Inspection and Year End Performance
- Report of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner's Annual Report 2015/16
- Draft Police, Crime and Victims Plan 2016-2021
- Commissioning and Community Safety Funding 2016/17
- Police and Crime Panel Work Programme
- Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel, Memorandum of Understanding/Partnership Working Agreement.

Members noted the draft Police, Crime and Victims Plan was out for consultation until the end of October and Councillor would be provided with a link to the relevant pages. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer reiterated that the role was now entitled Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner to ensure victims were being put at the centre and their needs being addressed.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

13 Safe Durham Partnership Update

The Chairman asked the Community Safety Manager, Caroline Duckworth to speak to Members as regards an update from the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP).

Members noted that many of the issues discussed by the SDP Board had been touched on during the meeting, including the issues of OCGs and cybercrime, with the latter having a Task and Finish Group, chaired by DCI D Ashton, which worked to an action plan looking at raising awareness, especially within specific groups within the public, private and voluntary sectors. Councillors noted Get Safe Online events, with over 500 people having attended events at Durham Town Hall and an event being held this week at county Hall.

The Community Safety Manager noted that other issues discussed at the SDP meeting included: the Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) Review, with the Neighbourhood Protection Manager to speak to the Committee on this in more detail at the January meeting; SDP Governance Review; Modern Crime Prevention Strategy, focusing on 6 key drivers; collaboration between the CDDFRS and Durham Constabulary; funding; and Durham Constabulary and Durham County Council having signed up to a Concordat on Children in Custody.

The Chairman thanked the Community Safety Manager for her update.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

This page is intentionally left blank

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee****31 October 2016****Checkpoint**

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Committee with information in advance of a presentation on the Checkpoint programme from Alan Reiss, Chief of Staff, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner.

Background

2. At its meeting in October 2015, the Committee received a presentation on the Checkpoint programme and requested a progress report to be presented to the Committee. Information within this presentation is linked to the 'Reducing re-offending' sections of the Altogether Safer objective within the Council Plan 2016/19 and Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2016/19.
3. The Checkpoint programme, launched in April 2015, aims to reduce the number of victims of crime by reducing reoffending. The programme offers eligible offenders a four month long contract to engage with services as an alternative to prosecution and offers interventions to address the underlying reasons why they committed the crime to prevent them from doing it again.
4. It is to note that not all offences can qualify for the Checkpoint programme. Serious offences such as rape, robbery or murder will not be eligible for Checkpoint and the programme does not include driving offences, cases of domestic abuse or hate crime.
5. The offender is supported through the process by a specialist 'navigator' who completes a detailed needs assessment and creates a tailored contract to which could include interventions around any of the issues the offender may have. Within this context, should the offender successfully complete the contract and has not reoffended, no further action will be taken against them. However, if they reoffend or fail to complete the contract they will be prosecuted and the courts will be informed of the circumstances of their failure to complete the contract.
6. The presentation to Members in October 2015 provided an overview on the above areas together with current performance. Building on this presentation, Alan Reiss, Chief of Staff will be in attendance to provide Members with a progress update on the checkpoint programme and how this has developed during the past year.

Recommendation

Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and presentation and comment accordingly.

Background Papers

None

Contact: Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 03000 268 142

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

This page is intentionally left blank

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee****31 October 2016****Community and Organisational
Resilience for Emergency
Preparedness, Response and
Recovery**

**Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and
Partnerships**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Committee with information in advance of a presentation on community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness, response and recovery from Peter Bodo, Civil Contingencies Officer, Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU).

Background

2. At its meeting in June 2016, the Committee agreed its work programme to include a presentation on community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness, response and recovery. Information within this presentation is linked to the 'Protect Vulnerable People from Harm' objective within the Council Plan 2016/19.
3. The Council's Civil Contingencies Unit working together with partner agencies, businesses and communities have developed a number of Community Engagement Plans in preparation to deal with an emergency incident.
4. Peter Bodo, Civil Contingencies Officer will be in attendance at the Committee's meeting to provide Members with an overview of the work of the CCU, activity undertaken to develop community and organisational resilience within the county and how this contributes to protecting vulnerable people.
5. In advance of the Committee's meeting Appendix 2 of this report contains supporting information from a document titled 'Be Prepared - 10 Steps to complete your Community Emergency Plan'.

Recommendation

Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and presentation and comment accordingly.

