

Cabinet

10th June 2015

Safe Durham Partnership Plan Refresh 2015-18



Report of Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director for Children and Adults Services

Councillor Joy Allen, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present Cabinet with the refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18 for agreement (attached as Appendix 3).

Background

2. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require that Durham County Council, along with the other responsible authorities (Durham Constabulary, Clinical Commissioning Groups, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service and the Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company), develop and implement a Partnership Plan.
3. The Partnership Plan 2015-18 is a refresh of the previous Partnership Plan 2014-17. The next full review of the Partnership Plan will be for the period 2017-20.
4. The Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (known in County Durham as the Safe Durham Partnership Plan) is part of the Policy Framework in the Council's Constitution.
5. The purpose of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is to demonstrate how the responsible authorities will work together to reduce crime and disorder across County Durham.
6. The regulations also require that the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) carry out an annual Strategic Assessment which informs the development of the new Plan every three years and its annual refresh. This is a restricted document that is not made available publicly as it contains information from restricted police intelligence products. The SDP Strategic Assessment is used to inform the Police Strategic Assessment which is completed in January to inform the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan.
7. Following the completion of the 2014 Strategic Assessment in November 2014, no change was made to the existing strategic objectives by the Safe Durham Partnership Board, which remain aligned to the objectives within the

Sustainable Community Strategy. Each objective is managed by a multi-agency thematic group which reports to the Safe Durham Partnership Board.

8. The Strategic Assessment identified some key emerging issues including those created through new legislation and those outside of the strategic objectives. The Plan has been updated accordingly. These key issues are:
 - a. A new duty placed on the Local Authority, Police, NHS Trusts, Criminal Justice and Education who must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is being progressed by the CONTEST Silver group, a sub-group of the Safe Durham Partnership, which is auditing the collective response of all the relevant organisations.
 - b. Criminal Damage is a high volume offence and was highlighted as an emerging risk. The Anti-Social Behaviour Delivery Plan has been strengthened in respect of Criminal Damage and Durham Constabulary have also implemented a Criminal Damage Action Plan.
 - c. Shoplifting which increased by 24% in 2014/15 as forecast by Durham Constabulary.
 - d. Cybercrime which can be described as 'the use of networked computers, devices or internet technology to commit or facilitate the commission of crime'. This includes grooming for Child Sexual Exploitation, radicalisation into terrorist activity, online fraud, negative online incidents of hacking and viruses.
9. A consultation process with partners, Area Action Partnerships and Overview and Scrutiny has taken place between November 2014 and February 2015 on the priorities and outcomes contained within the draft refresh of the Partnership Plan 2015-18. Feedback was supportive of the strategic objectives and the Plan has been updated following consultation. The Safe Durham Partnership Board signed off the Plan in March 2015.

Refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan (SDPP)

10. The vision of the Safe Durham Partnership is for a county **“where every adult and child will be, and will feel, safe.”** Working in partnership is essential to achieving our vision.
11. The refresh of the Partnership Plan 2015-18 describes the progress and achievements of the Safe Durham Partnership since the publication of the previous Plan. It describes how it will deliver sustainable improvements by working in partnership. The Plan describes why each objective has been prioritised, the key challenges to meeting each objective, an understanding of how the objectives will be delivered and how we will know if we have been successful.

Strategic Objectives and Outcomes Framework

12. The Strategic Objectives and Outcomes Framework for the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18 is provided below:

Strategic Objective 1: Reduce anti-social behaviour

- ❖ Increase public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities
- ❖ Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime – including secondary deliberate fires
- ❖ Create a high quality clean, green, attractive and accessible environment

Strategic Objective 2: Protect vulnerable people from harm

- ❖ Prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm
- ❖ Ensure that all victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence have access to the right help and support throughout the criminal justice process and that services are available to address their needs
- ❖ To improve the criminal justice response to tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence
- ❖ To pursue perpetrators of domestic abuse through the criminal justice system and ensure they face up to the implications of their actions
- ❖ Reduce the impact of hate crime

Strategic Objective 3: Reduce re-offending

- ❖ Prevent intergenerational offending
- ❖ Prevent repeat offending

Strategic Objective 4: Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction

- ❖ Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities
- ❖ Reduce the harm caused by drugs/substances – through prevention, restricting supply and building recovery

Strategic Objective 5: Embed the 'Think Family' approach

- ❖ Embed Think Family into offender and victims services as part of the prevention and 'early help' approach

Strategic Objective 6: Counter Terrorism and prevention of violent extremism

- ❖ Implement the national 'CONTEST' strategy
- ❖ Challenge extremism and intolerance

Strategic Objective 7: Road casualty reduction

- ❖ Improve education and raise awareness of road safety
- ❖ Improve health and wellbeing of communities through casualty reduction
- ❖ Develop a safer road environment

13. These strategic objectives were reaffirmed by the Safe Durham Partnership Board in September 2014. The outcomes were agreed in March 2015 following the consultation period.

14. The Partnership Plan also contains a number of strategic actions that identify the key areas of work that the Safe Durham Partnership will focus on, linked to objectives and outcomes.

Delivery Plan

15. More detailed actions outlining the work taking place to achieve the strategic actions will be included in the Safe Durham Partnership Delivery Plan. This will include target dates to show when actions will be achieved, and will be presented to the Safe Durham Partnership Board for agreement in September 2015.
16. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan is monitored robustly and progress is reported to the Safe Durham Partnership Board on a six monthly basis. This allows partners the opportunity to challenge each other and ensure that the thematic groups are achieving their outcomes. A quarterly performance escalation report summarising the performance of each thematic group is also reported into the Board. As well as providing performance highlights, the Board also receives information on areas for improvement.
17. In addition to performance monitoring through the Safe Durham Partnership Board a subset of performance indicators from the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is reported to the County Durham Partnership, under the "Altogether Safer" theme. Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee are also provided a subset basket of indicators to provide them with oversight of performance.

Recommendations and reasons

18. Cabinet is recommended to:
 - a. Note the contents of this report and endorse the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18;
 - b. Note that the Safe Durham Partnership Plan will be presented to Full Council on 22nd July 2015 for approval in accordance with the Policy Framework in the Council's Constitution; and
 - c. Note the Safe Durham Partnership Plan will be publicised on the Durham County Council website following agreement from Durham County Council.

Background papers

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

Action Plans will be developed to support the delivery of the Partnership Plan. The Police and Crime Commissioner has allocated funding to support the delivery of those action plans.

Staffing

The Plan will be implemented using existing resources. Durham County Council will contribute to the delivery of the plan in partnership with other responsible authorities.

Risk

No adverse implications.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

An impact assessment in relation to Equality and Diversity implications has been undertaken on the refreshed Plan.

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Crime and disorder

The Partnership Plan outlines the Safe Durham Partnership priorities for tackling crime and disorder in County Durham.

Human rights

No adverse implications.

Consultation

Statutory consultation with the community and stakeholders has been undertaken as part of the Strategic Assessment process.

Procurement

No adverse implications.

Disability Issues

No direct adverse implications. An impact assessment will be undertaken when the Plan has been agreed.

Legal Implications

No adverse implications. The County Council, as a responsible authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, has a statutory duty to produce a Partnership Plan in line with the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.