



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

**Date** Monday 12 December 2022

**Time** 9.30 am

**Venue** Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

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### **Business**

#### **Part A**

**Items which are open to the Public and Press  
Members of the public can ask questions with the Chair's agreement,  
and if registered to speak.**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held 11 October and 03 November 2022  
(Pages 3 - 16)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Exploitation - Children and Adults - Report of the Corporate Director  
of Resources and Presentation by Durham Constabulary  
(Pages 17 - 34)
7. Community Protection Update - Report of the Corporate Director of  
Neighbourhoods and Climate Change (Pages 35 - 48)
8. Quarter Two 2022/23 Performance Management Report - Report of  
the Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 49 - 60)
9. Anti-Social Behaviour Strategic Group - Report of the Corporate  
Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change (Pages 61 - 72)

10. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

**Helen Lynch**  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall  
Durham  
2 December 2022

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

Councillor J Charlton (Chair)  
Councillor P Heaviside (Vice-Chair)

Councillors V Andrews, P Atkinson, D Boyes, J Cairns, L Fenwick, C Hampson, C Lines, M McGaun, D McKenna, C Martin, E Mavin, J Miller, D Nicholls, D Oliver, J Quinn, A Reed, A Simpson, D Sutton-Lloyd and M Wilson

**Co-opted Members:** Mr D Balls and Mrs A Paterson

**Co-opted Employees/Officers:** Chief Fire Officer S Errington, Deputy Chief Fire Officer S Helps, Chief Superintendent R Allen and Superintendent L Gosling

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**Contact: Scott Hutchinson      Tel: 03000 269706**

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## 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 1A** , **County Hall, Durham** on **Tuesday 11 October 2022** at **1.00 pm**

**Present:**

**Councillor J Charlton (Chair)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors P Heaviside, V Andrews, P Atkinson, B Coult (substitute for C Martin), L Fenwick, L Hovvels (substitute for C Hampson), B Kellett (substitute for M Wilson), M McGaun, D McKenna, J Miller, D Nicholls, E Peeke (substitute for J Quinn), A Reed and D Sutton-Lloyd

**Co-opted Members:**

Mr D Balls

**Co-opted Employees/Officers**

Deputy Chief Fire Officer Steve Helps and Chief Inspector Vicki Martin

**Also Present:**

Councillors D Freeman

#### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received Councillor Carole Hampson, Councillor Craig Martin, Councillor Eric Mavin, Councillor Douglas Oliver, Councillor Joe Quinn, Councillor Arnie Simpson, Councillor Marion Wilson, Superintendent Lee Gosling and Superintendent Neal Bickford

#### **2 Substitute Members**

Councillor Bev Coult for Councillor Craig Martin, Councillor Lucy Hovvels for Councillor Carole Hampson, Councillor Bill Kellett for Councillor Marion Wilson Councillor Elaine Peeke for Councillor Joe Quinn and Chief Inspector Vicki Martin for Superintendent Lee Gosling

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were received.

#### **4 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties**

There were no items from co-opted members or interested parties.

#### **5 Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy - Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director Neighbourhoods and Climate Change which provided an outline of the Draft-Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Strategy 2022-2025 as part of the Safe Durham Partnership's consultation exercise (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Head of Community Protection Services gave a detailed presentation regarding the ASB Strategy 2022-25 (for copy see file of Minutes). The main focus being the eight principles of the strategy which are:

- Working in Partnership
- Champion the Victims' Voice
- Provide the Best Victim Experience
- Provide Victim Centric Community Trigger & Community Remedy Processes
- Implement Preventative Measures
- Make full use of tools and powers
- Maximise use of digital technologies
- An inclusive Approach

The Chair noted she was mindful that today's session was for comments and questions to feed into the overall strategy.

Councillor Hovvels raised some concerns with the strategy first noting the one point contact number was a positive idea, and would prevent the public being passed from A to B. As many members of the community were left confused and unsure who to contact, adding they were unaware of the community trigger process suggesting that communication around this needed to be improved. Councillor Hovvels noted the lack of water safety within the strategy while work had been done around the city centre there was a need for more work to be done in smaller villages. Informing the Committee that having worked with neighbourhood wardens, it was felt they could be better supported and could be given the tools necessary to do the job more effectively, bringing particular attention to the need for defibrillators around the county. The lack of them in the warden's vehicles was a particular concern, given they were often the first on the scene. Informing the Committee that calls regarding Mental Health to the police were on the rise and more support and training around this issue was a must.

In response to Councillor Hovvels, Joanne Waller, the Head of Community Protection Services, informed the Committee that moving to a single one contact number was not a straight forward process. In response to points raised regarding

the Community Trigger the Committee were notified this was a service still managed by the Police and that communication around this would be going out.

Councillor Miller informed the Committee he had been working with the Police through the Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (CASBRAC) process, referring to page 26 of the report stated that several consultations had taken place, before noting that members had been excluded from these consultations. Councillor Miller added he felt it only right that members sign off the budget, so should also be part of the discussions, adding he understood members could not attend all meetings due to their sensitive nature. Councillor Miller added that the strategy needed to be looked at on a case by case basis as due to the size of the County, and varying areas one strategy would not work for all. The point was raised regarding local knowledge of Members and how invaluable that could be feeding into the strategy, noting that it was vital that hotspots were focused on with particular concerns being raised over the east of the County.

The Head of Community Protection informed the Committee that CASBRAC had been moved on to the police and had noted it would be opened up to Members.

The Chair acknowledged the comments made by Councillor Miller and agreed, noting that not every councillor would be aware from the report that Members were to be included in discussions.

The Head of Community Protection informed the Committee that hot spots across the County would not be ignored, but the strategy was designed to aim resources where they were needed. The Head of Community Protection added that the strategy would be used to tailor responses to the needs of the area, noting the hot spots would be the drivers with a multi-agency response. The hope was that the strategy would help set up hubs across the County and that the strategy would be used as a road map for all systems.

Councillor Miller welcomed the changes in the east noting that communication around the strategy needed to be better and felt Members should be at the heart of it.

The Chair noted the points raised by Councillor Miller were felt by several members. She commented it was difficult to get any type of communication when there had been an incident and more often than not find out on social media, adding how frustrating this was for local members and how a closer relationship needed to be established.

Andy Bailey, Partnerships Team Leader addressed the Committee informing Members that within the strategy local members were noted as partners, acknowledging that mechanisms needed to be in place to ensure that members were kept informed of incidents within their areas and was hopeful that agencies signing up to the strategy was a step towards this.

Councillor Miller felt that Members weren't treat as partners by other partners due to them not being employed by the Council.

The Head of Community Protection noted that the draft strategy was a starting point adding that communication needed to be opened up.

The Chair noted that residents seemed more inclined to inform their local Councillors about incidents of ASB and not other authorities.

Councillor Atkinson informed the Committee that his ward of Ferryhill was a hot spot area. He felt Members input to the strategy was important and noted that he was also in favour of one point of contact. Councillor Atkinson expressed concerns that he felt a lot of ASB was carried out by well-known individuals with a perceived lack of punishment. It was noted the main point of the strategy was prevention of these incidents, adding it was a complicated issue which would need to be tailored to each community's needs and would require more community involvement.

Councillor Coult noted that it seemed to be a communication issue adding residents had lost faith in the system, and ASB continues to happen with a public perception that nothing is being done about it. Councillor Coult raised concerns around the communication to residents and that focus needed to be on getting that right, drawing attention to page 28 of the report noting it was good to see the comparatively low number of incidents whilst asking the question of what work was being done with Housing Associations.

The Head of Community Protection informed the Committee that landlords were represented on the Safer Durham Partnership (SDP) and that the aim of the strategy was for all partners to collect and share data amongst each other to pool information.

Councillor Coult raised the issue that some ASB issues were from children who just want to be active and had no outlet within their communities.

Councillor Sutton-Lloyd noted that with all schemes it all came down to three things communication, education and money, adding that the strategy was only at this Committee due to the uproar of Members. Councillor Sutton-Lloyd commented that it was vital for residents to see results adding there was still a lot of work to be done, whilst raising a question about targeting some test cases to show an example of how the strategy can work.

Councillor Peeke commented on the percentage of feedback in the report and felt the results did not reflect the voice of the public, adding that in some cases the public had never heard of these schemes. In light of this, she asked if a different approach for obtaining feedback could be taken in the future.

The Head of Community Protection responded to comments from Councillor Peeke noting that although response was less than 50% this could be due to the variety and number of consultations recently leading to a fatigue within the public. The

Head of Community Protection added that it was a challenge to get responses from the public but noted that feedback was regularly shared with local members through day to day interaction and it would be helpful to obtain this feedback.

The Partnerships Team Leader commented that part of the strategy would be working with other organisations to get the message out, and that a lot of the information was shared through word of mouth and social media. The Partnerships Team Leader added that the strategy would be working with the Youth Council in Schools to help start getting young people involved in the process.

Following a question from Councillor Peeke regarding the involvement of the Safe Durham Partnership, the Partnerships Team Leader responded by informing the Members that the data from Safe Durham Partnership had been used within the document and used for the wider approach.

The Head of Community Protection noted that the strategy needed to be taken into the Members own communities using all networks available to share the message, adding the more feedback received the better and this would all feed into the strategy.

Councillor Heaviside noted the good communication with the Police and particularly PCSOs and praised the work of the wardens who were always on the scene of an incident quickly. He asked a question about what work was being done with Housing Associations and the issue of tenancy warnings.

Councillor Nicholls noted his fantastic relationship with the PCSO in his ward citing a recent fly tipping incident, adding that one of the main concerns was the loss of staffing and loss of knowledge that comes with that. Councillor Nicholls raised concerns over the continuity of service noting that people in the community preferred to speak to the same person when raising concerns and issues. He added that a lot of the issues around ASB were young people with nothing to do, drawing members attention to the staffing issues of these services focusing on the high levels of turnover of staff.

In response to Councillor Nicholls, the Head of Community Protection informed the Committee that this was a workforce development issue that needed to be addressed and focus was being put on collaborative work with new and existing partners noting a need for an increase in capacity of officers on the ground.

Councillor Reed questioned the role of private landlords when tackling ASB citing an incident that had taken place in her ward, where a report of ASB activity had taken place in a home owned by a private landlord. Once the incident had been reported it had been claimed the property was being checked every three months but speaking to neighbours this had seemed not to be the case. Councillor Reed added that incidents like this needed to be avoided and private landlords needed to be monitored to make sure they were doing everything they should be. Councillor Reed noted that there seemed to be a tolerance for this kind of behaviour in

communities and that there was a reluctance to report incidents. She stressed that people needed to be encouraged to report incidents.

