



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

Date Monday 16 February 2015
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

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

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held 6 January 2015 (Pages 1 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Progress of Initiatives and Enforcement Activity undertaken by the Consumer Protection Team: (Pages 11 - 18)
 - (i) Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services.
 - (ii) Presentation by the Consumer Protection Manager, Neighbourhood Services.
8. Alcohol Harm Reduction - Strategy Consultation and Update: (Pages 19 - 24)

Report of Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health.
9. Draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015/18: (Pages 25 - 68)

Report of the Corporate Director of the Children and Adults Services.
10. Overview and Scrutiny Activity - verbal update by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Assistant Chief Executives:
 - (i) Organised Crime.
 - (ii) 20mph Zones and Limits.
 - (iii) Substance Misuse Treatment Centres.

11. Police and Crime Panel: (Pages 69 - 72)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive.
12. Safe Durham Partnership Update: (Pages 73 - 78)
Briefing by the Community Safety Manager, Children and Adults Services.
13. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
6 February 2015

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

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

Councillors J Armstrong, J Charlton, P Conway, J Cordon, M Davinson, S Forster, J Gray, C Hampson, B Harrison, M Hodgson, G Holland, J Maitland, N Martin, J Measor, K Shaw, W Stelling, P Stradling, J Turnbull and C Wilson

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

Co-opted Employees/Officers: S Errington and Chief Superintendent G Hall

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 **Tuesday 6 January 2015 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Armstrong, P Conway, M Davinson, S Forster, J Gray, C Hampson, M Hodgson, G Holland, J Maitland, N Martin, J Measor, T Nearney, K Shaw, P Stradling, J Turnbull and C Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr J Welch

Co-opted Employees/Officers:

S Errington and Chief Superintendent G Hall

Also Present:

Councillors

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr A J Cooke

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A J Cooke.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 28 October 2014 and 13 November 2014 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Assistant Chief Executive's, Jonathan Slee noted that, in reference to the minutes, the preferred bidder for the Community Rehabilitation Company had been announced and was the ARCC (Achieving Real Change in Communities) Community Interest Company. It was added that a session was held with Members on 12 December 2014 to give information regarding the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014, with Chief Superintendent Ivan Wood and several Officers from the Police, Council and partner organisations in attendance. Councillors noted that in relation to the Special Meeting held at the Fire Headquarters, the

Committee's response to the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's (CDDFRS) Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) had been forwarded to the Service.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

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

6 Media Relations

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the recent prominent articles and news stories relating to the remit of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes). The articles included: a BBC News item in respect of 20mph limits, noting the Committee would form a Working Group to review topic; Domestic Abuse, linked to an item on the Agenda; and instances of fighting linked to alcohol abuse over the Christmas period.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

The Chairman agreed to take Agenda Item 9 as Item 7, with Agenda Items 7 and 8 becoming 8 and 9 respectively.

7 Multi-Agency Interventions Project

The Chairman thanked the Neighbourhood Protection Manager, Ian Hoult who was in attendance to speak to Members regarding progress in relation to the Multi-Agency interventions Project (for copy see file of minutes).

The Neighbourhood Protection Manager reminded Members that a review of Multi-Agency Interventions (MAI) had been undertaken, and that the process of piloting the new model for MAI was ongoing in Peterlee and had been rolled out to Seaham in December 2014. It was noted that the new model had a lead professional allocated, in a field most suitable to the incident, and they would then be supported by other professionals as required. It was added that the model had been developed in conjunction with partners with a communication plan being agreed, an information sharing protocol being developed, and IT support was in place. Members learned that the Neighbourhood Protection Manager would lead on the pilot implementation, report back to the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) on progress, and continue to work with the Council's Strategic Programme Manager, Jeanette Stephenson as appropriate.

The Committee noted that through an evaluation process across the County and with partner organisations, the old approach to MAI was found to be inconsistent and procedures were not being applied consistently, and information sharing issues had been highlighted. It was noted that the Strategic Programme Manager had developed a new MAI process that a Level 3 Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) had been developed and training was being delivered to enable new MAI approach.

It was added that there had been development in respect of case management, with secure storage of information for the new MAI process.

The Committee noted an example of an individual that had been helped through the new MAI process, with multiple issues including alcohol consumption, worklessness, mental health problems and issues with ASB. It was noted that good progress was being made and that was one example that evidenced how wider teams could work together well to provide good outcomes and reduce demand on the number of frontline staff across a number of agencies. Councillors learned that during the Peterlee pilot, there had been 29 cases in comparison to 24 in the whole of East Durham previously. It was explained that this greater number provided an opportunity to have a greater impact on issues, however, in the context of being able to carry out the necessary assessments within the resources available.

The Neighbourhood Protection Manager explained that the Strategic Programme Manager was awaiting news relating to 2 funding bids, one regional and one local, to support delivery of interventions and Lead Professional support for the MAI.

The Chairman thanked the Neighbourhood Protection Manager and asked Members for their questions on the report.

The Committee asked questions in relation to: communication of information; where/who Members should refer people to; reducing demand; keeping interest groups up-to-date as regards those agencies providing services; the involvement of housing providers in helping with the MAI approach.

The Neighbourhood Protection Manager explained that communication via the ISA had involved “data champions” from the agencies involved and that Members would be given a summary on the process and if individuals are then taken on as a case, or otherwise, appropriate feedback would be given to the Member, within the context of appropriate information sharing. It was added that demand would be monitored and that cases were often complex and that ongoing review to be able to understand the impact of the work and the resources need was required. The Chairman noted that in East Durham there was a “directory” of agencies that was useful, albeit it was a “live document”. The Strategic Programme Manager noted that information on the new MAI process was shared at a Strategic Housing meeting and then fed back to individual housing organisations. It was added that only 2 housing providers had not yet signed up to the new process.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

8 Update Report on Domestic Abuse Service Developments in 2014

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Programme Manager, Jeanette Stephenson who was in attendance to give Member an update in respect of Domestic Abuse Service Development in 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Programme Manager noted the large amount of work that had been carried out by the SDP and with the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Councillor L Hovvels in working in partnership regarding Victim Support, especially with Durham Constabulary. It was explained that after a governance review the Domestic Abuse Executive Forum (DAFEG), a thematic group of the SDP, was noted as now encompassing issues of sexual violence. Accordingly, the terms of reference of the group were updated, with a joint action plan developed to be the delivery plan for the new group, now named the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG).

Councillors learned that in 2014, the SDP requested a simple referral pathway for disclosures of domestic abuse to ensure frontline practitioners could make appropriate referrals. It was explained that this was developed with the then DAFEG and resulted in the Domestic Abuse Referral Pathway (DARP) with an associated toolkit launched in September 2014 and an communication plan was developed to ensure that the use of DARP was embedded into all appropriate organisations. The Committee noted that a event was held in September 2014 to look at embedding the lessons learned from domestic homicide reviews with the event focussing on 3 main areas: information sharing and communication; impact of drugs, alcohol and mental health; and training and practice improvement.

The Strategic Programme Manager informed Members that in September 2014, funding from the public health budget was identified to support the development of a new domestic abuse service specification. It was added that the new specification would be considered by partner organisations when completed and arrangements be jointly funded from December 2016, with Durham University providing independent evaluation on the work. It was noted that Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) was working in respect of Strategic Funding Group to involve all partners.

Members learned that a Joint Training Strategy was identified as an action within the SDP domestic homicide review action plan and was developed by the sexual violence implementation group, which reports into the DASVEG. It was explained that issues to be addressed included: creating safe environments to allow victims to disclose; how to deal with disclosures; how to support victims; impact upon children; and understanding and working with perpetrators.

The Committee were informed of work being led by Durham Constabulary on the development of a new brand for Domestic Abuse, the "Sorry Is Not Enough" campaign. Members were given a demonstration of the public-facing side of the webpage to allow victims to seek help and noted that there was a separate side to allow appropriate professionals to access important training information and policy materials. It was noted that the strong message was that domestic abuse in any form was wrong and that development of the brand would raise awareness of the issue and help provide encouragement to anyone wishing to seek help and let them know how to do so.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Programme Manager and asked Members for their questions on the report.

The Committee asked questions in relation to: how the success of the “Sorry Is Not Enough” campaign would be assessed; how processes in respect of domestic homicide would be reviewed; and which agencies were involve in tackling issues of exploitation.

The Strategic Programme Manager noted that the number of hits to the Sorry Is Not Enough website would be recorded as well as information in respect to referrals and feedback given would be used to evaluate the impact of the campaign.

It was added that the Home Office reviewed domestic homicides, and the SDP monitor the lessons learned and then use the action plans to try and prevent incidents in the future.

The Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Services, Peter Appleton noted that work was ongoing with regards issues of exploitation and that Cabinet had received an update report on Children’s Services. Further work is being progressed through the Local Safeguarding Children Board, Scrutiny Members will be kept up to date.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That a further update report is brought to the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 6 months’ time.

9 Safe Durham Partnership - Refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015/18

The Chairman thanked the Community Safety Manager, Caroline Duckworth and the Community Safety Coordinator, Graham McArdle who were in attendance to give a presentation on the Refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015/18 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Community Safety Manager explained the statutory requirement to produce a Partnership Plan and the need to carry out a Strategic Assessment in order to inform the development of a new Plan every 3 years. It was added that this would be in consultation with partners and through consultation with communities through many channels, including the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs). Members noted that the SDP Plan was a high level document and its strategic objectives would be signed off by the SDP Board, the Plan being aligned with the Council’s Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). Councillors noted that priorities would be identified by assessing achievements, challenges and risks.

The Committee noted that achievements included: a 20% reduction in crime since the formation of the SDP in 2009; an 81% reduction in the first time entrants to the youth justice system since 2007/8; a 65% fall in the rate of adult reoffending for the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort; repeat cases of domestic violence being half that of the national target; and being in the top 20% in relation to turning around “troubled families”. Councillors noted challenges including: crime being up; criminal damage; the emerging issue of cybercrime; and managing public confidence, addressing concerns and perceptions aboutterrorism and extremism, speeding vehicles; dog fouling; rubbish and litter; and dangerous driving.

The Community Safety Coordinator explained that the first strategic priority for the SDP Plan 2015/18 was “Anti-Social Behaviour” as this was a key issue in terms of public confidence and criminal damage, albeit a low level crime, accounted for 20% of all recorded crime. Members noted “Protecting Vulnerable People From Harm” was another SDP Plan priority, noting examples being domestic abuse, hate crime and sexual violence. It was explained that this was a priority as they were key national priorities, underreported, and the number of incidents were increasing.

The Committee learned that “Reducing Reoffending” was a SDP Plan priority as the County’s reoffending rate was above the national average and that by targeting the most difficult, chaotic and persistent offenders, crime levels within areas could be positively impacted.

Councillors noted “Alcohol and Substance Misuse Harm Reduction” was a priority, with alcohol related harm being a cross-cutting issue that costs County Durham approximately £212 Million per year, and with drug misuse being an area of public concern. It was explained that “Embedding Think Family” was identified as a priority in line with the key criteria within the national “Troubled Families” programme. The Committee noted that “Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism” was another SDP Plan priority, to deliver on the national CONTEST strategy and to reduce the risks of radicalisation. It was added that the final SDP Plan priority was “Road Casualty Reduction”, the Committee being aware of the issues concerning fatalities and public concerns through work it had previously undertaken.

Members noted that next steps were to collate the feedback from stakeholders including AAPs, member agencies of the SDP and Overview and Scrutiny, update the refresh of the SDP Plan accordingly and then present the first draft of the Plan to the SDP Board in January 2015. It was noted that the associated Delivery Plan would be brought together by July 2015.

The Chairman thanked the Community Safety Manager and the Community Safety Coordinator and asked Members for their questions and comments on the presentation.

The Committee asked questions in relation to: alcohol misuse and minimum unit pricing (MUP) as a possible method of preventing harm; tackling “legal highs”; the approach of separate alcohol and drug treatment; instilling positive values via families; education of young people as a means of combating many of the issues emerging, such as extremism; and mental health issues.

The Chairman noted that an event was held 2 years ago with the Chief Executive of BALANCE, together with partners, including Durham Constabulary debating the issue of MUP and the Council had supported MUP and this had been communicated to Government, however the legislation did not come into effect. Councillor J Armstrong noted that the issue, as highlighted by Councillor N Martin, could be highlighted again perhaps by the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities. Chief Superintendent G Hall noted that all agencies were working together to minimise the impact of alcohol on our communities, however, the issue was a difficult one to tackle.

The Head of Planning and Service Strategy explained that the “Think Family” approach was a thread running through many strategies and partnerships arrangement, including the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Children and Families Strategy. It was added that the Head of Planning and Service Strategy would speak to the Portfolio Holder and the Director of Public Health as regards separate alcohol and drug treatment and the issue of “addictive behaviours”. Members were reminded that while the County did not experience issues of terrorism and extremism, there was always a chance of a “lone-wolf” extremist incident and that therefore there was a need to monitor and try to understand issues, indeed with Local Authorities having a duty under new legislation. The Head of Planning and Service Strategy noted that mental health issues were cross-cutting, however, they were identified within the Care Crisis Concordat and Health and Wellbeing Strategy, though were referenced within the SDP Plan.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That a response from the Chairman containing comments from the meeting be submitted to the Head of Planning and Service Strategy.