Background Papers

None

Contact: Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 03000 268 142

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

“How would my community survive the first 48 hours of a serious emergency?”



Be Prepared!

10 STEPS to complete your
Community Emergency Plan

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES



Have you ever asked yourself:



“How would I get through the first 48 hours of a serious emergency, such as flooding, and how would others in my community cope?”

If you answered yes then this 10 step guide may be for you. It is not a rigid template, it simply suggests how you can prepare for an emergency in a way that fits the particular needs of your community. It will help you put together a local Community Emergency Plan and identify the key tools that you will need; local people, local knowledge and local resources.

Contents

Introduction to the 10 step guide	3
How your plan might work	4
The ten steps:	
1. Getting together	5
2. Organising the work	6
3. You know your risks	7
4. Identifying skills and resources	8
5. Organising key facilities	9
6. Keeping in touch	10
7. Activating your Community Emergency Plan	11
8. Taking control	12
9. Testing your plan	13
10. Things to consider	14
Sources of further information	15
Emergency Contacts	16

Introduction to the **10** STEP Guide

This 10 step guide reflects the experiences of communities who have put plans together and then had to use them in real emergencies. Your plan will belong to your community, so put it together to suit your needs.

Community Resilience IS:

- ✓ Communities utilising their enthusiasm and skills to improve their resilience, with help from the emergency services and the local authority.
- ✓ Helping to protect the health and economic wellbeing of communities from a variety of threats, from flooding to heavy snow. The likelihood of most risks actually happening is low, but evidence shows that having a plan can make a real difference to how quickly the community, and individuals, can recover from an emergency.
- ✓ Raising local awareness of the risks that may affect residents.
- ✓ Supporting local people to adapt and use their existing skills and knowledge to deal with an emergency.
- ✓ Building commitment to working in partnership with the local authority and emergency services.
- ✓ Encouraging and maintaining a sense of community where you live.

Community Resilience IS NOT:

- ✗ Replacing the work of the emergency services, local authority or other professional organisations.
- ✗ Acting alone; keep in close contact with the emergency services and local authority as you plan, agree how you will work together and provide them with copies of your completed plan.
- ✗ Putting yourself at risk in any way. Your community having a robust Community Emergency Plan does not mean any of your services being reduced or cut. It is about you taking action to lessen the immediate and long term effects of an emergency on you and your community.
- ✗ Only planning for specific emergencies. By identifying the people, resources and facilities that you might need in an emergency, you have a greater ability to be flexible as a situation changes.

Working with the emergency services

The emergency services and local authorities have tried and tested plans that are activated when an emergency occurs. The geographical area of County Durham and Darlington is large and diverse however, it may be impossible for these services to reach every community in the first hours of a widespread emergency. Early action on the ground, especially in more remote areas, depends upon local capacity, skills and resources. Prior planning, using this guide, can make sure that your local response is as effective as possible and that your community can recover speedily from an emergency.

The plan you prepare will make an important contribution to the resources that they can call upon and to the operational response that takes place within your community. As you prepare your plan make sure that you inform and involve representatives of the emergency services and local authority, so that they are aware of your capacity, skills, resources and how to call upon these when needed.

Example activation: How your plan might work

Emergency - A Met Office weather warning for heavy rain is issued for the following day which is likely to cause localised flooding.

The local community centre, which acts as a base for many activities and crucially provides a nursery service for many families in the area.

Potential Consequences - if the nursery closes for even a few days it would have a significant impact as the nearest alternative is several miles away and is much more expensive.

If the closure lasts for more than a week, the loss of money into the nursery and the cost of replacing damaged equipment could result in the centre closing.

The Community Emergency Plan - has identified the loss of the community centre as a key risk. Mitigating actions are in the plan and equipment has been bought and is stored in the building.

When the warning is received, the action plan is initiated and six volunteers assist the centre staff. The portable flood gates and vent guards are fitted to the building and all of the indoor soft play equipment and story books are moved to the upstairs store room.

The car park floods but the Fire and Rescue Service attend to pump it out and the emergency is over in 6 hours with minimal impact caused.

1 Getting together

Preparing a Community Emergency Plan will require voluntary input from across the community and the harnessing of local knowledge and resources. Remember YOU are the local experts.

