



Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date **Tuesday 16 April 2024**
Time **9.30 am**
Venue **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham**

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 26 February 2024 (Pages 3 - 16)
- 4 Declarations of Interest, if any
- 5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
- 6 Draft Safe Durham Partnership Strategy 2024-29 - Report of the Corporate Director Neighbourhoods and Climate Change (Pages 17 - 56)
- 7 Road Safety - Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 57 - 76)
- 8 Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Strategic Group Update - ASB Delivery Plan 2024-2025 - Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change (Pages 77 - 90)
- 9 Quarter Three, 2023/24 Performance Management Report - Report of the Chief Executive (Pages 91 - 122)
- 10 Probation Service - Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 123 - 136)

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

Part B

Items during which it is considered the meeting will not be open to the public (consideration of exempt or confidential information)

- 12 Probation Service - Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 137 - 146)
- 13 Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Bradley

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
8 April 2024

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

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

Councillors V Andrews, P Atkinson, D Boyes, R Crute, M Currah, L Fenwick, C Hampson, K Hawley, N Jones, C Lines, D McKenna, L Maddison, E Mavin, J Miller, D Nicholls, R Potts, J Quinn, A Simpson and D Sutton-Lloyd

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

Co-opted Employees/Officers: Chief Fire Officer S Helps, Superintendent N Bickford and Chief Superintendent R Allen

Contact: Amanda Stephenson Tel: 03000 269703

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 **Monday 26 February 2024** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor P Heaviside (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Charlton, V Andrews, P Atkinson, L Fenwick, C Hampson, C Lines, D McKenna, E Mavin, J Miller, D Nicholls, R Potts, A Simpson and D Sutton-Lloyd

Co-opted Members:

Mr D Balls

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Currah, J Quinn and Superintendent N Bickford.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitutes.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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 Combating Drugs and Alcohol Update Quarter 4 2023/24

The Committee received a report of the Director of Public Health that provided an update on the Dame Carol Black substance misuse grant funding awarded to Durham County Council (DCC). This funding was being used to support the implementation of the new national drugs strategy. The report highlighted the outcomes of the Drugs and Alcohol Recovery Service for 2022/23 (for copy see file of minutes).

J Sunter, PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) provided a further update on the work of the service following on from information given by the Director of Public Health at a previous committee meeting. She explained that the County Durham Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JLHWS) outlined the vision for improving health and wellbeing and tackling inequalities across the county. Following a two-phase review by Dame Carol Black in 2021/22 the government had developed a new 10 year strategy in 2021 - *'From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives'* that had three key priorities i) to break the drugs supply chain; ii) deliver world-class treatment and recovery systems; and iii) achieve the shift in demand for recreational drugs. The council had been successful in securing grant funding from the government to finance substance misuse treatment and recovery, in patient detox, rough sleepers treatment and recovery, individual placement support and housing support. Workstreams had been established to ensure the funding was directed to the relevant areas that required it the most.

There was a new Combating Drug and Alcohol Partnership working across Durham and Darlington that was supported by the police, NHS, probation, social care and the voluntary sector to deliver a plan for action. Deaths from substance misuse in Durham were low in the north east but higher than England. Funding had helped to increase the use of Naloxone within communities to help prevent deaths. The Connect service worked with people coming out of prison to help with their substance misuse and accommodation needs. The service kept track of them whilst they still resided in Durham. The successful completion numbers were now sent to the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) instead of Public Health England monthly to help achieve goals. There was an uplift from the drug and alcohol service with 3,000 people from June 2022 to July 2023. The unmet need was still being monitored.

Councillor J Miller noted that there was reference made to County Durham through out the report and asked if there were any specific areas that were more problematic than others. The report mentioned that work was being carried out with the Housing Solutions regarding accommodation. He felt that location was key in success rates for any accommodation provision as if they were not situated in the right place it would be pointless. He queried if all eventualities were taken into consideration when developing homeless accommodation.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) responded that there was a correlation with active areas of substance misuse and areas of deprivation. The Council worked closely with private landlords and Housing Solutions on where to purchase properties. The Dame Carol Black grant helped to fund wrap around services to work with rough sleepers and others to help them to keep tenancies. The health squad had been funded to work with organisations that provided supported accommodation but the local authority had less jurisdiction over some of the private flats. Housing Solutions tried to engage with all housing providers to offer advice and support with the health squad knocking on resident's doors to work with people who needed help or who had just come of prison.

Councillor E Mavin was worried about potentially people being at work who were under the influence of substance misuse/alcohol whether intentionally or still being under the influence from the night before. He queried if there was anything being done to combat this.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) responded to Councillor E Mavin that this was difficult to combat but the police ran safety campaigns about not driving and taking drugs as potentially people may not realise they could still be under the influence the next day. The police carry out drug tests in custody suites that could identify people who may need support. Testing could help young people who could be helped into understanding if they were being experimental with substances or if they were addicted and then could be referred into treatment.

Councillor E Mavin asked how many veterans the service worked with.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) replied that she was unaware of a specific number but Human Kind did work with a number of veterans who were peer supporters. Those veterans in the programme also helped to reach out to others that may need help.

Councillor D Nicholls felt that within society no one wanted to talk about alcohol issues and the impact it caused as people normalised a glass of wine a night. He queried how addiction was measured and how it was decided that a person may be dependant and how people were found to offer help to. He thought that alcohol was too easily available in England with late licences but the rules were different in Scotland.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) commented that the north east had the highest levels of alcohol abuse with admissions to hospital. Mortality rates were also high in the north east although County Durham was below the average level. There was an increasing trend for under 18s to not drink. Within the Health and Wellbeing programme there was a drive on alcohol misuse with campaigns that showed the harm that alcohol caused and how it had an impact on children and young people starting to drink early. Work was commissioned with Balance to lobby central government and work on the harms and impact of alcohol on children and young people.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) stated that six local authorities within north east region were running campaigns with narrative on Adshel bus shelters, through Area Action Partnerships, through community and voluntary sectors and through the drug and alcohol recovery service. GP's used Audit C which was an assessment tool to identify people who may be addicts. Humankind also featured the tool on their website so people could refer themselves onto a fast track into the service for detox. There was a focus on positive energy and messages given to show the harm that excess alcohol and substance abuse did.

Councillor J Charlton was pleased to hear an outreach worker post had been established to work with young people. She queried if there was data on children and young people especially those with SEND.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) replied that there was no data on outreach support to children and young people directly but data did come through the youth justice service on children and young people on the verge of crime. She agreed to provide a more formal response.

Councillor J Charlton asked what areas had been identified that were known had problems. If Councillors were aware that issues were in their locality they could reach out to the voluntary sector or through their AAPs to try to do something. She worried when people were released from prison they had no GP to go to for help if they needed it. She asked how successful the work was carried out in prisons to detox people before they were released.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) stated that the Dame Carol Black fund had helped to finance the Reconnect hub at Durham Prison and the in reach worker that worked with inmates before they were released from prison. She commented that it was a great facility that had an open-door policy and was a one stop shop for people to get help and support as and when they needed.

Councillor P Atkinson thanked the officer for an informative presentation. He commented that in his division of Ferryhill he had seen a lot of supported accommodation and queried if Durham monitored the progress of people in these facilities. He acknowledged there was a range of people who had issues and not just ex-prisoners and queried if they were connected up to support groups or the police.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) stated that housing solutions liaised with housing providers with inreach workers within supported accommodation to establish who were in the units and what issues they had in order to provide support. She noted that the local authority had no jurisdiction over these facilities and although the team knocked on doors they did not have to let them in. Support workers were trained to ensure they had the knowledge to support everyone. It was difficult to get these facilities in certain areas as residents complained stating they did not want them next to their homes.

Councillor P Heaviside asked that the data in the report related to outcomes from June 2023 and queried why there was a delay in providing up to date data.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) advised that data received did not just include drug and alcohol but also substance misuse. She stated that success criteria was measured by someone being substance free for six months hence data collected would always be six months behind. Data gathering was continually ongoing.

Councillor D Sutton-Lloyd commented that work had been successful in his division of Newton Aycliffe as mini groups had been established that met on a four weekly basis with police, councillors and local residents to address local issues and tried to integrate the Council's services.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) advised she sat on both the boards for the ASB strategy and the Reduce Reoffending and she could help members if they wanted representation at their meetings to try resolve issues. The Dame Carol Black funding enabled the expansion of its capacity.

Councillor L Fenwick asked where she could signpost people for information on drug and alcohol services in County Durham.

The PH Strategic Manager (L,AW) informed the committee that all the information was on the County Durham drug and alcohol recovery service website. She agreed to circulate the details to committee members for information.

Councillor P Heaviside requested that the presentation on supported housing should be circulated to committee members.

Resolved:

- i) That the report be noted.
- ii) That the work of the Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Partnership and the implementation of the Dame Carol Black funded workstreams be continuously supported.
- iii) That the positive outcomes of the DARS and affiliated partners to encourage more people to access the service and reduce the harms from drugs and alcohol part of everyone's business be promoted.

7 Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), formerly known as the Integrated Risk Management Plan, Annual Consultation

The Committee received a report and presentation of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer that provided a background to the Fire Authority's CRMP annual action plan for 2024-2027 and that set out details of the plan and consultation process (for copy see file of minutes).

K Carruthers, Deputy Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation that explained that the service was undergoing the annual consultation process to develop their community risk management plan that was set out in the Fire and Rescue National Framework. He gave members background information that the fire authority served approx. 630,000 people and protected 302,500 households and 20,150 businesses from 15 fire stations with 600 staff. In the fire authority's most recent HMICFRS inspection they had achieved Good in all three categories of effectiveness, efficiency and people and had won Fire and Rescue Service of the year at the Public Sector Transformation Awards in 2022 and 2023. The fire authority planned to gather views from the community both online and face to face through their consultation process on the CRMP that looked to identify risks that the community faced and ways in which to alleviate those risks. There were financial pressures but the Medium-Term Financial Plan had been approved in February 2024.

He noted that from the consultation carried out in 2023 the service had implemented suggestions to crew all their wholetime fire engines with four firefighters with effect from 1 July 2023 and would continue to monitor the crewing of fire engines throughout 2024/25. He added that they had also reviewed and updated their Risk Based Inspection Programme (RBIP) for business premises that would commence on 1 April 2024 that utilised the developing work of the NFCC in collaboration with Operational Research in Health that would increase focus on premises types identified as a higher risk through this new research.

Members were invited to take part in the consultation and were given surveys to complete. The consultation questions for 2024/25 were i) Do you agree with the Service's approach to keeping you safe? ii) Do you agree with our commitments outlined in the plan? And iii) Do you have any comments on our plans for 2024-2027? The CRMP is available on the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service website.

Councillor J Miller commented that the Fire Service within his division were excellent and had given him help and support since he had been elected.

Councillor E Mavin commented that the Fire Service carried out good work in the community. He noted that there was nothing in the annual consultation about fire fighters' safety.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer confirmed fire fighter safety was included in internal documents.

Councillor D Sutton-Lloyd was impressed with the home visits that had taken place to ensure safety in the home. He asked if the service worked with community centres, if any visits had fallen by the wayside and how he could arrange a visit to a premises in his division to advise them on what to do.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer advised that community centres were addressed in the risk space work element. There were less visits carried out post pandemic due to hybrid working conditions but there had been a change in legislation to enforce authorities to have stricter levels. He noted that there was information on their website that provided advice and support that anyone could access. He confirmed that if Councillor D Sutton-Lloyd emailed him he would get a site visit organised.

Councillor P Heaviside stated that the community centre in his division had received a visit last year and he had found it to be very helpful.

Councillor J Charlton felt that home visits were tremendous and the service provided by the fire authority was outstanding. She noted that there had been a horrendous tragedy in her village and within two weeks officers from the fire authority were knocking on resident's doors to install fire alarms in their homes. She wanted to pass on her thanks on behalf of her community for their services to the general public.

Councillor D Nicholls reiterated that the service had been outstanding in his area as well especially when dealing with waste and illegal bonfires. He asked how they would plan the ultimate move in the next inspection from good to outstanding as he felt the service should be recognised as such. He queried if the service had been impacted by Covid in terms of less road accidents with more people working from home, if the service was back to normal or if there had been any changes to the service.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer responded that he would like to see the service achieve Outstanding but that was not just one big step to achieve as it would require every little aspect of the service to be reviewed across the sector. He thought it was the best Fire and Rescue Service in the region and Inspectors would see that in their reports. Lessons had been learnt from Covid and changes had been made with more hybrid working for office-based staff that was more flexible for them.

During Covid, home visits were abandoned and instead were undertaken via telephone calls. Home visits had now resumed back to face to face in person post pandemic. He noted that there had been fewer road accidents during Covid that they had had to respond to but tragedies had increased post pandemic with five fatalities in the last year.

Councillor E Mavin queried who he could contact to have a fire safety audit carried out on a working man's club in his division.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer asked Councillor E Mavin to contact him and he would organise a visit. He advised that Fire Safety Audits were a legal duty for the service to inspect.

Councillor C Lines thanked the Deputy Chief Fire Officer for the useful and informative presentation. He noted that last year there had only been 300 responses to the survey and knew the difficulties in engaging with the public. He was glad to see that the survey was online. He asked if there was anything being done differently this year to try to increase responses by promoting the survey in community centres or libraries.

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer responded that officers were getting out and about more this year in person to promote the survey at community events, open days and having a presence at market days.

The committee were advised that there was a comprehensive engagement programme to promote the survey to encourage more responses. This had not been done in previous years due to the restrictions of Covid. The survey was online and was being promoted heavily through social media channels.

Councillor D Nicholls noted that no news was good news. He felt that if people were happy with a service they tended not to comment on it. It was only when they had issues that they would then comment. Potentially there were a lot of people who had not had any need of the fire authorities service in their life which would be another reason as to why there had been a low response rate in the past. He stated that no responses indicated indirectly that it was a well delivered service.

Resolved:

That the CRMP action plan and consultation be noted and the comments raised by the Committee in respect of the CRMP action plan formulated into a formal response to the consultation.

8 Community Protection Service - Enforcement and Intervention Activity

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change that provided background information on enforcement and intervention activity by the Council's Community Protection Service (for copy see file of minutes).

I Harrison, Business Compliance Strategic Manager gave a detailed presentation that gave an overview on the activities carried out by the Council's Consumer Protection service. The service dealt with enforcement and intervention activities in relation to consumer protection, consumer safety special investigations, health protection, environmental protection and licensing to protect the vulnerable. This involved investigation into underage sales, illicit tobacco and vapes, animal welfare, animal licensing, food safety, Natasha's Law around food being correctly allergen marked, health and safety at work, environmental protection, air quality, private water supplies, the Licensing Act 2003 and taxis.

Councillor D McKenna asked if the process in dealing with rogue traders could be explained as he had submitted a report that had included evidence on behalf of a resident to be then told it was a civil matter.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager stated that he was not familiar with the case so could not comment. He advised that there were two elements to consumer protection – i) the civil law element that addressed contracts between the consumer and the business or trader to ensure they did a satisfactory job that was acceptable of the price; and ii) the criminal law element that investigated where you had to prove beyond all reasonable doubt that a crime had been committed. Officers would look at all the evidence and facts provided and make an assessment as to whether someone should be taken to court and prosecuted. A prosecution would only be made in the most serious of cases.

Councillor D McKenna felt that he had presented all the evidence that was necessary and the response back to the resident was disheartening.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager agreed to look into the case on behalf of Councillor D McKenna and report back to him.

Councillor J Miller asked if people should have a licence to breed dogs. He felt that the reported number of dog breeders of 45 in Durham was very low and thought that there more unlicensed breeders. He questioned what was being done to find out who they were and if fines issued by the courts came to the local authority.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager stated that the courts kept all the money obtained through fines. He confirmed that it was extremely difficult to try to find out the identities of unlicensed dog breeders. He noted that dog breeding was a well organised operation where there was generally more than one person involved. He added that breeding kennels were located in different areas, sellers would use different addresses when people collected puppies and they would use burner phones with different phone numbers being advertised each time. Work was ongoing to try to spot regular sellers but it was time consuming and was reliant on intelligence. He stated if puppies became ill after being bought buyers tended not to complain or try to get their money back as by that time they had already become part of the family and endured heavy vet bills.

Councillor D Nicholls reiterated that dog breeding was a serious issue that generated a lot of money and would be hard to tackle until legislation came into place.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager stated that there were even issues if for whatever reason a family could no longer keep the dog, they were being bought to be bred unbeknown to the family. This had been made aware when information on microchips within the dog did not contain the correct owner's details. If the team had more staff this area of work could be focused on.

Councillor D Nicholls was shocked that the money from fines issued to food premises was lost to the courts. It was unbelievable that people could be responsible for unhygienic places where people ate. He queried if there was any form of register to track and manage the licensing element of businesses when they closed down then reopened under a different name.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager advised that food businesses were registered with the local authority. It had been found that if a person on the licence had been fined and the licence revoked then other people were identified unconnected to the original business to apply for a new licence to reopen. Unfortunately if the new person had no record there would be no reason why the local authority would not register that person. However the premises would get more inspections.

Councillor D Nicholls asked in terms of traders could they be fined if they appeared to be overcharging for a service.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager informed the committee that the value of a service was subject to what someone was willing to pay for it. It was impossible to prove intent to commit fraud. There was no law to say how much a product was worth as this would be stated in the contract. He did think that education was the key. People should ask for at least three quotes from different traders and ask for references from people who have had work done by them before deciding. He felt that people should not be afraid to ask questions. He noted that it was difficult to catch rogue traders and people needed to look out for each other especially for vulnerable people.

Councillor V Andrews asked about air quality and whether there was guidance on log burners. She also asked about the quality of water and whether rivers were covered under Consumer Protection.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager stated that the Environment Agency covered water in rivers. There were regulations for log burners as people needed to have the appropriate equipment and the government had introduced new rules on what wood could be burnt to ensure it contained less water that improved their efficiency. He noted that any industrial log burners would be covered under their environment permit. Within domestic law the local authority had no power to enter a home to ensure residents had the correct appliance so it was difficult to prove what went on behind closed doors

Mr D Balls queried in terms of event licences if the university was still one of the biggest offenders.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager confirmed that the university still held lots of events. In 2022 the local authority issued temporary notices that legally gave the right to carry out an event but this had now changed and the local authority were just informed about events. It would be in consultation with Environmental Health or the police to give grounds to object to an event taking place. It would then come to committee for discussion but the organisation would have the right to appeal.

Councillor E Mavin queried health and safety in a premises and gave the example of a young man who had died by falling down the stairs at an Italian restaurant.

The Business Compliance Strategic Manager stated that he was aware of the case but it was inappropriate for him to comment. He advised that in general a premises should be safe as standard and gave an example that if there were stairs in a premises then an appropriate handrail should be installed. All the facts and evidence on health and safety elements would be taken into consideration when making a determination if someone was injured in that premises.

Councillor P Heaviside thanked the Business Compliance Strategic Manager for the very informative presentation.

Resolved:

That the report and presentation be noted.

9 Quarter Two, 2023/24 Performance Management Report

The Committee received a report of the Chief Executive that presented an overview of progress towards delivery of the key priorities within the Council Plan 2023-27 in line with the council's corporate performance framework and covered performance in and to the end of quarter two, 2023/24, July to September 2023 (for copy see file of minutes).

T Gorman, Corporate Policy and Performance Manager reviewed the key highlights of the report. He noted that 37% of properties were now fully licensed under the selective licensing programme which continued to grow in quarter three. Road safety had recorded seven fatalities in quarter two which was rather high which had not been seen for a number of years with each case being unique. Domestic violence had continued on a downward trend with fewer incidents being reported to the police but more victims being referred to Harbour. It was thought that it took victims about four years before they thought the threat levels were serious enough to report. Crime levels had decreased during the pandemic but were now on the rise with shoplifting on the increase. Upon police analysis this was happening due to the pressures of the cost of living, vulnerable adults that were dependant on drugs and organised criminality (not to be mistaken with organised crime) stealing certain items to order. Figures for anti-social behaviour had also decreased.

Mr D Balls asked if there were any enforcement remedies to tackle flyposting as he saw many posters that promoted events that remained well after the events were over.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager advised that any reports of flyposting to the Council were investigated. Many had contact details that were used to ask the perpetrator to remove their signs.