10 Quarter 2 2014/15 Performance Management Report

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Manager Performance and Information Management, Keith Forster and the Head of Performance, Durham Constabulary, Gillian Porter, who were in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 2 2014/15 Performance Management Report for the Altogether Safer theme (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager Performance and Information Management referred Members to the report and noted key performance achievements, including: increased performance in relation to the percentage agreeing that the council and Police deal with concerns of ASB; a slight increase in feedback from the adult social care user that noted the service made them feel safe and secure; and the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System was within target and an improved position in comparison to the same quarter last year.

It was noted that the key performance issues included a slight underperformance in respect of the number of people completing alcohol and drug treatment, noting the future provision of these services was under the process of review.

The Committee learned that tracker indicators linked to the Altogether Safer theme highlighted an overall increase in crime though levels were low when compared to statistical neighbours. The Strategic Manager Performance and Information Management, explained that figures had shown a reduction in ASB incidents, though it was noted there was an increase in victim-based crime and major or serious crimes. Members noted that number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents had increased from the last quarter and were higher than the previous year. Members noted a single incident where 2 school buses collided had impacted upon the figures, the incident having 9 serious injuries and 78 slight injuries.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Manager Performance and Information Management and the Head of Performance, Durham Constabulary noted that Durham Constabulary was had been given a “clean bill of health” from the HMIC in respect its reporting and recording of crime.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Review of the Council Plan and Service Plans

The Chairman introduced the Corporate Improvement Manager, Assistant Chief Executive’s, Tom Gorman to speak to Members in relation to the Review of the Council Plan and Service Plans (for copy see file of minutes).

The Corporate Improvement Manager referred Members to the report highlighting the development of the “Altogether Safer” section of the Council Plan 2015-2018, including the draft aims and objectives and the associated proposed performance indicator set.

Members noted that the objectives as set out were the same as the current objectives, reflecting the SDP Plan, however with Road Casualty Reduction and Terrorism not included and with proposals to remove several indicators from the Altogether Safer basket, those being: building resilience to terrorism; percentage change in crime for offenders within the IOM cohort; rate of robberies; percentage survey respondents perceiving a high level of ASB in their area; recorded level of victim based crimes; the number of adult safeguarding referrals fully or partially substantiated; and the percentage of families where a successful intervention for crime/ASB is achieved.

Members noted the targets as set out in Appendix 3 to the report and noted the next steps would be for the Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the Cabinet MTFP and Council Plan Report at its meeting on 23 January 2015, then for Cabinet to consider the Council Plan and Service Plans 2015/16 – 2017/18 at its meeting on 18 March 2015. It was added that subsequently the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee would consider Cabinet’s report on the Council Plan at a meeting on 20 March 2015, with full Council to consider the Council Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18 at its meeting 1 April 2015.

The Chairman thanked the Corporate Improvement Manager and asked Members for their questions on the report.

The Committee asked questions in relation to: reporting by exception in cases where the indicator was proposed for deletion; and the issues of road safety and terrorism and extremism.

Members were reassured that reporting by exception would be appropriate where performance was highlighted as an issue, and it was noted that the Committee had been reminded that the issues of Road Casualty Reduction and Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism were of public concern and identified as priorities within the SDP Plan.

Resolved:

- (i) That the updated position on the development of the Council Plan and the corporate performance indicator set be noted.
- (ii) That the draft objectives and outcomes framework be noted.
- (iii) That feedback from the meeting be provided to the service for consideration to be given to Road Safety being included as a priority area within the Council Plan and the indicator on counter terrorism remains within the performance report.

12 Overview and Scrutiny Review of Organised Crime

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that the Working Group undertaking a review of Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) had met 3 times and at its first meeting had received an overview of how actions to tackle organised crime were developed via the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel.

It was noted that this Panel was led by Durham Constabulary, working in partnership with organisations including: the National Crime Agency (NCA); Local Authorities; CDDFRS; the Environment Agency and other partners as appropriate. Members noted that representatives from the NCA and Environment Agency had attended meeting to give information of how partnership working and community intelligence was utilised to tackle and disrupt OCGs.

The Committee noted the next meeting of the Working Group would be held 29 January 2015 and would have the Council's Chief Internal Auditor and Corporate Fraud Manager, Paul Bradley in attendance to speak as regards the risks of OCG activities to the Local Authority and DCI Victoria Fuller would speak to Members as regards emerging "Local Profiles".

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

13 Police and Crime Panel

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that issues to be raised included: the WOW! Awards; consultation on the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Police and Crime Plan, with Members to be provided a web-link to be able to feed into the process; and the outcome of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspections, Durham Constabulary being rated as "outstanding".

The Chairman asked if there were any questions. There were no questions raised.

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

14 Safe Durham Partnership Update

The Chairman asked the Community Safety Manager, Caroline Duckworth to speak to Members as regards an update from the Safer Durham Partnership (SDP) (for copy see file of minutes).

Members noted the information as regards: cybercrime; improve public reassurance through development of a Communication and Marketing Plan, including better use of social media; the PCC passporting funding on several issues; the work ongoing in respect of Restorative Practices; Transforming Rehabilitation, with ARCC being the preferred bidder as previously mentioned; and DARP, as previously noted.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee****16 February 2015****Progress of Initiatives and
Enforcement Activity undertaken
by the Consumer Protection Team**

**Report of Terry Collins, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood
Services**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the enforcement and intervention work carried out by Consumer Protection team of Environmental Health and Consumer Protection, Neighbourhood Services.

Background

2. This report is a follow up to earlier reports and presentations by the Consumer Protection Manager on the enforcement activities of the teams. The report details the work carried out during 2014.

Detail

3. The Consumer Protection team is made up of three service teams, Fair Trading, Safety and Metrology, which makes up what are commonly known as the Trading Standards functions, and Licensing, which can be separated by enforcement and administration. There is a large amount of partnership working and overlap in the enforcement operations of each team but the key service and intervention work by the three enforcement teams is detailed below.

Fair Trading Team

4. The Consumer Advice section supports the work of the National Citizens Advice helpline which has handled calls taken by Citizens Advice to assist residents of County Durham. The service is notified of any calls that relate to residents or businesses in County Durham and we also receive referrals for matters that require further intervention or allege criminal breaches.
5. During 2014 the service were notified of over 8,000 and dealt with over 2000 referrals and over 800 direct contacts.
6. The service has continued to support and launch Cold Calling Awareness Zones across the County. The aim of the scheme is to protect vulnerable residents from the threat of doorstep crime. In the past twelve months, five new zones have been launched in Ouston, Wentworth Park, West Auckland and Hamsterley Mill. These zones cover over 600 properties.

7. Contact has been received from residents groups in other parts of the County and we will continue to support the introduction of new zones in an attempt to prevent doorstep crime.
8. The service is beginning to work with the National Scams Team. Some of this work has resulted in the interception of cash or cheques that have been sent by residents in response to scams and then information is passed back to the local Trading Standards service. The follow up work of the service is to visit the residents and provide advice and guidance as to the potential risks of these scams and if possible return any money that may have been recovered. These measures should help to prevent re victimisation of residents.
9. We use notification and referral information to identify “problem traders”. These are traders that receive five of complaints against them in a rolling year. Staff will visit those traders and deliver the appropriate interventions which could range from advice and guidance to formal undertakings and assurances of future conduct.
10. To better direct resources a strategic assessment has been carried out based on service request data. The broad headings of service demand are included below. Using this data the team will look to target our resources at the traders who operate behind these goods/service headings.

Home repairs, goods and services
 Vehicle sales/ methods of transport
 Electrical goods and services
 Clothes, shoes and accessories
 Financial services and loans
 Food and drink including alcohol
 Package holidays and travel agents
 Tobacco sales and counterfeiting
 Garage – Petroleum, Diesel, Autogas etc.
 Animals

11. Doorstep crime is recorded as a national priority for Trading Standards based on national statistics and intelligence. We have successfully prosecuted a trader for misrepresentations made to an elderly couple as regarding roofing work that he claimed was needed.
12. In further attempts to deal with these types of matters we have staff trained to deal vulnerable witnesses and also links made with Safeguarding Adults to identify reporting mechanisms and warnings when agencies become aware of doorstep crime.
13. Another mechanism to prevent doorstep crime and provide some form assurance to residents is the Councils Registered Trader Scheme. Membership of the scheme currently stands at over 90 members. This scheme is designed to give piece of mind to residents who wish to engage with tradesmen when considering home improvement work. All traders are subject to vetting and monitoring to ensure they continue to comply with the scheme.

14. The sale and supply of counterfeit goods can damage the economy and legitimate businesses and the service looks to take action and seize infringing items.
15. Formal action has been taken against two local retailers who were supplying counterfeit goods with assurances obtained as to guarantee their future conduct.
16. A large amount of fashion/branded sporting goods were seized from a market stall with formal action pending and the first hearing in March.
17. The service has developed an E crime protocol to ensure Consumer Protection staff are skilled and knowledgeable to investigate all forms of e-crime. We now have a standalone PC which assists e crime investigation. Over 40% of all requests for service for Trading Standards involve transactions for goods and services over the internet.
18. The service has led on a significant investigation involving fraudulent trading over the internet. The operation concerned an organised crime group that set up multiple trading styles and advertised and “sold” products that were either not available or did not exist. This lengthy investigation is on-going but to date the investigation has resulted in multiple arrests and seizures of business records. It is suspected that the business and its owners may have profited over £500,000 over the years and by trading in this way. If action is successful we will look to pursue further action under Proceeds of Crime legislation.
19. The change in shopping patterns and use of social media is continuing to increase demand for the service. The use of platforms such as Facebook and Gumtree can often assist offenders in disguising their true identity and allows some traders to purport to be private sellers which can limit consumer rights should faulty or misdescribed good or services are sold.
20. Counterfeit goods continue to be made available via platforms such as Facebook. In the run up to Christmas, a number of intelligence led enforcement operations, targeted suspected prolific sellers of counterfeit goods who traded via the Facebook social media platform.
21. Raids on sellers of Counterfeit Goods operating on Facebook with four premises targeted and over 500 items seized with an estimated street value of over £10,000. These items included designer clothing and footwear, as well as perfumes, aftershaves and electrical products such as hair straighteners, which could pose a risk of personal injury.
22. Warning were also sent out to further 6 suspected sellers of counterfeit goods advising them of potential offences and penalties for breaching the Trade Marks Act 1994 , which resulted in the Facebook profiles being taken down by their owners.

Safety and Metrology Team

23. In 2014 there have been six successful prosecutions and against individuals and businesses for overloaded vehicles used on the highway. In addition five road traffic check weighing sessions have taken place with the police resulting in a 15% failure rate. Overloaded vehicles cause an increased risk to other road users due to the braking capabilities and also cause increased damage to the highways.
24. The supply of illicit tobacco and tab houses continue to be a high priority for the team due to its role in supplying under age children and links to organised crime. Thanks to ongoing intelligence received, initially from the 'Get Some Answers' Illicit tobacco campaign, but more recently through more developed partner agency networks, intelligence has been received on more than seventy premises, including domestic properties, suspected of supplying or storing illegal tobacco. Further extensive investigations are currently under way to bring some of the major criminals to justice.
25. From 1st April 2014 a total of over thirty nine thousand illegal cigarettes and over forty kilograms of illegal hand rolling tobacco has been seized.
26. We have secured several convictions and formal cautions resulting in penalties including fines, a confiscation order of more than £47,000 and two 6 week tagging orders.
27. Illicit tobacco from houses is a way of increasing the availability of tobacco to children and due to its reduced costs, damages the work of the stop smoking services.
28. We are working with housing providers to increase the deterrent for people selling tobacco from their homes with the providers prepared to take steps as to their future tenancy should infringements be identified.
29. The work of the team in combatting illicit tobacco and tobacco control were recognised at the MJ Awards in the category of Environmental Health and Trading Standards and we were highly commended for our efforts.
30. There has been significant partnership working with the Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit. This has included multiagency stay safe operations.
31. We continue to lead on the area of retailer training to prevent underage sales. This was seen as best practice nationally when we first introduced the training as part of the Community Alcohol Partnership in Stanley. Since that initial project we have trained over 140 retail staff on how to prevent underage sales. No trained staff has subsequently failed further test purchase attempts. The training has been recently extended and is now part of the wider Operation Aries.
32. Joint alcohol test purchasing activity with the police continues based on targets identified through intelligence sharing and complaints. Since January 2014 we have targeted off licence which has resulted in a 48% failure rate. This shows the value and benefit of using intelligence as a way to direct service delivery.

33. We will continue to review off licences when we find underage sales and have wider concerns as to their management. In the past twelve months we have reviewed seven premises resulting in comprehensive conditions being attached to the licence which should prevent further underage sales. One premises had its licence suspended as a result of the review.
34. Whilst the licensed sellers of fireworks are largely compliant, there is increasing intelligence relating to the sales of fireworks over social media and this year showed that the banned “bangers” were apparently being sold. Further investigations into this prevented further sales and ultimately reduced the anti-social behaviour in that locality but there apparent availability is a concern.
35. Our work on sunbed safety is ongoing with further visits and interventions made. This work has been recognised at a wider level with an officer speaking at a conference arranged in the North West attended by the shadow minister for health.
36. Our PAT testing at community events are successful and a way of preventing unsafe items being used in the home. In the past twelve months we have attended seven events around the County and carried out testing of household electrical items that are being used in residents homes.