An open meeting

One way to start this process is to call an open meeting, working with neighbours and local authorities, to encourage wider consideration of the key question - "How could we better survive the first 48 hours of an emergency?"

An open meeting can take a variety of formats, from an informal 'drop in' involving a small number of people, to a full scale public meeting. It is an opportunity to view and discuss information about Community Emergency Planning at a local level, such as this guide.

In either case you need to think about how you might publicise the event, where it will take place, what information and materials you may need and who you should invite.

The emergency services and the local authority's Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU) may be able to support your event. Why not check what help is available (contact details on page 15 of this guide)?

Whatever the format you decide upon you can use the event to talk about your shared concerns, review this guide and decide whether there is support for the preparation of a Community Emergency Plan.

"It is really important that as a community we are as prepared as possible to minimise the impact of emergencies, not just as individuals but as neighbours too. Through working together we can co-ordinate the available support for everyone's benefit."

Sally Laverick, Lanchester Parish Clerk



Who should you involve?

Friends, neighbours, local authorities, potential volunteers, existing groups.

Emergency services (Police, Fire & Rescue, etc), Civil Contingencies Unit.

What should you discuss?

What emergencies are likely; the impact on your community and how it would cope; the benefits of planning ahead and what is required.

How this guide can help, who is willing to help prepare a plan.

Possible outcomes from the first meeting:

Determine the level of interest to develop a plan and some key risks it may cover.

Improved understanding of Community Emergency Planning in your community.

Assistance from the Civil Contingencies Unit or other organisations.



2

Organising the work

Essential to seeing through the preparation of a Community Emergency Plan is the effective coordination of the work involved and the championing of the use of the plan once it is completed.

Making sure it happens 1:

Set up a Community Emergency Group, appoint a Coordinator and a deputy.

Invite your local authority and representatives of the emergency services.

Making sure it happens 2:

Identify someone who will be prepared to work with the media.

Keep good records of your meetings, information that you gather, and decisions.

Possible outcomes:

Establish members of the group.

Establish a contact within the local authority, emergency services and other organisations.

Plan further meetings.

The Community Emergency Group

The key role of a Community Emergency Group is coordination. It should comprise a number of volunteers with a good range of local knowledge. The group should appoint a Community Emergency Coordinator and a deputy with the time and ability to guide the work of the group and the development of the Community Emergency Plan.

You should think about how you will involve the local authority and local representatives of the emergency services.

Spreading the word

A further function of the group, the importance of which has been highlighted by past experience, should be liaising with the media. You may need to use local media to raise awareness of the group and its purpose. Work together to agree what key messages the group, or community, wishes to communicate and work with media representatives to help the flow of information.

Group meetings

The Community Emergency Group will be key in planning and leading the community's response to an emergency. It will probably need to meet a number of times to work through the 10 step planning process. Before meeting, you may need to think about:

- Where the group will meet?
- Who will prepare an agenda?
- How will outcomes be recorded and circulated?
- Who will record and circulate this?

3 You know your risks

Every community faces unique risks from a range of different sources. A key task is to think about the types of emergencies that are most likely to occur in your area.

Assessing the risks

It is important that the Community Emergency Group does not try and second guess every possibility, but to think about the types of emergencies that are most likely to occur.

A good starting point for this is the Community Risk Register that has been prepared by the Local Resilience Forum: <https://www.durham.police.uk/Information-and-advice/Pages/Local-Resilience-Forum.aspx>

This handy document reviews a wide range of possible emergencies and provides ideas on risks to consider.

Consider various types of risks

You should consult - the emergency services, local authority and other organisations. Use the local knowledge of your group members to think about and record the likely risks. For example:

- **Social Risks** - Particular groups of local people who may be vulnerable in the face of an emergency (perhaps elderly people or those with disabilities).
- **Environmental Risks** - Areas that are vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather, vulnerable sites of heritage, those of environmental interest, or sensitive to contamination.
- **Infrastructure Risks** - Major traffic routes, loss of utilities, bridges.

Remember: do not try to plan in detail for each specific risk as this will limit your flexibility to respond to very different situations. Focus on identifying the people, resources and facilities that you have and which you can utilise flexibly as a situation occurs and develops.



What things might trigger an emergency?

Consult the Community Risk Register.

What experiences have local people had in the past?

Talk to key informants

Representatives of the emergency services.

Local people.

Possible outcomes:

Agree risks that the group will address.