Mr D Balls thanked the Corporate Policy and Performance Manager for including the glossary to the report which he had found very helpful.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager advised that the suggestion of a glossary had been highlighted to the service to include in the report to ensure lay members who were not familiar with service had clarity on certain terminologies that were used.

Mr D Balls queried if there was an issue with selective licensing as it stated in the report that only 37% of providers had registered since the programme had commenced.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager replied that there was no doubt a peak in performance measured but the programme was still ongoing and numbers had grown in quarter three. He recalled that Members had been given a session on selective licensing previously that had given a more thorough update.

Councillor P Heaviside reiterated that there seemed to be ongoing issues with the selective licensing programme as it had been difficult to identify properties that should be registered under the scheme. He felt that the committee should revisit the project for a further update as it had now been running for two years. This was a source of income for the Council and to not be more inclusive of properties was not acceptable.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager explained that an exercise had taken place to identify properties that were privately rented that would require a licence but investigations had found that the properties were not privately rented. He advised that this was being addressed again to refresh numbers to look at those that should be licensed but were not. He added that the scheme did not generate revenue as money generated was used to fund the scheme to enable enforcement action to be taken to bring private properties up to liveable standards. He noted that in quarter three there were 50% of properties registered and work was still ongoing.

S Gwilym reminded members that there was to be a special Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 22 April 2024 that would be discussing selective licensing. He would ensure an invitation was extended to members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor R Potts referred to the increase in crime within the report with 89% shop lifting offences that were not attended to by the police. He was concerned that if police did not attend it would not give repeat offenders who hit the same shops time and time again any incentive to stop.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager could not speak on behalf of the police on any changes to their policies. He advised that Trading Standards and other organisations did work alongside the police to prevent crime. He agreed to ask the police what policies they had changed and provide an update at a next meeting.

Councillor R Potts was glad to see that domestic violence had decreased but queried if this was due to the lack of reporting. He had seen in the HMIC inspection that domestic violence in Durham had been highlighted as being the worst in England and Wales and wanted more victims to come forward as there was a need to stop it. There was a need for more links to be made between Harbour and the police.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager advised that domestic abuse and sexual violence was now part of community safety. He informed Members that Harbour, the police and other agencies did work together to provide support and advice to victims. He was not aware that figures for domestic violence in Durham were the worst in England and Wales and agreed to look into what was being done to bring numbers down.

Councillor J Miller referred to anti-social behaviour within the report as the biggest case load but figures being smaller than 28.2% in 2023. He queried what the previous percentage was for comparison. It was reported in the top three problems that the public had no confidence in the local authority or police to report such matters and queried what could be done to change this.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager agreed that the public had little confidence in the police which had also been low in the past but had not featured as the top three. He agreed to contact the police to see what they were working on to try to improve this. He was aware that research was being carried out with Durham University around performance and lack of confidence that was based on people's perceptions of the attitudes of officers. People thought that if they dealt with one grumpy officer then every officer within the whole organisation was the same. The police had lost favour but attending events and dealing with crowds was meant to improve matters.

Councillor R Potts noted that the reduction in anti-social behaviour was down to it now being recorded as harassment and not a crime.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager confirmed that anti-social behaviour now fell in with harassment of a person when being recorded. He noted that figures were small and would not influence the reported figures.

Councillor P Atkinson commented that it was great having officers on board to look at selective licensing. He stated that an anti-social behaviour officer had attended a PACT meeting in Ferryhill and had engaged well with residents. He expressed concern about the amount of work the neighbourhood warden had to do in Ferryhill which seemed to be overwhelming for just one warden. He queried if this could be addressed.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager noted that wardens did cover each other's areas to cover holiday or sickness. He agreed to find out how the service managed the resources across the number of areas.

Resolved:

That the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter two performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of challenge be noted.

16 April 2024

Draft Safe Durham Partnership Strategy
2024-29

Report of Alan Patrickson Corporate Director Neighbourhoods &
Climate Change, Durham County Council.

Electoral divisions affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1) The purpose of this report is to present the draft Safe Durham Partnership Strategy (SDPS) 2024-29 for comment. The committee will receive a presentation at the meeting. The draft strategy is attached as Appendix 2. A copy of the strategy has already been shared with the Committee as part of the wider consultation exercise.

Executive summary

- 2) Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the responsible authorities (commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP)) in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area.
- 3) Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, CSPs are duty-bound to 'provide evidence-based data to support CSPs in their planning and duties'. It is a statutory obligation for CSPs to produce or procure an annual localised Strategic Assessment providing a strategic evidence base that identifies future priorities for the partnership.
- 4) In County Durham, the CSP is the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) which has the responsibility for delivering the SDP Strategy, which is informed by Durham Insight as our strategic assessment.
- 5) The streamlined SDP Strategy outlines the SDP Boards ambition, that **'Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe'**.
- 6) The Safe Durham Partnership Strategy has the following "umbrella themes" which recognise the work done by the whole community safety partnership arena. These themes are then broken down into an area of focus and areas of assurance.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime which disrupts our Communities**
 - Area of focus: anti-social behaviour
 - Areas of assurance: reducing reoffending, road safety
- **Hate Crime and Building Community Cohesion**
 - Area of focus: hate crime
 - Area of assurance: counter terrorism
- **Sexual Violence and other Violent Crime**
 - Area of focus: sexual violence
 - Areas of assurance: serious violence, domestic abuse, combatting drugs and alcohol, organised crime

7) For each area of focus there are specific goals we want to achieve:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**
 - Increased public confidence to report ASB.
 - A coordinated and efficient multi-agency partnership approach to ASB.
 - Effective pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.
- **Hate Crime**
 - A clear understanding among communities that hate crime should be reported and will not be tolerated.
 - Cohesive communities which embrace diversity.
 - Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.
- **Sexual Violence**
 - Increased trust and confidence to report sexual offences.
 - Improved feelings of safety around the nighttime economy, and reductions in violent crime within the nighttime economy.
 - Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

8) The Partnership gives due consideration to the other plans and strategies in place across the wider County Durham Partnership and its member organisations.

9) The priorities within the plan will remain in place for five years with periodic reviews.

Recommendation

- 10) Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
 - a) Provide initial comments on the draft SDP Strategy at the meeting with any final comments to julie.bradbrook@durham.gov.uk by 23 April 2024.

Background

- 11) A Safe Durham Partnership development session took place in July 2023 to look at the Partnership's priority areas and development of the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy.
- 12) There was agreement that the SDP should be focused on areas where the Partnership can make a difference and the strategy should have fewer areas of focus which are clear to the SDP, its partners and communities.
- 13) Further consultation has taken place with the Safe Durham Partnership Board to develop the draft Safe Durham Partnership Strategy.
- 14) Community Safety Partnerships provide hyper-localised strategies tailored to the needs of their communities. They work on the principle that no single agency can address all drivers of crime and antisocial behaviour, and that effective partnership working is vital to ensuring safer communities.
- 15) The Safe Durham Partnership has a duty to meet our statutory obligations under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and a lot of changes have been made to statutory duties and/or guidance in recent years or are planned in the course of this strategy.
- 16) Government guidance and legislation places some other groups on a statutory footing, and they function effectively with oversight from the SDP. For example, the Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Strategic Partnership now has statutory responsibilities to deliver on the National Combating Drugs Outcomes.
- 17) To account for the changing landscape, SDP priorities consist of three 'umbrella themes' which cover work done by the whole community safety partnership arena. These themes are then broken down into:
 - **Areas of focus:** The SDP will champion the areas that need further focus or development. There may be a specific local need or issue to tackle, potential impact from national or international events or actions, or the SDP may be the key governance arrangement or most appropriate forum. Areas of focus will be agile, flexible, and responsive.
 - **Areas of assurance:** The SDP will provide ongoing oversight and receive regular assurance for the existing partnership arrangements already in place for these areas.
- 18) The SDP recognises the impact of wider factors on its priority themes and works closely with partners to address the underlying contributing

factors including health, substance misuse, housing, employment and poverty.

- 19) The Partnership gives due consideration to the other plans and strategies in place across the wider County Durham Partnership and its member organisations.
- 20) The key consideration for SDP focus is where the SDP can add value.

SDP Strategy development

- 21) Work has taken place on the SDP Strategy 2024-2029 through a strategy development group (comprising representatives from Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, PCC's Office, Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, VCS, Probation Service, and Area Action Partnerships) to ensure that the SDP Strategy is fit for purpose and reflects the work being undertaken in partnership by organisations across the county.
- 22) The SDP Strategy is a high-level strategy that is simple and easy to understand by all (professionals and residents), which outlines the priority areas and the commitment to how we will work together across the system.
- 23) The streamlined SDP Strategy outlines the SDP Boards ambition, that **'Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe'**.
- 24) The Safe Durham Partnership Strategy has the following "umbrella themes" which recognise the work done by the whole community safety partnership arena. These themes are then broken down into an area of focus and areas of assurance. For the areas of focus the SDP will dedicate regular themed Board meetings to these issues, and work with the delivery groups to focus efforts and target resources in these areas. For the areas of assurance, the SDP will provide ongoing oversight and receive regular assurance from the well-established groups already in place to address these areas.
 - **Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime which disrupts our Communities**
 - Area of focus: anti-social behaviour
 - Areas of assurance: reducing reoffending, road safety
 - **Hate Crime and Building Community Cohesion**
 - Area of focus: hate crime
 - Area of assurance: counter terrorism

- **Sexual Violence and other Violent Crime**
 - Area of focus: sexual violence
 - Areas of assurance: serious violence, domestic abuse, combatting drugs and alcohol, organised crime

25) Unlike previous Safe Durham Partnership Plans, this is a sleeker and easier to digest strategy which will concentrate on our approach to tackling the issues and where we as a partnership can influence and direct resources and funding.

26) For each area of focus there are specific goals we want to achieve:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**

- Increased public confidence to report ASB.
- A coordinated and efficient multi-agency partnership approach to ASB.
- Effective pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

- **Hate Crime**

- A clear understanding among communities that hate crime should be reported and will not be tolerated.
- Cohesive communities which embrace diversity.
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

- **Sexual Violence**

- Increased trust and confidence to report sexual offences.
- Improved feelings of safety around the nighttime economy, and reductions in violent crime within the nighttime economy.
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

Delivery plans

27) Leadership in each of the three SDP priorities will be through one of the existing formally established subgroups, each of which will lead on a high-level delivery plan.

- (a) **Anti-social Behaviour: Anti-social Behaviour Strategic Group**
- (b) **Hate Crime: Hate Crime Action Group**
- (c) **Sexual Violence: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group**

- 28) These groups will support the SDP Strategy by outlining how we will take work forward utilising our agreed ways of working with provision for ongoing monitoring by the Safe Durham Partnership:
- (a) Empowering communities
 - (b) Being asset focused
 - (c) Building resilience
 - (d) Working better together
 - (e) Sharing decision making
 - (f) Doing with not to
- 29) It is important to note that these groups are established subgroups of the SDP and already provide annual updates, including key performance indicators to the Board, as part of the cyclical work programme. Delivery plans will be reviewed to ensure they align to the SDP Strategy and measurable outcomes will be developed and agreed by subgroups.
- 30) These groups are at different stages of addressing these issues; the ASB Delivery Group has recently agreed a new Strategy and developed a delivery plan. The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group is a well-established partnership that the SDP will be asking to increase its focus on the Sexual Violence aspects of its agenda. It should be noted that following a change in chair, the Hate Crime Action Group is currently reviewing structures, TOR, membership and work plans to further align to the SDP strategy.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 31) An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken alongside the development of the SDP Strategy

Engagement and Consultation

- 32) Work has taken place with strategy development group partners to develop and co-design the SDP Strategy, which has been shared within their own organisations for comments as part of this process.
- 33) The draft SDP Strategy will be shared with the following as part of its further development.
- (a) The draft SDP Strategy was made available on the DCC website from **18 March – 14 April 24** where any comments received also contribute to the development of the supporting delivery plans.
- The link to the DCC website was also shared directly with the following groups during this time: Area Action Partnerships, Better

Together Forum, Armed Forces Forum, Local Councils working group, Youth Council, the Rainbow Group.

- (b) Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee – **16 April 2024**
 - (c) Final SDP Strategy to Safe Durham Partnership for agreement – **20 May 2024**
 - (d) SDP Strategy endorsed by Cabinet – **19 June 2024**
 - (e) SDP Strategy adopted by Full Council – **17 July 2024**
- 34) Further consultation and co-production will also take place with a range of partners to contribute to the development of the detailed delivery plans and influence their delivery.

Conclusion

- 35) The development of the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy has been led by a partnership group. The strategy has been informed by Durham Insight, as our strategic assessment, which provides the evidence base on which the priorities have been developed.
- 36) The SDP Strategy is a high-level strategy that is simple and easy to understand by all (professionals and residents), which outlines the priority areas and the commitment to how we will work together across the system.

Author

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to prepare a partnership plan, setting out the CSP's priorities.

Finance

Ongoing pressure on the public services will challenge all agencies to consider how best to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way. Delivery plans will be developed to support the delivery of the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy.

Consultation

Details of consultation are provided in the report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

A full Equality Impact Assessment is being carried out alongside the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy.

Climate Change

There are no climate change implications.

Human Rights

There are no adverse implications.

Crime and Disorder

Crime and disorder is the main focus of the report under the Safe Durham Partnership.

Staffing

There are no staffing implications.

Accommodation

There are no accommodation implications.

Risk

There are no risk implications.

Appendix 2: Draft Safe Durham Partnership Strategy 2024-2029

Attached as a separate document.

Safe Durham Partnership Strategy 2024-2029



Better for everyone

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Foreword

It is with pleasure that we introduce the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy for 2024-29. The community safety landscape has seen lots of legislative and guidance changes since Community Safety Partnerships were established more than twenty years ago and we are proud of the well established and emerging partnership groups we have in place in the County.

In developing this strategy, the Safe Durham Partnership has reflected upon its governance role, areas where it provides an assurance mechanism for other statutory groups and areas where it can add most value. We will continue to provide oversight and escalation for the key areas set out in this strategy, whilst focusing on our priorities of anti-social behaviour, hate crime and sexual violence. These priorities have been chosen because they are important to our residents, because of the significant harm they cause to victims, or because of the potential impact of national or international events; and they are areas where the strengths of the Safe Durham Partnership can make a real difference locally.

You will therefore see a sleeker and easier to digest strategy which will concentrate on our approach to tackling the issues and where we as a partnership can influence and direct resources and funding in order to achieve our ambition of **“Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe.”**

It is important to acknowledge that data and insight tell us County Durham is a safe place to live. At the same time, we must be mindful that the increased cost of living can put strain on our relationships and pressures on our budgets, and that escalating global conflict can increase community tensions.

The Safe Durham Partnership is committed to County Durham’s [Approach to Wellbeing](#), listening to our communities, tailoring our approaches to their specific needs and utilising their unique assets. We will work together to build resilience so that people are less likely to engage in criminal activity and build confidence so that people are more likely to report it.

Alan Patrickson

Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership
Corporate Director for Neighbourhoods
and Climate Change, Durham County Council



Cllr John Shuttleworth

Vice Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership
Portfolio Holder for Rural Communities
and Highways, Durham County Council



Our ambition

Our ambition is that **Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe.**

Our priorities

- 1) Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime which disrupts our Communities**
- 2) Hate Crime and Building Community Cohesion**
- 3) Sexual Violence and other Violent Crime**

Agreed ways of working

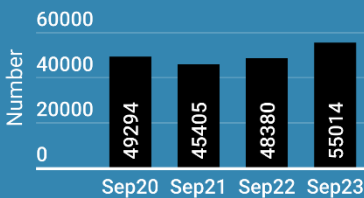
- **Empowering communities**
Working with communities to help build their empowerment and confidence in reporting crime and enabling them to feel safe in their local area.
- **Being asset focused**
Acknowledging the different needs of communities and the potential of their assets to help reduce crime and disorder.
- **Building resilience**
Helping the most disadvantaged and vulnerable in our communities to build their future resilience and prevent their engagement in criminal activity.
- **Working better together**
Working better across sectors to help avoid duplication in investment and activities, and ensure impacts are measured to build the evidence-base for what works.
- **Sharing decision making**
Designing services and initiatives with people who need them to break the intergenerational cycle of criminal activity whilst improving mental and physical health outcomes.
- **Doing with not to**
Making our interventions empowering and centred around children, adults and older people, and the place where they live.

In producing this strategy, we have considered evidence from Durham Insight (as our Strategic Assessment) alongside, local expertise, insight, horizon scanning, and the voice of our communities captured through various ongoing consultation and feedback mechanisms from all partners. The Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) is committed to ensuring key leads in partner organisations deliver on the commitments they have made in this strategy.

An overview of crime and community safety in County Durham

February 2024

Around **55,000**₁ crimes were recorded in County Durham in the 12 months to September 2023



21% rise between 2021 and 2023

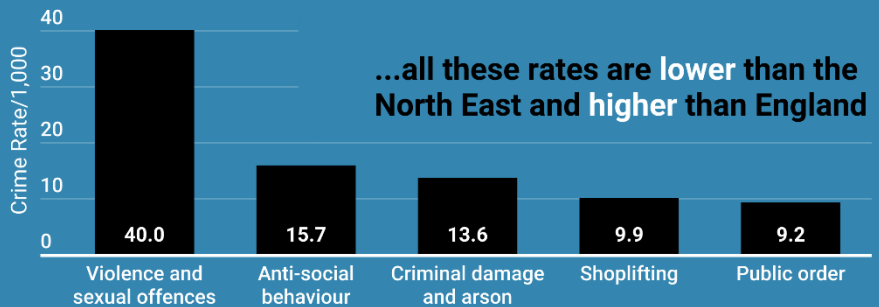
Crime rates (2023)₂ are lower in County Durham than the North East ...



...but are higher than England

This has been the case over time

The rate of violence and sexual offences locally is more than **double** the rate of anti-social behaviour (2023)



...all these rates are lower than the North East and higher than England

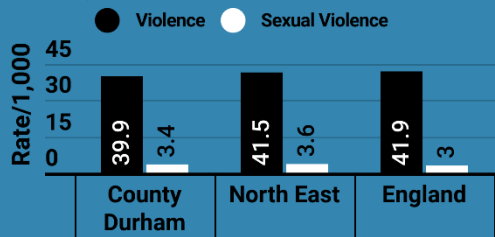
Around **2 in 5** of those crimes were violence against the person₁



Change in offences (2020-23)₁

- Shoplifting 70%
- Public order 37%
- Sexual offences 34%
- Robbery 30%
- Violence w/o injury 24%
- Non-residential burglary -18%
- Theft from person -17%
- Stalking/harassment -14%
- Burglary -10%

Violence and Sexual Violence offences (2022/23)



Similar to England and the North East

...that's around 20,000 violence offences and 1,600 sexual violence offences per year

Statistically significantly higher than England (Red circle)
Not statistically significantly different to England (Yellow circle)
Arrow indicates direction of travel over time (Up arrow)

140/100K 1st time entrants to the Youth Justice System

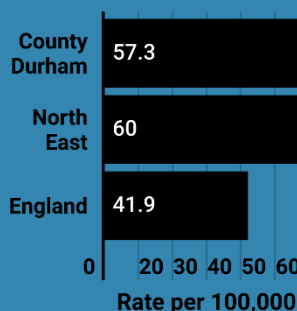
...that's 65 under 18's in 2022

387 Hate crime incidents reported in 2022/23

...that's almost a 10% fall from 2021/22

Most were race related

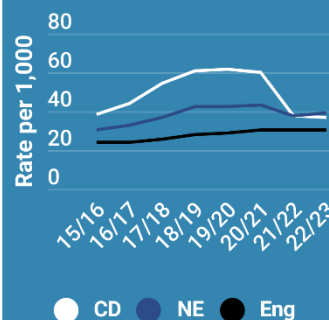
Hospital admissions for violence (inc sexual violence) (2018/19-2020/21)



Statistically significantly higher than England, similar to the North East

...that's around 300 hospital admissions for violence per year

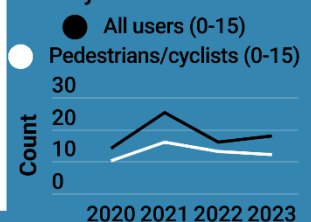
Domestic abuse related incidents / crimes reported (2022/23) **37/100K**



Children killed **23.4/100K** or seriously injured on roads

...that's around 21 per year

Stats19 data shows the breakdown in serious injuries for 0-15s



Role of the Safe Durham Partnership

Local authorities have a statutory duty to form a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to tackle crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment and to reduce reoffending. In County Durham the CSP is the Safe Durham Partnership.