Licensing Enforcement Team

37. The Licensing Enforcement team enforce conditions and requirements associated with many licences that are issued by the local authority. The Council licences a whole range of activities including taxi and private hire vehicles and drivers, retail alcohol outlets and clubs, venues for entertainment, gambling premises, sexual entertainment venues and street trading. Most enforcement activities concern taxis and private hire licensing and premises associated with the night time economy, especially in retail and club premises where alcohol is sold and supplied and where entertainment is provided.
38. Our formal action over the last twelve months have included:-
 - Driver making a false statement
 - Drivers overcharging for journeys
 - Unlicensed hackney carriage drivers and vehicles
 - Unlicensed private hire drivers, vehicles and operators
 - No insurance offences linked with the above
39. Many of these investigations result or will result in legal proceedings but there are other possible sanctions as well. For example, licensed drivers are regularly referred to General Licensing Committee for a determination as to whether they are fit and proper to hold a licence. In the past twelve months eighty two drivers have been referred to committee when there “fitness” has been considered.

40. In addition to their investigations and inspections to ensure legal compliance and adherence to any licence conditions, the team have also issued over 1100 vehicle suspensions resulting from problems with licensed vehicle insurance cover, mechanical fitness problems or expired certificates of compliance and 34 drivers being suspended.
41. An emerging area of concern is the practice of touting by drivers of licensed vehicles. Operations have taken place prior to Christmas in the Durham City area with more planned in the future.
42. The team work closely with the Police Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit and have regular briefings and frequent joint enforcement visits to ensure compliance. The use of real time intelligence and information is key to ensuring there are effective interventions.
43. There have been recent high profile instances that have linked the licensed trade to wider criminality. Due to our close working relationship with our enforcement colleagues we have been able to contribute to wider large scale operations when use of licensed premises have been identified.
44. The Taxi policy is soon to be reviewed and we have met with the LCSB for any input or guidance they can provide which will contribute to a robust policy.
45. Recent investigations have taken place into unlicensed gambling taking place at various licensed premises with formal action being considered.
46. Enforcement of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act has resulted in many days of action with partner agencies at both licensed sites as well as mobile enforcement. During these days we have found a number of licensed collectors across the County who, when inspected were found to be compliant with their requirements.
47. We have successfully prosecuted an unlicensed collector and have six other potential defendants currently under investigation. The more intelligence we receive as to regular routes, days, times etc will go towards shaping our enforcement activities under this legislation.

Future Developments

48. The service is now predominantly intelligence led and we will continue to target our resources in the areas of greatest risk. The strategic assessment will assist in being able to target our resources to the area of greatest risk and harm. A Control Strategy will be developed detailing our preventative, enforcement and intelligence gathering program .
49. Our close working relationship with the Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit is considered best practice both locally and nationally and the co-location at Annand House assists both organisations and the co-operation and joint working of the teams is continuing to improve.

50. The intelligence on tab houses continues to present a challenge to the service but it is hoped that the increased publicity surrounding all enforcement activity could act as a deterrent and also we will always consider using the Proceeds of Crime Act to recover any funds that are made by those who commit “lifestyle” offences.
51. An area of work currently being developed is illicit, counterfeit alcohol which may be being sold in the County. There have been some instances already discovered with further work being done to establish and understand the scale of the problem. Due to how these types of products are manufactured it presents additional risk to the ultimate consumer as there may have been little or no quality control when made.
52. Due to the changing shopping habits, there is likely to be gradual increase in e-crime as more and more people chose to purchase goods and services through the internet.

Recommendation

Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and consider any issues they would like to progress.

Background Papers

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – Information within the presentation contributes to the Council Plan Altogether Safer high level objectives of ‘Reduce anti-social behaviour’ and ‘Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction’.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

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

16 February 2015

**Alcohol Harm Reduction –
Strategy Consultation and Update**



Report of Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with progress of the implementation of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2012-15 and to consult Members on the proposals for the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-17 for County Durham.

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2012-15

2. The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2012-15 was implemented from November 2012 and sought to:

“To reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities in County Durham while ensuring that people are able to enjoy alcohol responsibly.”

3. The strategy was separated into three distinct themes of prevention, treatment for recovery and control underpinned by eight objectives of the strategy:
 1. To use targeted approaches to raise public awareness in County Durham of the harm caused by alcohol by promoting consistent messages about drinking.
 2. Provide specific targeted training and education to support individuals, professionals, communities and local businesses to address the harm caused by alcohol.
 3. Engage with children and young people to develop age and gender specific information, activities, services and education to prevent alcohol related harm.
 4. Increase the gathering, sharing and use of intelligence to reduce the number of alcohol related incidents and alcohol related offending impacting upon communities.
 5. Engage with licensees and target licensed premises where necessary to ensure that licensed premises are managed responsibly.

6. Ensure a coordinated approach to policy development, planning and adoption of legislation.
 7. Commission and deliver effective treatment and recovery services in line with national guidance and undertake work to identify the needs of particular groups where the data is limited e.g. pregnant women.
 8. Involve and support young people, families and carers (including young carers) living with alcohol related issues in order to break the cycle of alcohol misuse.
4. Work has been undertaken in relation to the implementation of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy including:
- Responding to the Government's Consultation on Minimum Unit Price;
 - Examining the feasibility of the implementation of Early Morning Restriction Orders (EMROs) and a Late Night Levy (LNL).
 - Establishing a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) in Peterlee to tackle young people drinking alcohol building on the original CAP in Stanley.
 - The implementation of Operation ARIES has rolled out the concept of CAP across all neighbourhood policing areas in County Durham.
 - Emphasis on proxy provision of alcohol to under-18s and together with enforcement activity directed towards people supplying under-18s with alcohol.
 - There have been a number of multi-agency enforcement operations which have focused on licensing checks and test purchases. This has led to a number of reviews of licence premises across the County. In 2013 there were 9 reviews with 5 licences revoked. In 2014 there were 11 reviews with 3 licences revoked. To date in 2014/15 there have been 2 reviews which are on-going.
 - The Wear Community Alcohol Project was established following the funding provided from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) through Baroness Newlove. Diversionary activity was established in the area, led by the local communities, as well as education on alcohol throughout the schools and with parents, enhanced enforcement activity including alcohol seizures and test purchasing. Baroness Newlove visited the County in February 2013 to look at progress in the project.
 - The Baroness Newlove project provided the ability to try and develop new things. A leaflet on alcohol for parents and carers was developed locally and has now been rolled out across County Durham.

- Durham County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Children and Young People undertook a review of alcohol and under 18s. Recommendations included:
 - i. Encouraging school governing bodies to refresh of their policies on alcohol and substance misuse.
 - ii. Reminding NHS Foundation Trusts in the North East are reminded of their clear duty to share information where children are at risk, in this instance young people who attend Emergency Departments with alcohol related injuries.
 - iii. Consider how to increase awareness among parents of the dangers of alcohol to their children and advice about safe drinking under 18.
 - iv. Continue to support the work of Balance in its quest to make changes in minimum unit pricing of alcohol, alcohol advertising and changes to licensing legislation.
 - v. Raise the issue of alcohol sales and advertising in cinemas where films are rated as U or PG.
 - vi. Ensure a 'Think Family' approach is used when parental alcohol and/or substance misuse is identified.
- *An Alcohol: What's the Price Event* was held in December 2012 in Durham City market place featuring a large number of partner organisations. The event received positive feedback from the public who were pleased to see that the Partnership is addressing alcohol.
- In December 2014 the police and partners launched a #deaddrunk campaign targeting drunk pedestrians and motorists to increase awareness of drunk people walking home after a night out.
- Alcohol Free Band nights have been established in the Consett area building on the success of the nights in Stanley.
- A number of Staysafe Operations have taken place to take drunk and vulnerable young people to a place of safety to be collected by their parents or carers. Where alcohol is an issue, the young person and their family received an intervention by 4Real.
- The Alcohol Seizure Procedure was a finalist in the Problem Oriented Partnerships Awards in 2013 around Child Sexual Exploitation.
- East Durham Health Network implemented an "Eyes and Ears" campaign designed to increase intelligence around alcohol and young people as well as implementing a campaign around proxy provision.

- A social norms project has been implemented across the majority of secondary schools within the County designed to reduce young people's perception of alcohol use amongst their peers. Initial results indicate that the majority of young people do not drink alcohol regularly. This is in line with the picture nationally – more importantly they are more likely to go to their parents
- An Alcohol Diversion scheme was implemented in custody suites across County Durham in November 2013. There were 398 referrals received of which 94 attended the intervention delivered through 12 courses.
- Training has taken place with some doctors from A&E in relation to the implementation of the “Cardiff” model which records the location of assaults for people who end up in hospital.
- Alcohol related hospital admissions have, for the first time since 2003, started to reduce.
- Following a consultation undertaken by Age UK on our behalf action to raise awareness of the impact of alcohol on older people has begun in partnership with Age UK. This has seen the development of age-specific literature around alcohol and older people as well as training of Age UK “alcohol champions”.
- Consultation has been undertaken with men age 25-44 years who are the primary group where prevention activity is key to reduce alcohol admissions in the medium to long term. The findings from this consultation will be taken forward following the implementation of the new drug and alcohol service
- A Student Safety was established in 2014 to support the develop an Alcohol policy across the University, reduce the acceptability amongst college bars and student union for organised bar crawls, use social norms marketing campaigns to increase protective factors to help students to remain safe and latterly a river safety audit.

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-17

5. County Durham Partnership adopted alcohol harm reduction as a cross-cutting theme in late 2014. As a result, it is proposed that the structure of the new strategy is focussed around the five Altogether themes underpinning County Durham Partnership: Safer, Healthier, Better for Children and Young People, Wealthier and Greener.
6. It is proposed that the vision for the strategy remains largely unchanged from the previous strategies:

“To reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities in County Durham while ensuring that adults who choose to drink alcohol are able to enjoy it responsibly.”

7. It is proposed that the objectives of the strategy link with the objectives already in place for each of the five themes of County Durham Partnership which will lead to six objectives:
- I. To reduce the harm caused to communities by tackling alcohol related crime and disorder;
 - II. To reduce alcohol consumption to a level where health inequalities and early deaths due to alcohol in County Durham are significantly reduced;
 - III. To develop a culture where young people choose not to drink alcohol, where access to alcohol from friends, parents and siblings is minimised and the negative impact alcohol has on the lives of children, young people and their families is reduced;
 - IV. To reduce the harm that alcohol has on the workforce in County Durham to increase the number of competitive and successful people available for the local labour market;
 - V. To reduce the harm that alcohol has on the cultural and tourism ambitions for the County.
 - VI. To improve the environment by reducing the impact that alcohol, particularly alcohol related litter, has on the environment in County Durham.
8. Task groups will be established to develop and lead on the implementation of comprehensive action plans for each objective.

Recommendation

14. Members of the Committee are asked to:
- (i) Note the contents of the report; and
 - (ii) Discuss, comment and feedback accordingly.

Background Papers

Contact: Kirsty Wilkinson, Alcohol Harm Reduction Coordinator
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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Implementing new strategy will be based on existing resources there will be no additional funding to develop awareness raising campaigns etc. Where available, external funding opportunities will be sought to aid implementation

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty – The new strategy is a population level strategy that will not discriminate against anyone due to their religion, race, gender, disability or age.

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – Crime and disorder is a distinct section within the new strategy.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – A stakeholder consultation took place on 6th February 2015 and further consultation will be undertaken with AAPs and their youth forums.

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

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

**Draft Safe Durham Partnership
Plan 2015/18**

16 February 2015



Safe Durham Partnership

**Report of Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service
Strategy, Durham County Council**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015/18 for comment (attached as Appendix 2).

Background

2. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require that Durham County Council, along with the other responsible authorities (Durham Constabulary, NHS Commissioning Groups, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service and Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company), develop and implement a Partnership Plan.
3. The regulations also require that an annual Strategic Assessment is completed which informs the development of the new Plan every three years and its annual refresh. The Strategic Assessment is an intelligence document which includes an analysis of crime and disorder levels, recommended strategic priorities, results of public consultation and an assessment of the extent to which the Partnership Plan for the previous year has been implemented.
4. The purpose of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is to demonstrate how the responsible authorities will work together to reduce crime and disorder across County Durham.
5. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan has informed the development of the refreshed Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-30 and is aligned to the "Altogether Safer" section of the Strategy.

Current Position

6. The 2014 Strategic Assessment recommended no change to the existing strategic objectives, which remain aligned to the objectives within the Sustainable Community Strategy. Each objective is managed by a multi-agency thematic group.