"As residents who have lived in the area for many years, we are in an excellent position to monitor local risks and provide an accurate information picture to emergency responders. This includes knowing when a situation starts to become an emergency."

Susan Williams, Community Resilience Coordinator in Hurworth Place, Darlington



4

Identifying skills and resources

At the heart of your Community Emergency Plan will be a comprehensive register of the local resources that can be called upon by the Community Emergency Group in the event that an emergency does arise.

Your community's assets

Every community has access to a range of local skills, knowledge, physical resources and support organisations that can be mobilised in the event of an emergency. The key to acting promptly and effectively in an emergency is having identified these, and how they can be obtained, in advance.

There are three main topics to research:

- **Who is good at what?** - Are members of the community with useful skills available? Farmers, health professionals, builders, etc. - anyone with specialist skills and training.
- **What resources do you have?** - These could be vehicles (4x4s, tractors, etc.) tools, machinery, sources of food and water, construction materials, non-English language skills, driving licence, etc.
- **How will you communicate?** - Are land lines and mobile signals reliable? If they fail, what alternatives are there (2-way radios, vehicles, door knocking etc).

Make sure that you record the relevant information in an easily accessible format. Keep contact details for key people and a record of the terms on which you might be able to utilise equipment and materials. Think about how you will use your volunteers, perhaps identifying teams to:

- **Staff your local co-ordination centre.**
- **Assist with a place of safety** (somewhere for people to take refuge when they can't stay in or go back to their own homes).
- **Become local wardens** to 'door knock' particular parts of your community should an emergency arise.

Consider if you need to put in place agreements with the individuals and organisations concerned, relating to their availability in an emergency. If you identify the need to acquire special equipment (for example 2-way radios, first aid materials, blankets, battery-powered radios, torches, grit), where can these be stored securely but be accessible when needed? Who will be responsible for their security and maintenance?

Who is good at what?

People with useful or specialist skills e.g. farmers, contractors, health professionals, builders, etc.

What equipment do we have?

Tools, machinery, communications equipment, specialist vehicles, 4x4s.

Sources of food, water, construction materials.

Possible outcomes:

Develop a register of skills, resources and facilities.

Investigate and record how they could be accessed and also any limitations.

Initiate contacts with suppliers and owners of resources.

5 Organising key facilities

Think in advance about the facilities that you may need in order to effectively manage an emergency situation and to support local people who are affected.

Facilities needed

Effectively managing an emergency is likely to require some facilities. You will need to think about these in advance and have plans in place for suitable buildings or locations to meet the needs you identify.

Facilities that are most often found necessary include:

- **Local Coordination Centre** - Somewhere the Community Emergency Group and local people can gather to share information about an emergency and meet with representatives of the emergency services or other organisations if necessary. This may simply be a good sized room that the community know has been designated for the purpose. Remember that reliable and robust communications are at the heart of any successful response to an emergency situation.
- **Place of Safety** - A place to which people can be moved to for a few hours if they have to leave their own homes before the CCU set up a local authority rest centre. You probably need space for quite a few people to sit, toilet facilities and a small kitchen as a minimum requirement.

Issues to consider

In both cases consult the CCU (at the local authority) to see whether suitable premises have already been identified in your community. If not, try to pick locations that are unlikely to be directly affected by an emergency but which are readily accessible to as much of the community as possible.

Also think about the possible need for 'reserve' facilities in the event that those you first identify are not available when needed, as well as if a key service such as gas, electricity or mains water is not available. You might, for example, need a generator. Talk to those responsible for the buildings you identify and agree plans for how you may use them should an emergency arise.

What facilities might we need?

Local Coordination Centre
- accessible, good communications, available space.

Place of safety - warm, accessible, toilets, etc.

Other things to think about?

Facilities identified by Emergency services.

Managing without mains services like electricity, water and telephone communications.

Possible outcomes:

Identify a main venue and a reserve venue.

How will you communicate the location to the community before and during any emergency?

Guidance from the property owner.





6

Keeping in touch

In developing your Community Emergency Plan you will have identified key individuals and groups that you may need to contact and mobilise should an emergency arise. Effective communications with these people are essential.

Identify key people

In developing your plans you will have hopefully found a number of people who will be important in your response; individuals with significant resources, skills or knowledge, local volunteers and professional advisers.