The Head of Community Protection informed Members that some of the issues raised by Councillor Reed would be covered by the selective licence scheme, which was another tool in the box to be used against ASB, but clarified that this scheme did not cover the whole of County Durham. She noted that ASB was a multi-agency issue which dealt with a whole range of surrounding issues and that early intervention was key. She stressed that empty properties across the County were a major issue and were a target for ASB. Regarding the issue of reporting the Head of Community Protection commented that work was being done to encourage people to report these incidents and confirmed a dedicated confidential line was already in place.

Councillor Andrews noted that the strategy seemed to be focused on the prevention rather than reaction.

The Head of Community Protection commented that the focus was on early intervention which was seen as the best long term solution, to be used at the beginning of the process. The strategy was not focused on trying to criminalise anyone and a variety of factors needed to be taken into consideration such as welfare and poverty and look at the reasoning for the behaviour to try and do more before the issues escalated.

Councillor Miller noted that all incidents were relative and sharing communication was important, and that not all internal services were doing this adding that with an incident like fly tipping housing had more power to act than other services.

The Head of Community Protection noted the points raised by Councillor Miller before informing the Committee that enforcement powers were a part of the strategy and was a tool that needed to be used differently, adding that it was a time-consuming issue and that the strategy would help to focus minds.

Councillor Coult informed the Committee the empty homes issue was one that was being looked into by the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Chair then asked for comments from Chief Inspector Vicki Martin who noted the difficult discussion and promoted the wide use and reach of social media, adding that the Council's Neighbourhoods team was a good source of information. It was raised that a share of workload and effective working partnerships were needed to tackle the issues, before adding that it was hoped the strategy would make the process of reporting and dealing with incidents quicker and more efficient. These thoughts were echoed by Steve Helps, Deputy Chief Fire Officer who added that the proof would be when the numbers of incidents had decreased but he very much looked forward to what the strategy could achieve.

With regards to selective licensing, Councillor Charlton asked if the Council, for purposes of consistency provided landlords with the document tenants had to sign as people had the potential to interpret wording differently. The Head of Community Protection clarified that her understanding was that each landlord had their own tenancy agreement with their tenant and that selective licensing was a license with conditions.

Councillor Charlton stated that if landlords were expected to pay a fee to be credited as good landlords then in her opinion, they should be provided with relevant documentation where all wording was consistent. The Head of Community Protection noted that guidance was available for landlords but that the contract was between the landlord and the tenant. She further noted that one of the conditions was ASB and that the consequences of ASB were for the landlord rather than the tenant.

Councillor Charlton gave examples of an issue with ASB and asked where the tenant would go if evicted. Councillor Hovvels commented that the tenants would usually be re-housed but that sufficient notice of eviction had to be given. Councillor Charlton went on to express the impact empty properties had on services, including the fire service and that this issue needed to be a priority. Councillor Hovvels agreed and stated that empty properties attracted a raft of problems linked to ASB.

Councillor Charlton expressed concern regarding the housing crisis and asked how quickly the empty houses could be brought back into use. The Head of Community Protection confirmed that whilst they did encourage landlords to bring empty properties back into use or for them to be sold, until this was achieved, they could only react to incidents of ASB.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer brought Members attention to the issue of potential injury in empty properties noting that these properties are often broken into and burned down advising that a plan needed to be made for what could be done with these buildings to prevent this.

The Chair suggested that a joint meeting between Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee could be arranged to cover both empty homes and empty buildings relating to ASB.

Councillor Miller requested a presentation on the selective licensing scheme and its impact on ASB.

Stephen Gwilym, Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that the issues surrounding the selective licensing scheme fell within the remit of the Economy and Enterprise OSC but suggested that when that issue was considered by that Committee, members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Committee could also be invited to attend. He also advised members that empty properties was another issue/policy area where there was a cross over with other Scrutiny

Committees. He suggested that a further member briefing could be held for that issue.

The Head of Community Protection informed Members that the empty homes team was for residential properties and empty buildings would fall under the Corporate Property Team, noting that the reactive work regarding those properties would be handled by the Neighbourhood Wardens, the Police and other authorities. The Head of Community Protection suggested that she attend any collaborative Committee.

Resolved that:

(i) the comments and issues raised by the Safer and Stronger Communities OSC in respect of the Safe Durham Partnership's Draft Anti-social behaviour strategy be submitted as a formal response to the Strategy;

(ii) arrangements be made for an informal briefing session for members of the Safer and Stronger Communities OSC in collaboration with the Economy and Enterprise OSC and Environment and Sustainable Communities OSC to consider the legislation and interventions available to tackle issues with empty buildings

## **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 **Thursday 3 November 2022** at **9.30 am**

#### **Present:**

**Councillor J Charlton (Chair)**

#### **Members of the Committee:**

Councillors V Andrews, P Atkinson, J Blakey (substitute for P Heaviside), D Boyes, L Fenwick, C Lines, D McKenna, C Martin, E Mavin, D Nicholls, D Oliver, J Quinn, A Reed, A Simpson, D Sutton-Lloyd and M Wilson

#### **Co-opted Members:**

Mrs A Paterson

#### **Co-opted Employees/Officers:**

Chief Fire Officer S Errington and Superintendent L Gosling

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Phil Heaviside, Councillor Mike McGaun and Councillor Carole Hampson

### **2 Substitute Members**

Councillor Jan Blakey was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Phil Heaviside

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were received.

### **5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties**

There were no items from co-opted members or interested parties.

## **6 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group Annual Report - Report of Director of Public Health**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Public Health, Adults and Health Services which provided an overview of activity led by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Committee (DASVEG) over 2021/22 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Public Health Strategic Manager gave an outline of the report focusing on the six priority areas:

- Survivor Voice at the heart of decision making
- Early identification, intervention, and prevention
- Effective support for vulnerable groups
- Prioritising the needs of children and young people
- Improve the use of data and intelligence
- Improve the knowledge and skills of the workforce

The Committee was informed the Council had recently signed up to the White Ribbon Campaign to further help raise awareness around domestic abuse.

Councillor Boyes raised concerns over the lack of data in the report relating to lockdown and the impact this had on domestic abuse, noting the patterns of increased drinking. Councillor Boyes added that seeing a collected data sample of figures before, during and after lockdown would give a clearer picture.

Jane Sunter, the Public Health Strategic Manager responded to comments made by Councillor Boyes informing the Committee this was an annual report which only covered the last year, adding that previous reports had been brought to the committee which would cover the periods in question. The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the Committee that an uplift in reported incidents had been seen during COVID, which had given the services a good foundation for living with COVID.

Stephen Gwilym, Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer informed the Committee that the information sought by Councillor Boyes could be sourced if needed.

Alison Paterson, Co-opted Member, informed the Committee she had been working with local communities in the east of the County on a project called Don't Look Away, which looked to increase awareness around domestic abuse. She welcomed the councils work with White Ribbon campaign and hoped to be able to link up and have an input into the work being done.

Councillor Joe Quinn thanked the Public Health Strategic Manager for the informative report, agreeing with the concerns raised by Councillor Boyes. Councillor Quinn raised concerns about the lack of data around issues with same

sex households also noting that children lived with parents longer now and asked what figures had been collected around children still living at home in their twenties, and the issue they themselves could become the victims.

The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the Committee that this is possibly something to come out of Harbour Support Services (HSS), noting that this was a particularly tricky age group and would be looking to work with partners around these issues. She also informed the Committee that they would be looked at on a case-by-case basis, based on their own needs so that the best support could be provided, and advised that with regards to older children it could become a housing need.

Councillor Anne Reed sought further information regarding safe houses in the County, noting the safe houses take in women and children but what of those in same sex relationships particularly male same sex relationships. Councillor Reed also enquired about data that identified the age groups that domestic violence was most prevalent in, citing an example of an elderly woman.

The Public Health Strategic Manager responded to questions from Councillor Reed and informed the Committee that budget priorities had shifted to begin looking at vulnerable groups in all age groups. She shared the example of child on parent abuse and the switching focus towards the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ+) community noting the increase of working with groups who had specialist knowledge to provide the best support. The Public Health Strategic Manager also informed the Committee that the figures requested by Councillor Reed could be collected.

Councillor Louise Fenwick sought clarity on what was being done to rehabilitate offenders.

The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the Committee that a large percentage of abusers had suffered abuse themselves previously and that courses were provided for offenders. She explained that the use of the courses were dependant on the severity of the incident, police recommendations, and the level of support required.

Councillor Fenwick asked if the courses were mandatory.

The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the Committee that it was dependent on the level, depending on if the offender had been charged as the courses were only a recommendation for lower-level offenders.

The Chair enquired if data was available for the outcome of the courses and if any of those who had taken part had re-offended.

The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the Committee that she did not have that data to hand but information from HSS suggested that those who had completed the course had benefitted from doing so.

Councillor Dan Nicholls asked what the Committee could do as Councillors in their local area to make more people aware of abuse, noting that most people associate abuse to be more physical in nature but that there were various types of abuse.

The Public Health Strategic Manager noted that everyone had a role to play spreading awareness of domestic abuse and advised that the Council had recently signed up to the White Ribbon campaign to help make people aware of the services that were available. She added that a new campaign would be starting around the World Cup as an increase in incidents was often seen around sporting events.

Alison Paterson, Co-opted member welcomed any input from Members in to the Don't Look Away campaign.

The Chair noted posters that had been put up in pub toilets and asked if similar had been done in the men's and asked if there had been a good up take of advertisers.

The Public Health Strategic Manager informed the committee that all available information had been disseminated, but noted it was up to each establishment whether they displayed it. The Public Health Strategic Manager added that there were a number of initiatives around abuse and sexual violence throughout the County.

Councillor Veronica Andrews raised concerns around the more rural areas of the County and elderly abuse noting the difficulties in getting to the bottom of these types of cases.

The Public Health Strategic Manager noted that there was a general heightened awareness of safeguarding issues and noted the specific training for staff and ongoing conversations with Social Services.

Councillor Nicholls noted that at a recent meeting he had attended with Durham Constabulary, information had been provided by the Chief Constable about body worn camera footage being used in court in cases of domestic abuse, as a way to protect young victims from having to relive the trauma in court.

Superintendent, Lee Gosling responded to comments by Councillor Nicholls and noted that it was taken on a case-by-case basis and was dependent on if it was allowed by the Courts.

The Chair questioned what involvement the Fire Service had.

Chief Fire Officer, Stuart Errington informed the Committee that Fire Officers were trained in safeguarding and if necessary, could make referrals.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the content of the report and presentation be noted;

- (ii) the data requested in respect of domestic violence incidents tracked over the last 2-3 years covering COVID-19 pandemic be circulated to the Committee;
- (iii) the data requested in respect of an analysis of domestic abuse incidents by age, gender, sexual orientation be circulated to the Committee.