7. The refresh of the Partnership Plan 2015/18 describes the progress and achievements of the Safe Durham Partnership over the lifetime of the 2011/14 Partnership Plan and updates on progress in 2014/15. It describes how it will deliver sustainable improvements by working in partnership. The Plan describes why each objective has been prioritised, the key challenges to meeting each objective, an understanding of how the objectives will be delivered and how we will know if we have been successful.
8. The strategic objectives for the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18 are shown below:
 - Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm
 - Reducing Re-Offending
 - Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction
 - Embed the Think Family approach
 - Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism
 - Road Casualty Reduction
9. The strategic objectives were reaffirmed by the Safe Durham Partnership Board in September 2014. A consultation process with partners, Area Action Partnerships and this Overview and Scrutiny Committee has taken place between November 2014 and January 2015.
10. There are a number of objectives which are shared with other partnerships, e.g. Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm is shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board and Embed Think Family is shared with the Children and Families Partnership.
11. Initial feedback from IPG, Overview and Scrutiny and the AAPs shows that they support the strategic priorities within the Plan as representative of local issues and concerns. Some of the priorities were seen as particularly important:
 - Perceptions of crime and disorder.
 - Road safety.
 - Alcohol misuse and the potential positive impact that Minimum Unit Pricing would have.
 - Early intervention with young people and families.
 - Domestic abuse but that the Plan needs strengthening on the links to sexual violence.
 - Hate crime but that the Plan needs strengthening on how it is being prevented.
12. In addition, Overview and Scrutiny felt that substance misuse in respect of the increased use of 'legal highs' and the negative impact upon people and communities should be included in the Plan and this has now been included and fed back to the Chair of the Drugs Strategy Group.

Refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan (SDPP)

13. The refresh of the SDPP 2015-18 includes updates on policy drivers, consultation feedback and evidence from the Strategic Assessment.
14. The SDP's vision is for a county "where every adult and child will be, and will feel, safe". Working in partnership is essential to achieving our vision.

Next Steps

15. Overview and Scrutiny is requested to note the following key dates for the development of the refresh of the SDPP 2015-18:
 - Safe Durham Partnership Board will receive a copy of the SDPP 2015-18 on 24th March 2015 to sign off.
 - Durham County Council Cabinet will receive a copy of the SDPP 2015-16 on 10th June 2015.
 - Full Council will receive a copy of the SDPP 2015-16 on 22nd July 2015.

Recommendations and reasons

16. Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

Note the content of the report and provide feedback on the draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015/18 to the Community Safety Manager by 2nd March 2015.

Background papers

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

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

Staffing

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

Risk

No adverse implications.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

An impact assessment in relation to Equality and Diversity implications will be undertaken as part of the development of the Partnership Plan.

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Crime and disorder

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

Human rights

No adverse implications.

Consultation

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

Procurement

No adverse implications.

Disability Issues

No direct adverse implications. An impact assessment will be undertaken on the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.

Legal Implications

The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require that Durham County Council, along with the other responsible authorities (Durham Constabulary, NHS Commissioning Groups, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service and Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company), develop and implement a Partnership Plan.

Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015 - 2018



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1. Foreword

Welcome to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2015-18.

Our vision is for a county where every adult and child will be, and will feel, safe. Working in partnership is essential to achieving our vision.

Partnership working across County Durham continues to go from strength to strength. When introducing our previous Partnership Plan in 2014, we explained how our commitment to working in partnership had ensured real and tangible improvements to the quality of life of our communities.

Since 2009 and the formation of the Safe Durham Partnership, recorded crime has reduced by 20.4% (Qtr 1 to Qtr 3). Despite a forecast for a small increase in 2014/15 we continue to have one of the lowest crime rates in the country and during the last three years we have built upon our previous success and experienced further reductions in anti-social behaviour, fewer young people in the criminal justice system and reduced rates of re-offending. We continue to strengthen the support for victims of domestic abuse and provide more opportunities for offenders to recover from drug and alcohol misuse.

Working in partnership is crucial if we are to meet existing and emerging challenges and work towards achieving our vision in this time of significant change in the public sector. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2015-18 demonstrates how partner organisations will work together to tackle those issues that are of most concern to the people of County Durham, in order that our communities feel safe and have confidence in those agencies delivering services to them.

We will involve a wide range of agencies, members of our communities, voluntary and community sector, social enterprises and charities in our Partnership working and respond to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in this Plan in order to deliver an 'Altogether Safer' and 'Altogether Better' Durham.



Rachael Shimmin Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council



Councillor Lucy Hovvels Vice Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and Portfolio Holder for Safer and Healthier Communities, Durham County Council

2. Introduction

The Safe Durham Partnership has a statutory duty to develop and implement a Partnership Plan which describes how responsible authorities will work together to tackle crime and disorder. The Plan is refreshed at the beginning of each financial year and as part of that 'refresh', the Safe Durham Partnership will demonstrate its progress over the previous year.

The Plan describes the 'Altogether Safer' priority objectives outlined in the Sustainable Community Strategy, which provides the vision for the local area and is the umbrella strategy for all the other strategies devised for County Durham. It is the Safe Durham Partnership's strategy for tackling crime and disorder and responding to those priorities, outlined within the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment.

The Plan provides a clear picture of how the Safe Durham Partnership will continue to work towards creating a safer and more socially cohesive county and contribute to an 'Altogether Better' Durham.

The purpose of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is to build on the significant achievements of the last five years since the Partnership was formed as part of Local Government Review. It will continue to demonstrate new and innovative approaches as we respond to an ever changing and more challenging landscape. In this way, we will provide ourselves with the best opportunity to maintain our history of strong performance and deliver the outcomes needed to achieve our vision.

The Safe Durham Partnership Plan demonstrates how strong strategic leadership, planning, performance management and problem solving will result in action plans which aim to deliver positive outcomes for our communities.

The Plan also identifies how the partnership will respond to the impact of national policy changes and new and emerging risks, such as the impact of Welfare Reforms and austerity measures.

An annual refresh of the Plan will take place to ensure that any new and emerging policies, risks and consultation feedback are identified and responded to. This will also provide the opportunity to keep the people of County Durham up to date with our progress and identify new government requirements and new opportunities identified within the previous year.



Safe Durham Partnership

3. National Policy

Since 2010 the Safe Durham Partnership has operated in a time of significant change in the public sector. Key statutory partners who make up the Safe Durham Partnership Board have faced reductions in expenditure and resources. Home Office grants to the Safe Durham Partnership have also significantly reduced.

In 2011 some legislation and performance requirements relating to the Safe Durham Partnership were repealed, however, many of the statutory requirements placed on the responsible authorities remain. The Partnership no longer operates in the context of a National Community Safety Strategy but there are key thematic policy drivers which influence our strategic direction.

Key Policy Drivers

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

The Act introduced new powers to tackle anti-social behaviour that provide better protection for victims and communities. The new Community Trigger and Community Remedy will empower victims and communities, giving them a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour and in out-of-court sanctions for offenders. The Safe Durham Partnership has worked with the Police and Crime Commissioner to implement the new measures contained within the Act which commenced in October 2014.

Transforming Rehabilitation: A Strategy for Reform

The Transforming Rehabilitation Programme sets out the Government's plans to transform the way in which offenders are managed in the community, in order to bring down re-offending rates. The programme of reform laid out in 'Transforming Rehabilitation' continues at speed with tight and challenging deadlines in place.

The key aspects of the reforms are:

- The creation of a new public sector National Probation Service to manage high risk offenders, (which took place in June 2014)
- The creation of twenty one regional private sector Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) managing all other offenders, (share sale due in March 2015)
- Every offender released from custody will receive statutory supervision and rehabilitation in the community
- A nationwide 'through the prison gate' resettlement service will be put in place, meaning most offenders are given continuous support by one provider from custody into the community. Offenders are held in a prison designated to their area for at least three months before release
- New payment by results incentives for CRCs to focus on reforming offenders

Police and Crime Commissioners

In November 2012 the first Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham and Darlington was elected, replacing Police Authorities who were a responsible authority on the Safe Durham Partnership. A range of funding streams were transferred from the Safe Durham Partnership to the Police and Crime Commissioner in April 2013. The Safe Durham Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner work collaboratively on shared strategic objectives within the Police and Crime Plan including domestic abuse, hate crime, anti-social behaviour, tackling the harm caused to individuals by alcohol and drugs, improving road safety, reducing re-offending and increasing public confidence.

3. National Policy

New Domestic Abuse Measures

In March 2014 the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (known as Clare's Law) was extended to police forces across England and Wales. It follows a successful 14-month pilot in four police force areas, which provided more than 100 people with potentially life-saving information. It is a scheme allowing police to disclose to individuals details of their partners' abusive past.

Further protection has been provided through the introduction of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs); a new power introduced by the Crime and Security Act 2010. It enables the police to put in place protection for the victim in the immediate aftermath of a domestic violence incident. Under DVPOs, the perpetrator can be prevented from returning to a residence and from having contact with the victim for up to 28 days, allowing the victim a level of breathing space to consider their options, with the help of a support agency. This provides the victim with immediate protection.

Counter Terrorism and Security Bill 2014

The threat to the UK from the terrorist organisation 'Islamic State' has resulted in the threat level to the UK being raised to 'Severe'. This means that an attack is highly likely.

The Government has responded to this threat by introducing the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill.

The Bill places a duty on certain bodies to have '*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*'.

The Bill puts 'Channel' on a statutory footing. Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It forms a key part of the Government's *Prevent* strategy which aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting any form of terrorism. Channel seeks to:

- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity;
- Ensure that individuals and communities have the ability to resist all forms of terrorism and violent extremist activity likely to lead to terrorism.

The Channel process identifies those most at risk of radicalisation, and refers them, via the police, for assessment by a multi-agency panel. The panel considers how best to safeguard them by ensuring they have access to support from mainstream services, such as health and education, through to specialist mentoring or faith guidance and wider diversionary activities. Each support package is monitored closely and reviewed regularly by the multi-agency panel.

Specified authorities (Local Authorities, Police, Education, Probation, Prisons and Health) will all have a duty, while in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

3. National Policy

Cyber Crime

In November 2013 the Government published a progress update on its National Cyber Security Strategy

The first year saw activity across a wide range of areas and with many partners, generating increasing momentum across the National Cyber Security Programme. Key enabling structures and capabilities were introduced or enhanced, and groundwork laid. Over the past year the Government has built on this groundwork to deliver real progress. This year will be about cementing that progress and filling gaps where work to date has shown there is more to do.

The Governments forward plan will focus on the core goals of:

- Further deepening our national sovereign capability to detect and defeat high-end threats
- Ensuring law enforcement has the skills and capabilities needed to tackle cyber-crime and maintain the confidence needed to do business on the Internet
- Ensuring critical UK systems and networks are robust and resilient
- Improving cyber awareness and risk management amongst UK business
- Ensuring members of the public know what they can do to protect themselves, and are demanding good cyber security in the products and services they consume
- Bolstering cyber security research and education, so we have the skilled people and know-how we need to keep pace with this fast-moving issue into the medium-term
- Working with international partners to bear down on havens for cybercrime and build capacity, and to help shape international dialogue to promote an open, secure and vibrant cyberspace.

Additional information is to be included



4. The Safe Durham Partnership

The Safe Durham Partnership was formed in April 2009 following Local Government Reorganisation to a single unitary local authority for County Durham. There are currently six 'responsible authorities' on the Safe Durham Partnership, who have a legal duty to work in partnership to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment, and to reduce re-offending.