More about the SDP is available on the [County Durham Partnership website](#).

Changing landscape for Community Safety Partnerships

Community Safety Partnerships provide hyper-localised strategies tailored to the needs of their communities. They work on the principle that no single agency can address all drivers of crime and antisocial behaviour, and that effective partnership working is vital to ensuring safer communities.

The Safe Durham Partnership has a duty to meet our statutory obligations under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and a lot of changes have been made to statutory duties and/or guidance in recent years or are planned in the course of this strategy.

Government guidance and legislation places some other groups on a statutory footing, and they function effectively with oversight from the SDP. For example, the Combatting Drugs and Alcohol Strategic Partnership now has statutory responsibilities to deliver on the National Combating Drugs Outcomes.

With this in mind, the SDP priorities consist of three 'umbrella themes' which cover work done by the whole community safety partnership arena across the County. These themes are then broken down into:

- **Areas of focus:** The SDP will champion the areas that need further focus or development. There may be a specific local need or issue to tackle, potential impact from national or international events or actions, or the SDP may be the key governance arrangement or most appropriate forum. Areas of focus will be agile, flexible, and responsive.
- **Areas of assurance:** The SDP will provide ongoing oversight and receive regular assurance for the existing partnership arrangements already in place for these areas.

The key consideration for SDP focus is where the SDP can add value, work with the delivery groups to focus efforts and target resources in these areas.

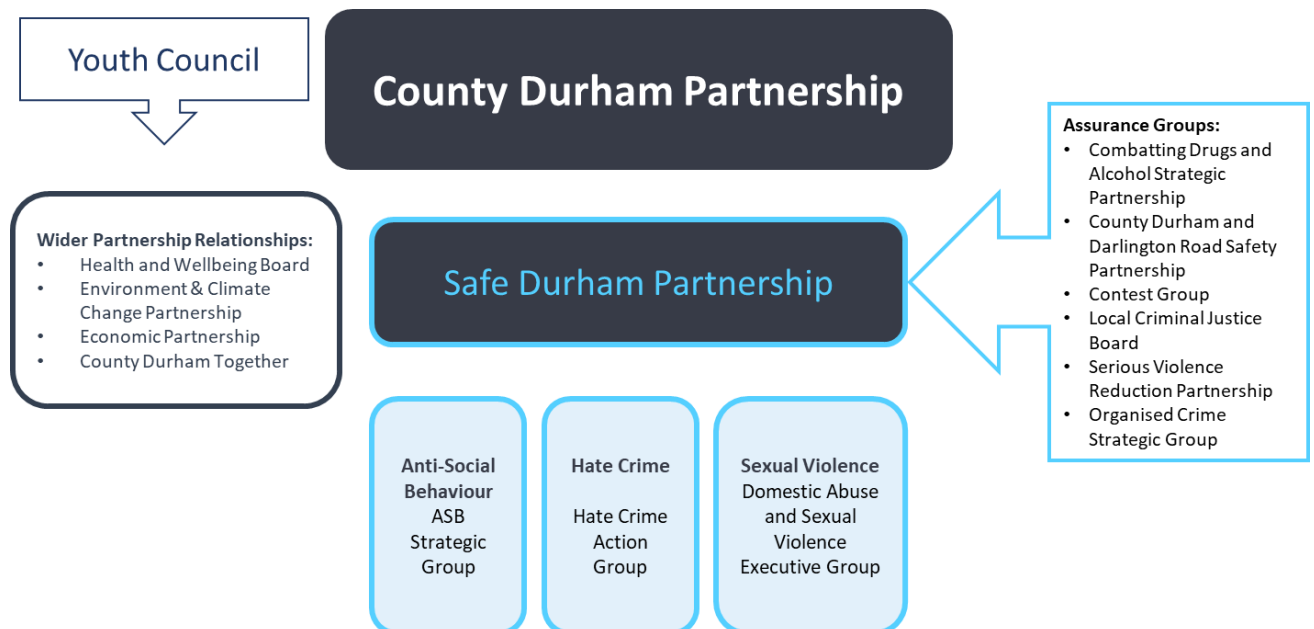
The SDP recognises the impact of wider factors on its priority themes and works closely with partners to address the underlying contributing factors including health, substance misuse, housing, employment and poverty.

The Partnership gives due consideration to the other plans and strategies in place across the wider [County Durham Partnership](#) and its member organisations.

Safe Durham Partnership Strategy - identified priorities 2024

- 1) **Anti-Social Behaviour** and Crime which Disrupts our Communities
 - Area of focus: anti-social behaviour
 - Areas of assurance: reducing reoffending, road safety
- 2) **Hate Crime** and Building Community Cohesion
 - Area of focus: hate crime
 - Area of assurance: counter terrorism
- 3) **Sexual Violence** and other Violent Crime
 - Area of focus: sexual violence
 - Areas of assurance: serious violence, domestic abuse, combatting drugs and alcohol, organised crime

Leadership in each of the three priority areas will be through one of the existing formally established sub-groups, each of which will lead on a high-level delivery plan.



Priority 1. Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime which Disrupts our Communities

Why this is a priority

Being and feeling safe both in our homes and within the wider community impacts on both our emotional and physical wellbeing and enables us to live productive lives. It also directly impacts on our personal resilience as well as the overall resilience, confidence, and cohesion of our communities.

Public perception and understanding of the definition of ASB are varied, but ASB and crimes which disrupt our neighbourhoods and communities is the number one community safety priority for residents across the county. There are multiple reporting routes across the spectrum and the SDP can add value as the strategic forum in which the involved agencies come together.

ASB can have a massive impact on those who are subjected to it, and it is more prevalent in our more deprived areas, where its impact is greatest. ASB can be a precursor to more serious crime and we think that tackling ASB will greatly benefit our Prevention work across the community safety landscape.

In order to ensure we are tackling ASB in the most effective way we will explore the potential tools and powers available to all partners. For example, the proposal to implement a PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) within Durham City centre that would seek to control behaviours including begging, urinating in the street and use of intoxicating substances. Public consultations on such measures are undertaken to ensure the views of the community are taken into account when implementing these orders.

We want people to have pride in their areas, to feel safe in their own home and have optimism for the future. Victims of anti-social behaviour have told us they want to see improved reporting routes; better communication with them about the progress of investigations; improved criminal justice processes; and for services to undertake victim impact assessments.

What we want to achieve

- Increased public confidence to report ASB
- A coordinated and efficient multi-agency partnership approach to ASB
- Effective pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators

Case Study – Off road motorcycle nuisance in Lancaster Hill and Westmorland Rise, Peterlee

A large number of reports of off-road motorbikes churning up large grassed areas and covering homes in mud were received from Lancaster Hill and Westmorland Rise in Peterlee. The reports were received by Believe Housing and the Police.

The bikes were accessing the area from a number of points including the A19. The residents in the area were very intimidated by these people wearing masks racing around and tearing up grassed areas, splattering mud all over houses and vehicles.

Door knocks and leaflet drops were carried out in the area by the Police, Local Authority Community Safety Officers and Neighbourhood Wardens as well as local housing officers from Believe. Residents were asked about the issues in order to gather any further information and intelligence. Residents were also given contact details and information on Operation Endurance, the partnership approach to tackling off road motorcycle nuisance through patrols, target hardening and enforcement. The residents were encouraged to report information that was useful to identifying the bikes and offenders, such as colour and make of the bike, clothing of rider etc.

Believe Housing were involved as some of their tenants were affected by this type of behaviour. One lady had her bungalow absolutely covered in mud off the bikes, which was clear to see had been done on purpose.

A site visit was carried out and funding was allocated to install metal hoop barriers from the Safer Streets fund at appropriate key access points. The lady in the bungalow was revisited to explain what had been done and she was really pleased that she had been kept updated on the work carried out work.

From the information received from the community, the Police made three motorcycle seizures which were believed to have been involved in these incidents.

Subsequently no more incidents reported due to target hardening and vehicle seizures.

Priority 2. Hate Crime and Building Community Cohesion

Why this is a priority

Community cohesion is defined by a range of social factors which can differ from neighbourhood to neighbourhood. Cohesion empowers local people, and shapes and sustains neighbourhoods. The pressures on public resources we are experiencing, alongside rapid population change can impact upon community cohesion, and we will need to monitor this closely over the coming years and support our communities through these challenges.

There is real strength in our communities, brought to the fore during the recent Covid-19 crisis, storms, flooding and power outages, where we have seen fantastic examples of resilience and cohesion, throughout the county. We must build on this sense of belonging and purpose, to improve community cohesion so that people are safe and free from the fear of crime.

In April 2022 the Government mandated all councils to be involved in the dispersal programme for asylum seekers, which will further influence the diversity of our population and increase the need for us to prioritise community cohesion. Increasing global conflict could potentially change the make-up of our communities or increase tensions locally.

Hate crimes have a profound effect on both individuals and communities causing emotional distress, fear and a sense of vulnerability among targeted groups. These incidents can lead to a breakdown in community cohesion and create a climate of intolerance. In addition to the immediate harm experienced by victims, hate crimes contribute to long term social and psychological consequences, increasing the capacity required within our victim services to support those who experience this type of crime.

From reports, hate crime is evident across many areas of County Durham with a concentration in Durham City due to the diverse student population. From local intelligence, we know that the majority of hate crime reports are racial in nature, with the Black and Pakistani communities most commonly targeted. However, we also know that hate crime is under-reported, and we must do more to demonstrate how seriously this type of offence is taken and encourage reporting from members of all protected groups such as people with a disability, religion, or those from the LGBTQI+ community.

If hate crime is not tackled and dealt with swiftly in our society then this could lead to an increase in confidence from extremist groups to get a foothold in our communities, being able to spread their ideologies and targeting those who are vulnerable.

What we want to achieve

- A clear understanding among communities that hate crime will not be tolerated and should be reported
- Cohesive communities which embrace diversity
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators

Case Study – Humankind LGBTQI+ services

For young people in County Durham Humankind LGBTQI+ services offer friendly, practical support around gender identity and/or sexual orientation. The support offer includes one to one sessions, as well as the opportunity to meet other LGBTQI+ young people, engage in fun activities, learn new skills and get relevant advice and guidance on a range of bespoke topics affecting the happiness and mental health of LGBTQI+ young people.

Young people in the last reporting year have mostly been accessing the service to get help, support and advice on barriers and issues relating to coming out. This has included family support sessions, practical health advice, as well as offering young people a range of tools and resources. Other popular services include emotional resilience and wellbeing services as well as the lively peer support groups, offering tailored activity sessions as well as informal get togethers.

There are a number of young people each year who access Humankind for discrimination and bullying support. This could be because of a one-off or repeated incidences. Both are very upsetting and support for the young person and the family is invaluable.

As a result of the discrimination work with the young people involved in Humankind, there have been occasions when staff from Humankind have approached other community groups and venues following a referral from a young person and these groups have responded in a positive way, making practical changes where possible, changing policies and procedures as well as forwarding communications to members about being inclusive and tolerating of everybody.

In this way the work of Humankind further supports ongoing work to keep young people safe in County Durham and promotes inclusivity, community cohesion and contributes towards reducing hate crimes.

Priority 3. Sexual Violence and other Violent Crime

Why this is a priority

Violence and sexual offences are one of our most prevalent crime types. Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) are statistically significantly higher than England (similar to the North East).

Violent crime is among the most serious offending and whilst serious violent crime rates are below the national average in our area the harm caused to victims of violent crime is great, potentially life changing or life threatening.

The Serious Violence Reduction Partnership (SVRP) has developed a local evidence-based strategy to address these issues, the more serious of which is particularly prevalent in densely populated urban areas such as Durham City Centre, and the SDP will work with the SVRP for assurance and escalation purposes. The Serious Violence Reduction Strategy specifically focusses on four main areas, those under 18 who are involved in or at risk of being drawn into serious violence, violence within the night-time economy, dealing with those aged between 18-35 involved in serious violence, and reducing domestic abuse related violence where a knife or a sharp instrument are involved.

The Government's (refreshed) Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy¹ published in July 2021 set out the actions the Government will take to increase support for victims/survivors, bring perpetrators to justice, and, ultimately, reduce the prevalence of violence against women and girls. In February 2023 the Home Secretary included VAWG within the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) which recognises VAWG as a national threat alongside terrorism and serious and organised crime. It is acknowledged therefore that there is a need for greater coordination and collaboration between emergency services and local partners to tackle the threat.

1 in 4 women, 1 in 6 children and 1 in 18 men have experienced sexual violence. The Office of National Statistics have shown that there were 2267 sexual offences recorded by Durham Constabulary from April to December 2022.

The SDP will focus efforts and target resources as required towards the Sexual Violence aspects of the work led by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG).

What we want to achieve

- Increased trust and confidence to report sexual offences
- Improved feelings of safety around the nighttime economy, and reductions in violent crime within the nighttime economy
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy>

Case Study - Durham City Night Hub

The Durham City Night Hub was operational from February 2022 following a successful application for funding to the Home Office under the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) initiative. Since then, the Hub has been operational every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday between the hours of 8pm and 3am. The Hub is based at St Nics Church in the marketplace in the city and has been supported by a number of partners.

The overarching aim of the Hub was to provide a safe refuge, support, and guardianship to women but by the nature of the work of the Safer Streets Officers that work in the hub, it also provides services and support and assistance to anyone in a position of fear, distress and vulnerability. The operation of the Hub was one of four measures included in the VAWG funding application. The other three initiatives included the appointment of a co-ordinator, bystander training to licensed premises, and the creation of brand to encourage intervention and increase awareness of the VAWG agenda.

Since the Hub's introduction it has gone from strength-to-strength and has proven to be a valuable addition to ensure the safety of the public in the night-time economy. The staff assist in bringing together a variety of different partners who work in collaboration with local individuals.

A total of 2441 incidents were logged by the Hub from February 2022 to December 2023, which included numerous safeguarding and welfare issues as well as reports of criminal activity and community safety. In relation to sexual violence there were 29 reports of sexual offences and 53 queries of spiking.

The funding for the VAWG bid was committed to the end of March 2023 and since that time various funding has been received from Safer Streets national funding, the City Parish Council, Durham University, Durham AAP as well as DCC. Recently a further funding proposal to the Serious Violence Fund of £50,000 has been approved to ensure its continuation for another year, however long-term funding for the project is still being explored.

How the SDP will take this work forward

The SDP will continue to provide a partnership space for assurance and escalation across the community safety landscape, holding others to account, supporting partners with specific issues, identifying gaps or emerging issues and advocating for our local communities.

The SDP will use its assurance functions to ensure that some key actions and approaches are being applied across the community safety agenda, including:

- Working with, supporting, and listening to feedback from victims of crime and ASB
- Applying prevention and early intervention approaches that reduce the number of people becoming victims in the first place, and prevent escalation of crime and ASB
- Increasing public confidence to encourage people to report crime and ASB, and so that people feel safer in their community
- Improving connectivity and partnership working to include working with others in County Durham and beyond, pooling resources and co-commissioning, and joining up data and intelligence

The SDP will focus on those areas where it can add most value; ASB, hate crime, and sexual violence; shining a light and encouraging joined-up action in those areas and will continue to be agile, flexible and responsive to need.

Measures of success

We have developed a suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor progress towards achieving our ambition. Leadership in each of the three focus areas will be through one of the existing formally established subgroups, each of which will lead on a high-level delivery plan which will include the development of a performance framework. In addition to this, the SDP will continue to receive assurance and escalation updates from all relevant groups within the priority framework, which will include performance information.

Safe Durham Partnership Priority Areas KPIs

- Reports of ASB per 10,000 people
- Deliberate fires per 10,000 population
- Hate incidents reported to police per 10,000 population
- % who feel unsafe to some extent walking in the neighbourhood
- Dealing with local concerns about ASB and crime issues by local council and police
- % victims who reported feeling safer because of support from Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS)
- Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence)

Safe Durham Partnership Assurance areas KPIs

- Crime rate per 1,000 population
- Theft offences per 1,000 population
- Road traffic collisions
- Domestic abuse incidents reported to police
- % Harbour clients who feel optimistic about the future on case closure
- % of offenders reoffending in the last 12 months
- % of offenders reoffending in the last 2 years
- Juvenile first-time entrants to the criminal justice system per 100,000 of 10–17-year-olds
- % of successful completions of treatment programmes
- Violent Crime incidents which were alcohol related

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)

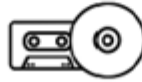
03000 260 000

help@durham.gov.uk

Braille



Audio



Large print



SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 APRIL 2024

SAFE DURHAM PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2024-29

JULIE BRADBROOK, INTERIM STRATEGIC MANAGER -
PARTNERSHIPS



Better for everyone

INTRODUCTION

Joint Strategic Needs and Assets Assessment

As our Strategic Assessment - Rooted in intelligence and wider evidence about what drives community safety across the county

Ways of working

- Empowering communities
- Being asset focused
- Building resilience
- Working better together
- Sharing decision making
- Doing with not to



CHANGING LANDSCAPE FOR CSPS

Community Safety Partnerships were introduced by Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

PCCs created by Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to oversee police forces

County Durham has a range of well-established and new statutory partnerships across the range of Community Safety responsibilities functioning effectively

The key consideration for SDP focus is where the SDP can add value

Partnerships provide hyper-localised strategies tailored to the needs of their communities



DEVELOPING OUR PRIORITIES

Based on evidence from JSNAA (our strategic assessment)

SDP Development session and Multi agency strategy development group to ensure that the SDP Strategy is fit for purpose and reflects the work being undertaken in partnership by organisations across the county.

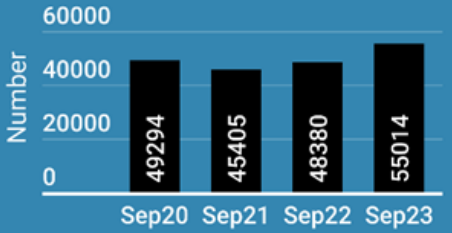
Fewer priority areas which are easily understandable to the SDP, partners and communities

Focus where SDP can make a difference/
add value

Accountability function for existing
partnerships

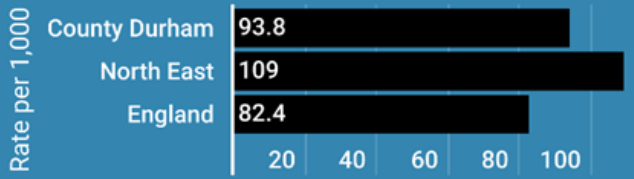


Around **55,000**₁ crimes were recorded in County Durham in the 12 months to September 2023



21% rise between 2021 and 2023

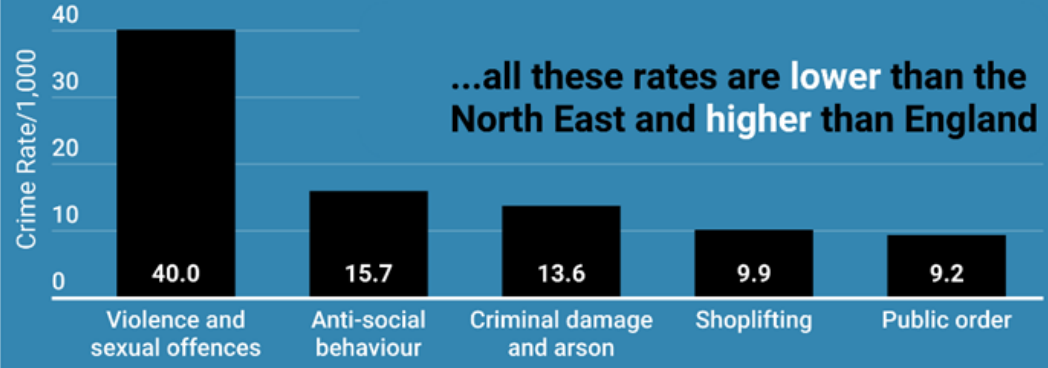
Crime rates (2023)₂ are lower in County Durham than the North East ...