## **7 Quarter One 2022/23 Performance Management Report - Report of the Corporate Director of Resources**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources, which provided an overview of progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Strategy Team Leader gave an outline of the report and highlighted two particular areas: firstly the impact of COVID and secondly, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

Councillor Joe Quinn raised concerns around Selective Licensing and the action taken by private landlords in connection to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), noting that there did not appear to be much action taken by private landlords in comparison to action taken against social housing tenants.

Debra Kitching, the Strategy Team Leader noted the concerns raised by Councillor Quinn and informed the Committee she would feed those concerns back.

Councillor David Boyes raised concerns around information that was not in the report, bringing attention to the lack of data around drug and alcohol and its links to ASB, noting that the report was indicator based with no data to show successful completions. Councillor Boyes noted that members had not had any direct input into the performance report. He requested that data regarding the rates of successful completions of drug and alcohol service interventions be included in future reports.

The Strategy Team Leader informed the Committee that the performance report was linked to the council plan, and the report was undergoing a refresh adding that members comments would be fed into the process.

Councillor Boyes commented that the Committee was being presented with little data.

Jane Sunter, the Public Health Strategic Manager gave assurances that targets around alcohol and drug issues were still being met.

Chief Fire Officer, Stuart Errington agreed with comments made by Councillor Boyes noting that the report was now significantly smaller than previous reports, and that there was data the Committee was not seeing. The Chief Fire Officer

added that the Committee should be celebrating the positive figures and not just seeing the negative.

Stephen Gwilym, Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer reminded members about the joint online informal session taking place on Wednesday 9 November 2022 regarding empty homes after concerns were raised around ASB in these types of properties at the last meeting.

**Resolved**

That the content of the report be noted

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

12 December 2022

**Child and Adult Exploitation**



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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a presentation by Durham Constabulary on Child and Adult Exploitation.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached in appendix 2 provides members with an overview of Child and Adult Exploitation.

**Recommendation**

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

**Background**

- 4 Attached at appendix 2 is a presentation which includes information on the multi-agency approach to dealing with child and adult exploitation, governance and modern slavery.
- 5 Representatives from Durham Constabulary are scheduled to be in attendance to deliver the presentation and respond to questions from the committee.

**Main implications**

Crime and Disorder

- 6 Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

**Background papers**

- None

**Other useful documents**

- None

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**Contact:** Clare Luery

Tel: 03000 265978

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

None.

### **Finance**

None

### **Consultation**

None

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.

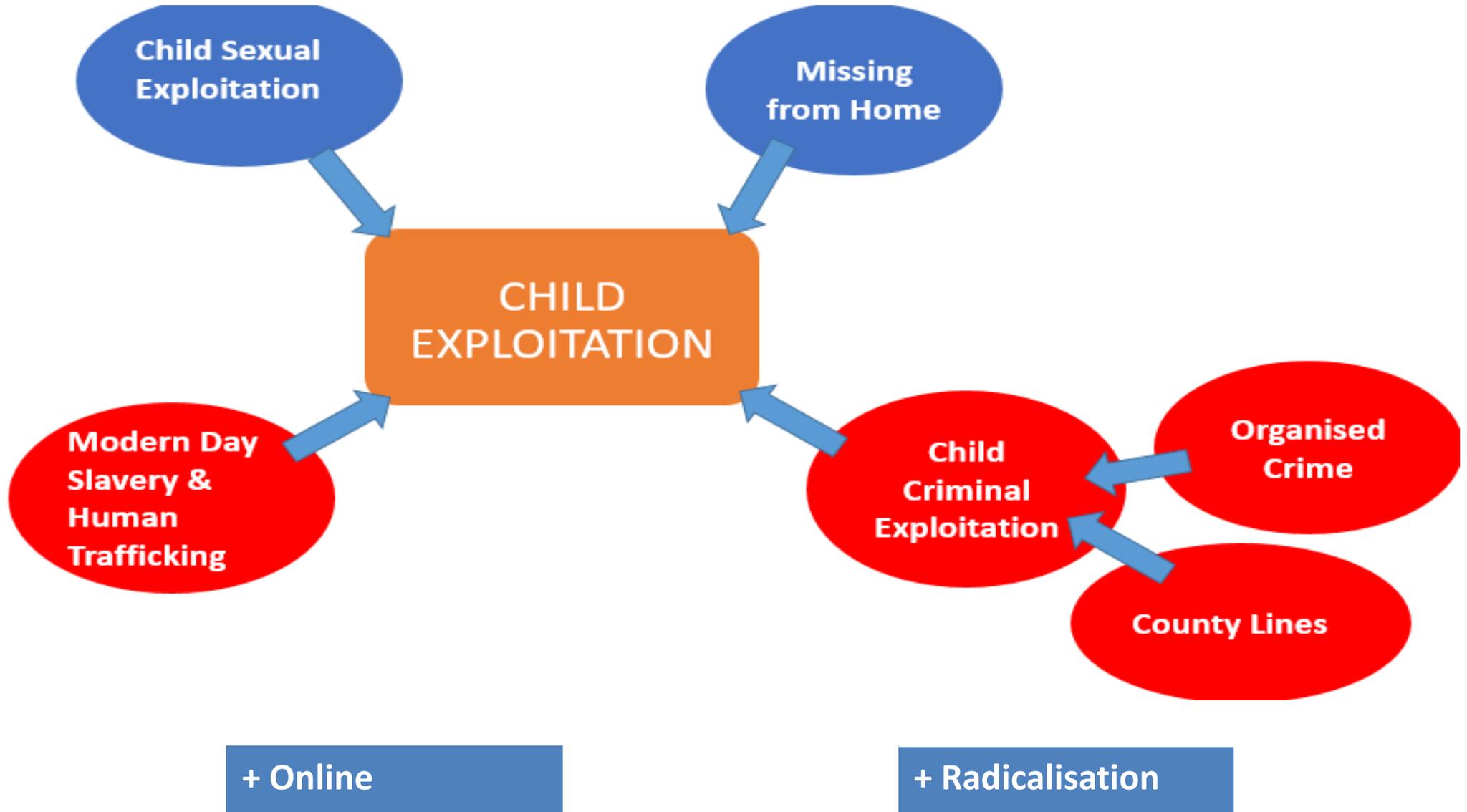
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# Child and Adult Exploitation