The six responsible authorities are:

- Durham County Council
- Durham Constabulary
- County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority
- National Probation Service
- ARRC (Achieving Real Results in Communities) – the Community Rehabilitation Company for Durham and Tees Valley area
- North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group

The Safe Durham Partnership also brings together a range of interested parties from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors to help deliver the outcomes in the Safe Durham Partnership Plan through our strategic and operational structures, as well as representation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Safe Durham Partnership has a duty to develop an annual strategic assessment of the risks and threats that crime and disorder poses to the communities of County Durham. The purpose of this assessment is to:

- Identify its priorities for the forthcoming year
- Highlight performance, progress and achievements against the commitments made in the 2014-17 Partnership Plan
- Identify key crime and disorder risks and threats to the community

As part of the strategic assessment process we consult with stakeholders and communities on community safety issues that matter to them. Community priorities have been fed into this Plan through the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings, public confidence surveys and through consultation with bodies such as the Area Action Partnerships and the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

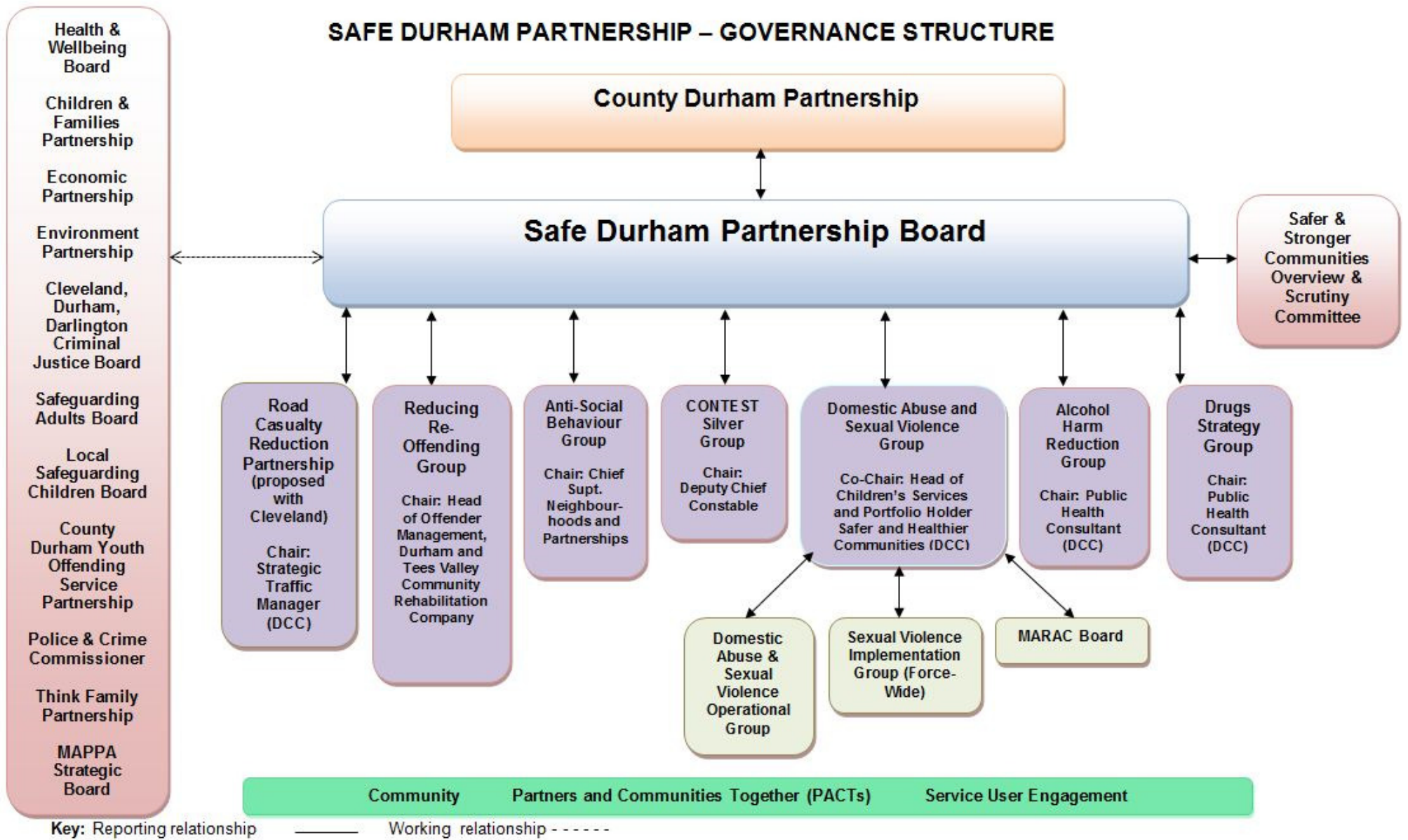
(CRC logo to be included when received)



4. The Safe Durham Partnership

The Community Safety landscape has changed over recent years along with NHS and Probation reforms which have changed the statutory membership of the Safe Durham Partnership Board.

This presented an opportunity to review the Safe Durham Partnership governance arrangements which is represented within the Safe Durham Partnership Governance Structure.



5. Progress and Achievements

Reduced levels of crime

Since the Safe Durham Partnership was formed in 2009 there has been a reduction in overall crime. At the end of December 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership reported that the number of crimes was 19,585, a reduction of 20% compared to 2009-10. However, the period 2013-14 showed a 9.4% rise compared to the previous year and in 2014-15 crime is forecasted to rise by 4.4%. This is in the context of a rise nationally and rates per 1,000 population remain lower than other areas of the region and nationally.

Fewer complaints of anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Durham Constabulary reduced from 24,276 in 2013-14 to a forecasted outturn of 23,207 in 2014-15. This represents a forecasted reduction of 4.4% reduction.

Significant reduction in first time entrants to the youth justice system

There has been a continuous reduction, year on year, in first time entrants into the youth justice system in County Durham. Since 2007-08 we have achieved an 81% reduction from 1,129 young people in 2007-08. There have been 159 first time entrants in April -December 2014-15.

Reduced re-offending by young people

Data from the Ministry of Justice shows we have reduced re-offending by young people by 30% (frequency rate) in 2014-15 compared to the same period the previous year. This includes all offences and all young people offending (pre and post court).

Reduced the number of young people offending and offences committed

We have achieved a xx% reduction in the number of offences committed by young people (from 2,464 offences in 2010-11 to xxxx in 2014-15) and a xx% reduction in the number of young people offending (from 1,270 in 2010-11 to xxx in 2014-15).

Low rates of re-offending

County Durham has the lowest rate across the region for the national reducing re-offending measure, however, it remains fractionally higher than the national average. The proportion of all offenders (adults & juveniles) re-offending in a 12-month period in County Durham was 26.7% (Jan 12 - Dec 12). That is 0.7% higher than the national figure of 26% (Jan 12 - Dec 12).

Low rates of repeat victimisation for victims of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse is under-reported and part of our work involves encouraging victims to seek support. This means that we will not target a reduction in the number of reports of domestic abuse. However, when victims are encouraged to seek help we are able to work towards preventing those victims suffering a repeat of their experience. 14.6% of domestic abuse victims (April – December) at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference were repeat victims of domestic abuse against a national target of 25%.

Reduction in road casualties in County Durham

In 2013 the number of casualties on County Durham roads reduced by 11% and in 2014 reduced by a further xx%. This means that from the baseline average of 1,368 casualties, the total number of road casualties has reduced by xx%. The number of children aged 0-15 reduced at an even greater rate; by xx%.

Alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour has reduced

Alcohol related crime is showing a reduction of 1.0% (Apr – Dec) against last year.

County Durham is in the top 20% for turning around 'Troubled Families'

Troubled Families are those that have problems and cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector. In October 2014 County Durham was currently ranked 19th highest, of 152 Troubled Families programmes nationally, based on the total number of families 'turned around' at 932.

6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

The Safe Durham Partnership has demonstrated an approach aimed at maintaining strong performance. Key improvement areas include an early intervention approach to tackling problem families and locations, tackling the harm caused by alcohol and supporting our police service in its drive to disrupt and bring to justice organised criminals. This approach proved successful. For example, after two years of targeting areas of the county that presented the greatest challenges, anti-social behaviour was reduced by 47% in those areas.

In a rapidly transforming landscape, built around reform, sustaining such strong performance has become increasingly challenging. The Safe Durham Partnership continues to anticipate and shape its response in a way that mitigates potential risk and takes full advantage of new opportunities. Our approach to the transforming rehabilitation programme and our vision for a restorative County Durham are examples of our proactive approach to change and opportunity. Reshaping our multi-agency problem solving model means we will be able to take a 'whole family' approach and apply 'Think Family' principles.

Between 2011 and 2015 the Safe Durham Partnership delivered an extensive programme of initiatives, including:

Tackling Domestic Abuse

In September 2013 Durham County Council commissioned Harbour to deliver a countywide domestic abuse service. In support of this Partnership priority, the domestic abuse service will be widened from April 2015 to provide a holistic service focussed on early intervention, including the development of a pilot perpetrator programme. Durham University have been commissioned to evaluate the pilot.

A domestic abuse referral pathway has been agreed and was launched in December 2014 as part of the multi-agency 'Sorry's Not Enough' campaign. The campaign includes a dedicated website for the public highlighting how to get help and a separate login page for professionals to access documents like training and policy materials, as well as the domestic abuse referral pathway document and other materials rebranded for professionals – www.sorrystnotenough.co.uk

As a result of recommendations in a number of Domestic Homicide Review reports, a multi-agency training programme for professionals has been agreed.

CAADA have reviewed our approach to MARAC and a number of improvement actions have been put in place, including MARAC training to increase the number of referrals from agencies in addition to those from the police. In the period October 2013-2014 the number of cases referred to MARAC was 732, compared to 558 during October 2012-October 2013.

Plans are in place to build on the current Central Referral Unit with the implementation of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in Spring 2015.

Restorative approaches

In 2012 the Safe Durham Partnership Board proposed a framework for the introduction of partnership integrated restorative practice, with the aim of creating a culture of restorative approaches throughout our communities and within partner agencies and services.

A restorative approach brings people harmed by crime or conflict and those responsible for the harm together, enabling everyone affected by the incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward.



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

The willingness of partners to adopt restorative approaches into working practices was clear; however there was a need to co-ordinate practice into an overarching strategy. The Partnership convened a task and finish group to bring about whole systems change, connect existing work, align working practice and terminology, use efficiencies and best practice to expand the reach and scope of restorative approaches and to do this within existing funding and resources.

Today, some of our schools are using this approach to improve the learning environment and developing important skills for learning; reducing exclusions and improving attendance. Neighbourhood police teams are applying restorative approaches to every day policing and our Youth Offending Service has expanded restorative justice across all orders within existing resources. Restorative approaches now underpins everything the Youth Offending Service does.

A comprehensive training programme is being delivered across a number of agencies to embed restorative approaches in an ever widening range of services. Our approach means fewer victims, fewer crimes and reduced demand on the criminal justice system.

In July 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership was awarded 'Runners Up' in the Restorative Justice category of the national Howard League Community Programme Awards. Representatives of the Partnership were presented with an award by HRH Princess Royal at the national conference.

'Looked After Children' Services have used restorative approaches for some time as it has proved to contribute to placement stability (consistently around 98%), low staff turnover, dealing with conflict without damage to individuals and promoting wellbeing. From a starting point of being three times more likely than other children or young people in County Durham to offend, they are now only marginally more likely to offend than children and young people not living in care.

Reducing re-offending

The Integrated Offender Management programme (known as the Castle Project) for adult offenders provides all agencies engaged in local criminal justice with a single coherent structure for the management of repeat adult offenders. Development and refinement of the programme is continuous and the Safe Durham Partnership consistently explores new ways to manage offenders.

New resources and projects have been introduced with some positive results. They include mentoring, drug intervention, volunteering, diverting women offenders from prison and restorative approaches.

Checkpoint

Whilst the concept of managing adult offenders through partnership is embedded within our Integrated Offender Management units, the aim of 'Checkpoint' is to extend our integrated offender principles to a wider lower level adult cohort by transforming the way we deal with offenders through police custody suites. Currently, cautions, arrest, attendance at court etc. do not provide the adult offender with access to support functions to address their offending behaviour. Most are leaving the Criminal Justice System with little or no consideration of the causes of their offending or its management. Checkpoint will provide a credible alternative to police custody by identifying and supporting the critical pathways of need with the result that low level adult offenders are diverted away from the Criminal Justice System, (or exit the Criminal Justice System at an earlier stage), while also addressing the underlying cause of their offending behaviour.

Our approach will mean fewer victims, fewer crimes, reduced service demand and increased resilience of those people vulnerable to offending.



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

Fully integrated pre-court/out of court system for young people who offend

County Durham continues to be lower than the North East region and its statistical neighbours for first time entrants to the youth justice system. Two programmes have been crucial in delivering sustainable reductions in the number of young people entering the youth justice system in County Durham. The award winning fully integrated pre-court/out of court system provides early assessment of need and intervention to prevent re-offending. The Pre-Caution Disposal provides an alternative to a formal sanction. It improves young people's life chances by ensuring that their needs are identified and met and that they avoid being criminalised.

We have reduced first time entrants by 81.4% (from 1129 young people in 2007/08 to 210 in 2013/14) and reduced re-offending – resulting in a 47.7% reduction in the number of offences committed and a 50.5% reduction in the number of young people offending (2010/11 to 2013/14).

Speech, Language and Communication Needs of young people who offend

National research suggests that 60-90% of young people in the youth justice system have speech, language and communication needs (SLCN). County Durham Youth Offending Service has implemented a comprehensive, innovative Speech, Language and Communication Needs Strategy to address this.

Phase 1 (March – Sept 2014) has focussed on improving how we communicate with young people who offend - upskilling our staff to better recognise and meet young people's SLCN; the implementation of a screening tool and pathway to specialist Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Services; and the development of a new range of communication friendly resources.

Phase 2 (Oct 14 – March 15) is focussing on the communication needs of young victims of youth crime to help them to better understand and engage in restorative processes.

Phase 3 (2015/16) will ensure dedicated SLT provision in CDYOS to assess and deliver therapy directly to young people with whom we work and support staff to implement strategies to best engage them. The aim of the SLCN strategy is to further reduce re-offending.

Alcohol seizure project

In 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership developed a multi-agency alcohol seizure procedure which was highlighted as national good practice by the Home Office Alcohol Team. Our aim was to reduce anti-social behaviour, understand more about how children and young people access alcohol and engage them in early intervention services.

The benefits of this approach are clear when examining the outcome for a 12 year old child who was referred to the 'Brief Interventions Team' (who provide advice and support) after being found with alcohol. The child was found to be living with a grandmother. During the intervention it became apparent that the child was consuming strong cider on a regular basis. The child admitted a pattern of drinking and it was clear that the grandmother was in desperate need of support. The child was referred to the County Durham young people's drug and alcohol service, 4Real. The child received specialist support while additional support was provided to the grandmother and the wider family. Such cases may raise safeguarding issues. The Safeguarding Adults Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board are committed to ensuring that children and young people are kept safe and feel safe at all times, no matter what their background.