...but are higher than England

This has been the case over time

The rate of violence and sexual offences locally is more than **double** the rate of anti-social behaviour (2023)



...all these rates are lower than the North East and higher than England

Around **2 in 5** of those crimes were violence against the person₁



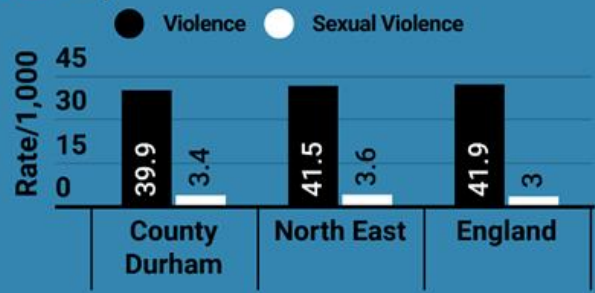
Change in offences (2020-23)₁

- Shoplifting 70%
- Public order 37%
- Sexual offences 34%
- Robbery 30%
- Violence w/o injury 24%
- Non-residential burglary -18%
- Theft from person -17%
- Stalking/harassment -14%
- Burglary -10%

AN OVERVIEW OF CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IN COUNTY DURHAM

AN OVERVIEW OF CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IN COUNTY DURHAM CONT....

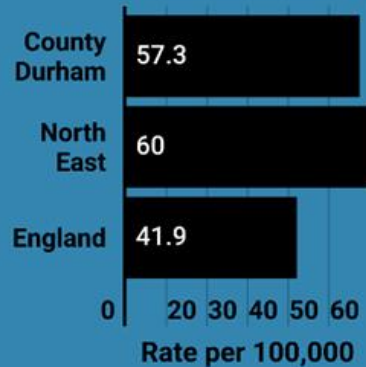
Violence and Sexual Violence offences (2022/23)



Similar to England and the North East

...that's around 20,000 violence offences and 1,600 sexual violence offences per year

Hospital admissions for violence (inc sexual violence) (2018/19-2020/21)



Statistically significantly higher than England, similar to the North East

...that's around 300 hospital admissions for violence per year

Statistically significantly higher than England (Red circle)
 Not statistically significantly different to England (Yellow circle)
 Arrow indicates direction of travel over time (Arrow icon)

140/100K 1st time entrants to the Youth Justice System
 (Yellow circle, Down arrow)

...that's 65 under 18's in 2022

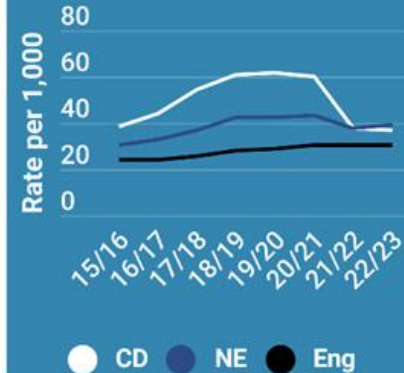
387 Hate crime incidents reported in 2022/23

...that's almost a 10% fall from 2021/22

Most were race related

Domestic abuse related incidents /crimes reported (2022/23)
 (Yellow circle, Down arrow)

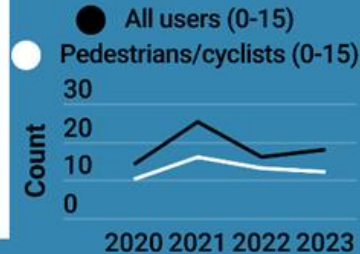
37/100K



Children killed 23.4/100K or seriously injured on roads
 (Red circle, Right arrow)

...that's around 21 per year

Stats19 data shows the breakdown in serious injuries for 0-15s



AMBITION OF SAFE DURHAM PARTNERSHIP

**‘Durham is a county
where everyone can
feel and be safe’**

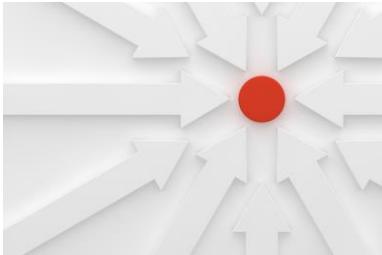
Page 49



Better for everyone

AREAS OF FOCUS:

Safe Durham Partnership champions areas that need further focus or development (agile, flexible, responsive)



AREAS OF ASSURANCE:

Safe Durham Partnership provides oversight, assurance mechanism and escalation route for existing partnership arrangements



SAFE DURHAM PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY – PRIORITIES

- **Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime which disrupts our Communities**
 - Area of focus: anti-social behaviour
 - Areas of assurance: reducing reoffending, road safety
- **Hate Crime and Building Community Cohesion**
 - Area of focus: hate crime
 - Area of assurance: counter terrorism
- **Sexual Violence and other Violent Crime**
 - Area of focus: sexual violence
 - Areas of assurance: serious violence, domestic abuse, combatting drugs and alcohol, organised crime



WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Increased public confidence to report ASB.
- A coordinated and efficient multi-agency partnership approach to ASB.
- Effective pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

Hate Crime

- A clear understanding among communities that hate crime should be reported and will not be tolerated.
- Cohesive communities which embrace diversity.
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.

Sexual Violence

- Increased trust and confidence to report sexual offences.
- Improved feelings of safety around the nighttime economy, and reductions in violent crime within the nighttime economy.
- Pathways and support that meet the needs of victims and perpetrators.



DELIVERY

ASB: ASB Strategic Group

Hate Crime: Hate Crime Action Group

Sexual Violence: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group



SAFE DURHAM PARTNERSHIP APPROACH



Supporting victims of crime

Working with victims, supporting victims and listening to feedback from victims of crime



Prevention and early intervention

Applying prevention and early intervention approaches that reduce the number of people becoming victims in the first place, and prevent escalation of crime



Increasing public confidence

Increasing public confidence to encourage people to report crime, and so that people feel safer in their community



Partnership working

Improving connectivity and partnership working to include working with others in County Durham and beyond, pooling resources and co-commissioning, and joining up data and intelligence



CONSULTATION

**DCC website from 18 March
until 14 April 2024**

Consultation included following groups:

- **Protected Characteristic groups**
- **Voluntary & Community Sector**
- **Area Action Partnerships**
- **Town & Parish Councils**
- **Youth Council**
- **SSC Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**The final Safe
Durham Partnership
Strategy will go to
the Safe Durham
Partnership Board
on 20 May**

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Do these priorities reflect what Members are experiencing locally?

Are there any gaps to the strategic response to community safety?

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

16 April 2024

Road Safety



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 on Road Safety.

Executive summary

- 2 Road Safety is a specific work area within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority 'promote being safe and feeling safe in your community' and the presentation attached in appendix 2 provides an update on activity by the council together with partners to contribute to delivery of this priority area.

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 on 26 June 2023, the Committee agreed its work programme to include a presentation on Road Safety. Information within this presentation is linked to the Safe Durham Partnership plan priority “Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community”
- 5 To deliver this work area, there is a partnership arrangement in place known as the County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Partnership. The partnership provide reports to the Safe Durham Partnership Board and its membership includes Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Highways England, and Darlington Borough Council.
- 6 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation that provides an update to the Committee on road casualty performance in 2022 and 2023, current initiatives and future road safety objectives to be undertaken by the council and partner agencies. Representatives from the County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Partnership are scheduled to be in attendance to deliver the presentation attached in Appendix 2 and respond to questions from the committee.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

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

Conclusion

- 8 The attached report and presentation provide an opportunity for Members to consider and comment on the partnership approach on road safety.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Clare Luery

Tel: 03000 265978

Appendix 1: Implications

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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ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

April 2024

County Durham & Darlington
Road Safety Partnership



Better for everyone

Introduction

- Provide an update to the Safe Durham Partnership/Safer and Stronger Communities OSC in respect of road casualty performance
- Provide an update on Partnership activity through Education, Enforcement and Engineering
- Objectives of road safety partnership activity for 2024/25



County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Partnership (Strategic & Delivery Groups)

- Durham County Council
- Darlington Borough Council
- Durham Constabulary
- Durham Police and Crime Commissioner
- County Durham Fire & Rescue Service
- National Highways
- Public Health



Data 2019 – 2023 (All Severities)

Clear **Data Filters** **Adv. Filter**

Year
Multiple select...
Page 64

Casualty Severity
Multiple select...

Local Authority
County Durham

Police Force
Durham

Casualty Class
All

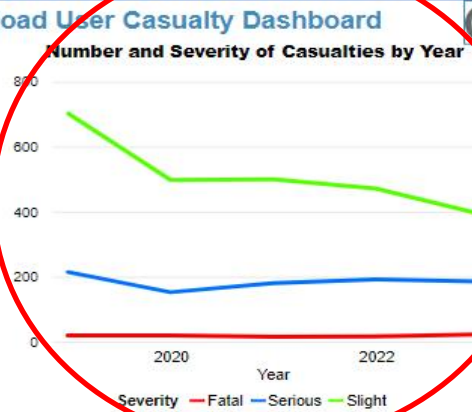
Road User Group
All

Age Group
All

Child/Adult
All

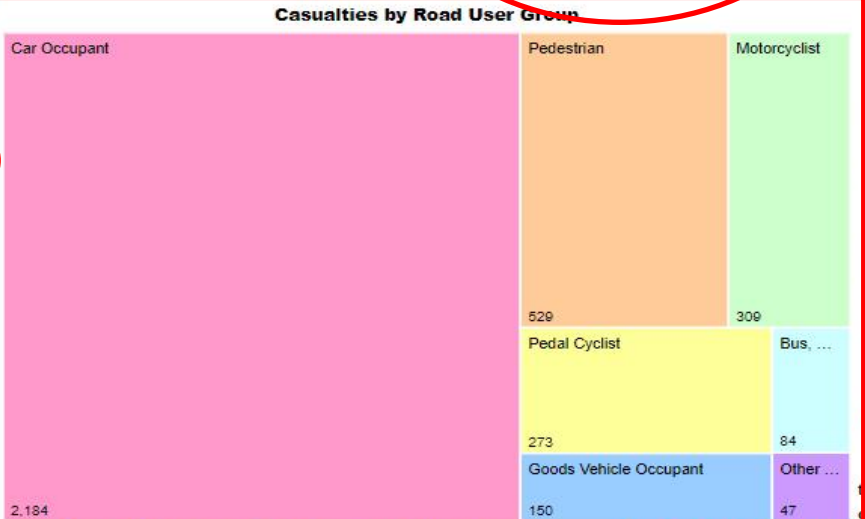
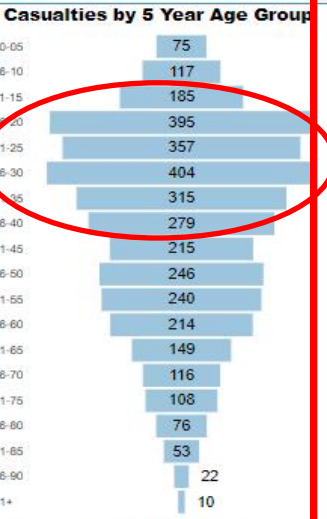
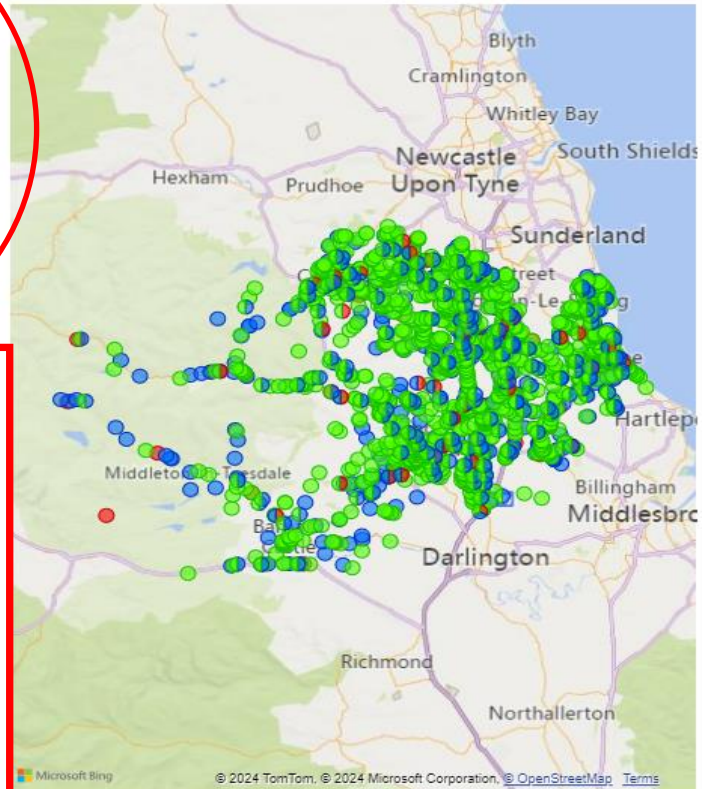
Casualties by Year and Severity

Year	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
2023	22	185	394	601
2022	16	191	471	678
2021	15	180	499	694
2020	19	152	497	668
2019	19	214	702	935
Total	91	922	2,563	3,576



Dashboard **Hotspot Plan** **Map Search** **Comparison** **Help & Info**

Location and Severity of Road User Casualties



Casualty Severity ● Fatal ● Serious ● Slight NB - Due to the amount of data available, this plan only shows a sample of injury locations at high zoom. For the most accurate data on casualties in small areas, use filters to reduce the number shown to under 3,500.

Data 2019 – 2023 (Killed/Seriously Injured)

Clear Data Filters **Adv. Filter**

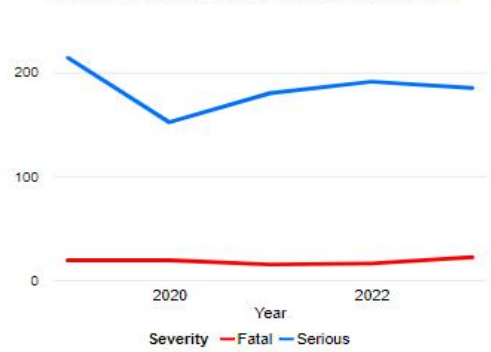
Year Multiple ... **Casualty Severity** Multiple selecti...
Local Authority County Durham
Police Force Durham **Casualty Class** All
Road User Group All
Age Group All **Child/Adult** All

North East England Road User Casualty Dashboard

Casualties by Year and Severity

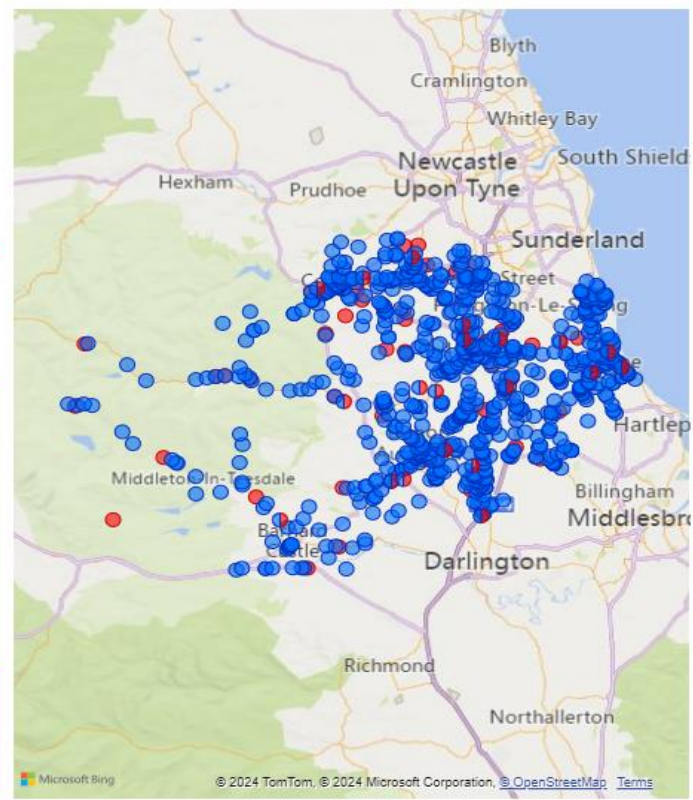
Year	Fatal	Serious	Total
2023	22	185	207
2022	16	191	207
2021	15	180	195
2020	19	152	171
2019	19	214	233
Total	91	922	1,013

Number and Severity of Casualties by Year

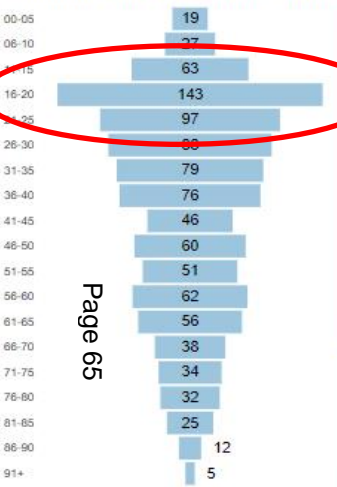


Dashboard **Hotspot Plan** **Map Search** **Comparison** **Help & Info**

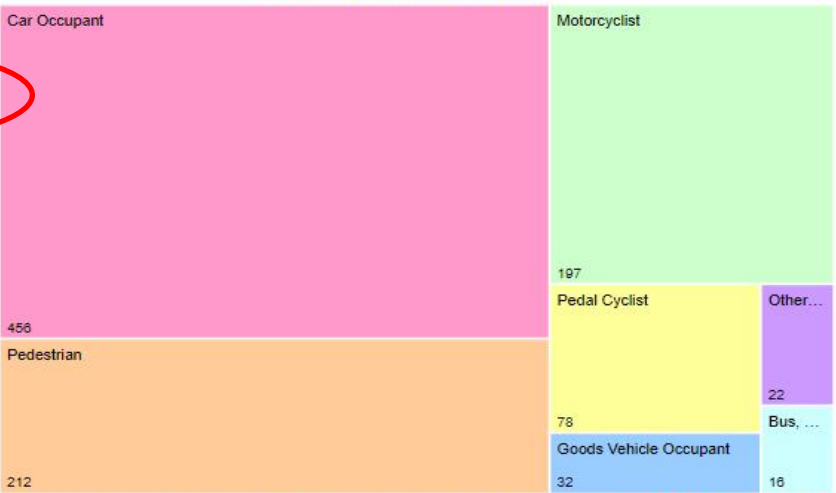
Location and Severity of Road User Casualties



Casualties by 5 Year Age Group



Casualties by Road User Group



Data 2019 – 2023 (Age 0-15 Collisions)

Clear Data Filters **Adv. Filter**

Year: Multiple ...