County Durham Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee

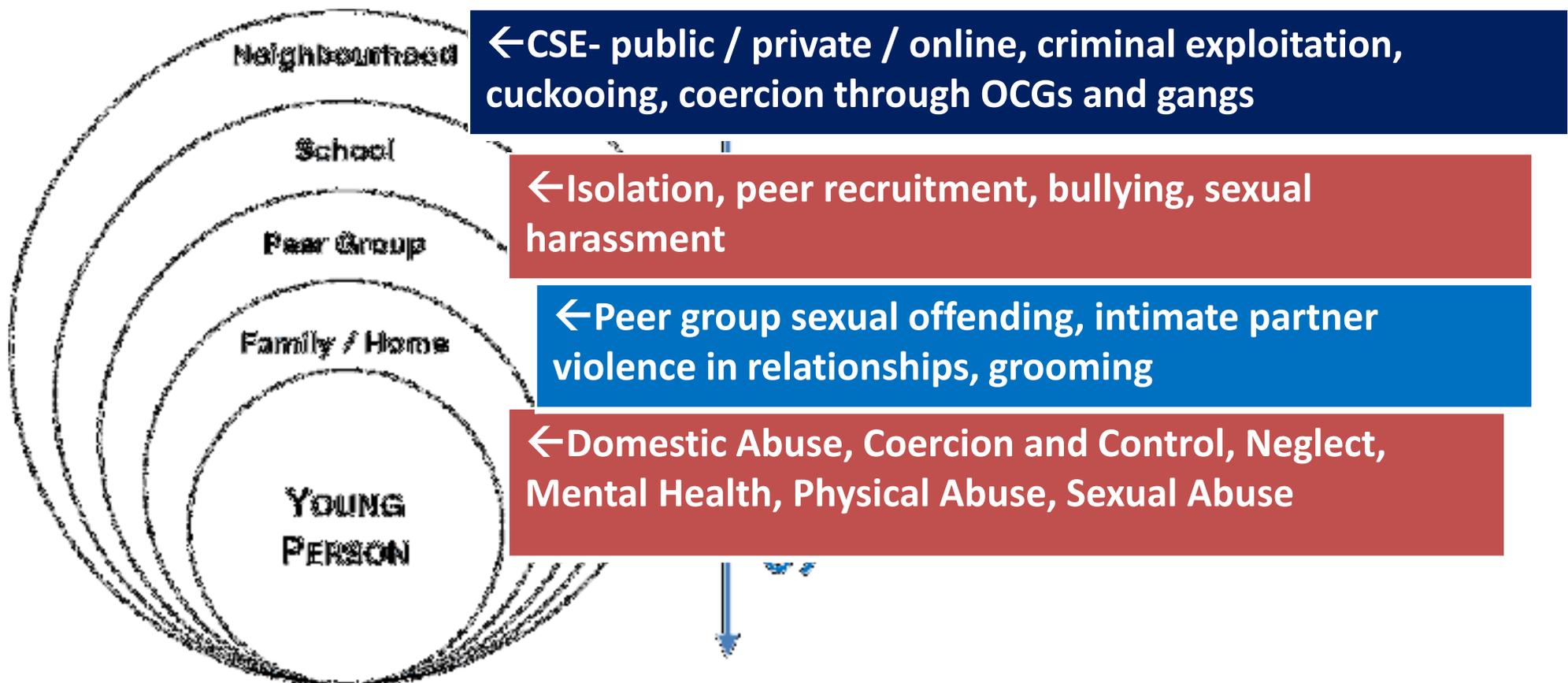
12 December 2022

# Child Exploitation



# Contextual Safeguarding

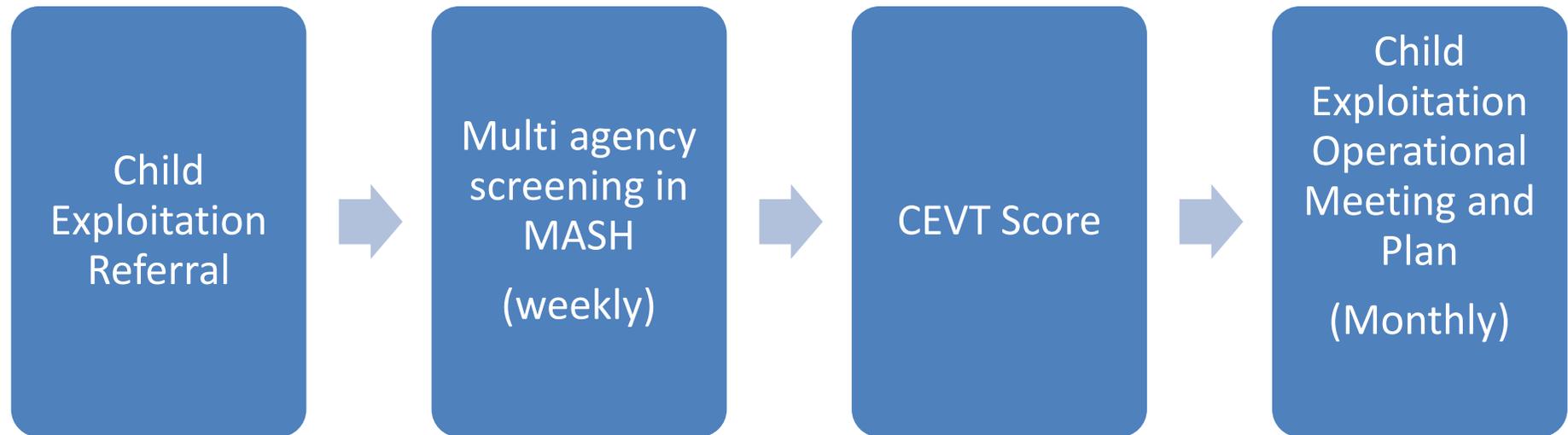
Prof Carlene Firmin MBE



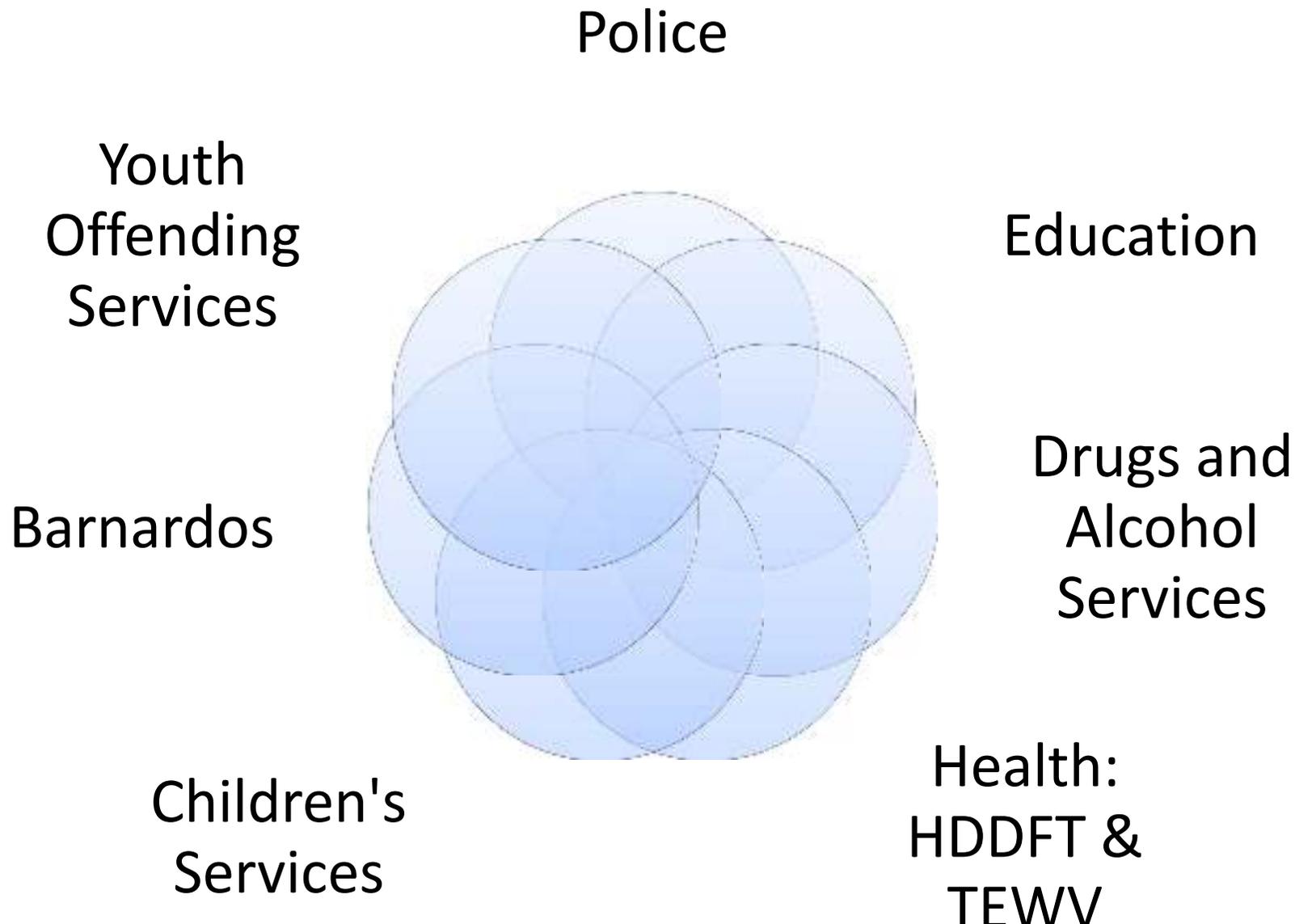
# Multi Agency Process

## Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker (CEVT)

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# Multi agency approach



# Governance

Operational CEG



**Strategic Child Exploitation Group – Durham and Darlington**

**Performance:** MFH, CSE, CCE, School exclusions, EHE

**Agencies:** Police CDDFT, DCC & DBC (Education and CSC), NECA, HDFT, TEWV, CCG, Barnardos , DSCP, DSP, Crimestoppers

# CSE and CSA (from police data)

## Sexual offences under 18's

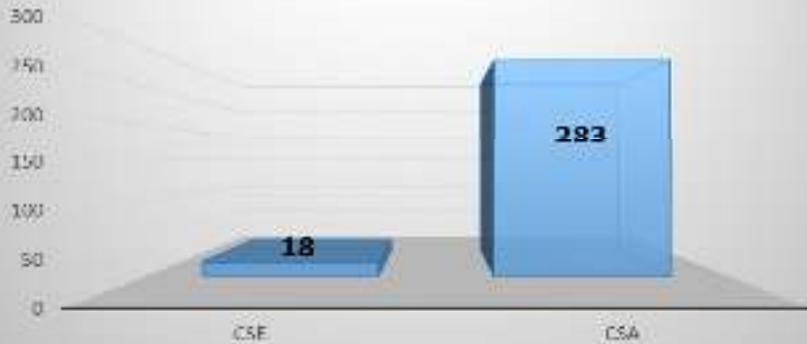
		% Change	Direction of travel
Apr-22	May-22		
138	163	18%	↑



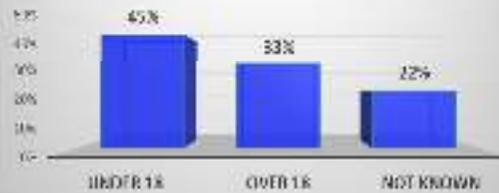
## CONTACT OFFENCES:

		% Change	Direction of travel
Apr-22	May-22		
73	96	32%	↑

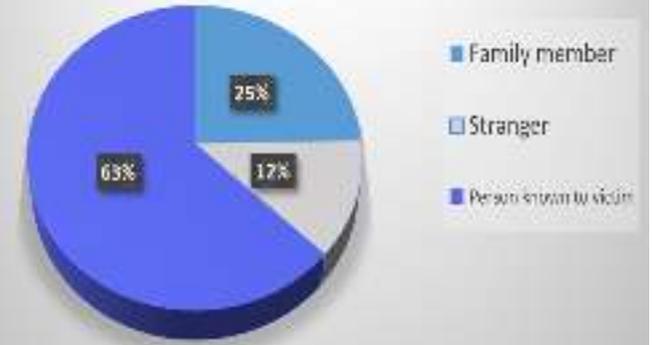
### CSE / CSA



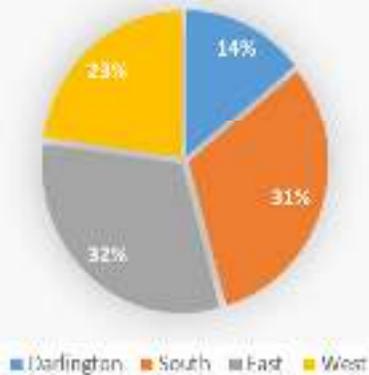
### Age of offender at time of offence:



### Offender / victim relationship



## Sexual offences against Children Apr & May 22- by Locality

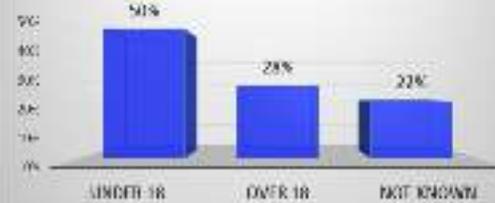


## ONLINE / DIGITAL:

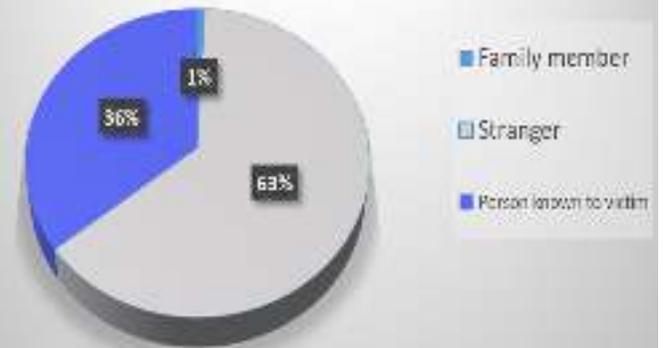
		% Change	Direction of travel
Apr-22	May-22		
62	65	5%	↑