It is essential that you record the contact details of all these people. Be comprehensive and make sure that the information is readily accessible for the members of the Community Emergency Group, the emergency services and the Civil Contingencies Unit.

Telephone tree / cascade

Importantly, you should also plan how you will mobilise these people when an emergency occurs. This is usually achieved using a telephone 'tree' or cascade in which each person telephones two or three others.

In designing your cascade you may want to divide it into several teams (for example Control Team, Rest Centre Team, Local Action Teams) so that you can mobilise only those people who are needed at the time.

Have an alternative communications plan in place (such as door knocking) in case any of the key people in the tree are not available or telephone communications fail.

Data protection

In preparing your records you will need to consider whether you are subject to the provisions of Data Protection legislation. You may need to get volunteers to sign a consent form so their data can be held. You will need to restrict the access to the information to specific individuals for specific purposes. The CCU will be able to advise you on this.

Whose contact information will we need?

Emergency services, Civil Contingencies Unit.

How will we mobilise our contacts?

Use a pre-prepared telephone contact 'tree' or cascade.

Alternative communication methods if telephones are not working.

Possible outcomes:

A way of testing the telephone cascade and an alternative communications plan.

A system to ensure your contacts details are kept current.

7 Activating your Community Emergency Plan

With all of the main components of your Community Emergency Plan in place (people, skills and resources,) you next need to think about how your plan will be put into action when a real emergency arises.

Know the triggers

By following the preceding steps you will have established a Community Emergency Group, identified likely causes of an emergency, listed the key people, resources and facilities that you have available, and agreed how you will mobilise and communicate with these volunteers.

Your next task is to think about how you will know when to put these plans into practice, that is, how will you know when an emergency is likely to occur or has already happened?

It is vital that the Community Emergency Group has thought about this in advance and has agreed, so far as is possible, the types of event that will trigger local action.

Members of the group should consider who is to be responsible for monitoring these as a possible emergency approaches. Give some thought to the point at which the Community Emergency Group may need to apply its arrangements for mobilising local resources, the communications cascade and its first meeting.

Examples of the types of 'trigger' you might identify could include:

- Warnings/requests from the Emergency services.
- Environment Agency warnings.
- Substantial changes in local river levels.
- Locally recognised hot spots and early indicators for flooding.
- Media messages.
- Severe wet weather warnings from the Met Office.
- A heatwave.

Agree key sources of information and advice for example:

Emergency services, local authority, Environment Agency, Met Office.

Local radio stations, local news channels, Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites.

Agree local signs that will alert you to a possible emergency for example:

Substantial changes in local river levels.

Known local 'hot spots' that are often early indicators of problems arising elsewhere.

Possible outcomes:

Confirm early indicators/triggers.

Agree who should take responsibility for key actions when triggers are identified.





8 Taking control

How can we coordinate our actions?

Prepare flexible plans in advance for an emergency meeting.

Agree where this should be, who should attend and what you will need to discuss.

Remember

Remember that you need to maintain regular contact with the emergency services, local authority and other organisations to ensure that your actions support and complement their actions.

Possible outcomes:

'Sign off' (confirm) a tested Community Emergency Plan.

Agree who should take responsibility for key actions when triggers are identified.

"Whenever we work in County Durham we find a real sense of togetherness and positive spirit in local communities. In my experience these qualities are a huge advantage in both responding to emergencies and in preparing for future risks."

Keith Preston, Regional Adviser at Community Resilience UK CIC

When an emergency actually happens and you begin to activate your plans you will need to coordinate what happens next. There are some key things that you can do to help this process run smoothly.

Prepare to take control

Refer to your Community Emergency Plan and follow the guidance / action plan / check list your group has prepared. A critical first step in the process will be to hold a meeting of the key people involved. Ideally you should have a flexible pre-prepared plan and an agenda for this meeting.

If an emergency is likely to happen, or has happened, you should notify your contacts in the CCU and emergency services. In the event of an emergency you should ring 999 to inform the emergency services.

The group should consider:

- Where the meeting will take place - perhaps your Local Coordination Centre.
- Who should attend - The Community Emergency Group, local authority, local volunteers, representatives of emergency services (if available), others with specialist knowledge, equipment or skills.

Your first meeting, of course, is just the first step in developing a local response to an emergency and it may take some time for the full extent of the challenge to become apparent and for you to implement the plans that you have prepared.