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

Building Recovery

Our 'Building Recovery' objective demonstrates our aim to deliver effective treatment and recovery services to help individuals achieve abstinence from illicit drugs, to ensure that recovery is sustained and to help people successfully re-integrate into their communities and wider society. A range of services are used to deliver this approach, including the 'Recovery Academy Durham'. The total abstinence based recovery service delivers a proven comprehensive 12-step model to enable recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. The Recovery Academy works with a maximum of 14 clients, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The model includes a course of intensive 12-step study, on a one-to-one and group basis with trained peer therapists who have had similar experiences. It offers a secondary programme after graduation to help with education, employment, training and ongoing recovery support. Since opening in December 2011, xx individuals have successfully graduated from the academy and have been involved in shaping the new County Durham Drug Strategy.

In recognition of the developing and thriving 'recovery community' Durham is to be the host city of the National Recovery Walk in September 2015.

Neighbourhood Watch

In June 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership developed and implemented a strategy to modernise Neighbourhood Watch in County Durham, which was later developed across the Durham Constabulary Force area. Our aim was for a bigger, stronger and more active movement; contributing to increased feelings of safety. The last audit of Neighbourhood Watch schemes was carried out in September 2014. It confirms that County Durham has a higher percentage of households in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme than anywhere else in the country. A range of initiatives have been put in place by Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, achieving demonstrable success including its continued support for 'Safer Homes'.



Safer Homes

The Total Home Safety project played an important part in our drive to reduce house burglaries and house fires across County Durham. The project drew external funding of £300,000 to deliver safety and security measures to over 4,000 risk assessed households. Over the period of the project the Safe Durham Partnership experienced a reduction of 398 house burglaries and 21 house fires generating efficiencies of £832,000. 93% of clients reported that they felt safer, 88% felt more independent in their home and 36% said they were referred to other services as a result of their referral to Total Home Safety.

The Safer Homes Scheme was established in 2013. Funded and supported by Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary, it is delivered by volunteer Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. Volunteers are trained to deliver crime prevention advice to provide reassurance to those who need it in their community. Volunteers are able to provide safety and security equipment such as lighting and locks and specialist packs when householders are away from home.

Over 4,500 homes have received support from the two initiatives and our success has been rewarded with £500,000 of Transformation Challenge Award funding to extend the scope and scale of 'Safer Homes'.



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

Children and road safety education

County Durham's children and young people benefited from a wide range of education and awareness-raising as part of a series of initiatives delivered in 2014/15. A total of 14,206 accessed courses in driver, pedestrian and cycle training along with education in schools, colleges, children's centres and nurseries.

Stronger Families

In April 2012, the Government launched the Troubled Families Programme, known locally as the Stronger Families Programme, to incentivise local authorities and their partners to turn around the lives of over 120,000 families by May 2015. Phase 1 of this programme aimed to work with families where children are not attending school, young people are committing crime, families are involved in anti-social behaviour and adults are out of work.

The County Durham Stronger Families Programme is currently on track to turn around its targeted number of 1320 families by May 2015. Families have received help and support delivered with a 'Think Family' multi-agency approach coordinated by a Lead Professional and a Team around the Family utilising a single multi-agency care plan in order to reduce duplication and maximise impact.

In June 2014, the Government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme for a further five years from 2015/16 and to reach an additional 400,000 families across England, for Durham this means an additional 4000 families will be targeted. Due to County Durham's success in turning around the lives of families on the Stronger Families Programme it has been asked to enter the expanded programme early.

The expanded programme will continue to focus on families with multiple high cost problems and continue to include families affected by poor school attendance, youth crime, anti-social behaviour and unemployment. However, it will also reach out to families with a broad range of problems, including those affected by domestic violence and abuse, with younger children who need help, where crime and anti-social behaviour problems may become intergenerational and those with a range of physical and mental health problems.

The programme will continue to prioritise getting adults into work, with the Department for Work and Pensions providing 300 specialist troubled families employment advisers who will also work with young people at risk of becoming unemployed.

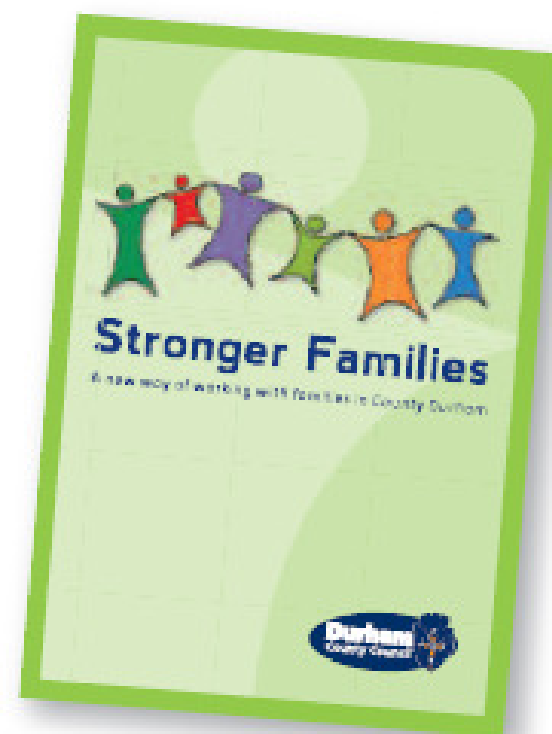
Building resilience to terrorism and extremism

County Durham is one of the safest places to live in England, and continues to benefit from resources and expertise used to build our local resilience against the threat of terrorism.

Since 2008 partner organisations have been working together to prevent people from becoming a terrorist or supporting terrorism; strengthen our overall protection against any form of terrorist attack and prepare to mitigate the impact of a future incident.

Our university, colleges, health services, prisons, council, police, fire service and many other agencies work to the national strategy CONTEST and understand how their work connects with regional, national and international efforts.

Our local plans reflect the national strategy which requires us to deliver a



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

response proportionate to the risks we face and to only engage in activity which is necessary to address those risks. Our most recent self-assessment scores the Partnership as 4 out of 5 for building resilience to terrorism.

Organised crime

Organised crime is serious crime planned, co-ordinated and conducted by people working together on a continuing basis. Their motivation is often, but not always, financial gain.

In 2012 the Safe Durham Partnership began work to build upon the achievements of Durham Constabulary which included establishing an Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel. This work resulted in the involvement of a range of services, making available new resources and legal powers. The scope of the panel increased and it now provides interventions, such as raising community awareness of issues such as loan sharks through our Area Action Partnerships.

The publication of the new national Serious and Organised Crime Strategy demonstrates how County Durham is at an advanced stage of development, with Durham Constabulary already providing advice to other areas of the country in terms of 'lessons learnt'.

Education and awareness continues to be a key part of the work of the Safe Durham Partnership; helping people recognise serious and organised crime and encouraging them to report it. Staff and service awareness programmes have been put in place and specialist training provided to Fire Officers in terms of the dangers presented by the cultivation of cannabis in dwelling houses.

Area Multi-Agency Problem-Solving Groups (MAPS)

In 2013 we changed our approach to local problem-solving, at a geographical level, and rationalised our meetings structure from 11 Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving Groups to three groups across County Durham.

The groups operate a Tasking and Coordinating approach. This involves reviewing recent intelligence and performance, examining key issues raised by partners and multi-agency problem solving. Our approach is driven by intelligence from partner agencies, the community and 'Police and Community Together' meetings. Our Area Action Partnerships also have an opportunity to feed information in to the three groups.

The Safe Durham Partnership will work closely with Elected Members to ensure that community intelligence is fed into the multi-agency problem solving approach and to provide local leadership involvement in any neighbourhood problem-solving activity.

Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS)

The Safe Durham Partnership has developed a new and innovative Multi-Agency Intervention Service. The full implementation of the new model will take place across the county using a phased approach and will be completed in 2015.

The purpose of the service is to enhance partnership working and problem solving through an efficient and consistent approach that ensures crime and disorder interventions occur at an early stage. This involves improving the capture and sharing of information so that issues can be prevented from turning into a crisis. It includes improved analysis, a new model of case management and alignment with the 'First Contact Service' model which makes it easier for people to report issues of concern and ensures



6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

more children will be helped at an early stage.

A centrally based multi-agency team will respond to individuals and households who have been identified as being in need of a partnership response due to being victims or perpetrators of a range of crime and disorder issues. In addition, staff from any agency will be able to refer individuals and families who require a multi-agency approach into the team so that an assessment can be made in terms of implementing a case management approach or referring to a specialist service.

This service also provides another example of the way in which the Safe Durham Partnership is embedding the 'Think Family' approach. Think Family is an approach that requires all agencies to consider the needs of the whole family when working with individual members of it. It encourages a broader view of need than that normally adopted. So, for example, the employment and housing needs of parents may be the key to unlocking improvements in mental health or parenting capacity. Social workers, health professionals, employment advisors and housing services will need to co-ordinate their efforts in order to secure long term improvements.

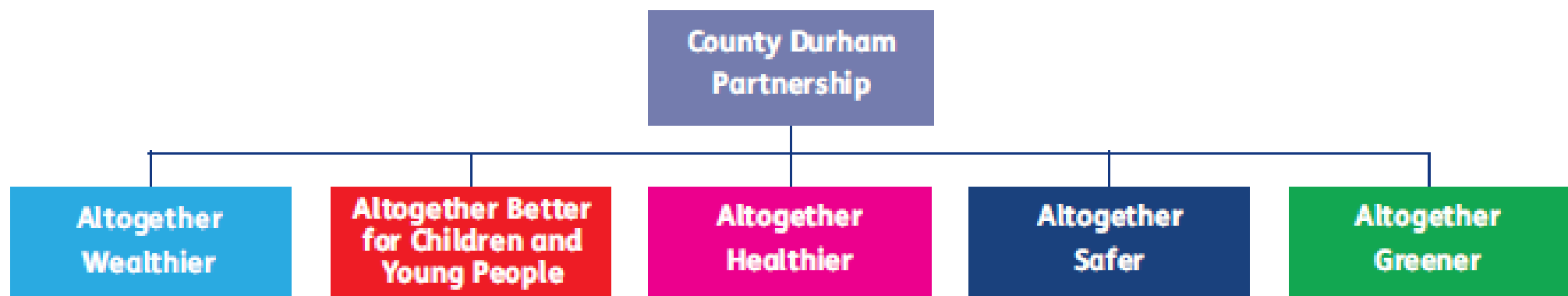
(To be further updated when the pilot has been completed).

Hoarding

Following a Coroner's report highlighting several issues relating to a hoarding related fire death the coroner wrote to Registered Social Landlords requesting action to eliminate or reduce the risk of death created by such circumstances.

As a result, work has been undertaken by Local Housing Forum, Housing Solutions the Safe Durham Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Adults Board to develop a multi-agency approach to hoarding and hoarding behaviours within local communities. Throughout 2014 we have worked with local housing providers and other agencies to create a multi-agency Hoarding toolkit; identify key points of contact; and establish clear roles and responsibilities. A one day conference was delivered in August 2014 to raise awareness of hoarding and hoarding behaviours whilst sharing local case studies and practical solutions. The multi-agency Hoarding toolkit is available on the County Durham Safeguarding Adults website (<http://www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info/Pages/HomePage.aspx>).

7. Cross-Cutting Themes



Altogether Better Durham

The Safe Durham Partnership contributes to the vision of an 'Altogether Better Durham'. The Safe Durham Partnership is an integral part of this wider vision and is responsible for delivering an 'Altogether Safer' Durham. As such it sits alongside four other thematic partnerships, represented in the diagram below. Their combined efforts, described within the Sustainable Community Strategy for County Durham, demonstrate how this wider vision will be achieved.

The County Durham Partnership has identified six key cross-cutting areas for all the 'Altogether' thematic partnerships and the Area Action Partnerships to jointly focus on to shape and deliver cross-cutting issues. These cross-cutting issues already feature in thematic plans but partners recognise that a more collective approach will have a bigger impact, bring about lasting change that could not otherwise be achieved. We believe that this work will bring added value in the longer term.

These are:

- Job creation
- Volunteering
- Mental wellbeing
- Stronger Families
- Alcohol
- Reducing inequalities

This section describes some of the key cross-cutting issues and how the Safe Durham Partnership will contribute to these six themes and shared priorities of the other Thematic Partnerships.

Altogether Wealthier

The focus for the County Durham Economic Partnership is improving the county's economy.

The ambition is to create sustainable places where people want to live, work, invest and visit. This ambition requires a vision and commitment to the fundamental transformation of place, shared across public and private stakeholders and supported by residents. The Altogether Wealthier Delivery Plan illustrates the County Durham Economic Partnership's collective effort, responsibilities and key activities to deliver a step change toward its long term vision.

Increased employment

Increased employment is a recurring intended long term impact of the Altogether Wealthier delivery plan. It is also an important issue in terms of offenders and job creation is a cross-cutting issue for the County Durham Partnership. We know that unemployment is a key risk factor to offending and re-offending and that increasing employment is a protective factor, particularly for those who re-offend. Therefore, helping offenders into employment is an important part of their rehabilitation. Exactly the same scenario exists for those in drug and alcohol recovery.