### Age of offender at time of offence:



### Offender / victim relationship

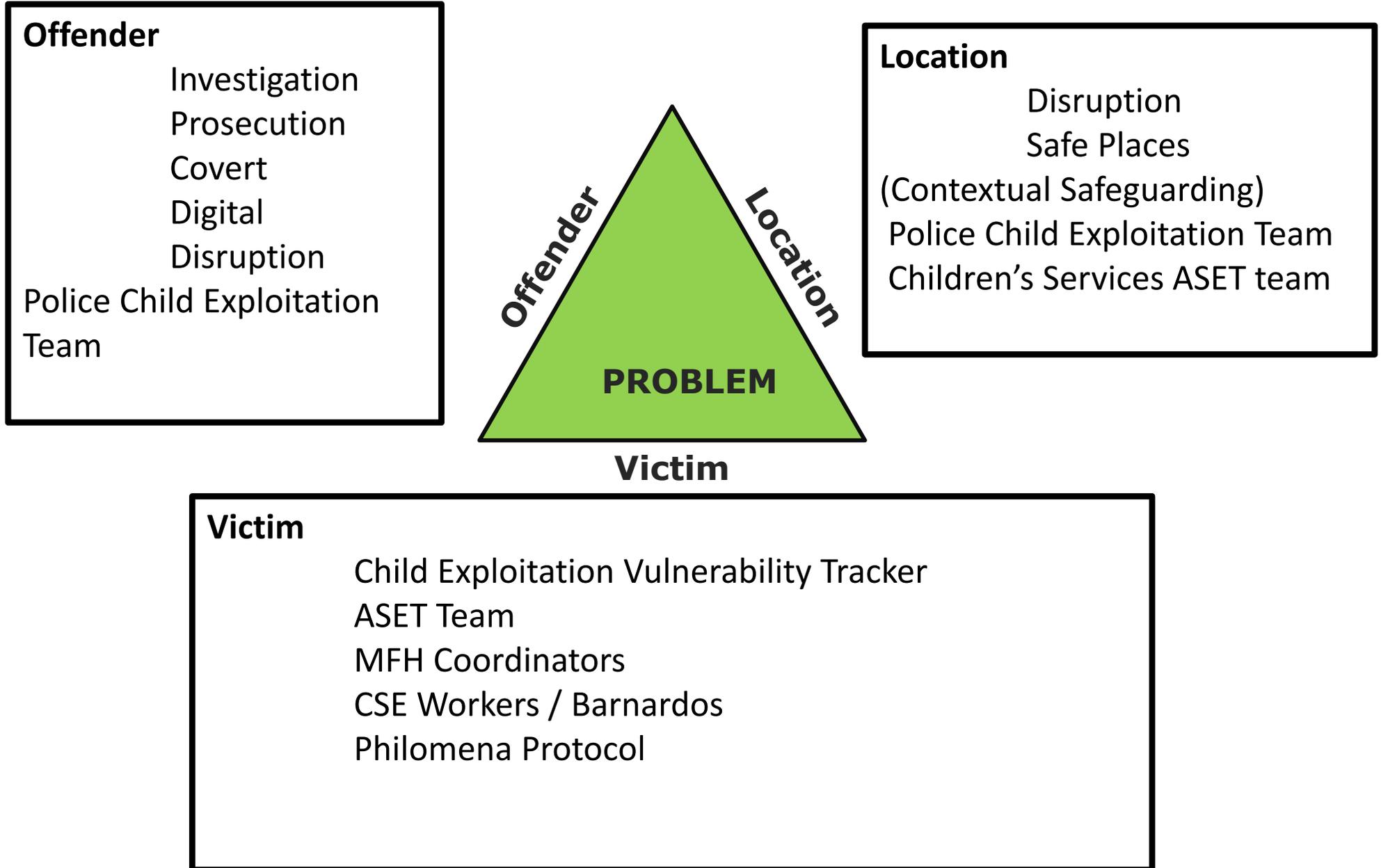




# Ongoing Review of Child Exploitation

- IICSA review
  - Victim Blaming Language education
  - Referral Matrix
- Dealing with volume – learning from MAPPA principles
- Chairing of Operational CEG Meetings
- Ensuring Strategy Discussions are not delayed
- Requirement for effective safeguarding of PLACE (Contextual Safeguarding Model) – work planned for Stanley and Horden. Op Makesafe
- Disruption of OFFENDERS & LOCATIONS
- Transition
- Regional Contextual Safeguarding Network
  - Prof Carlene Firmin Durham Children's Services

# Analysis - P.A.T



# ADULT EXPLOITATION

Organised  
Immigration Crime

Modern Slavery &  
Human Trafficking

Sexual  
Exploitation

County Lines

Daily Scanning by Police Intelligence  
Teams

Multi agency response eg via MASH

## Multi agency oversight

Safer Durham Partnership

Safeguarding Adult's Partnership

Modern Day Slavery & Human Trafficking Network (PCC led, Durham and Darlington)

# SNAP SHOT - MODERN SLAVERY

24 recorded MSHT crimes within 2 month period included:

**Criminal exploitation** accounted for 55% or 12 crimes

- Albanian nationals remain the dominant 'victims' of this exploitation (cannabis cultivation), with 9 Albanian nationals, there was also 1 British and 1 Vietnamese potential victim. 1 crime regarding forced drug distribution involved a Zimbabwe potential victim.

**Sexual exploitation** accounted for 23% or 5 crimes

- Mainly prostitution/pop-up brothels regarding 2 Malaysian victims, one Singaporean and 1 Vietnamese victim. There was also a human trafficking crime (secondary crime to CSE involving a British female child).

**Labour exploitation** accounted for 9% or 2 crime

- Involving a (now deceased) British male that made an account to a third party of kidnapping and forced labour and 1 crime involving a British victim forced to work at a dance school by a British suspect.

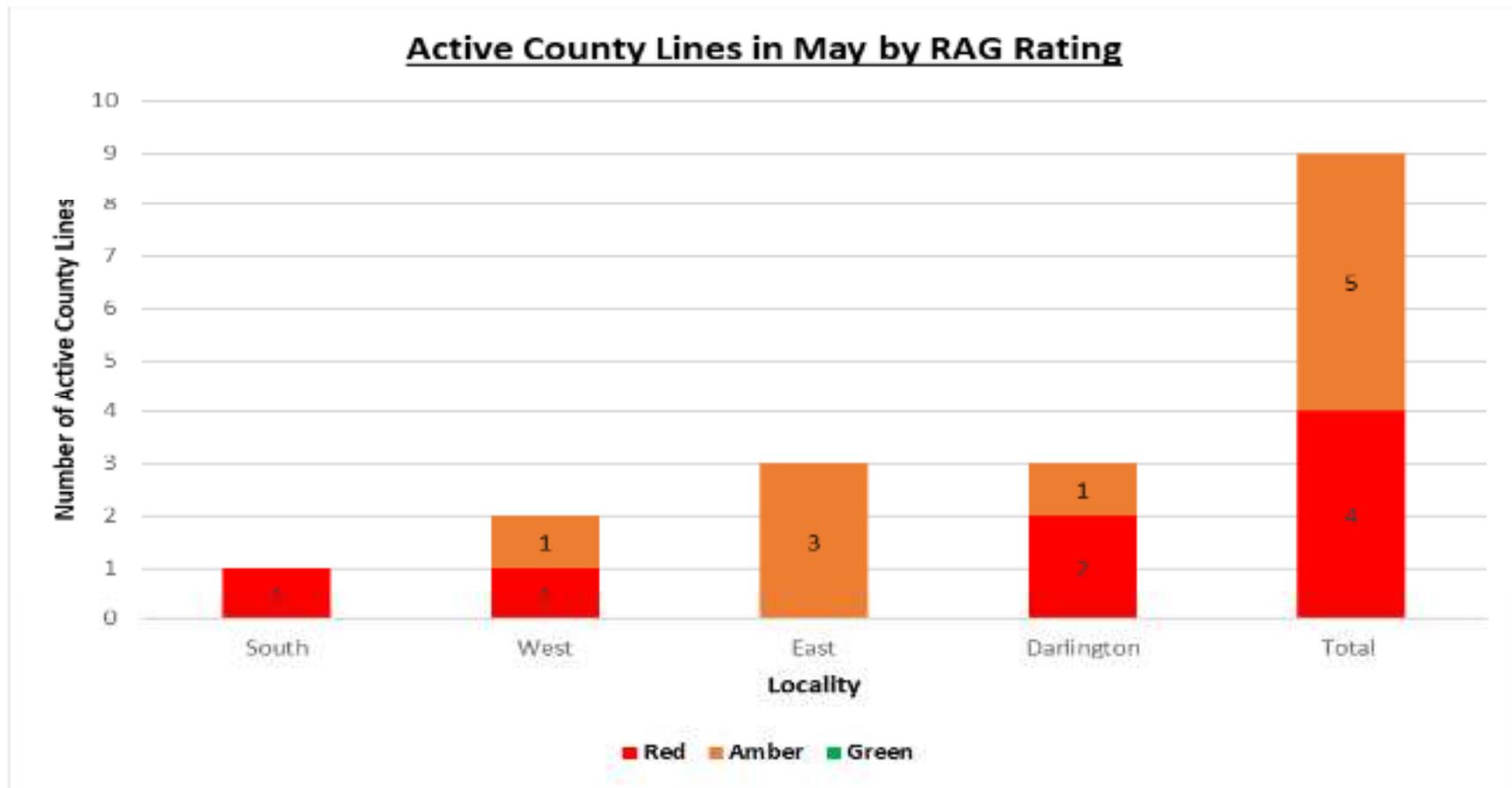
**Domestic Servitude:** accounted for 5% or 1 crime

# COUNTY LINES – Graded Approach

**RED – Priority Response: Identified Vulnerabilities** – Safeguarding of identified victims to be prioritised.

**AMBER – Medium Response: No Identified Vulnerabilities, Identified Deal Line** – Intelligence development – disruption activity.

**GREEN – Standard Response: No Identified Vulnerabilities, Unclear if Deal Line Exists** – Area intelligence to monitor/develop as appropriate.





Questions?

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

**12 December 2022**



**Public Protection service - Enforcement  
and Intervention Activity**

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**Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods  
and Climate Change**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a presentation on enforcement and intervention activity by the Council's Public Protection Service.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached in appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview for comment on activities of the Licensing, Neighbourhood Interventions, Trading Standards and Safer Communities teams within the Public Protection Service.

**Recommendation**

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

**Background**

- 4 At its meeting in June 2022 the Committee agreed its work programme to include a report on enforcement and intervention activity by the Council's Public Protection Team.
- 5 The Public Protection team consists of five main service teams, Licensing, Neighbourhood Interventions, Trading Standards, Safer Communities and Horden Together.
- 6 The presentation attached in appendix 2 provides members with an overview of activity undertaken by the Service in partnership with a number of agencies in relation to activities such as door step crime,

counterfeit goods, illicit tobacco, licensing enforcement, community safety initiatives, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance.

- 7 Owen Cleugh, Public Protection Manager is scheduled to attend the Committee's meeting to deliver the presentation on activity undertaken by the Public Protection Team.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 8 Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

## **Conclusion**

- 9 The attached presentation provides an update and opportunity for Members to comment on enforcement and intervention activity undertaken by the Council's Public Protection Service.

- 10 Background papers

- None

## **Other useful documents**

- None

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**Contact: Owen Cleugh**

**Tel: 03000 260925**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

None.

### **Finance**

None.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.