You may therefore need to arrange to meet regularly over a period of time. Arrangements for follow-up meetings should be put in place and communicated clearly to everyone who needs to be involved. Meeting frequently, at fixed times, can help individuals organise their activities and ensure their attendance.

9 Testing your plan

Having thought through and prepared a Community Emergency Plan it is important to test the arrangements that you have put in place to make sure that they work. Identifying possible problems and resolving these will ensure things go smoothly in a real emergency.

Checks and trials

Although you now have a plan in place, it is very important that you test your arrangements. Regular testing will build the confidence of those involved, and will help to ensure that your plans remain up to date and effective. There will inevitably be changes as people come and go and resources change.

The CCU and the emergency services will help you to test your plan as it will help them work with you in a real emergency.

The main reasons for testing the plan are:

- Involving local authority/agencies/999 services.
- To develop the skills of all participants.
- Verifying that your procedures work.
- Identifying areas for improvement.

Routine checks might include:

- Updating contact and resource lists.
- Test, maintain, replace equipment.
- The continuing suitability and availability of facilities.

Trial exercise options

There are several types of exercise that can be used to test plans and train volunteers, including:

- **Discussion based** - Cheap, easy to prepare and useful for talking through and training in your plan.
- **Table Top** - A scenario-based simulation of an emergency which can help validate your plans but requires a significant amount of prior preparation.
- **Live Play** - Great for testing and building confidence in your plan - such as setting up your Coordination Centre and Place of Safety, however it needs careful preparation and can be costly.



How will we know our plans work?

An annual test of the plan; verifying arrangements, experience for your volunteers.

Review the results of tests to see if any changes are required to plans.

Advice available on how to test arrangements effectively:

Advice and materials to help you plan your exercise, are available from the Civil Contingencies Unit.

Possible outcomes:

Contact the Civil Contingencies Unit for help with testing your plan.

Agree timescales and method for checking, maintaining and testing equipment plus who will be responsible.

Buildings and equipment:

Agreements with owners and insurance to cover usage.

Arrangements for paying any costs incurred.

Working with volunteers:

Safe working arrangements.

Methods of communicating information.

Possible outcomes:

Safe working practices / Insurance issues identified.

Agreement to seek advice from the CCU or other appropriate organisations.

10

Things to consider

The use of resources in an emergency may raise a range of issues. Thinking about these in advance and putting in place any necessary agreements can minimise any difficulties.

Resolving issues in advance

If you plan to use resources in an emergency, especially buildings and vehicles, you should fully explore any issues beforehand - there may be health and safety concerns about volunteers using unfamiliar equipment or some vehicles may require special licences to drive them.

These issues cannot be left until the emergency takes place because they may prevent or delay your work.

Planning ahead

Planning ahead will help to minimise any disruption to your work in any emergency. There are a number of practical things that you should be able to do:

Buildings and Equipment Insurance

Liaise with the owners of buildings and vehicles about their insurance to identify what is possible within their existing policies.

Equipment Use

Think about the types of equipment that might be used by volunteers, and the circumstances in which they will do this.

Identify safe working practices to help you minimise any hazards identified and plan any training you need to do. Agree ways of working that will minimise the risk from hazards that you have identified.

Insurance

Consider whether you need insurance for local volunteers, it is possible that an existing local organisation, or an organisation of which the volunteer is a member (for example Red Cross, Lions), already has appropriate cover.





Sources of further information

Advice and support in County Durham and Darlington

For more information on anything contained in this guide, contact the Civil Contingencies Unit.

Civil Contingencies Unit
Durham County Council,
Green Lane Offices,
Green Lane, Spennymoor,
County Durham DL16 6JQ
Email:
ccuenquiries@durhamdarlingtonccu.gov.uk
Phone: 03000 264 654
www.durham.gov.uk/emergencies

Other local agencies

Durham Police:
www.durham.police.uk

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service:
www.ddfire.gov.uk

Environment Agency:
www.environment-agency.gov.uk



Other relevant resources

Preparing for Emergencies:
www.direct.gov.uk/preparingforemergencies

National Risk Register:
<https://www.durham.police.uk/Information-and-advice/Pages/Local-Resilience-Forum.aspx>

Informed. Prepared. Together:
www.informedprepared.eu

Further information

Find out about the local risks that have been identified by the Emergency services on the **Durham Community Risk Register:**
http://content.durham.gov.uk/PDFRepository/Community_Risk_Register.pdf



For the latest community resilience updates, 'like' us on Facebook:

 www.facebook.com/ResilientDurham

Emergency contacts



A number of useful numbers are included below. Some of them are for emergencies only and should not be used for routine enquiries.