Casualty Severity: All

Local Authority: County Durham

Police Force: Durham

Casualty Class: All

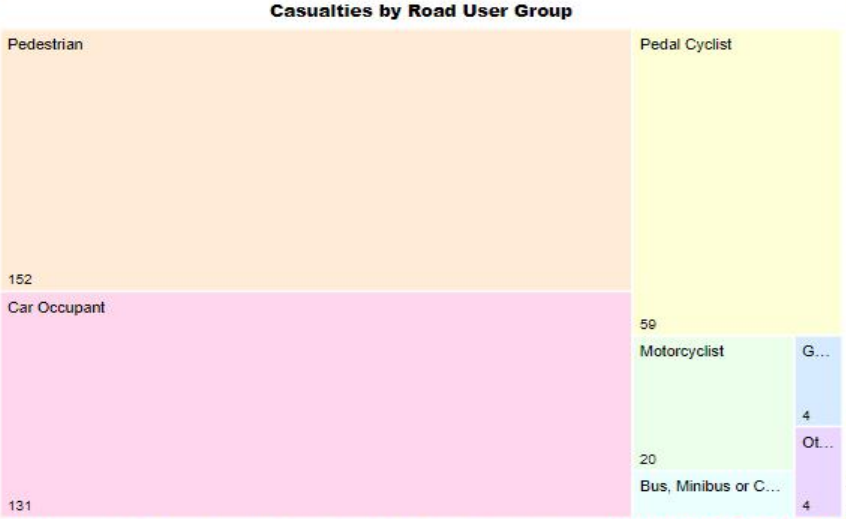
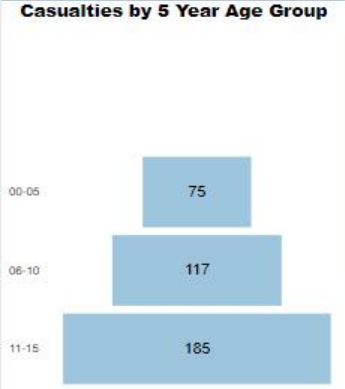
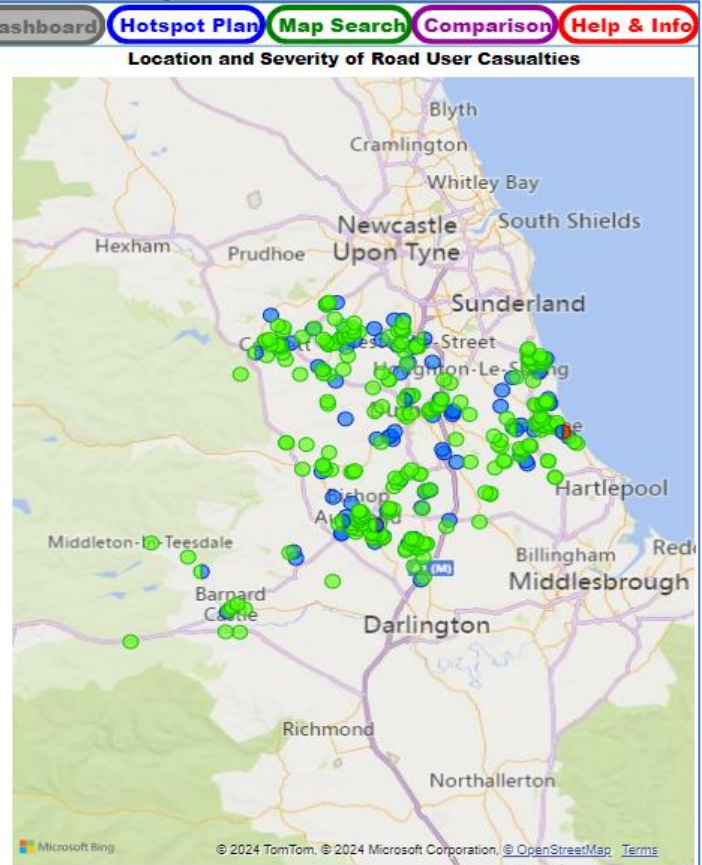
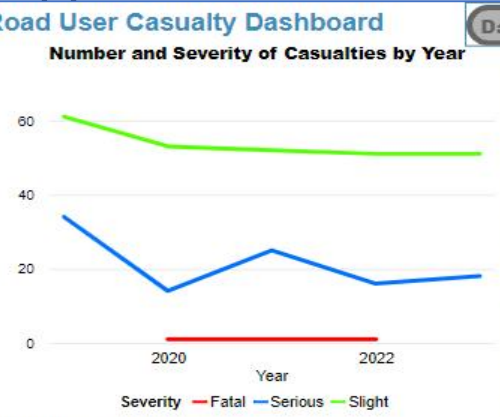
Road User Group: All

Age Group: All

Child/Adult: Multiple sel...

Casualties by Year and Severity

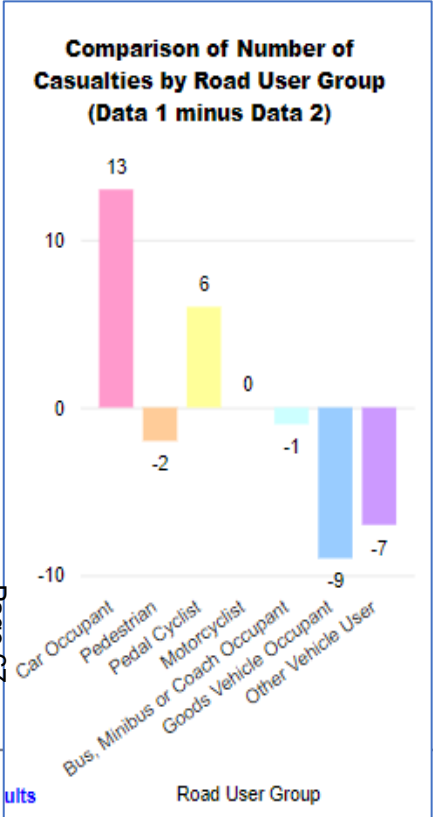
Year	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
2019		34	61	95
2020	1	14	53	68
2021		25	52	77
2022	1	16	51	68
2023		18	51	69
Total	2	107	268	377



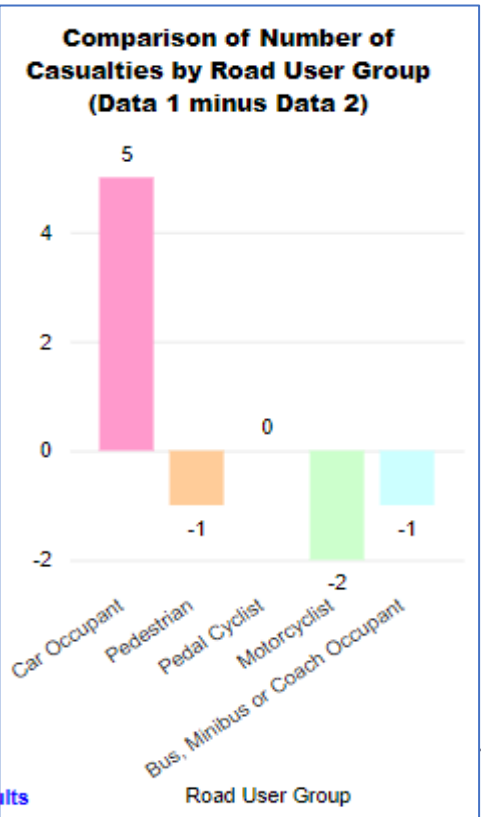
Casualty Severity ● Fatal ● Serious ● Slight NB - Due to the amount of data available, this plan only shows a sample of injury locations at high zoom. For the most accurate data on casualties in small areas, use filters to reduce the number shown to under 3,500.

2023 /2022 Comparisons – Fatal and Serious Collisions by Road User Group

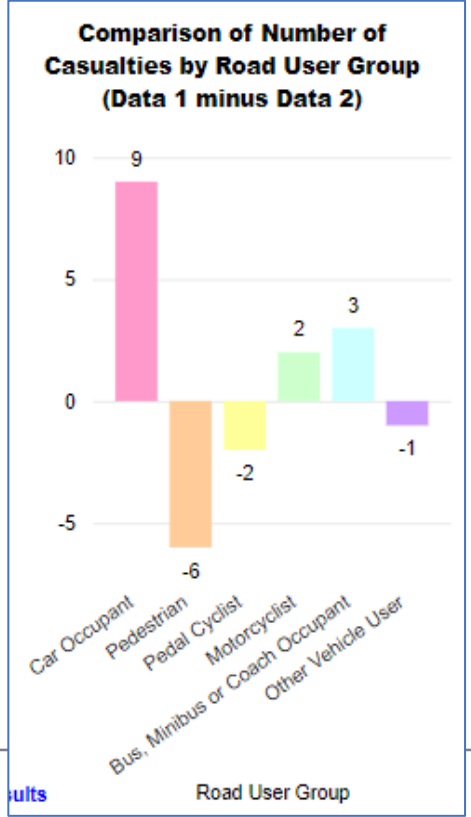
All age groups



0-15 Years



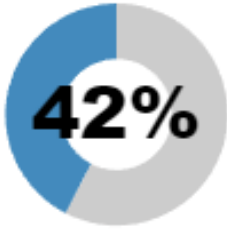
16-20 Years



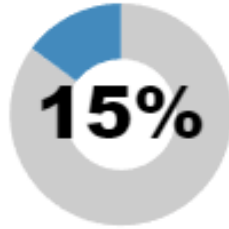
Causation Factors and the Fatal Four 2019 - 2023

% of Total Injuries Resulting from These Factors

% Failure to Look



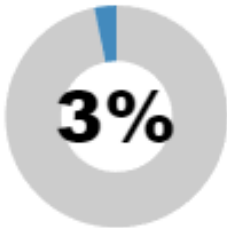
% Speeding



% Drink Driver



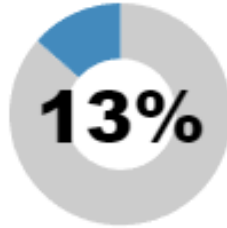
% Distraction



% No S/belt Worn



% Drink/Drug Drv



Education – Delivery



Education – Media

Page



"Look at what you've done." | Three lives lost, and one...
2.8M views • 1 year ago



"Death by dangerous driving" | Drink driver hears the worst...
206K views • 3 months ago



"My car's gone, job's gone, life's gone" | Two pints and an...
82K views • 3 months ago





"Had a drink?"

**LICE I'm not
gonna lie.**

Enforcement

Page 20



Engineering

- Accident Investigation and Prevention (AIP) Team
 - Statutory Duty under 1988 Road Traffic Act
- Examples delivered in 2023/24



Cockton Hill Road,
Bishop Auckland



Kinnivie
Crossroads

Objectives moving forward

- Aim to maintain a downward trend in casualties and severities across all road user groups
- Specifically target those road user groups over-represented in casualty statistics
- Improve safety for all highway users



Thank you



Better for everyone

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

16 April 2024



**Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Strategic
Group Update – ASB Delivery Plan
2024-2025**

**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 including the final draft ASB Delivery Plan 2024-2025.

Executive summary

- 2 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the ASB Strategic Group priorities and work areas and implementation of the ASB Strategy.
- 3 The Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2022-2025 Vision – “Improving lives, through tackling anti-social behaviour” provides the framework by which the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) will work together to prevent and deal with ASB across County Durham.
- 4 Following on from the publication of the ASB Strategy, the ASB Strategic Group were tasked by the SDP to develop the approach identified in the strategy and work is ongoing to develop a local ASB delivery plan to help realise the full potential of this strategic approach.
- 5 The ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25 will focus on the following key strategic themes:-
 - **Anti-social behaviour and crime which disrupts our communities (ASB)**

- **Hate crime and building community cohesion**
- **Sexual violence and other violent crime**

- 6 Since the last update report from the ASB Strategic Group, further work has been undertaken to develop the Theory of Change (ToC) document which has been revised to incorporate feedback from partners.
- 7 A special briefing session was held with members of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SSOSC) on 15th February 2024.
- 8 In addition, in line with the rationale agreed by the SDP Board on 14th February 2024 have identified the key priority actions for delivery in the coming year.
- 9 The key priority actions contained within the Plan are linked to the underlying principles set out within our ASB Strategy and are presented in a 'plan on a page' format under three focus areas namely Partnerships, People and Places.
- 10 The proposed ASB Delivery Plan for 2024-25 (the Plan) was considered and agreed by the SDP Board on 14 March 2024 and will be implemented as from April 2024.
- 11 A presentation is attached in Appendix 2, outlining the proposed ASB Delivery Plan for 2024-25 and incorporates those key priority 1 actions identified by the ASB Strategic Group for inclusion within the ASB delivery plan.
- 12 In addition, performance dashboards and evaluation tools will be developed in line with these areas of focus and will provide a visual performance management data set which will be used to report on progress against the Plan.
- 13 A new reporting framework was also agreed by the SDP Board which includes performance reports being presented to the SDP every six months. Reporting twice during the year will enable us to track progress in a timely manner and review the ASB Delivery Plan on an annual basis in time for the next fiscal year.
- 14 It is proposed that as from April 2024, the ASB update reports will be presented to the SS OSC from the ASB Strategic Group every six months in line with the performance management framework agreed by the SDP Board.
- 15 Performance data around ASB will continue to be provided quarterly to the SS OSC within the Council's Performance Management Report.

Recommendation

- 16 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
 - (b) Consider and agree to the proposed arrangements for receiving ASB update reports and performance management reports as from April 2024

Background

- 17 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.
- 18 The Durham County Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2022-2025 supports the Vision – “Improving lives, through tackling anti-social behaviour” and provides the framework by which the SDP will work together to prevent and deal with ASB across County Durham whilst embracing the following 8 principles:
- Working in Partnership
 - Champion the Victims' Voice
 - Provide the Best Victim Support
 - Provide Victim Centric Community Trigger & Community Remedy Processes
 - Implement Preventative Measures
 - To make full use of the tools and powers
 - Maximise use of digital technologies

Theory of Change (ToC)

- 19 The ToC has been updated to reflect recent feedback from partners and is available to all ASB Strategic group members through the shared MS Teams site.
- 20 Work will continue to challenge and strengthen the ToC through regular review and testing of our assumptions as we implement the ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25.

Priority Action Planning

- 21 Priority actions have been ranked by the ASB Strategic Group based upon the following rationale:-
- Priority 1 - Tasks and projects that yield the best results in the least amount of time
 - Priority 2 - Bigger projects that'll may take longer or require additional investment but have high impact
 - Priority 3 - Tasks and projects that have low impact

ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25

- 22 A presentation has been prepared to provide an overview of the ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25 (see Appendix 2) and actions are presented in a 'Plan on a Page format' around Partnerships, People and Places.
- 23 It is proposed that only those Priority 1 Actions are included for delivery within the ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25 and implemented as from April 2024.
- 24 Each action will have an identifiable organisational lead / sub group owner who will provide key deliverables and target timescales prior to implementation. It is recognised that the delivery times around these actions needs to be realistic and as such may extend beyond the calendar year.
- 25 In addition, it is expected that any 'business as usual' and 'time limited projects will continue to be delivered. Monitoring progress and performance around these ongoing commitments will be incorporated within our performance management reports.

Performance Monitoring and reporting

- 26 Quarterly ASB incident data will continue to be provided to the ASB Strategic group to assist with action planning and priority setting throughout the year.
- 27 Performance dashboards and evaluation tools will be developed as the ASB Delivery Plan is implemented. These will focus on the three key areas Partnerships, People and Places to complement each 'Plan on a Page'.
- 28 It is proposed that performance reports are presented to the SDP Board every six months to track progress against the plan.

This will allow time for reflection and review of performance over the year and inform the ASB delivery plan actions for the year ahead.

Conclusion

- 29 The ASB Strategy and ASB delivery plan will support the delivery of the overarching community safety plan for County Durham and will be used by partners to achieve the vision of ensuring that 'Durham is a county where every adult and child will feel and be safe'.

Conclusion

- 30 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

- [Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
- [Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community \(countydurhampartnership.co.uk\)](https://countydurhampartnership.co.uk).
- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Joanne Waller

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

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

Finance

None.

Consultation

The ASB Strategic group will continue to engage in consultation on the development of any local strategies and action/delivery plans as well as government proposals around tackling anti social behaviour.

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.

Appendix 2

Attached as a separate document

ASB DELIVERY PLAN 2024-2025

SAFER AND STRONGER OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

APRIL 2024



Better for everyone



Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Strategic Vision

Priority Outcome 1

Anti-social behaviour and crime which disrupts our communities (ASB)

Priority Outcome 2

Hate crime and building community cohesion

Priority Outcome 3

Sexual violence and other violent crime

County Durham ASB Strategy 2022-2025

'Improving Lives through tackling Anti-social Behaviour'

ASB is a cross cutting issue that impacts on all of the SDP priorities

Key Areas of Focus:

[PARTNERSHIPS](#)

[PEOPLE](#)

[PLACES](#)



Better for everyone

Area of Focus: PARTNERSHIP

ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25

Provide enhanced partnership working to support collaborative working and share knowledge, resources, and expertise to prevent and address ASB, We will

- Facilitate and support a co-ordinated multi-agency approach at a local level, providing a balance between enforcement and assistance to reduce the risk of future problems and ensure that vulnerable people are protected
- Develop and deliver the ASB Delivery plan and regularly review the Theory of Change (ToC)
- Develop a performance management framework and evaluate effectiveness of actions and interventions
- Estimate the cost to agencies of dealing with reports of anti-social behaviour and develop return on investment evaluation tool

Implement preventative measures to tackle anti-social behaviour where possible. We will

- Explore the data and intelligence which can be used to better understand level, type and impact of ASB in County Durham.
- Collect customer insight data on complainants and perpetrators
- Identify funding opportunities to pool resources and support the delivery of early intervention and preventative measures through co-commissioning and joint bidding processes.

Take a focused approach to resolve ASB and make full use of the tools, powers, evidence and other interventions to protect victims and communities. We will

- Undertake a mapping exercise to identify relevant tools and powers available to tackle ASB
- Ensure that the ASB escalation plan utilises the full range of ASB powers available including use of fixed penalty notices where possible and appropriate.
- Produce an aide memoire and other training material for use by partners to signpost to relevant enforcement authorities and promote joint working.
- Develop evidence based strategies utilising all available powers including Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

Maximise use of digital technology and share information with our partners, including the Police and Registered Social Landlords to help us work out how best to respond. We will

- Identify barriers to data collection and sharing and consider solutions and system changes as necessary.
- Map CCTV assets (mobile and fixed installations) across the County and analyse footage to determine level and type of ASB, identify perpetrators and support enforcement action.
- Identify re-deployable CCTV (including Drones) and their capability to provide information for partners.

Priority Outcomes:

- Effective partnership working with a clear strategic approach around the key underlying principles of our work and accountability for delivery of our priority actions
- Better understanding of the causes of ASB and effective measures to prevent and reduce incidence of ASB.
- Improved Data Quality and evidence to inform planning & decision making.
- Improved public confidence and trust in partners agencies tackling ASB .

Key performance measures

- Number of key ASB priority actions delivered within target timescale.
- Number of interventions (preventative, enforcement, advisory / educational)
- % Reduction of ASB incidents and re-offending
- % Public confidence in police and local authority in effectively tackling ASB

Champion the victim's voice and build an environment where victims and witnesses feel confident and safe in coming forward to report anti-social behaviour. We will:-

- Promote 'no wrong door approach' to support incident reporting and partnership working.
- Consider current reporting arrangements and develop new approaches to enable and encourage victims to readily report ASB incidents.
- Identify and develop opportunities for co-production.
- Develop and deliver an evaluation framework to assess the Victims' experience / journey

Provide victim centric case review (formerly community trigger) & Community Remedy processes. We will :-.

- Provide regular updates on the outcomes of case reviews and any shared learning with Partners.
- Consider and evaluate Victim Impact
- Monitor and report on the ASB Trailblazer Reparation Pilot Programme
- Support alternative intervention strategies to deliver restorative justice

Provide the Best Victim Support to individual/s being affected by ASB in a way that meets their individual needs. We will:-

- Identify and assess vulnerability to ensure children, adults and families access appropriate advice, guidance and support.
- Discuss the court process with the victim when securing victim impact statements, discussing the special measures available to protect victims when testifying, and apply for extra help when giving evidence in court if appropriate
- Provide regular feedback to victims on progress with ASB investigations which is accurate, timely and relevant

Ensure that young people involved in ASB are supported and diverted from reoffending. We will:-

- Develop and implement clear pathways of support to identify and address young people's ASB which is understood by all key partners working with children, young people and families in County Durham
- Work with families through Education and Children and Young People Services to address the damage that ASB can cause
- Explore potential interventions and evidence base to support parents with children involved in ASB
- Produce, maintain and distribute a 'go to' directory of key contacts and available diversionary schemes

Priority Outcomes

- Increased awareness of access to ASB services and support pathways
- Appropriate and tailored support to meet the needs of victims of ASB
- Victims feel confident and in control of their case, trusting agencies to act in their best interests.
- Perpetrators of ASB are supported to prevent / reduce reoffending and the severity of offending.

Key performance measures

- % Increase in reporting of ASB incidents.
- % resolution of ASB cases
- % service satisfaction (feedback from Victims / complainants)
- No of case review referrals and appeals

Area of Focus: PLACES

ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25

Reduce the overall incidence of ASB and its impact on individuals, communities. We will:-

- Advocate early intervention and prevention measures as part of community remedies.
- Establish links to community platforms and provide everyone with the opportunity to understand local issues and contribute to solutions.
- Develop regular Community Engagement events and Education campaigns
- Promote and implement community initiatives and discretionary activities.