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## **Appendix 2: Public Protection Enforcement and Intervention Activities**

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# Public Protection Enforcement and Intervention activities

Owen Cleugh  
Public Protection Manager



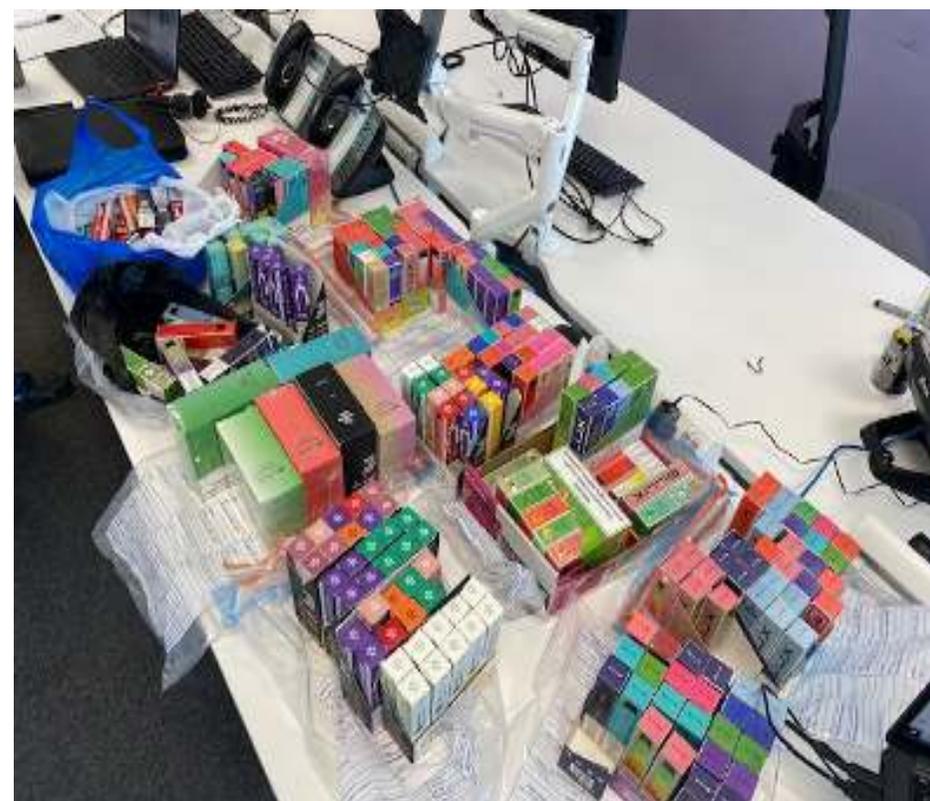
# Current Public Protection Teams

- **Trading Standards** including Business Compliance and Special Investigations
- **Licensing** including administration and enforcement
- **Neighbourhood Interventions** including Nuisance Action, ASB Interventions, Community Action Team
- **Safer Communities** including Information and Intelligence, Community Safety and GRTS
- **Horden Together**

# Business Compliance

## Summary of this home's energy performance related features

Element	Description	Energy Efficiency
Walls	Average thermal transmittance 0.24 W/m <sup>2</sup> K	★★★★★
Roof	Average thermal transmittance 0.18 W/m <sup>2</sup> K	★★★★☆
Floor	Average thermal transmittance 0.14 W/m <sup>2</sup> K	★★★★★
Windows	High performance glazing	★★★★★
Main heating	Air source heat pump, underfloor, electric	★★★★★
Main heating controls	Time and temperature zone control	★★★★★
Secondary heating	None	—
Hot water	From main system	—
Lighting	Low energy lighting in all fixed outlets	★★★★★
Air tightness	Air permeability 4.5 m <sup>3</sup> /h.m <sup>2</sup> (as tested)	★★★★☆



# Special Investigations team

**“Dodgy County Durham tradesman defrauded terminally ill cancer sufferer and wife out of over £10,000”**



**“A COMPANY which carried out poor quality work on an extension and new kitchen at a woman’s house has been fined and ordered to pay £50,000 in compensation following a prosecution brought by Durham County Council.”**



**“County Durham builder fleeced customers out of thousands and gambled their money”**  
**“Illegal cigarettes and tobacco found in home and newsagents”**

# Licensing



# Nuisance Action team



# Community Action team



# ASB Interventions team



# Safer Communities



Thank you and Questions

**Safer and Stronger  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**12 December 2022**

**Quarter Two, 2022/23  
Performance Management Report**

**Ordinary Decision**



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**Report of Corporate Management Team**

**Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources**

**Councillor Amanda Hopgood, Leader of the Council**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide.

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To present an overview of progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework and highlight key messages to inform strategic priorities and work programmes.
- 2 The report covers performance in and to the end of quarter two 2022/23, July to September 2022.

**Executive Summary**

- 3 A new [Council Plan](#) for 2022-2026 was approved by Council on 22 June. This set out a new performance framework for the Council. Corporate Management Team committed to the development of a new quarterly performance report format, providing greater focus on these issues. This is the second report for the new reporting period to follow this format.
- 4 The performance report is structured around the two main components.
  - (a) State of the County indicators to highlight areas of strategic importance and reflected in both the [County Durham Vision 2035](#) and the [Council Plan](#).
  - (b) Performance of council services and progress against major initiatives as set out in the [Council Plan](#).
- 5 Performance is reported against the five thematic areas within the Council Plan 2022-2026: our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council.

- 6 Performance is reported on an exception basis with key messages under each of the thematic Council Plan areas being broken down into national, regional and local picture, things that are going well, areas which require attention and other areas to note.
- 7 We are continuing our transition into a post-pandemic world, but the impacts of COVID-19 can still be seen in our performance reporting. The last two financial years are not representative for many areas of performance and will be an unfair comparison due to pandemic impacts.
- 8 We have therefore, wherever possible, tried to make the comparison of current performance against pre-pandemic data. Whilst COVID-19 continues to impact on certain performance metrics, there is evidence of some areas returning to pre-pandemic levels.
- 9 Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II died on 8 September and the county council were involved together with the Lord Lieutenant in the arrangements to mark this passing and the proclamation of the accession of King Charles III within the county. The official period of mourning and the additional national bank holiday for the date of the State Funeral on 19 September also resulted in several events being cancelled and the closure of public buildings.
- 10 The council is responding to the Ukrainian refugee crisis through a multi-agency group to ensure a holistic package of support and latest data shows 438 refugees had been accommodated in the county.
- 11 However, the largest challenge for our residents, local businesses and the council is the current cost of living crisis. Inflation is currently running at 10.1%<sup>1</sup> with the Bank of England expecting to remain above 10% for a few months before starting to drop<sup>2</sup>. The inflationary increase is largely driven by the rise in the cost of fuel and energy bills, which is being impacted significantly by world events, including the war in Ukraine, and currency markets.
- 12 The cost-of-living crisis has a triple impact on the council.
  - (a) It impacts on our residents. High inflation is outstripping wage and benefit increases so income is falling in real terms. This will result in increased demand for services to help support people facing financial hardship or who are in crisis and services provided to vulnerable people such as social care for children and adults.
  - (b) Increased costs for the council. Our premises and transport costs have increased because of the rise in energy costs and fuel prices, and, also the cost of other supplies and services where prices have increased as suppliers face similar issues themselves. It is also

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<sup>1</sup> UK Consumer Price Index for 12 months to September 2022

<sup>2</sup> [Bank of England](#)

anticipated that employee costs will increase by more than in previous years when the pay settlement is negotiated to accommodate inflation.

- (c) Reduced income for the council. Users of council services may seek to save money resulting in a fall in income from discretionary services such as leisure centres and theatres.

## **Recommendation**

- 13 That Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter two performance, the continuing impact of COVID-19 and the increased cost of living on the council's performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of underperformance including the significant economic and well-being challenges because of the pandemic.

## **Analysis of the Performance Report**

### **Going well**

#### **Our communities**

- 14 438 of the 524 people who had established contact with residents through the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme have arrived in the county.

### **Areas which require attention**

#### **Our communities**

- 15 Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) decreased by 5% compared to the same period last year. However, the reduction is being driven by a significant fall in environmental ASB which is masking increases across the strands of nuisance (14% higher than pre-pandemic) and personal (66% higher than pre-pandemic). Reports from the frontline staff suggest this reflects less tolerance across our communities and a deterioration in mental health from the pandemic which is driving behaviour. Deliberate fires continue to be an issue, predominantly in the east of the county.
- 16 Although our selective licensing scheme came into effect on 1 April 2022, only 17% of eligible properties are fully licenced. A further 9% of properties have submitted applications.

### **Other areas of note**

#### **Our communities**

- 17 The introduction of a Durham Rental Standard has been further delayed to December while we await legal advice on the proposal to provide funding to landlords to become accredited with the National Residential Landlords Association.

## **Performance Indicators – Summary**

- 18 We are now transitioning into a post-pandemic world, but the impacts of COVID-19 can still be seen in our performance reporting. The last two financial years are not representative for many areas of performance and will be an unfair comparison due to pandemic impacts.
- 19 We have therefore, wherever possible, tried to make the comparison of current performance against pre-pandemic data.

## **Risk Management**

- 20 Effective risk management is a vital component of the council's agenda. The council's risk management process sits alongside our change programme and is incorporated into all significant change and improvement projects. The latest report can be found [here](#).

## **Background papers**

- County Durham Vision (County Council, 23 October 2019)  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s115064/Draft%20Durham%20Vision%20v10.0.pdf>

## **Other useful documents**

- Council Plan 2022 to 2026 (current plan)  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=56529>
- Quarter Four, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s157533/Year%20End%20performance%20report%202021-22.pdf>
- Quarter Three, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s152742/Performance%20Report%202021-22%20003.pdf>
- Quarter Two, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s149087/Q2%20Performance%20Report%202021-22%20-%20Cabinet.pdf>
- Quarter One, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s144872/Q1%20Performance%20Report%202021-22.pdf>

## **Author**

Andy Palmer

Tel: 03000 268551

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Finance**

Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

### **Consultation**

Not applicable.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Equality measures are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

### **Climate Change**

We have declared a climate change emergency and consider the implications of climate change in our reports and decision-making.

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable.

### **Crime and Disorder**

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

### **Staffing**

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Risk**

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly performance management report.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable.



# Durham County Council Performance Management Report Quarter Two, 2022/23



## 1.0 Council Activity: Going Well

### Housing of Ukrainian refugees

- 1 438 of the 524 people who had established contact with our residents through the national 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme have arrived in the county.
- 2 191 of the 253 sponsors have had guests arrive. Although there were 2,021 online expressions of interest for housing Ukrainian families, 1,768 links have not yet been made.

## 1.0 Council Activity: Areas which require attention

### Selective Licensing

- 3 Our selective licensing scheme came into effect on 1 April 2022. 4,844 private sector properties are now fully licenced, equating to an estimated 17% of all properties covered by the scheme. A further 2,581 applications are in the system, which equates to a further 9% of properties.

### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 4 ASB continues to be defined through three strands: environmental<sup>3</sup> ASB which makes up 63% of the total, nuisance<sup>4</sup> which makes up 31% and personal<sup>5</sup> which makes up 6%. Although reports of ASB reduced by 5% during the 12 months ending 30 September 2022, compared to the same period last year, this was mainly due to a significant fall in environmental ASB, a fall which masked increases across the strands of nuisance and personal.
- 5 The initial rise in environmental ASB during the pandemic was mainly due to residents spending more time at home and/or in their local community, noticing more, and having more time to report issues. As we exit the pandemic, levels are reducing, but remain 55% higher than pre-pandemic.
- 6 The increase in nuisance ASB during the pandemic was mainly due to a spike in noise reports. The more recent increase reflects the end of COVID restrictions and an increasing trend in deliberate fires, predominantly in the east of the county. Nuisance ASB is 14% higher than the pre-pandemic level.

<sup>3</sup> Criminal damage/vandalism/graffiti, environmental cleanliness (e.g., litter, dog-fouling, fly-tipping (both public and private land), abandoned shopping trolleys, discarded drug paraphernalia), abandoned cars, pollution (smoke, light, smells)

<sup>4</sup> Noise, rowdy behaviour, nuisance behaviour, drug/substance misuse/dealing, stray animals, deliberate fires, vehicle nuisance

<sup>5</sup> Intimidation, harassment, abuse

- 7 Reports of personal ASB is 66% higher than the pre-pandemic level. Frontline staff have identified that these increases reflect less tolerance across our communities and deterioration in mental health from the pandemic which is driving behaviour.

## **1.1 Council Activity: Other Areas to Note**

### **County Durham Rental Standard<sup>6</sup>**

- 8 The Durham Rental Standard has been further delayed to December while we await legal advice on the proposal to provide funding to landlords to become accredited with the National Residential Landlords Association.

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<sup>6</sup> a free hybrid accreditation scheme for landlords

### Key to Symbols

Performance against target and previous performance		Performance against comparable groups		Direction of Travel	
✓	meeting or exceeding	✓	Performance is better than national or north east	↑	higher than comparable period
○	within 2%	×	Performance is worse than national or north east	→	static against comparable period
×	more than 2% behind			↓	lower than comparable period

*NB: oldest data in left column*

### Types of indicators

There are two types of performance indicators throughout the report:

1. Key target indicators – targets are set as improvements can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
2. Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set as they are long-term and / or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners.

### National Benchmarking (N)

We compare our performance to all English authorities. The number of authorities varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils, e.g., educational attainment is compared to county and unitary councils, however waste disposal is compared to district and unitary councils.

### North East Benchmarking (NE)

The North East comparator is the average performance from the authorities within the North East region - County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees, South Tyneside, Sunderland.

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

## Our Communities

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
% of Harbour clients feeling more confident in themselves on case closure	89% (Oct-Dec 21)	Tracker -	95% x	-	-	-	↓	↑	↑		No
% of Harbour clients feeling their quality of life has improved on case closure	76% (Oct-Dec 21)	Tracker -	66% ✓	-	-	-	↑	↑	↑		No
% of children and young people completing an intervention with Harbour and reporting feeling safer	84% (Oct-Dec 21)	Tracker -	85% ○	-	-	-	→	↑	↓		No
Respondents who agree that police and local authorities are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them ( <i>confidence intervals +/-4pp</i> )	30.7% (2021/22)	30.4% ✓	30.4% ✓	-	-	-	↑	n/a	n/a	↑	No
Achieve 100% licensing of private rented sector properties covered by the Selective Licensing Scheme by 2027	17% (Sep 22)	Tracker -	new PI	new PI	-	-	new PI	new PI	new PI	n/a	Yes
Reduce ASB rates within the Selective Licensing Scheme areas by 10% (against the 2021 baseline)	data Q3	new PI	new PI	new PI	-	-	new PI	new PI	new PI	new PI	No
No. of ASB enforcement action taken	4,729 (Oct 21-Sep 22)	Tracker -	4,192 ✓	2,636 ✓	-	-	↑	↑	↑	↑	Yes
No. of fully licensed private rented sector properties in the selective licensed areas	4,844 (Sep 22)	Tracker -	new PI	new PI	-	-	new PI	new PI	new PI	n/a	Yes
No. of people KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of fatalities	4 (Jul-Sep 22)	Tracker -	8 ✓	5 ✓	-	-	↓	↑	→	→	Yes
No. of people KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of seriously injured	33 (Jul-Sep 22)	Tracker -	49 ✓	41 ✓	-	-	↑	→	↑	↓	Yes

Page 60

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
No. of children KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of fatalities	0 (Jul-Sep 22)	Tracker -	0 ✓	0 ✓	-	-	→	→	↑	↓	Yes
No. of children KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of seriously injured	3 (Jul-Sep 22)	Tracker -	5 ✓	4 ✓	-	-	↑	↑	↑	↑	Yes
Reports of anti-social behaviour	50,483 (Oct 21-Sep 22)	Tracker -	53,355 ✓	36,127 x	-	-	↓	↓	↓	↑	Yes
Reports of environmental anti-social behaviour	31,811 (Oct 21-Sep 22)	Tracker -	36,109 ✓	20,606 x	-	-	↓	↓	↓	↑	Yes
Reports of nuisance anti-social behaviour	15,497 (Oct 21-Sep 22)	Tracker -	14,539 x	13,612 x	-	-	↓	↑	↑	↓	Yes
Reports of personal anti-social behaviour	3,175 (Oct 21-Sep 22)	Tracker -	2,707 x	1,909 x	-	-	↑	↑	↑	↓	Yes

## Other relevant indicators

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
Reduce the overall suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	15.8% (2019-21)	Tracker -	14.3% x	14.3% x	x	x	↑	↑	↑	↑	Yes
Increase % of older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services	89.4% (Jan-Jun 22)	84.0% ✓	88.3% ✓	86.9% ✓	✓	✓	→	↑	↑	↑	Yes

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

**12 December 2022**

**Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Strategic  
Group**



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**Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods  
and Climate Change**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the ongoing work of the ASB Strategic Group.

**Executive summary**

- 2 It was requested by Committee that a report be brought to every meeting on the progress of the work of the ASB Strategic Group.
- 3 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the ASB Strategic Group priorities and work areas and the development of the ASB Strategy.

**Recommendation**

- 4 Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
  - (a) Note information contained within the report from the ASB Strategic Group and comment accordingly.

**Background**

- 5 At the SDP board meeting on the 18 November 2021, it was agreed that the ASB Strategic Group would be re-established.

- 6 The group have agreed Terms of Reference and continue to meet every two months.
- 7 The aims of the ASB Strategic Group are to:
- Provide strategic leadership and direction, co-ordination and oversight for the Safe Durham Partnership's response to anti-social behaviour across County Durham.
  - Deliver the strategic outcomes under the Safe Durham Partnership Plan that promote being safe and feeling safe in your community specifically focusing on the work area of anti-social behaviour.
  - Ensure the actions of the group positively impact on residents and the wider communities in:
    - (i) being and feeling safe and that those actions improve their emotional and physical wellbeing.
    - (ii) improving personal resilience and overall community's resilience, confidence and cohesion.

### **Key Actions**

- 8 Since the last meeting of the ASB Strategic Group on the 28 September 2022 further consideration was given to a number of key areas for action including:

### **Governance Arrangements**

- 9 A review of the relevant sub groups currently reporting to the ASB Strategic Group has taken place and proposals to streamline the sub groups and provide greater focus on key strategic priorities.
- 10 The new governance arrangements were presented to the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) on 25 November 2022 and it was agreed to repurpose the groups and refresh terms of reference around the proposed revised arrangements.
- 11 In particular, the SDP Board agreed the following proposals:-
- To remove the coastal ASB group from current the ASB Strategic group governance ensuring that there are ongoing linkages with the Local Mult Agency Problem Solving Group discussions.
  - To merge the Fly-tipping and Arson Suppression / Reduction groups.

- To remove the Durham City ASB Sub Group ensuring that there are ongoing linkages with the Local Mult Agency Problem Solving Groups.
- To maintain regular tasking and co-ordinating meetings.
- Realign the Data and Performance group to cover all aspects of performance for the SDP Board.

### **ASB Strategy**

- 12 The draft of the ASB Strategy was agreed by the SDP Board prior to the public consultation exercise.
- 13 A special session of the SS OSC to consider the details set out in the draft strategy was undertaken on 11 October 2022 and comments of the Committee have been included in the consultation feedback.
- 14 The consultation exercise ended on 13 November 2022. Following consideration of the outcome from the consultation by the ASB Strategic Group at their next meeting in December 2022, the final Strategy will be presented to the SDP Board on the 27 January 2023.

### **ASB Data and Performance Management**

- 15 The ASB Data and Performance Group continue to develop the ASB dashboards which are being used as both a performance and analytical tool by partners.
- 16 The data and performance dashboards for the period from September 2021 to August 2022 are provided in the presentation slides accompanying this report.
- 17 Work is ongoing to ensure that all partners have ready access to the tools available and that the data analysis and emerging trends are highlighted and reflected in local action/intervention plans.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 18 Information within this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership Plan to reducing crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour.

## **Conclusion**

- 19 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an update on the work of the ASB Strategic Group and feed into the relevant processes.

### Background papers

- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

### **Other useful documents**

- None

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**Contact:** Joanne Waller

Tel: 03000 260924

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Duty to consider crime and disorder implications.

### **Finance**

None.

### **Consultation**

Consultation will take place on the developing Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report provides an overview of the newly re-established ASB Strategic Group, a sub group of the Safe Durham Partnership and the actions agreed from the discussion items within the agenda to help positively impact on Crime, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour within the County.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.