7. Cross Cutting Themes

Not being in education, employment or training is a future predictor of later unemployment, involvement in crime and poor mental health for young people. Our Youth Offending Service's Intensive Employability Programme has exceeded its targets to get young people who offend (some with extensive offending histories) into training and employment, and helped to reduce their re-offending. The success of the programme was recognised by a national award – winning the Youth Justice Award, Children and Young People Now Awards 2013.

As part of a Neighbourhood Watch regeneration project, designed to reduce anti-social behaviour in Chilton, a local company was selected to carry out the work because it provides apprenticeships to young people 'Not in Education Employment or Training'. Twelve young people, local to Chilton and its surrounding areas learnt new skills and the Local Area Action Partnership presented the young people with the tools to deliver the regeneration work and help them in their pursuit of employment in the building trade.



Altogether Healthier

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places a duty on local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups to develop a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to meet the needs identified in the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The vision for the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to 'improve the health and wellbeing of the people of County Durham and reduce health inequalities.'

One of the objectives in the strategy is to ensure that children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life. This includes reducing the availability of illicit tobacco and alcohol to children and young people and reducing negative risk-taking such as smoking and drinking alcohol.

This work will have a clear impact on the objectives of the Safe Durham Partnership in terms of alcohol related offending by young people, negative public perception about underage drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour; ultimately contributing to fewer children and young people entering the Criminal Justice System. County Durham Youth Offending Service has achieved a 47.2% reduction in the number of alcohol related offences committed and a 45.1% reduction in the number of young people committing them (2010-11 to 2014-15 Qtr 1 & Qtr 2).

Illicit Tobacco

More children and young people are being offered illegal tobacco than adults. Dealers encourage young people to visit 'tab houses', putting them in risky situations with people who may also sell drugs and alcohol. Illegal tobacco has strong links to organised crime, so many of the people smuggling, distributing and selling it are involved in drug dealing, money laundering and other crime. The work of the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel to raise awareness of illicit tobacco will support the 'Smoke Free County Durham Tobacco Alliance'.

Drugs and Alcohol

The Health and Wellbeing Board recognises the need to work together to reduce the number of people who misuse drugs and alcohol'. Both the County Durham Alcohol Strategy 2015-17 and the County Durham Drug Strategy 2014-17 have been jointly developed between the Healthier and Safer agendas. Alcohol is a key cross-cutting theme for the County Durham Partnership.

7. Cross Cutting Themes

Mental Health

The 'No Health without Mental Health' Implementation Plan brings together all the strands of mental health and wellbeing to better support people who need it. This includes the following:

- The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat that provides joined up service responses to people who are suffering from mental health crisis. The Concordat is a commitment from organisations to prevent crises through prevention and early intervention. National organisations who have signed the concordat include NHS England, the Association of Directors of Adults Social Services, the Association of Directors of Children's Social Services, the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and the Home Office. Locally, this work is being taken forward through the Health and Wellbeing Board governance structures. The local declaration has been signed up to with a local action plan developed by 2015. This work is supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Dual Diagnosis is defined within the County Durham and Darlington Dual Diagnosis Strategy as people with concurrent mental health, learning disabilities, behavioural diagnosis and substance misuse problems. The County Durham Dual Diagnosis Strategy has identified that 'Offenders' is one of its priority groups.
- Autism is a condition which is characterised by impaired social and communication skill. The County Durham Adult Autism Strategy: Action Plan aims to ensure adults with autism are dealt with appropriately and effectively in the local criminal justice service.

Safe Durham Partnership analysis of offender and victim mental health has taken place to improve understanding of the impact of mental health on offending and pathways through the criminal justice system. The Police and Crime Commissioner has also recognised improving services to victims and offenders in relation to mental health as a key strategic priority.

Vulnerable people suffering from mental health and/or alcohol issues with hoarding behaviours pose a specific fire death risk and a multi-agency approach is becoming increasingly important in tackling such issues within local communities. A multi-agency 'Hoarding Toolkit' has been developed to identify key points of contact and establish clear roles and responsibilities in relation to accidental fire prevention.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy recognises that all adults should be able to live free from fear and harm and have their rights and choices respected. Safeguarding Adults is a key priority for Durham County Council and partner agencies. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy describes how the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board are committed to ensuring that children, young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe and feel safe at all times. Both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safe Durham Partnership work in alignment and have a joint strategic objective to Protect Vulnerable People from Harm. The Safeguarding Framework outlines the joint working arrangements between the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) with the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Families Partnership and the Safe Durham Partnership. This framework ensures that robust arrangements are in place across the partnership boards who have a priority to protect children and adults from abuse and harm.



Suicide Prevention

The development of effective strategies across partnerships to reduce the incidence of self-harm and suicide in the general population is a priority in County Durham. The Health and Wellbeing Board oversees the progress of suicide prevention and the Safe Durham Partnership monitors this work through the Performance Management Framework.

7. Cross Cutting Themes

Altogether Better for Children and Young People

The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015-18 is the single overarching, multi-agency plan for the delivery of priorities for children and young people in County Durham. It is therefore important that the Safe Durham Partnership aligns its own outcomes with those of the Children and Families Partnership. Examples of issues that contribute to those outcomes include education and awareness in terms of risk taking, keeping children and young people out of the criminal justice system, reducing their re-offending, protecting them from drugs, alcohol and illicit tobacco, protection against child sexual exploitation, and early intervention and help through the Think Family approach.

The Early Help Strategy for Families demonstrates the importance of offering help to families at the earliest opportunity and as soon as needs are identified. It refers to help both in the early years of a child's life (including prenatal interventions) and early in the emergence of a problem at any stage in their lives. It incorporates the concept of 'prevention' and the importance of anticipating problems and taking action to prevent them.

Early help must include the concept of building resilience in families so that they are able to meet their own needs in the longer term and are not reliant on services. Help must include reinforcing a family's own skills and strengths and empowering them. It also means harnessing community resources as this will help to break cycles of dependency and improve outcomes in the long term for families, as well as ultimately reducing costs.

This is an important strategy for the Safe Durham Partnership as it relies upon all partners and rather than being targeted at a single problem or issue it is designed around delivering the best outcome for the family. This model is being integrated into the new Multi- Agency Intervention Service for Safer Communities.



Altogether Greener

The 2014 Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment identifies that 'Dog fouling' and 'Rubbish and litter' remain high on the list of public concern and affecting public confidence across County Durham. The top four categories of environmental anti-social behaviour complaints, recorded by Durham County Council, are fly-tipping, dog fouling, stray dogs and litter. In 2014-15 these four issues accounted for 77% (13,148 Quarter 1 to 3) of all recorded anti-social behaviour complaints received by Durham County Council. Rubbish/litter is a significant cause of secondary deliberate fires which provides additional concerns in terms of public safety. Such cases of anti-social behaviour are detrimental to health and to the environment.

The Altogether Greener Action Plan directly contributes to the Safe Durham Partnership's objective to 'Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime and secondary deliberate fires.' It also directly contributes to tackling Organised Crime by addressing illegal waste activity. The two plans also share an objective that includes a desire for a cleaner, greener environment.

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Communities

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities are one of the biggest ethnic minority groups in County Durham. Durham County Council's vision is to provide a co-ordinated approach to the provision of services to Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities and to tackle inequalities and ensure good community relations for all residents across County Durham.

7. Cross Cutting Themes

The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Strategic Action Plan 2014-17 has been developed across a range of services within Durham County Council in co-operation with key partners such as Durham Constabulary, with the aim of embedding a cohesive, partnership approach. The GRT Strategic Action Plan outcomes align with 5 of the County Durham Partnership's Thematic Partnerships: Altogether Wealthier; Altogether Healthier; Altogether Better for Children and Young People; Altogether Greener and Altogether Safer.

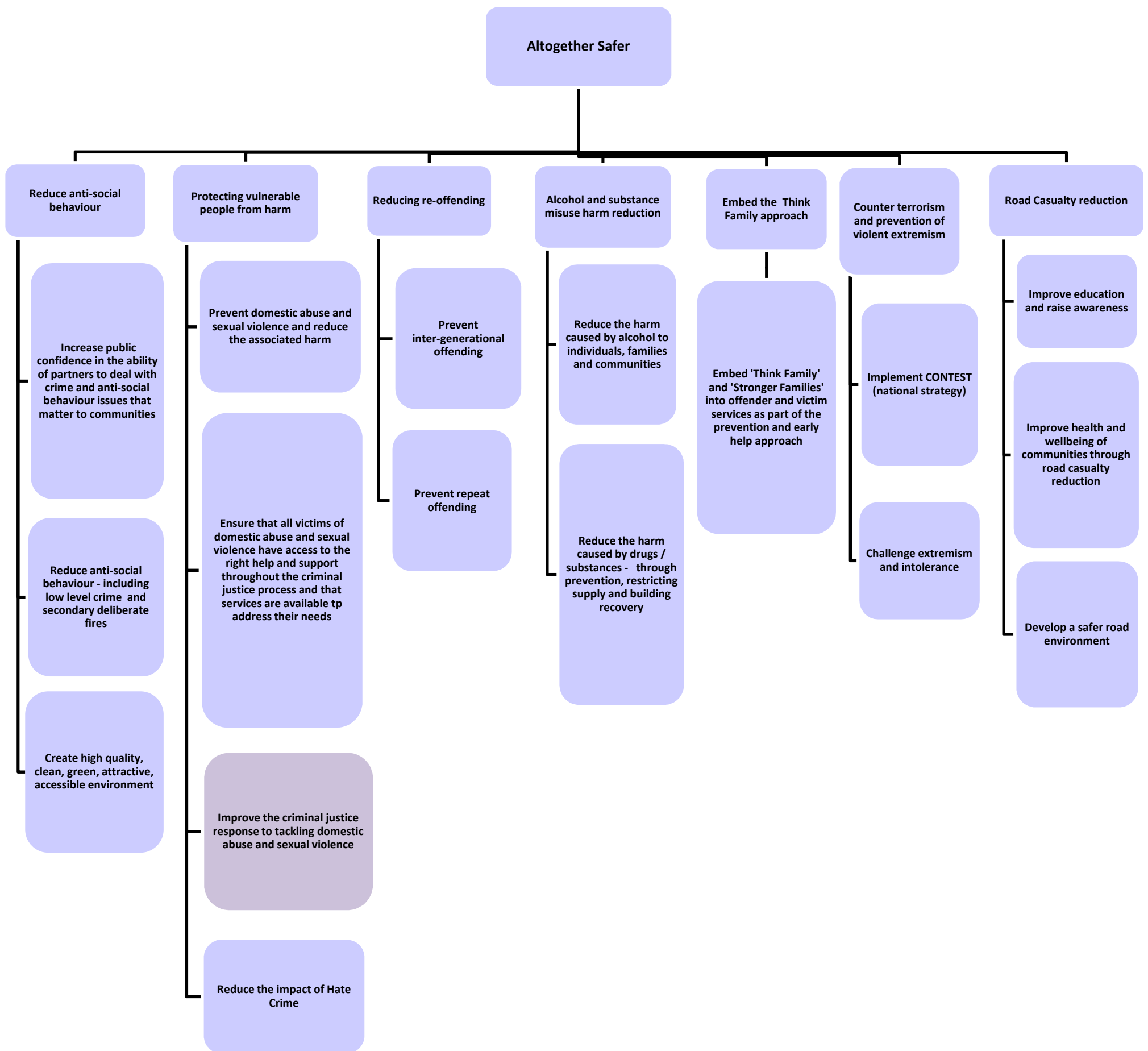
The work undertaken against the Altogether Safer Priority Theme - Creating a safer and more cohesive County - is supported by the Safe Durham Partnership as follows:

- Improve community cohesion by increasing awareness and understanding between Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities and residents of County Durham
- Tackling Hate Crime against Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities
- Breaking down cultural barriers in order to improve access to services such as police and community safety services.
- Ensure the effective management of Unauthorised Encampments and events, including the increase of Temporary Stop Over Areas.
- Ensure the effective management of Gypsy, Roma, Traveller events in County Durham

By working in partnership we will continue to celebrate the diversity and richness of all communities and support a co-ordinated approach to deliver a high level of service to the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities.

8. Summary of Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

The Safe Durham Partnership Board has agreed the priority objectives that will deliver an Altogether Safer County Durham. These objectives and outcomes are designed to help focus on the key issues facing County Durham and be problem oriented in structure (i.e. focusing on how offending can be reduced, victims made less vulnerable and how places can be made safer).



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Reduce anti-social behaviour

Why this is a priority objective

Since forming in 2009, the Safe Durham Partnership has reported a reduction in reported anti-social behaviour incidents each year. However, anti-social behaviour is a key issue in terms of public confidence.

Our key challenges

Criminal damage offences have reduced in recent years but this region has higher rates than in other parts of the country. It is a high volume crime that is visible to the community and can impact on confidence.

Evidence from the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment shows a significant number of incidents are reported to the council.