Emergency services (to report an emergency only)	999
Police Non-emergency enquiries Anti-terrorism hotline Crime stoppers	101 0800 789 321 0800 555 111
Fire and Rescue , non-emergency enquiries	0845 305 8383
Health , non-emergency enquiries	111
Flu information line	0800 151 3513
Local Authority - Durham County Council	03000 26 0000
Social Care Direct , for concerns about someone's welfare	03000 267 979
Local Authority - Darlington Borough Council	01325 380 651
Adult Social Care , for concerns about someone's welfare (emergency)	08702 402 994
Highways Services	01325 388 799
Other numbers including utilities	
Gas emergencies	0800 111 999
Electricity emergencies	0800 66 88 77
Water leaks , non-household	0800 328 7648
Sewer leaks	0845 717 110
Highways Agency , for the A1(M), A19 and A66	0300 123 5000
Northern Powergrid , general enquiries For power cuts, 24 hour emergency number	0845 070 7172 0800 66 88 77
Northern Gas Networks	0845 634 0508

This document is based on an original document 'Be Prepared! 10 Steps to Complete your Community Emergency Plan', produced by ACTion with Communities in Cumbria and their partners. They maintain the copyright of the original publication and it is with their kind permission that this document has been produced.

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

العربية (Arabic) (中文 (繁體字)) (Chinese) اردو (Urdu)
 polski (Polish) ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) Español (Spanish)
 বাংলা (Bengali) हिन्दी (Hindi) Deutsch (German)
 Français (French) Türkçe (Turkish) Melayu (Malay)

ccuenquiries@durhamdarlingtonccu.gov.uk

03000 264 654



Braille



Audio



Large Print

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview & Scrutiny Committee****Safe Durham Partnership Update****31 October 2016****Safe Durham Partnership**

Report of Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service Strategy

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a summary update on key issues discussed at the September 2016 Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Board meeting.

Organised Crime

2. Durham Constabulary provided an awareness raising presentation for front-line staff "Does Your Work Take You Behind Doors?" which has been developed to assist front-line staff spot possible signs of organised criminal activity.
3. The presentation showed how to identify signs of possible hidden crimes including Child Sexual Exploitation, exploitation linked to human trafficking, stolen or counterfeit goods, organised crime and counter terrorism. Information was provided on how to report such crimes and confidentially share community intelligence with the police. Partners will disseminate this presentation to raise awareness amongst their staff.
4. The SDP Board also felt that it was important that members of the public were made aware of any potential signs of these crimes and that the PACT section on AAPs could be used to raise awareness.

Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21

5. Members of the Safe Durham Partnership Board have provided feedback on the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan as part of the formal consultation process. There is a high degree of synergy between the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan and the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2016/19 in relation to the current strategic objectives and outcomes. This shows the collaborative work that is in place in relation to community safety, with the importance of partnership working referenced throughout the document. With reducing resources, it is important to work together with a common aim: keeping our communities safe.
6. The Safe Durham Partnership will also provide comment on the draft of the supporting Business Plan. This will afford members of the Partnership with the opportunity to identify how partner organisations can contribute to the objectives and ensure a coordinated delivery of initiatives.

Reducing Re-Offending Group Update

7. The Chief of Staff from the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner (OPCVC) has taken over as Chair of the Group. It has also been agreed that the Group will now report into the Local Criminal Justice Board as well as the Safe Durham Partnership and the Safer Darlington Partnership.
8. The three priority areas are:
 - a. A review of the pathways to desistance throughout the criminal justice system
 - b. Growing the use of Restorative Justice
 - c. Developing the Performance Framework
9. The group will also receive reports on the Checkpoint project, and the Checkpoint Governance Board has been subsumed. Membership of the group has also been reviewed, and extended to ensure it includes representatives from across the Criminal Justice System and from those services which provide pathways to desistance. Membership will be kept under review.