Target interventions in localities (areas) and places where ASB incidence or risks of harm are highest . We will:-

- Target available resources at those situations where risk of harm to individuals and impact on communities and places is highest
- Develop a risk assessment approach to inform and rank local ASB issues, assess victim vulnerability to support 'hot spot policing' and targeted interventions.
- Tackle long term empty homes and abandoned buildings which are a target for ASB and a blight within the community

Take a victim centred approach and champion the development and use of Community Standards to promote neighbourly behaviour. We will :-

- Undertake regular consultation and engagement events with local communities to inform service developments and partnership initiatives
- Engage with local social housing providers and private landlords as part of the multi-agency approach to problem solving.
- Facilitate and promote the development of a Local Community Safety Charter

Reduce the risk, harm and severity of ASB in our neighbourhoods. We will:

- Utilise all methods of engagement inviting communities to co-design solutions when resolving issues, such as ASB questionnaires, door knocks and wider consultation with residential and business communities
- Undertake street activity audits and walkabouts to capture local community intelligence and visualise community impact from ASB
- Deliver awareness campaigns and preventative measures around ASB including increased visible policing, CCTV coverage, Pub Watch and Neighbourhood watch schemes

Priority Outcomes

- Communities do not tolerate ASB in any form and report through incidents and intelligence to help partners tackle ASB behaviour.
- Partners resources are targeted appropriately.
- Communities are empowered and enabled to ensure the needs and issues within their neighbourhoods are addressed and victims are supported.
- Improved feeling of safety within communities

Key performance measures

- Outputs / outcomes from Targeted Policing / TLPs / Street audits within hot spot areas
- % Reduction in ASB incidents in targeted areas
- No empty properties brought back into use / demolished
- Community feedback from engagement events / awareness campaigns / Community Safety Charters

Performance management and evaluation framework

- ASB Delivery Plan implementation as from April 2024
- Data dashboards and evaluation tools - June 2024
- Quarterly incidence reports to ASB Strategic Group
- Interim Performance Report – Oct/Nov
- Annual Performance Report – April / May



Better for everyone

**Safer and Stronger
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

16 April 2024

**Quarter Three, 2023/24
Performance Management Report**

Ordinary Decision



Report of John Hewitt, Chief Executive

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present an overview of progress towards delivery of the key priorities within the Council Plan 2023-27 in line with the council's corporate performance framework.
- 2 The report covers performance in and to the end of quarter three, 2023/24, October to December 2023.

Executive Summary

- 3 The County Council is a key partner within the County Durham Together Partnership. Collectively partners work towards delivering a shared plan - the [County Durham Vision 2035](#). The vision document was developed with partner organisations and the public. It sets out what we would like the county to be like over the next decade and beyond. The vision is for:

a place where there are more and better jobs, people live long, and independent lives and our communities are well connected and supportive.

- 4 We have set out how the council will effectively deliver its services and its contribution to achieving this vision in our [Council Plan](#). The Council Plan is structured around five thematic areas: our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council. We monitor our success through a suite of Key Performance Indicators (our corporate performance framework), which forms the basis of this report.
- 5 The [Council Plan](#) is undergoing its annual refresh and the plan for 2024-28 will be considered by Council on 28 February 2024. Subject to Council approval, it will continue to be structured around five thematic areas which, along with the objectives they contain, will remain unchanged. Our priorities, key programmes of work and associated performance management arrangements for the forthcoming four years are set out within the refreshed plan and our performance framework is now being adjusted accordingly. The

new framework will form the structure of this performance report from quarter one, 2024/25.

- 6 We are a well-functioning council in relation to performance, and continue to set our performance against characteristics of well-functioning councils as set out by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)¹ Best Value Standards and Intervention Draft Guidance. We will continue to develop the following through our performance management processes and the wider Corporate Business Intelligence Review:
 - (a) An organisational-wide approach to continuous improvement, with frequent monitoring, performance reporting and updating of the corporate and improvement plans.
 - (b) A corporate plan which is evidence based, current, realistic and enables the whole organisation's performance to be measured and held to account.
 - (c) Clear and effective mechanisms for scrutinising performance across all service areas. Performance is regularly reported to the public to ensure that citizens are informed of the quality of services being delivered.
- 7 In July 2023, the Office for Local Government (Oflog) was established as a new performance body for local government. Its purpose is to provide authoritative and accessible data and analysis about the performance of local government, and support its improvement.
- 8 Oflog's initial focus is to bring together existing data in an informative way through the [Local Authority Data Explorer](#). The first tranche of metrics, uploaded to the Data Explorer in July 2023 and incorporated within this performance report, is being expanded to cover a wider range of local government responsibilities. A second tranche of metrics is now being released and a third tranche will follow in the spring of 2024. These metrics will be incorporated into future reports as and when appropriate.

Context

- 9 The council is a large organisation providing a broad range of services, and our operating environment can at times be challenging, due largely to inflationary and demand pressures.
- 10 The overall crime rate in County Durham has fallen and compares favourably with many council areas in the region. However, there has been a steady increase in referrals of domestic abuse to our support services. The number of eligible private sector rented properties which are fully licensed under the selective licensing scheme is now at 43%. Fatalities from road traffic accidents is worse than comparators.

¹ [Best Value standards and intervention](#)

Recommendation

- 11 Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
- (a) note the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter three performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of challenge.

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 2023 to 2027 (current plan)
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s168768/Council%20Plan%20Refresh%20Appendix%203.pdf>
- Quarter Two, 2023/24 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s183015/Q2%202023-24%20Corporate%20Performance%20Report.pdf>
- Quarter One, 2023/24 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s178933/Q1%202023-24%20Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20-%20Cabinet%2013.09.23.pdf>
- Quarter Four, 2022/23 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s174900/Item%204%20Q4%202022-23%202%201.pdf>
- Quarter Three, 2022/23 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s166398/Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q2%202022-23%20v2.1.pdf>

Author

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Appendix 1: Implications

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 the Safe Durham Partnership and its sub-groups.

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.



Corporate Performance Report

Quarter Three, 2023/24



Contents (blue text links to sections of the report)

	➤ Executive Summary	
Our Communities	➤ Our Communities Performance Report	
	Performance Dashboards	➤ Road safety
		➤ Crime
		➤ Protecting vulnerable people from harm
	➤ Anti-social behaviour	
	➤ Data Tables	
	➤ Glossary	

Executive Summary

- 1 This performance report covers the third quarter of the 2023/24 financial year (October to December 2023). It sets out our progress towards delivering the key priorities set out within our [Council Plan 2023-27](#).
- 2 Performance is reported on an exception basis with key messages structured around the five thematic areas of, our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council.

Our communities

- 3 The aim of this priority is to ensure our communities are well connected and supportive of each other, with vibrant and accessible towns and villages which are well-used, clean, attractive and safe. We will support our most vulnerable residents, particularly those isolated or financially vulnerable. We will maintain a strong focus on tackling poverty throughout the cost-of-living crisis.

Going Well

- 4 The overall crime rate for County Durham has fallen and is lower than the majority of comparators in the North East region.

Issues we are addressing

- 5 Forty-three percent of private rented sector properties covered by the selective licensing scheme are now licensed. Our enforcement team continues to target properties not yet licensed.
- 6 Fatalities from road traffic accidents have increased. We continue to support a reduction in road traffic casualties through a range of education programmes and campaigns.
- 7 Although fewer incidents of domestic abuse are being reported to police, there has been a steady increase in referrals to Harbour Support Services.

Risk Management

- 8 The government's statutory guidance for best value authorities sets out the characteristics of a well-functioning authority. This details the arrangements that councils should have in place for robust governance and scrutiny including how risk awareness and management should inform decision making. The latest [Strategic Risk Management Progress Report](#) provides an insight into the work carried out by the Corporate Risk Management Group between June and September 2023.

Our Communities

Priority Aims:

Durham is a great county in which to live, with flourishing communities which are connected and supportive of each other. We aim to,

- ensure standards will be maintained or improved across County Durham's housing stock
- have towns and villages which are vibrant, well-used, clean, attractive and safe
- ensure people will have good access to workplaces, services, retail and leisure opportunities
- ensure communities will be able to come together and support each other
- deliver new high-quality housing which is accessible and meets the needs of our residents
- ensure our rural communities will be sustainable whilst maintaining those characteristics which make them distinctive
- narrow the inequality gap between our communities
- build inclusive communities

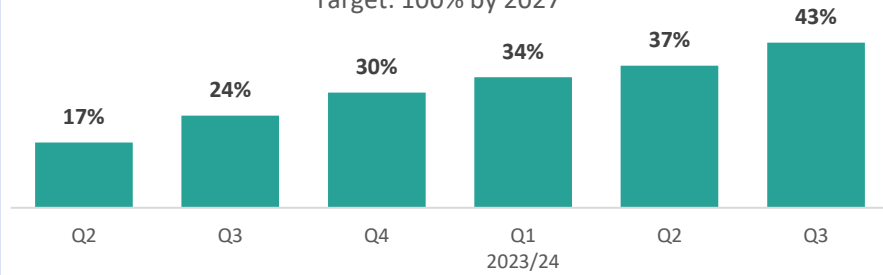
Housing Standards Dashboard

(discrete quarterly data)

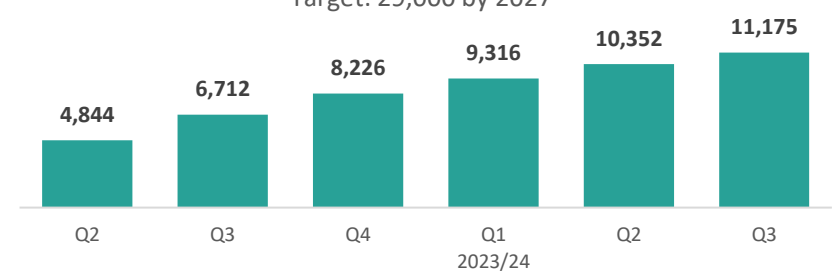
Selective Licensing (Private Rented Sector properties - PRS)

- 11,175 properties are fully licenced. A further 1,108 applications are being processed.
- 289 exemptions in place.
- 142 enforcement cases have either started or in process of being actioned. One has led to a successful prosecution.
- A new Financial Penalty policy is now in place (as an alternative to prosecution) to encourage landlords with any unlicensed properties to apply for licences.

% of PRS properties covered by Selective Licence Scheme that are fully licenced or legal proceedings instigated (YTD)
Target: 100% by 2027



No. PRS properties covered by Selective Licence Scheme that are fully licenced (YTD)
Target: 29,000 by 2027



Selective Licensing

- 9 Of the estimated 29,000 private sector properties covered by the selective licensing scheme, 11,175 are now fully licenced (39%) and, as at 31 December, a further 1,108 applications were being processed. Twelve live temporary exemptions and 277 family exemptions are in place.
- 10 A further 122 properties are under investigation for not having a licence. Four prosecution files, relating to 14 properties, are being progressed. During quarter three, there was one successful prosecution, one retrial arranged for quarter four, and six civil penalties issued. 12,470 of private rented sector properties covered by the licence scheme that are either fully licenced or legal proceedings instigated (43%).
- 11 The enforcement team continue to target all private rented properties not yet licenced and a new Financial Penalty Policy is now in place (as an alternative to prosecution) to encourage landlords with unlicenced properties to apply for licences.

ASB in Selective Licensing Areas

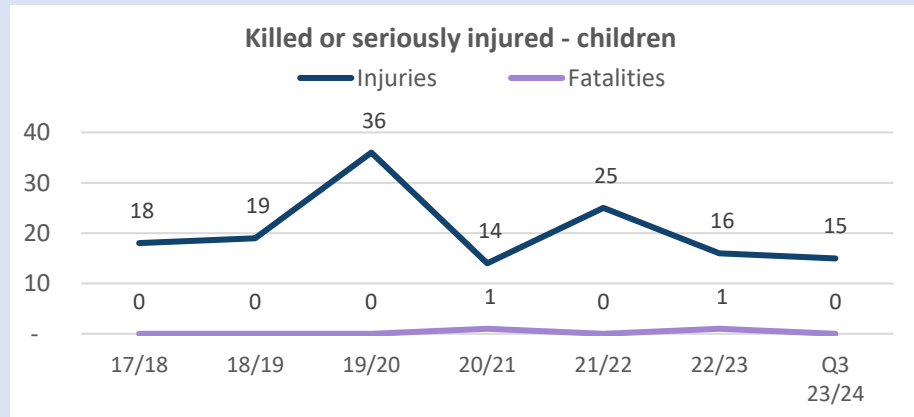
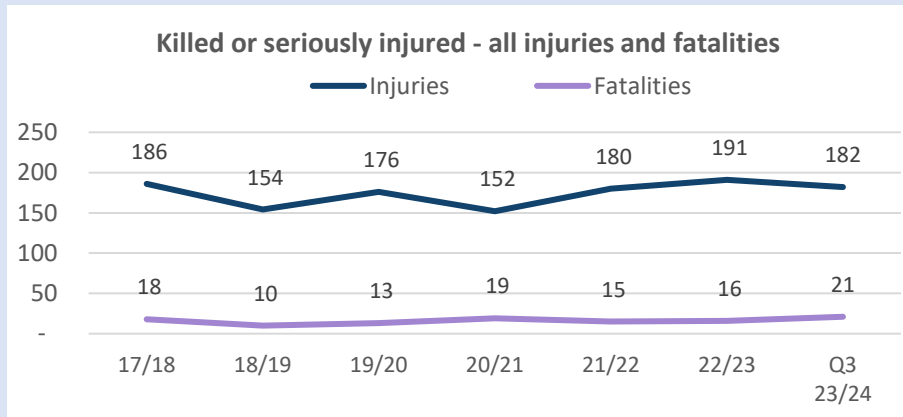
- 12 We are continuing to experience issues with our ASB recording system so are unable to provide an update in relation to this indicator. We are working to resolve the issue.

Road Safety Dashboard

(12 month rolling trend)

Road Safety

- 2022 and 2023 data is provisional and subject to change. Once the provisional data is confirmed, causation factors will be reported.
- We continue to work to reduce road traffic casualties through education programmes, training courses and road safety campaigns.
- Targeted road safety education in schools and communities include:
 - Bikeability cycle training
 - Child pedestrian training
 - Face-to-face visits and activities alongside 'travel safely' sessions
- Campaign work, with partners, during quarter three has focused on dark nights, Halloween, car maintenance, tyre safety, 'Brake Road Safety Week', 'Fatal Four' weather and drink & drug driving.

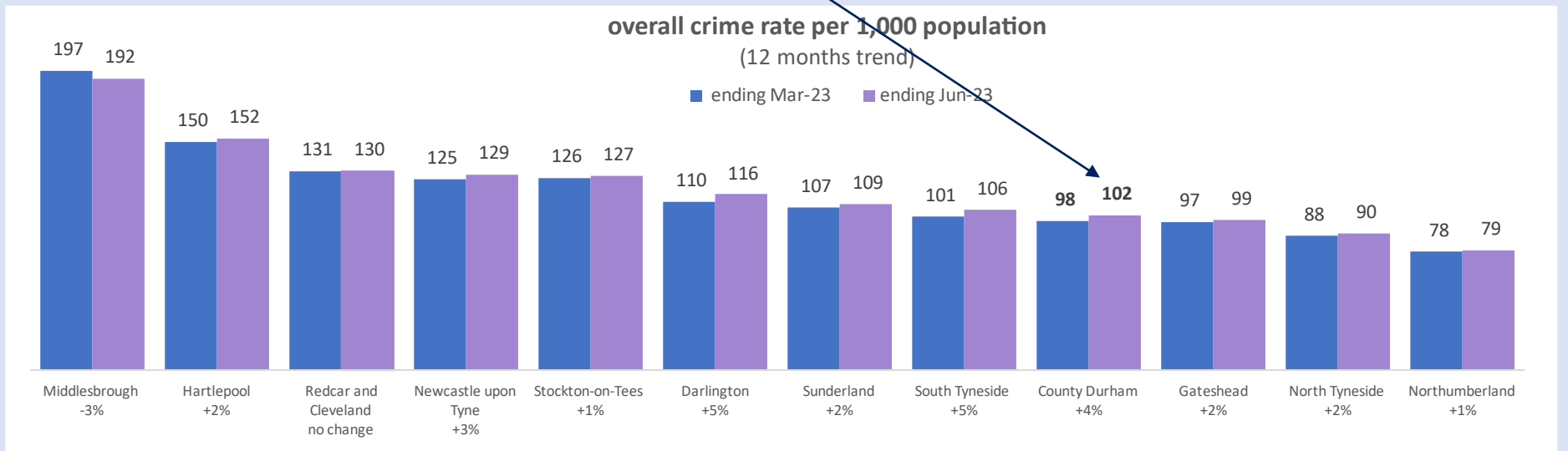
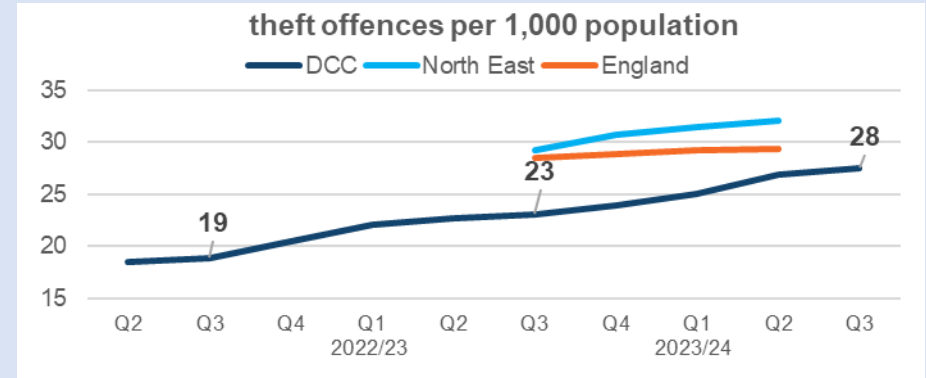
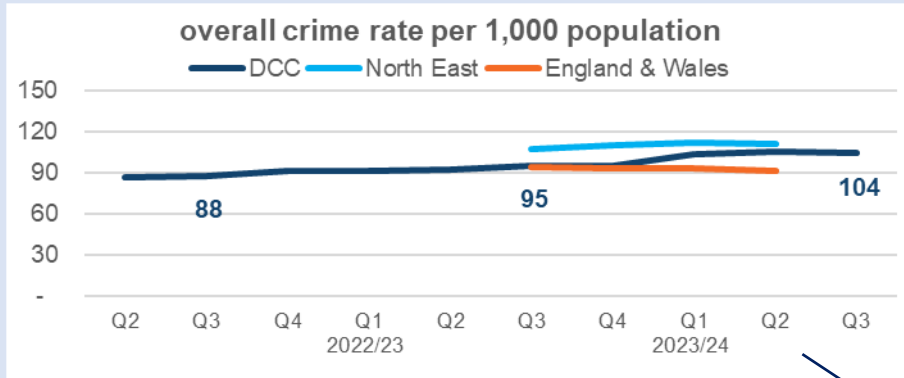


Road Safety

- 13 Comparing 2022 to 2023 casualty data (January-December) indicates an increase in fatal casualties (+5) but a reduction in those seriously injured (-9). However, both the 2022 and 2023 data is provisional and subject to change. Once the provisional data is confirmed, causation factors will be reported.
- 14 Age groups with the highest number of casualties were 16 to 20 and 21 to 25 year olds. Collision hotspot areas are linked to more urban areas including Bishop Auckland, Peterlee, Chester-le-Street, Consett and Stanley.
- 15 In relation to children (0 to 15 years) between 2022 and 2023, there has been a slight reduction in the overall number of casualties and severity, with the highest number falling into the 11 to 15 age group.
- 16 In terms of road user groups, across all casualties, increases were seen in car occupants (+10) and cyclists (+5), with reductions in all other road user groups. Similarity, in relation to children, there was a slight increase in car occupants (+3) and reductions in all other road user groups.
- 17 We continue to support the reduction of road traffic casualties through a series of education programmes, training courses and road safety campaigns. During the first term of the new academic year:
 - 931 Bikeability cycle training places were delivered,
 - 5,394 children received face-to-face visits and activities,
 - a further 245 pupils completed Child Pedestrian Training sessions,
 - 916 Year 7 pupils in their transition term from primary to secondary school have benefited from 'travel safely' sessions-
- 18 Campaign work during quarter three, which compliments and supports the work undertaken by our local and regional road safety partners, focused on dark nights, Halloween, car maintenance, children/pedestrian safety, tyre safety, 'Brake Road Safety Week', 'Fatal Four', weather and drink & drug driving.
- 19 In addition, our Road Safety Facebook Page continues to grow, with 56 posts, reaching an audience of 14,755. A post featuring a School Crossing Patrol and the valuable role they provide saw individual audience views of over 84k.