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# ASB STRATEGIC GROUP UPDATE 12.12.2022



Better for everyone



# Youth Council

## Wider Partnership Relationships:

- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Environment & Climate Change Partnership
- Economic Partnership
- County Durham Together

## Other SDP Sub Groups:

- Hate Crime Action Group
- Silver Contest Group
- Reducing reoffending Group
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG)
- Safer Cyber Working Group
- County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Partnership
- Alcohol and Drug Harm Reduction Group
- Performance & Data

## Safe Durham Partnership

Chair: Alan Patrickson

## Reporting relationship:

- Criminal Justice Board
- Youth Justice Partnership
- Victims and Witnesses Group
- Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Durham Safeguarding Adult Partnership
- MAPPA Strategic Board
- Organised Crime Strategic Group
- Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny

## Anti-social Behaviour Strategic Group

Chair: Joanne Waller

Crime & ASB Risk Assessment Conference (CASBRAC)

Case Review panel

Arson Reduction / Flytipping Group

Children and Young Peoples ASB Group

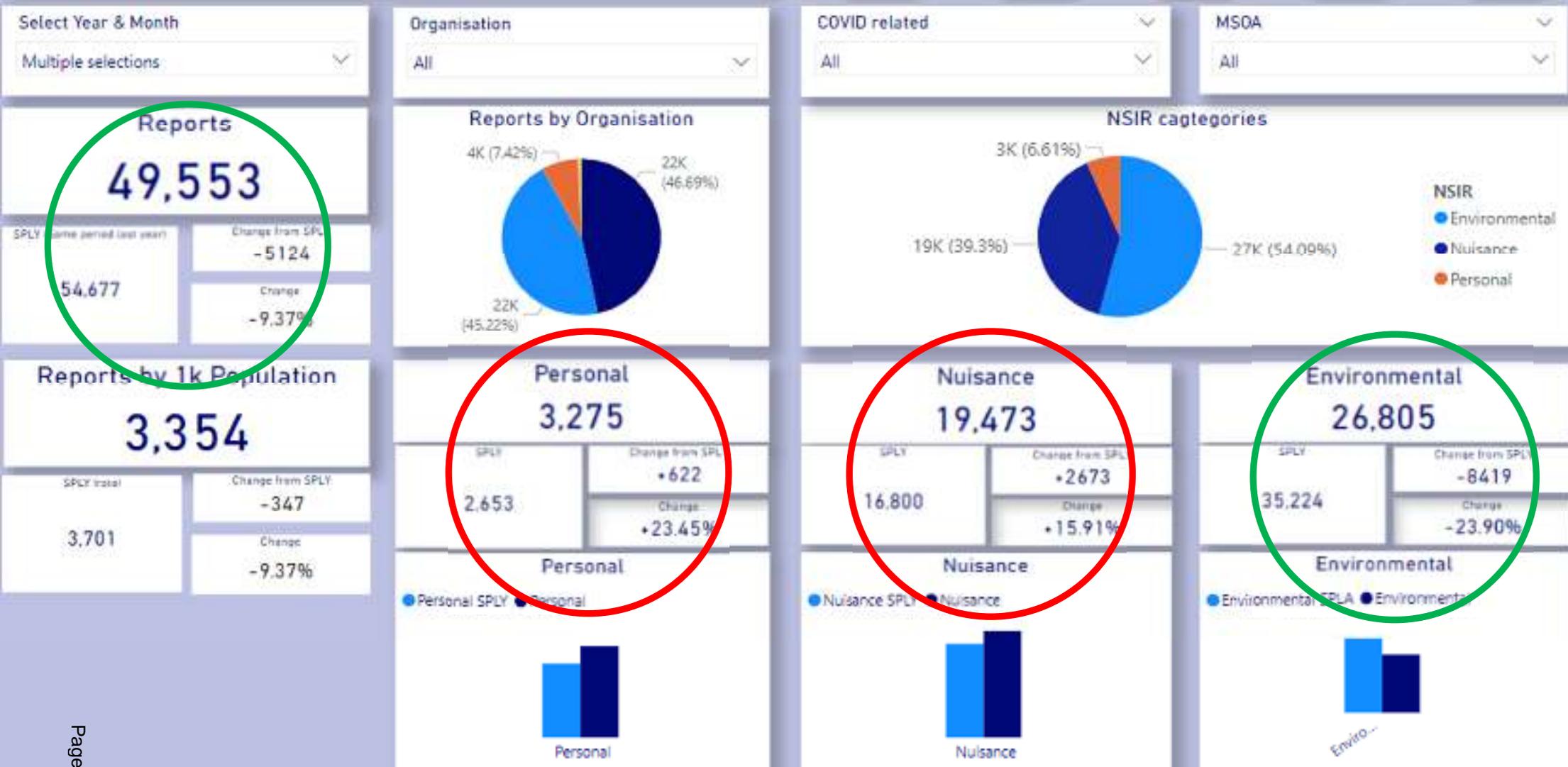
# Safe Durham Partnership

Better for everyone

Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving Groups



# Reports of ASB, Sep 2021 – Aug 22



# Reports of ASB, Trend



**All Types -1,257,-2.5 % since Aug 20**



**Environmental -3,392,-11 % since Aug 20**



**Nuisance +1,605, +9 % since Aug 20**



**Personal +500,+19 % since Aug 20**

# Reports of ASB (All Types) = 49,553, By MAPs

## South ✓

1,400 per 1k  
1,572 SPLY/ -10.9%

## North ✓

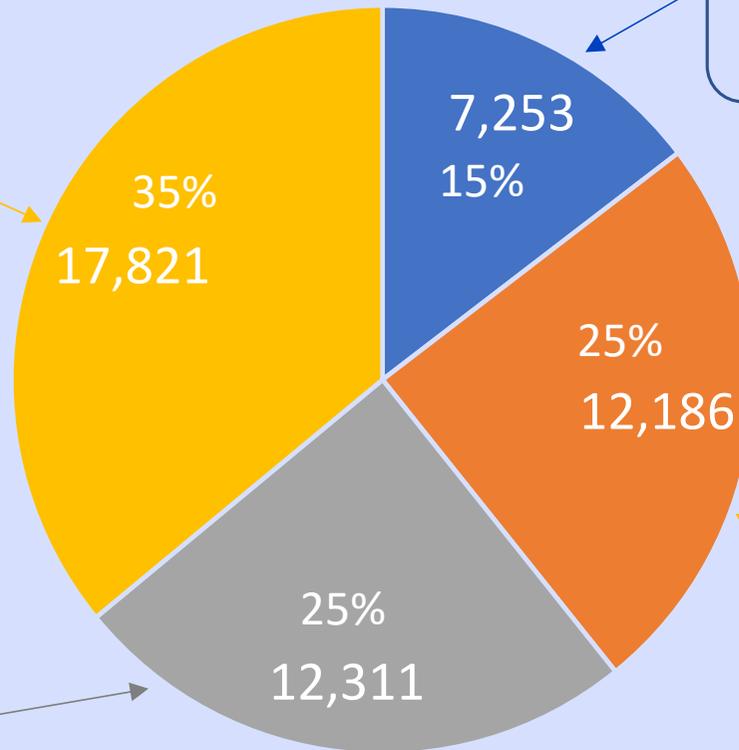
1,102 per 1k  
SPLY 1,233 / -10.7%

## City of Durham ✓

490 per 1k  
SPLY 524 / - 6.5%

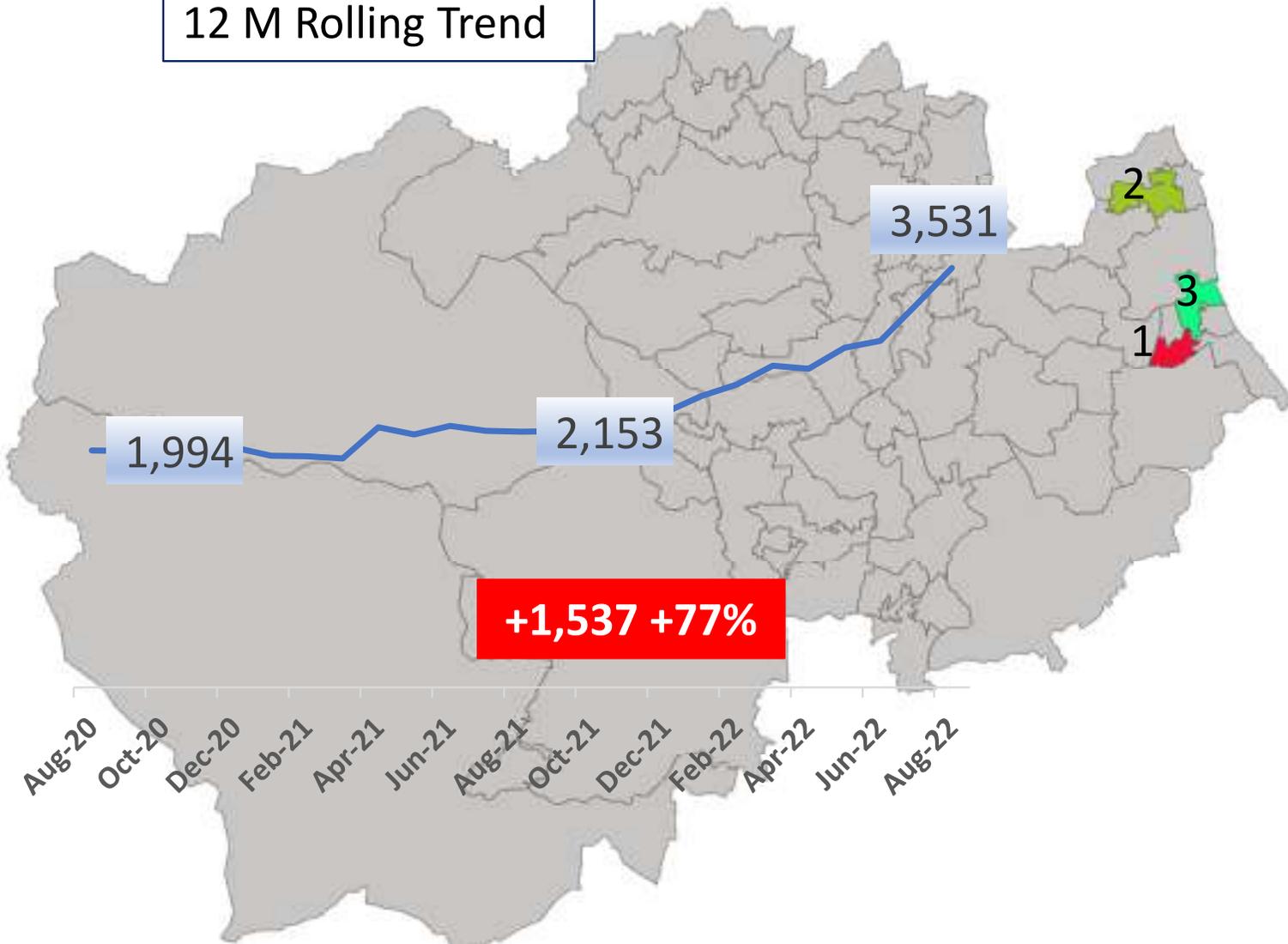
## East ✓

1,360 per 1k  
SPLY 1,467 / -7.2%



# ASB Reports to the Fire Service: 3.5K (7.4%)

12 M Rolling Trend



**+1,537 +77%**

### 3 Increased MSOAs

1. Passfield and Shotton, 120, **+75** since SPLY (45)
2. Dalton-le-Dale and Deneside, 123, **+64** since SPLY (59)
3. Easington Colliery South and Eden Hill, 210, **+58** since SPLY (152)

### Attribute

Deliberate Fires 3,531, **+1,378** since SPLY (2,153)