Review of the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)

10. The OPCVC has now completed the review of the LCJB and the recommendations have been agreed by all board members at the September meeting. The high level objectives of the LCJB will remain, though with fresh emphasis and impetus, as:
 - Support for victims and witnesses
 - Delivering justice efficiently
 - Apprehension, punishment and rehabilitation of offenders in order to reduce reoffending.

Governance arrangements for Abuse-Related Areas

11. Regular governance reviews of partnership arrangements are undertaken to ensure they remain fit for purpose. As part of the most recent governance review of the SDP it has been highlighted that there are a number of Vulnerability / Abuse-Related issues that fall across more than one Partnership Board which need to be clarified as part of the review. As a result of the review governance arrangements have been agreed by the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP), Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) in relation to the following areas:
 - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
 - Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking
 - Honour Based Violence (HBV), Forced Marriage (FM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - Hate Crime
 - Financial abuse of vulnerable adults.

Safe and Wellbeing Visits

12. County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) provided an update on Safe and Wellbeing Visits (SWVs). SWVs are now fully embedded as mainstream community safety prevention work within CDDFRS. During the visit the resident (where they consent), are asked a range of lifestyle questions which cover fire safety, dementia, slips trips and falls, smoking cessation, alcohol, loneliness and isolation, flu, winter warmth and fuel poverty. During the visit residents are also offered brief advice and interventions with referral pathways to relevant health or third sector partner where appropriate.
13. Between 15th February (when the visits were first introduced) and 31st August a total of 9,255 SWVs were carried out. Of these 3,506 agreed to answer the lifestyle questions and as a result 1,352 referrals were made to partner agencies. During this period the highest number of referrals made were regarding loneliness and isolation.
14. Two independent evaluations of the SWVs are in the initial stages of being carried out. The first by this 'Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee' and the second evaluation will be undertaken by Teesside University who have been commissioned by Public Health County Durham to undertake the work.

Casualty Trends across the North East and County Durham

15. The SDP received a report on road casualty trends that was presented to the September meeting of this committee. The report highlighted the regional work that has been undertaken to look at the link between casualty rates and deprivation. It has been agreed that Public Health Durham will lead a short terms working group to review these findings at a County level and the group will report back to the Safe Durham Partnership by the end of the financial year.

Funding

16. Funding from the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner's (PCVC) Community Safety Fund has been allocated to the Safe Durham Partnership since a range of funding streams transferred to the PCVC. The fund is used for community safety projects focusing on the SDP and PCVC strategic objectives.
17. A Funding Group was implemented in December 2013 to develop funding plans and recommendations to the SDP Board for this grant. This group also co-ordinates applications to other funding streams where available to maximise the financial capacity of the Safe Durham Partnership at a time of continued austerity across the public sector.
18. The Funding Group has developed bids in relation to:
 - Cyber-crime;
 - Domestic abuse;
 - Open water safety equipment;
 - Community cohesion;
 - The Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS); and
 - Prevent.

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs)

19. The Principal AAP Co-ordinator with the lead for 'Safer' provided an update on the work of the AAPs. All 14 AAPs have held their 2016 AGMs and 7 have selected Crime and Community Safety, Road Safety or Traffic Management as their priority.
20. So far, 15 projects have been delivered under the Altogether Safer theme since April 2016. The majority of projects align with the strategic objectives of reducing Anti-Social behaviour, Alcohol Harm Reduction and the PCVC priorities.
21. The AAPs have also provided an arena for consultation on community safety priorities to take place, both at a Board level and across the AAP forums.
22. The structure of the AAPs allows for Partners to bring up to date, local information to the communities at AAP board meetings. Each of the AAP Boards have recently agreed to receive PACT issues at every Board meeting and commencing July 2016, all Board meetings will include regular features within this section that benefit and inform local Partners and communities. In addition to this Board agenda item, Safe Durham Partners have access to AAP Facebook web pages and emails.

Recommendations and reasons

23. The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
 - (i) Note the contents of the report.

Contact: Caroline Duckworth, Community Safety Manager
Tel: 03000 265 435

Appendix 1 – Implications

Finance – N/A

Staffing – N/A

Risk – N/A

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – N/A

Accommodation – N/A

Crime and Disorder – The Safe Durham Partnership update provides an overview of reports and discussions from the Safe Durham Partnership Board meetings.

Human Rights – N/A

Consultation – N/A

Procurement – N/A

Disability Issues – N/A

Legal Implications – N/A

This page is intentionally left blank