Crime Dashboard

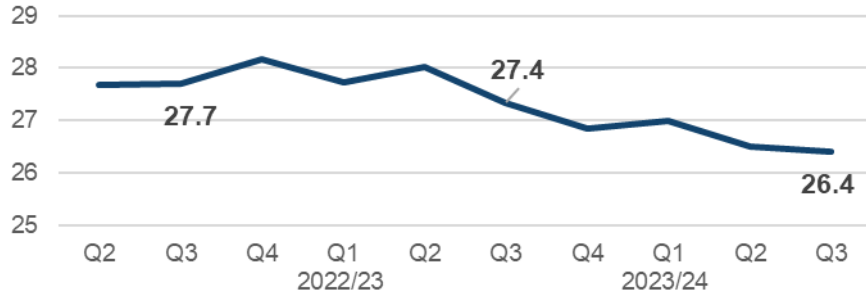
(12 months ending 31 December 2023)



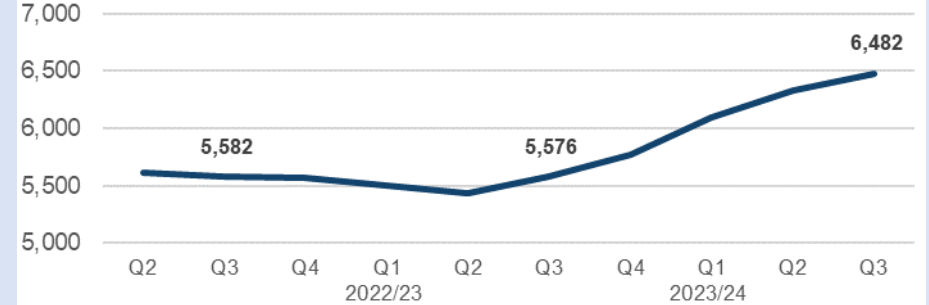
Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm Dashboard

(12 months ending 31 December 2023)

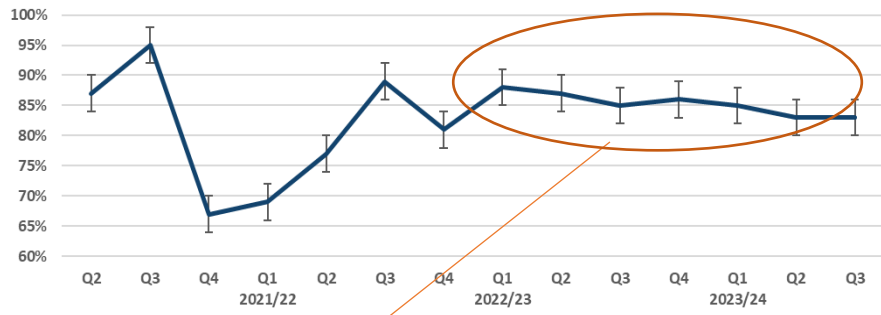
Domestic Abuse incidents reported to the police per 1,000 population



Adult victims referred to Harbour

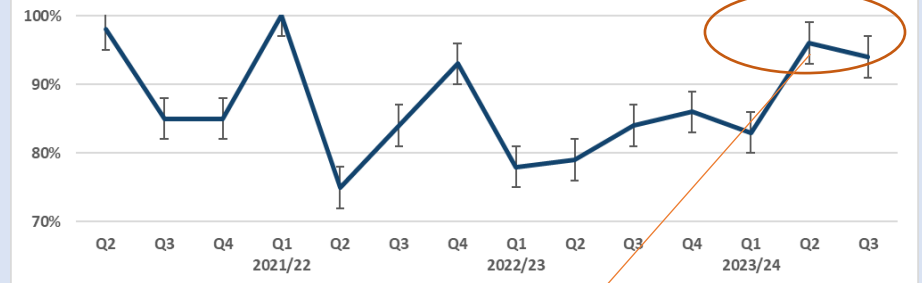


Harbour clients at case closure who reported feeling safe



Statistically similar proportion

% of children and young people completing an intervention with Harbour and reporting feeling safer



Statistically better than the previous five quarters

Crime

- 20 Whilst 18 of 43 forces nationally have seen an increase in all recorded crime volume (12 months ending October 2023), Durham records the highest percentage increase in the country (12% compared to the most similar forces rise of 4%).
- 21 Theft offences observe a notable increase in crime rate driven by increases in recorded shoplifting, residential burglary and vehicle crime.
- 22 Theft of motor vehicle and theft from motor vehicle both observe increases in crime rate since June 2023. Between April and December 2023, Durham recorded an increase of 26% for vehicle crime. Despite this, both maintain a crime rate lower than national. Vehicle crime continues to be a national issue with keyless car technology being the vulnerability that is targeted. Devices can be acquired online that circumvent the vehicles complex security system. Second hand cars are highly desirable, on average more than 30% more expensive than two years ago. Often, they are used by criminals as currency. The technology of keyless cars continues to improve; however, criminals are advancing their own tactics in response.
- 23 With regards to shoplifting, there has been a notable increase in recorded crime volumes which has received attention nationally. Whilst linking this to the pressures of cost-of-living is one possible reason, Durham Constabulary in-house research has also pointed to a surge in vulnerable adults with 'drug-dependency' issues to partially explain this increase. There is also a suggestion that organised criminality, as distinct from organised crime groups, is playing a part. Retailers who have experienced the greatest overall volume of crime has been the focus for intervention following implementation of a problem profile to address the issue. Neighbourhood crime and shop theft continue to be monitored at the daily leadership meetings, local accountability meetings, operational performance meetings and force performance levels when deemed necessary.
- 24 In August 2022, a new process was adopted in the police force in order to comply with national crime recording standards relating to ASB. As a result, there was an increase in the number of recorded crimes.

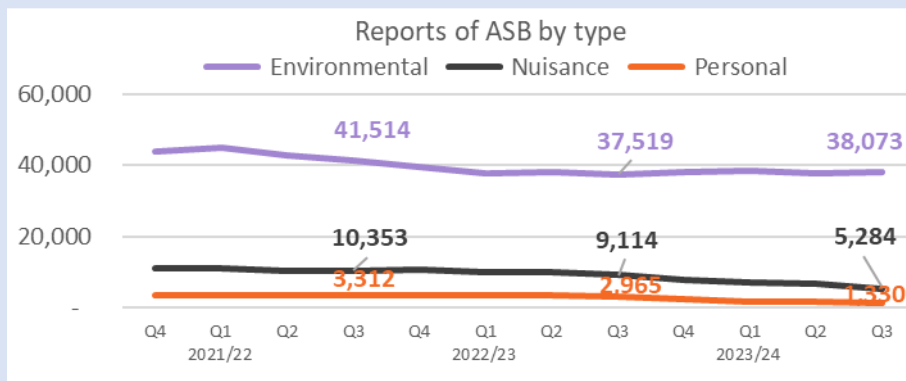
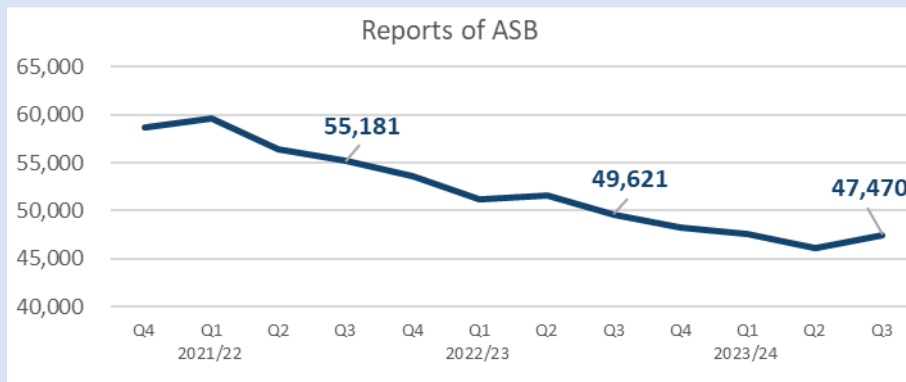
Domestic Abuse

- 25 Although fewer domestic abuse incidents were reported to the police in the 12 months ending December 2023, 11% more victims were referred to Harbour Support Services.
- 26 During quarter three of the 1,597 domestic abuse victims referred to Harbour Support Services, 74 of these were considered at a high risk and 239 had been referred to Harbour at least twice in the last 12 months.
- 27 On average, a victim experiences domestic abuse for four years before accessing help from Harbour.

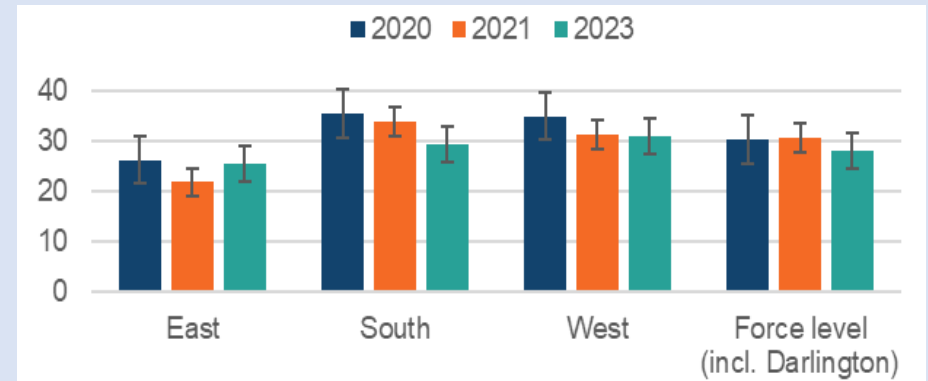
Anti-Social Behaviour Dashboard

(12 months ending 31 December 2023)

	Last year	This year	change	
Environment ASB	37,519	38,073	+554	+1.5%
Nuisance ASB	9,114	5,284	-3,830	-42%
Personal ASB	2,965	1,330	-1,635	-55%
All ASB	49,621	47,470	-2,151	-4%



Proportion of respondents who agree that the police and local authority are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them



Q: What do you feel is the single, biggest issue, negatively impacting on your local community at this time?

The main theme was ASB (including youth-related and drug-related). The top three issues identified as having the greatest negative impact on individuals were speeding and driver related ASB, general negative view of the police and police behaviour, and off-road bikes.

Incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 28 Decreases in Police ASB incidents are because of improved compliance with National Crime Recording Standards, with ASB incidents increasingly categorised as a crime, leading to a reduction of traditional ASB data indicators. Essentially, reports that were previously categorised as an ASB incident are now being categorised as a crime, for example harassment or public order, and therefore do not appear in ASB incident data statistics.

Public confidence that the Police and Local Authorities are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them

- 29 Data from the most recent survey shows a smaller proportion of respondents agree that the police and the council are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them. However, the rate is an estimate from a sample survey and as it is within the estimated confidence intervals of +/-3.5pp it is possible the decrease is due to random sample variation.
- 30 East, South and West are the three police localities that make up County Durham. With the exception of the East in 2021, there has been no significant difference between each of these areas over the last three years.
- 31 The latest survey also asked residents, 'What do you feel is the single, biggest issue, negatively impacting on your local community at this time?'. The main themes identified at force level were ASB, youth-related ASB and drug-related ASB. However, the top three issues identified as having the greatest negative impact on individuals were speeding and driver related ASB, general negative view of the police and police behaviour and off-road bikes.

Community Action Team (CAT) and Community Safety Teams

- 32 To respond to issues of anti-social behaviour in Cockton Hill, Bishop Auckland, utilising community engagement and partner intelligence, the CAT prioritised dealing with rubbish accumulations in gardens, on streets and on waste ground; dog fouling and anti-social behaviour. Our response included:
- 163 pieces of casework were actioned following resident reports and proactive walkabouts – 14 are ongoing
 - 74 legal notices were issued on 22 properties to remedy defective state of premises and for the removal of noxious matter
 - Neighbourhood Wardens issued 12 Community Protection Warnings, 10 Community Protection Notices, 10 Fixed Penalty Notice and one Household Duty of Care notice and increased patrols for fly tipping and dog fouling.
 - The Empty Homes team liaised with property owners with 8 properties being returned to occupation
 - Fire safety undertook Safe and Wellbeing Visits to 80 properties
 - Focused activity from Public Health including signposting to local drug and alcohol support and advice
 - Other actions undertaken included focused weekly walkabouts, community litter picks, school visits, recycling assistants liaised with residents on contaminated

recycling bins, the Police issued 2 Community Protection Notices in relation to the use of vehicles in an anti-social manner.

- 33 Our community safety teams have also been in local communities addressing residents' concerns about a range of anti-social behaviour issues or concerns. Liaising with residents and partners, issues have included dealing with reports of fly-tipping and fires; liaising with property owner re abandoned house and cars; responding to concerns of uninsured firework displays and speeding vehicles; carrying out work to limit access to off-road bikes and deal with access to empty properties; responding to incidents of unauthorised encampments; supporting vulnerable people; tension monitoring; providing advice to residents re illegal money lenders; responding to concerns of rough sleepers.
- 34 In response to environmental offences in the last 12 months our wardens have issued 2,030 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) including:
- 1,093 for littering
 - 493 Community Protection Notices for untidy yards and gardens and
 - 223 for failure to comply with the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

Untidy yards and gardens

- 35 We continue to address the issues caused by the build-up of rubbish and noxious material in yards and gardens. With a dedicated clearance team and the use of additional legislative powers, in the last 12 months we have:
- cleared 2,321 incidents.
 - issued 1,633 Community Protection Warnings (CPW),
 - issued 848 Community Protection Notices (CPN),
 - 404 Fixed Penalty Notices,
 - 131 prosecutions.

Horde Together

- 36 The Horde Together project, which is a place-based partnership project aiming to improve public safety by offering support with a broad range of issues, including emotional health, crime, anti-social behaviour, housing, drugs and alcohol and environmental issues.
- 37 Through Making Every Adult Matter 18 clients have been accepted in the quarter bringing the current caseload to 39, poor housing is the primary presenting issue.
- 38 We have responded to a range of reports of properties being open to access, drainage issues, noise, accumulation of needles, housing and other accumulations. As a result of further investigations during the quarter we have issued 11 notices served on properties.
- 39 Due to the previous sustained enforcement work, there has been an increase during the quarter in the compliance of Notices served with owners taking responsibility and undertaking the work specified in the Notice, reducing the amount of work needing to be carried out in default. 18% of notices were completed in default during October-December 2023 from 40% in July-September 2023.

- 40 Through the Horden Together Community Activator Grants, in partnership with the East Durham Trust, a number of projects are being supported including:
- Groundwork and Move County Durham – youth sessions, including games and multi-sports for 11-17 years;
 - The Ark/Victory Church – purchase of musical instruments to form a youth band (4-18 years);
 - Humankind Recovery Centre - Development of a Community Garden and holistic space;
 - Horden CWFC – contribution towards operational running costs in providing and delivering football training and coaching sessions for children, young people and adults.

Data Tables

D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
				Household waste re-used, recycled or composted	Oct 22 – Sep 23	36.5%	Tracker	37.7%	April 21 – March 22	38.1%	42.5%	33.5%	Yes	Yes

D = Direction of Travel	T = compared to target	C = compared to England average	G = Gap between our performance and England average
meeting or exceeding the previous year	better than target	Better than the England average	The gap is improving
worse than the previous year but is within 2%	Worse than but within 2% of target	Worse than the England average but within 2%	The gap remains the same
more than 2% worse than the previous year	more than 2% behind target	Worse than the England average	The gap is deteriorating

This is the overall performance assessment. Its calculation is dependent upon whether the indicator has an agreed target.

Key Target Indicator	Key Tracker Indicator
targets are set as improvements, can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners. When setting a target, the D, C and G have already been taken into account.	no targets are set as they are long-term and / or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners. Therefore, D, T, C and G are used to assess overall performance
better than target	Direction of Travel (D) is meeting or exceeding the previous year AND the gap with England (G) is improving
worse than but within 2% of target	Direction of Travel (D) is worse than the previous year OR the gap with England (G) is deteriorating
more than 2% behind target	Direction of Travel (D) is worse than the previous year AND the gap with England (G) is deteriorating

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

Our Communities: summary data tables

Housing Standards KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Properties covered by Selective Licence Scheme that are licensed, or legal proceedings instigated	Oct-Dec 23	43%	100% (by 2025)	24%					Yes	No
					ASB incidents per 10,000 population within the Selective Licensing Scheme	Jul 22-Jun 23	212.97	224.28	287.7					No	No

Road Safety KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Road traffic accidents: fatalities	Oct-Dec 23	6	Tracker	4					Yes	No
					Road traffic accidents: seriously injured	Oct-Dec 23	44	Tracker	55					Yes	No
					Road traffic accidents: fatalities (children)	Oct-Dec 23	0	Tracker	0					Yes	No
					Road traffic accidents: seriously injured (children)	Oct-Dec 23	3	Tracker	2					Yes	No
					Road traffic collisions per billion vehicle miles – all	2022	186.86	Tracker	204.5	2022	186.86	352.07	255.65	Yes	No
					Road traffic collisions per billion vehicle miles – fatal	2022	5.90	Tracker	4.42	2022	5.90	4.86	4.36	Yes	No

Protecting Vulnerable People from harm KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Domestic Abuse incidents reported to the Police per 1,000 population	2023	26.4	Tracker	27.7					Yes	No

					Harbour clients feeling more confident on case closure	Oct-Dec 23	88%	Tracker	87%					Yes	No
					Harbour clients feeling their quality of life has improved on case closure	Oct-Dec 23	84%	Tracker	83%					Yes	No
					Children and young people completing an intervention with Harbour and reporting feeling safer	Oct-Dec 23	94%	Tracker	84%					Yes	No
					Children and young people reviewed as at risk to Child Sexual Exploitation			Tracker						No	No

Crime KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	England and Wales average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Respondents who agree that police and LA are dealing with ASB and crime issues that matter to them. <i>(confidence intervals +/-3.5pp)</i>	2023	28.2%	30.7%	30.7%					No	No
					Crime rate per 1,000 population	2023	103.91	Tracker	95.42	Oct 22-Sep 23	106	92		Yes	No
					Theft offences per 1,000 population	2023	27.52	Tracker	22.96	Oct 22-Sep 23	27	29		Yes	No
					Offenders who re-offend in a 12 month period	Apr 21-Mar 22	27.9%	Tracker	28.7%	Apr 21-Mar 22	27.9%	25.2%	28.1%	Yes	No
					Proven re-offending by young people	Apr 21-Mar 22	41.5%	Tracker	39.0%	Apr 21-Mar 22	41.5%	32.2%	32.6%	Yes	No
					First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 per 100,000 population aged 10 to 17	2022	146	Tracker	141					No	No
					Violent crime incidents which were alcohol related	Oct-Dec 23	34%	Tracker	30.9%					Yes	No

Anti-Social Behaviour KPIs

114	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Reports of anti-social behaviour	Jan-Dec 2023	47,470	Tracker	49,621					Yes	No
					Reports of environmental anti-social behaviour	Jan-Dec 2023	38,073	Tracker	37,159					Yes	No
					Reports of nuisance anti-social behaviour	Jan-Dec 2023	5,284	Tracker	9,114					Yes	No
					Reports of personal anti-social behaviour	Jan-Dec 2023	1,330	Tracker	2,965					Yes	No
					Anti-social behaviour incidents which were alcohol related	Jan-Dec 2023	10.56%	Tracker	10.63%					Yes	No
					ASB enforcement action taken	Jul 22-Jun 23	6,069	Tracker	5,057					No	No

Our People: summary data tables

Adult Social Care KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services	Jan-Dec 2023	86.8%	84.0%	91.9%	Apr 22-Mar 23	84.1%	81.8%	80.7%	Yes	No

Public Health KPIs

	D	T	C	G	Performance Indicator	Period	Performance	Target	12 months earlier	Benchmark period	DCC	National average	NE average	updated	Oflog
					Suicide rate per 100,000 population	2020-22	16.8	Tracker	15.8	2020-22	16.8	10.3	13.5	Yes	No
					Successful completions of those in alcohol treatment	Jul 22-Jun 23	34.1%	Tracker	32.7%	Jul 22-Jun 23	34.1%	35.1%	30.1%	Yes	No
					Successful completions of those in drug treatment: opiates	Jul 22-Jun 23	5.9%	Tracker	5.6%	Jul 22-Jun 23	5.9%	5.0%	4.0%	Yes	No
					Successful completions of those in drug treatment: non-opiates	Jul 22-Jun 23	33.2%	Tracker	31.7%	Jul 22-Jun 23	33.2%	31.4%	27.2%	Yes	No

Glossary

Term	Definition
ACD	<p>Automatic Call Distribution</p> <p>Telephone calls are received either through our Automatic Call Distribution system, which routes calls to groups of agents based on a first-in-first-answered criteria, or directly to a telephone extension (non-ACD). Only calls received via our ACD system are included in our telephone statistics.</p>
AQMA	<p>Air Quality Management Area</p> <p>A geographical area where air pollution levels are, or are likely to, exceed national air quality objectives at relevant locations (where the public may be exposed to harmful air pollution over a period of time e.g., residential homes, schools etc.).</p>
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
ASCOF	<p>Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework</p> <p>measures how well care and support services achieve the outcomes that matter most to people (link)</p>
BATH	<p>Bishop Auckland Town Hall</p> <p>A multi-purpose cultural venue situated in Bishop Auckland market place. It offers regular art exhibitions, live music, cinema screenings and theatre performances, as well as a library service.</p>
BCF	<p>Better Care Fund</p> <p>A national programme that supports local systems to successfully deliver the integration of health and social care.</p>
B2B	<p>Business to Business</p> <p>B2B refers to selling products and services directly between two businesses as opposed to between businesses and customers.</p>
CAP	<p>Customer Access Point</p> <p>A location where residents can get face-to-face help and information about council services. There are eight CAPs across County Durham.</p>
CAT	<p>Community Action Team</p> <p>A project team which includes members of our community protection service, planning, neighbourhood wardens and housing teams, who work alongside police and community support officers and fire and rescue teams and residents to tackle housing and environmental issues in a specific area by identifying local priorities and making best use of resources.</p>
CDP	<p>County Durham Plan</p> <p>Sets out the council's vision for housing, jobs and the environment until 2035, as well as the transport, schools and healthcare to support it (link)</p>
CED	Community Economic Development

Term	Definition
CERP	<p>Climate Emergency Response Plan</p> <p>A community-wide call to action to help align all sectors on the actions required to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve our resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p>
Changing Places toilet	<p>Toilets meet the needs of people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, as well as people with other physical disabilities such as spinal injuries, muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis. These toilets provide the right equipment including a height adjustable adult-sized changing table, a tracking hoist system, adequate space for a disabled person and carer, a peninsular WC with room either side and a safe and clean environment including tear off paper to cover the bench, a large waste bin and a non-slip floor.</p>
CLD	<p>Client Level Dataset</p> <p>A national mandatory person-level data collection (to be introduced) that will replace the existing annual Short and Long Term (SALT) Support data collected by councils. CLD will be added to the single data list and will become mandatory for all local authorities.</p>
CNIS	Child Not In School
CPN	<p>Community Protection Notice</p> <p>Can be issued to anyone over the age of 16 to deal with a wide range of ongoing anti-social behaviour issues or nuisances which have a detrimental effect on the local community. There are three stages: the first stage is a written warning (CPW), the second a notice (CPN) the third is an FPN or further prosecution for failure to comply with the previous stages</p>
CRM	Customer Relationship Management system
CS&T	Culture, Sport and Tourism
CTR	<p>Council Tax Reduction</p> <p>Reduces council tax bills for those on low incomes</p>
DCC	Durham County Council
DEFRA	<p>Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</p> <p>A ministerial department, supported by 34 agencies and public bodies responsible for improving and protecting the environment. It aims to grow a green economy and sustain thriving rural communities. It also supports our world-leading food, farming and fishing industries (link)</p>
DHP	<p>Discretionary Housing Payments</p> <p>Short term payments which can be made to tenants in receipt of the housing benefit element of Universal Credit, to help sort out housing and money problems in the longer term.</p>
DHSC	<p>Department of Health and Social Care</p> <p>The DHSC supports the government in leading the nation's health and care system.</p>

Term	Definition
DLE	<p>Daily Living Expenses</p> <p>Available for those whose circumstances have changed unexpectedly. Payments can be made for up to seven days to help with food, travel and some clothing (restrictions apply).</p>
DoLS	<p>Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards</p> <p>A set of checks that are part of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, which applies in England and Wales. The DoLS procedure protects a person receiving care whose liberty has been limited by checking that this is appropriate and is in their best interests.</p>
EAP	<p>Employee Assistance Programme</p> <p>A confidential employee benefit designed to help staff deal with personal and professional problems that could be affecting their home or work life, health, and general wellbeing.</p>
EET	<p>Employment, Education or Training</p> <p>Most often used in relation to young people aged 16 to 24, it measures the number employed, in education or in training.</p>
EHCP	<p>Education, Health Care Plan</p> <p>A legal document which describes a child or young person's (aged up to 25) special educational needs, the support they need, and the outcomes they would like to achieve.</p>
ERDF	<p>European Regional Development Fund</p> <p>Funding that helps to create economic development and growth; it gives support to businesses, encourages new ideas and supports regeneration. Although the United Kingdom has now left the European Union, under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement, EU programmes will continue to operate in the UK until their closure in 2023-24.</p>
EHE	<p>Elective Home Education</p> <p>A term used to describe a choice by parents to provide education for their children at home or in some other way they desire, instead of sending them to school full-time.</p>
ETA	<p>Extension of Time Agreement</p> <p>An agreement between the council and the customer submitting a planning application to extend the usual deadline beyond 13 weeks due to the complex nature of the application.</p>
FPN	<p>Fixed Penalty Notice</p> <p>Is a conditional offer to an alleged offender for them to have the matter dealt with in a set way without resorting to going to court.</p>
FTE	<p>Full Time Equivalent</p> <p>Total number of full-time employees working across the organisation. It is a way of adding up the hours of full-time, part-time and various other types of employees and converting into measurable 'full-time' units.</p>

Term	Definition
GVA	<p>Gross Value Added</p> <p><i>The measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy.</i></p>
HSF	<p>Household Support Fund</p> <p>Payments support low income households struggling with energy and food costs, or who need essential household items.</p>
ICO	<p>Information Commissioner's Office</p> <p>The UK's independent body's role is to uphold information rights in the public interest (link)</p>
IES	<p>Inclusive Economic Strategy</p> <p>Sets a clear, long-term vision for the area's economy up to 2035, with an overarching aim to create more and better jobs in an inclusive, green economy (link)</p>
JLHWS	<p>Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy</p> <p>The Strategy (2023-28) supports the vision that County Durham is a healthy place where people live well for longer (link)</p>
KS2	<p>Key Stage 2</p> <p>The national curriculum is organised into blocks of years called 'key stages'. At the end of each key stage, the teacher will formally assess each child's performance. KS2 refers to children in year 3, 4, 5 and 6 when pupils are aged between 7 and 11.</p>
KS3	<p>Key Stage 3</p> <p>The national curriculum is organised into blocks of years called 'key stages'. At the end of each key stage, the teacher will formally assess each child's performance. KS3 refers to children in year 7, 8 and 9 when pupils are aged between 11 and 14.</p>
LGA	<p>Local Government Association</p> <p>The national membership body for councils which works on behalf of its member councils to support, promote and improve local government (link).</p>
L!NKCD	<p>A programme that brings together a number of delivery partners to support people with multiple barriers to address these underlying issues and to move them closer to or into the labour market or re-engage with education or training.</p>
LNRS	<p>Local Nature Recovery Strategies</p> <p>Propose how and where to recover nature and improve the wider environment across England.</p>
MMB	<p>Managing Money Better</p> <p>A service offered by the council which involves visiting residents' homes to carry out a free home energy assessment. In addition to providing advice on energy bills, the service can provide financial advice through referrals to benefits advice or help with a benefits appeal and other services for advice on benefit entitlements.</p>

Term	Definition
MTFP	Medium Term Financial Plan A document that sets out the council's financial strategy over a four year period
MW	MegaWatt is one million watts of electricity
NESWA	North East Social Work Alliance A social work teaching partnership made up of 12 North East councils and six Higher Education Institutes. The Alliance is one of several teaching partnerships across the country which were created to improve the quality of practice, learning and continuous professional development amongst trainee and practicing social workers.
NQSW	Newly Qualified Social Workers a social worker who is registered with Social Work England and is in their first year of post qualifying practice.
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification The NVQ is a work-based qualification that recognises the skills and knowledge a person needs to do a job.
Oflog	Office For Local Government The vision for Oflog is for it to provide authoritative and accessible data and analysis about the performance of local government, and support its improvement. Oflog is part of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities .
PDR	Performance and Development Review Is an annual process which provides all staff with the valuable opportunity to reflect on their performance, potential and development needs.
PRS	Private Rented Sector This classification of housing relates to property owned by a landlord and leased to a tenant. The landlord could be an individual, a property company or an institutional investor. The tenants would either deal directly with an individual landlord, or alternatively with a management company or estate agency caring for the property on behalf of the landlord.
PSPO	Public Space Protection Order Are intended to deal with a nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community.
QoL	Quality of Life
RIDDOR	Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations A RIDDOR report is required for work-related accidents which result in a reportable injury. The definition of a reportable injury can be found here
RQF	Regulated Qualifications Framework The RQF helps people understand all the qualifications regulated by the government and how they relate to each other. It covers general and vocational in England, and vocational in Northern Ireland. Link

Term	Definition
SALT	<p>Short and Long Term</p> <p>Relates to the annual Short and Long Term (SALT) Support data collected by councils. It is to be replaced by a national mandatory person-level data collection (Client Level Data).</p>
SEN	<p>Special Educational Needs</p> <p>The term is used to describe learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for children to learn than most children of the same age. Children with SEN are likely to need extra or different help from that given to other children their age.</p>
SEND	<p>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</p> <p>SEND can affect a child or young person's ability to learn and can affect their;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ behaviour or ability to socialise (e.g., they struggle to make friends) ▪ reading and writing (e.g., because they have dyslexia), ▪ ability to understand things, ▪ concentration levels (e.g., because they have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) ▪ physical ability
SG	<p>Settlement Grants</p> <p>Help people stay in their home, or move back into housing after living in supported or unsettled accommodation (such as leaving care or being homeless). They provide help towards furniture, white goods, flooring, curtains, bedding, kitchen equipment, removal costs etc.</p>
SME	<p>Small to Medium Sized Enterprise</p> <p>A company with no more than 500 employees.</p>
Statistical nearest neighbours	<p>A group of councils that are similar across a wide range of socio-economic.</p> <p>Durham County Council uses the CIPFA nearest neighbours model which compares us to Northumberland, North Tyneside, Barnsley, Rotherham, Wakefield, Doncaster, Redcar and Cleveland, Wigan, St Helens, Cornwall, Sefton, Sunderland, Wirral, Plymouth and Calderdale</p>
UASC	<p>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children</p> <p>Children and young people who are seeking asylum in the UK but who have been separated from their parents or carers. While their claim is processed, they are cared for by a council.</p>
UKSPF	<p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p> <p>Part of the government's Levelling Up agenda that provides funding for local investment to March 2025. All areas of the UK receive an allocation from the Fund to enable local decision making and better target the priorities of places within the UK that will lead to tangible improvements to the places where people work and live.</p>
WEEE	<p>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment</p> <p>Any electrical or electronic waste, whether whole or broken, that is destined for disposal. The definition includes household appliances such as washing machines and cookers, IT and telecommunications equipment, electrical and electronic tools, toys and leisure equipment and certain medical devices.</p>

Term	Definition
Yield	Proportion of potential income achieved

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

16 April 2024

Probation Service



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 on probation services in County Durham.

Executive summary

- 2 The presentation attached in Appendix 2 provides members with an update on delivery of Probation Services within County Durham.
Recommendation
- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the presentation and comment accordingly.

Background

- 4 The Committee considered its work programme in June 2023 and agreed to include an item on the Probation Service and reducing reoffending. It builds on previous reports to the SSC OSC which have detailed changes to delivery of probation services. The presentation will give details of staffing, business plan on a page including an outline of key priorities, a summary of performance, homelessness and Integrated Offender Management scheme update and reoffending rates.
- 5 Karen Blackburn, Head of County Durham and Darlington Probation Service will be in attendance to deliver the presentation attached at Appendix 2 together with her deputy, Tanya Graham and Inspector Adam Norris, Durham Constabulary

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 6 Information with this report aims to contribute to reducing re-offending.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Clare Luery

Tel: 03000 265978

Appendix 1: Implications

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 objectives in the Safe Durham Partnership Plan to reducing crime and disorder.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.

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HM Prison &
Probation Service

Probation
Service




Durham County Council Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Overview Committee Probation Service Update

Karen Blackburn
Head of County Durham & Darlington
16th April 2024

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Introduction

- 1. Staffing Update (Part B)**
 - 2. Business Plan on A Page – outline of key priorities**
 - 3. Summary of Performance March 2024 snapshot / 2023/24 (Part B)**
 - 4. Homelessness – Spotlight on a Snapshot (Part B)**
 - 5. Integrated Offender Management Scheme Update and Reoffending Rates**
 - 6. Any Questions?**
- 

PROBATION SERVICE (NE): County Durham & Darlington - Plan On A Page 2024-2025



Protect the public from serious offenders & improve the safety & security of our prisons



HMPs Outcomes & Strategic Principles



Reduce Reoffending



Probation Key Aims (TOM)

Assess

Protect

Change

Chief Probation Officer Priorities

Risk Improvement

SPO Development

Recruitment & Retention

Area Executive Director Priorities

Performance & Assurance

Partnerships Internal & External

Being Part of Senior Leadership

Doing The Right Thing To Keep People Safe

1. ASSESS

1. Embed effective **Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding** practice including the management of **Pre and Post Sentence DA/SG** enquiries
2. Develop/embed **ViSOR**
3. Achieve **ISP** timeliness
4. Improve **MAPPA L1** review activity
5. Complete **Home Visits** as required
6. Demonstrate effective **professional judgement** with **proactive management of significant events** and updating in **OASys**

2. PROTECT

1. Increase focus on **release planning for effective releases**
2. Achieve & sustain **95% EPF2** use to improve risk management in licences
3. Refer all eligible cases leaving prison to **Enhanced Reconnect**
4. Embed good **Enforcement** practice across the PDU
5. Improve **quality & timeliness of Breach and Applications**
6. Increase effective **RAR** activity
7. Embed **Victim Notification Scheme** within the PDU
8. Use **CAS3** provision and feed back successful outcomes and challenges

3. CHANGE

1. **Deliver and effectively manage the sentence of the Court**
2. Implement and embed **Pre-Release and Short Sentence Function** support
3. Reduce **UPW** backlog and improve completions
4. **Maximise presence and influence at Court**
5. Increase use of **EM Curfew & GPS Monitoring**
6. Embed **IOM Regional Model**
7. Promote ongoing development of **EPOP** including communication between staff and offenders
8. **Work in partnership with key agencies to focus on offender risk and needs to reduce reoffending and protect the public**

4. PEOPLE

1. Promote a **decent, inclusive, respectful and procedurally just culture and safe environment** at work.
2. Ensure effective staff **Induction** addressing all **EDI** needs
3. **Recruit, support, progress & retain staff.**
4. Enable staff to **deliver high quality, responsive services**
5. Proactively manage **Workloads**
6. Embed **SEEDS 2** to enhance reflective practice
7. Implement **B2B** developments
8. **Promote & attend SHINE** Calls
9. Support **SPO** developments
10. **Maximise Protected Development Time and Reflective Supervision**
11. Complete **Effective Practice Strategy Risk Assessment / Counter Corruption Training**
12. Increase **Awards** nominations



Integrated Offender Management Update

**Insp 2570 Adam Norris – Offender
Management**





IOMU Developments

Probation
Service



North East

Management of Wanted Persons

- Tracker spreadsheet – works out performance data of how long wanted for recall, FTA, PACE offence, additional offences whilst wanted & resultant demand on Police time.
- Tactical Toolkit – back to basics approach about how we apprehend wanted persons.

Sport as Diversionary Activity

- Evidence base showing sport effective at diverting away from offending.
- Durham University providing sporting opportunities for our cohort.

Neurodivergence

- Growing body of evidence CJS full of undiagnosed and unmedicated ND people – particularly ADHD.
- Screening tool provided by ADHD Liberty
- Commission a service/enhanced offer?



Case Study

Probation
Service



North East

- “B” was a prolific offender, sentences for robbery and other crimes.
- He was sofa surfing using drugs
- Overdose in attempt to take his own life
- Works with IOMU (Probation, Police and Partners)
- IOMU sets up a running club and “B” participates
- Works with partners to tackle drug use
- Now drug free and hasn’t offended
- No intelligence or police reports coming in
- IOMU still receiving updates from “B” about his running and cycling.



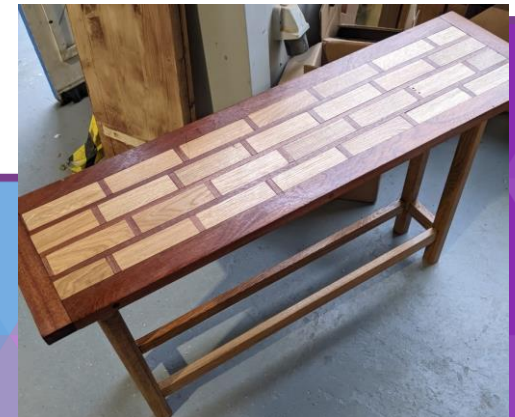
Good News

Probation
Service



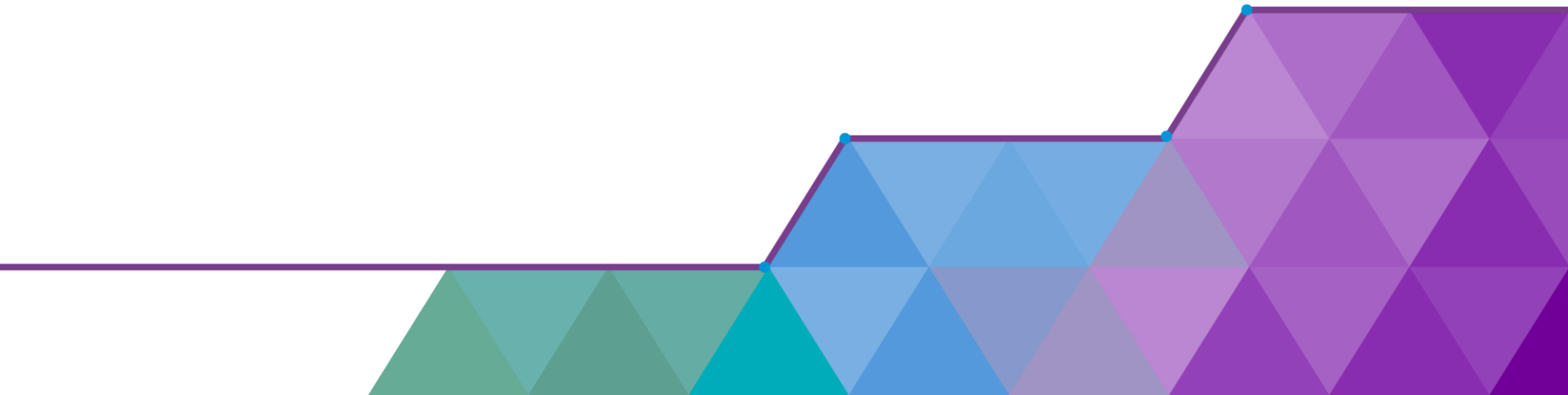
North East

- IOMU utilise “Handcrafted” at Willington.
- They are a charity whereby service users can learn woodwork with Christian ethos.
- Empowers those excluded from society to gain skills and work.
- “T” is an IOMU cohort members who has been attending since November 2022.
- He heard about Handcrafted from his IOMU worker prior to his prison sentence.
- “T” has an extensive criminal history but hasn’t offended since his release in November 2022.
- “T” is very talented.



Thank You For Listening

Any Questions?



Glossary



B2B – Back to Basics
CAS - Community Accommodation Services
CD&D – County Durham & Darlington
CO – Community Order
EM – Electronic Monitoring
EPF – Effective Proposal Framework
EPOP – Engaging People on Probation
IOM – Integrated Offender Management
IOMU – Integrated Offender Management Unit
ISP – Initial Sentence Plan
MAPPA – Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
OASys – Offender Assessment System
OGRS - Offender Group Reconviction Scale
PO – Probation Officer
PQIP – Professional Qualification in Probation
PSO – Probation Services Officer
PSS – Post Sentence Supervision
RAR - Rehabilitation Activity Requirement
SPO – Senior Probation Officer
SSO – Suspended Sentence Order
UPW – Unpaid Work
VISOR – Violent & Sex Offender Register
WMT – Workload Management Tool

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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