Despite reductions in levels of reported anti-social behaviour to the police, the public still perceive anti-social behaviour to be a problem. Latest figures (Q2 2014-15) show that 32.7% of people perceive anti-social behaviour as a problem in their area.

Specific issues which the public have raised include dog fouling, speeding traffic and rubbish lying around. Dog fouling was the third highest category of anti-social behaviour recorded by Durham County Council. Fly-tipping accounts for about a third of all incidents; street litter is also problematic with over 1,600 complaints to the council in Quarter 1 to 3 2014-15.

Our key focus over the next three years will be to tackle those issues of greatest concern to the public, reduce public perception of anti-social behaviour and increase confidence in the police and partners to deal with anti-social behaviour.



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Increase public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities

- Develop awareness of, and increase community involvement in the Police/Partners and Community Together (PACT) meetings
- Deliver awareness raising campaigns through positive messages about how Police/Partners are working with the community on issues of concern to them
- Raise public awareness of opportunities, and benefits from, getting involved in improving their area through initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch
- Reassure the public about issues of underage drinking, drug use and drug dealing by informing them of action taken and outcomes of those actions
- Work with the Road Casualty Reduction Forum to tackle public concern about those who drive at inappropriate speeds



Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime – including secondary deliberate fires

- Utilise intelligence and analysis to target measured reductions in anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and secondary deliberate fires
- Target increases in the number of families referred to, and turned around by, the 'Stronger Families' programme
- Deliver a partnership approach to reducing the number of secondary deliberate fires during targeted periods such as Bonfire Night

Create a high quality clean, green, attractive and accessible environment

- Deliver a range of campaigns targeting issues that are of most concern to the public; namely 'dog fouling', 'fly-tipping' and 'rubbish/litter lying around'

How we will measure success

- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (Police confidence survey)
- Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police
- Total number of secondary fires (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Total number of deliberate and 'not known' secondary fires (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Total number of criminal damage and arson offences
- Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Number of council reported incidents of anti-social behaviour

9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Protecting vulnerable people from harm

Why this is a priority objective

Protecting vulnerable people from harm has been identified as a priority as it covers a range of important issues in relation to protecting vulnerable people from harm, including domestic abuse, sexual violence and hate crime. Other cross-cutting issues such as suicide prevention and hoarding and the risk of accidental dwelling fires are covered by this priority objective.

‘Violence against Women and Girls’ is a key national priority. The Government has highlighted that it is determined to support victims to report crimes of this type and bring perpetrators to justice. The Government has also identified the need to do more to prevent violence against women and girls. Regionally, the Police and Crime Commissioners have developed a strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls, which the Partnership supports and delivers actions against.

The Government has set a clear strategic direction for hate crime. Victims of hate crime must be encouraged to report hate crime so that we can target our work more effectively, provide protection and support and prevent incidents of hate crime for occurring. The national Hate Crime Action Plan identifies under-reporting by Gypsy, Roma Traveller communities and the Safe Durham Partnership will support the Gypsy, Roma Traveller Action Plan in tackling this issue.

Our key challenges

The detection rate for serious sexual offences was 33.1% in 2013-14; this decreased to 28.7% to Quarter 3 in 2014-15.

Accidental dwelling fires in County Durham, resulting in death or injury was 19 in 2013-14 – there have been 7 injuries and no deaths in Quarter 1 & 2 2014/15. During 2013/14 practitioners made 302 referrals to the Fire Service which resulted in a visit, in line with the Fire Death Protocol. In 2014/15 this figure decreased to 279 for Quarter 1 to 3.

Levels of domestic abuse related incidents reported to the police have seen a continuous but small increase since 2009-10.

Protecting vulnerable people from harm presents some complex challenges. Domestic abuse remains under-reported and the Safe Durham Partnership works towards increasing the number of victims who contact both the police and outreach support services. It will be important that victims have the confidence to report domestic abuse so that they can benefit from effective support.

The Government has identified that more needs to be done to prevent violence against women and girls. Our focus will need to be on men as well as women through ‘Provision, Prevention and Protection’; in line with national plans.

Under-reporting of hate crime is significant. In order to meet this challenge the Safe Durham Partnership will support the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Hate Crime Action Plan and target increases in hate crime reporting. Addressing the under-reporting of hate crime will remain at the heart of our approach. However, the long term goal is to see evidence of a reduction in the actual incidence of hate crime in County Durham.



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm

- Children and young people have an understanding that healthy relationships are based on respect, with sexual activity being consensual and reinforcing which attitudes are acceptable and which are not
- To raise public awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence, across services, organisations and the general public
- To ensure early identification and co-ordinated intervention by front line professionals to protect victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Prevent abuse from happening through early intervention and by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster abuse

Ensure that all victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence have the access to the right help and support throughout the criminal justice process and that services are available to address their needs

- Produce a three year multi-agency training strategy and action plan around domestic abuse and sexual abuse and exploitation
- To ensure that all survivors of sexual violence have access to forensic medical provision which provides the full range of health care and after care to ensure that mental and sexual health needs are addressed
- To develop an accurate picture of the scale and nature of all aspects of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Commissioning countywide specialist services for domestic abuse

To improve the criminal justice response to tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence

- To reduce the attrition rate and maintain the high conviction rate in cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- To ensure that victims are provided with an enhanced level of support throughout the end to end criminal justice process
- To ensure that all criminal justice agencies address the underlying problems in reporting and prosecuting rape

Reduce the impact of hate crime

- Improve the confidence of victims to report hate crime
- Provide support for victims of hate crime and hate incidents
- Raise awareness of hate crime issues across organisations and the general public

How we will measure success

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

- Percentage of domestic abuse victims at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference who are repeat victims
- Detection rate for serious sexual offences

Vulnerability

- Number of deaths in accidental dwelling fires identified as being within a vulnerable area (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Proportion of people who use adult social care services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure
- Number of hate motivated incidents reported
- Suicide rate per 100,000 population



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Reduce re-offending

Why this is a priority objective

The Government objective for reducing crime and reducing the number of victims shows a continued focus on re-offending.

For adult offenders it is necessary to continue our approach to prioritise the effective management of the most difficult, chaotic and persistent offenders. We will expand our integrated offender management principles to a wider cohort and for those young people who offend we will continue to reduce the number of children and young people entering the criminal justice system.

There is still more to be done to address the needs of offenders before they become prolific and fixed in their attitudes and behaviours. With reducing resources and ongoing reforms, more emphasis must be placed on joining up service delivery to provide more robust support.

Our key challenges

Adult offender health assessments show mental health has become the issue of greatest need, while a recent assessment of young people who offend has identified a range of health needs and in particular that of Speech, Language and Communication.

The Strategic Assessment described how nationally identified risks associated to women offenders are reflected locally. These include abuse, anxiety and depression, substance misuse, safe accommodation, vulnerability from male offenders and leaving behind dependent children when entering prison.

The Strategic Assessment also raised a concern about the potential impact of Welfare Reform on offending, with the recent increase in theft offences a possible early indication of this. Shoplifting has become problematic and will be a focus of the forthcoming year. This crime type will be included in the 'Checkpoint' initiative.

Although County Durham has the lowest rate across the region for the national 'all proven offending' measure it remains higher than the national average. The task to impact on this measure is challenging as most offenders in this cohort have not been managed by any formal offender management arrangements previously. Changes nationally, brought about by 'Transforming Rehabilitation' and more locally with the introduction of 'Checkpoint', will begin address some of these issues.

The Safe Durham Partnership will continue to provide strategic level co-ordination of partnership issues relating to the Ministry of Justice 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme during the transition of probation services across County Durham. A Task and Finish group has worked through 2014-15 to mitigate risks and issues that include the speed of change for planned reforms, reduced funding, offender access in resettlement prisons, management of the Community Rehabilitation Company (ARCC) contract post award and the working arrangements for statutory and non-statutory partnership responsibilities.



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Prevent intergenerational offending

- Maintain and develop pre-court assessments and interventions for young people
- Reduce First Time Entrants to the youth justice system
- Reduce alcohol related offending by young people
- Improve exit strategies after statutory supervision and pathways into mainstream services, particularly for young people aged 16 to 18 years
- Develop pathways and access for identified health needs of young people who offend (with a focus on Speech, Language and Communication needs)
- Continue to improve and develop our 'Think Family' approach for identified offenders (both adults and young people who offend) and their families

Prevent repeat offending

- Manage offence related needs (critical pathways*) of prolific adult offenders in order to stop their offending
- Expand our integrated offender management approach to lower level offending using alternatives to custody
- Maintain and develop support for women offenders and women vulnerable to offending
- Ensure adult offenders are retained in effective drug treatment, drug recovery and abstinence
- Develop and promote victim involvement within restorative practices
- Reduce the impact of offending behaviour on public confidence
- Develop and implement a local proxy measure for the national single re-offending measure
- Continue to provide strategic level co-ordination for Safe Durham Partnership issues relating to Governments Transforming Rehabilitation programme to improve the management of offenders

*The critical pathways for adults are: Accommodation; Drug and Alcohol Misuse; Financial Management and Income; Education, Training and Employability; Children and Families; Health; Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour, Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Violence.

How we will measure success

- Proven re-offending of adult and juvenile offenders (proportion of all offenders who re-offend in a 12-month period)
- Proven re-offending of juvenile offenders (proportion of all juvenile offenders who re-offend in a 12-month period)
- Percentage change in detected crimes for offenders in the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort over the last 12 months
- First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System
- Percentage of successful completions of Checkpoint (indicator to be agreed by the Reducing Re-Offending Group).

9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction

Why this is a priority objective

The cost of dealing with alcohol harm in County Durham is estimated at £211.72m each year.

Alcohol and substance misuse contribute to a significant proportion of crime and anti-social behaviour, especially violent crime, and is a cross-cutting theme in the Sustainable Community Strategy. Alcohol is a contributory factor in many incidents of domestic abuse and sexual violence and has strong links to child sexual exploitation in the county. It is also a significant factor in child neglect and child protection. Alcohol consumption plays a substantial part in homicides and domestic homicides in County Durham. Alcohol misuse causes harm to people's health, mental health and can impact on the ability of individuals to access or sustain employment.

Drug misuse is a serious issue not only to the health and wellbeing of the individual that is affected by it, but that of their families and the wider community. Tackling drug misuse requires a co-ordinated approach involving a whole range of partners. It is not just the responsibility of organisations however; individuals and the wider community all have a role to play in reducing and preventing drug misuse.

Our key challenges

County Durham experiences significantly higher alcohol specific admission rates than England for men and women.

County Durham is well below the national rate in terms of alcohol related crime with 31.4% of violent crime and 13.0% of anti-social behaviour being alcohol-related to Quarter 3 in 2014-15. The challenge is to ensure alcohol related crime is recorded effectively as this will be an important part of delivering our outcomes. Alcohol related crime and disorder is now less focused around our town and city centres and is more dispersed in its nature, this has significant implications for how we control and prevent alcohol related harm.

A new Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy is being developed. Alcohol related crime and disorder is problematic and our ability to make a significant impact is compounded by national factors such as Welfare Reform, changes in commissioning structures and limited resources. Increasing opposition from the alcohol industry to any form of initiative to control the availability and affordability of alcohol, such as 'Early Morning Restriction Orders', and the failure to secure a minimum unit price for alcohol are two additional barriers to achieving our outcomes.

The Safe Durham Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board have developed a Drugs Strategy aimed at preventing harm, restricting supply and sustaining a future for individuals to live a drug free and healthy life, whilst minimising the impact on communities and families. The development and implementation of the strategy, and its action plan, will be a key focus for the two partnerships over the life time of this Plan.

The emerging challenge of 'legal highs' has also been identified as an area for the Safe Durham Partnership to address.



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities

- Raise public awareness of alcohol related harm in County Durham.
- Carry out training and education to support individuals, professionals and the community.
- Engage with children and young people to develop information, activities, services and education.
- Increase intelligence to reduce the number of alcohol related incidents and offending.
- Engage with licensees and ensure licensed premises are managed responsibly.
- Co-ordinated approach to policy development, planning and adoption of legislation.
- Commission and deliver effective treatment and recovery services and undertake work to identify the needs of particular groups.
- Involve and support young people, families and carers living with alcohol related issues to break the cycle of alcohol misuse.

Reduce the harm caused by drugs/substances - through prevention, restricting supply and building recovery

- Increase awareness and understanding of drugs in order to reduce drug misuse across the population
- Have fewer people taking up drug use and break the inter-generational path to drug use and dependency
- Reduce the supply of drugs and number of drug related incidents impacting upon communities and families.
- Ensure recovery is understood and visible in the community
- Support people to successfully recover from their dependency, addressing both their health and social needs arising from their drug misuse
- Involve and support families and carers living with drug related issues

How we will measure success

- Percentage of alcohol related anti-social behaviour incidents
- Percentage of alcohol related violent crime
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – opiates
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – non opiates
- Percentage of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment
- Keith Forster to contact Gillian Porter to ask if drug-related crime indicator is available



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Embed the 'Think Family' approach

Why this is a priority objective

This is a joint priority objective with the Children and Families Partnership.

A small number of families require a disproportionate amount of support. In the case of families facing multiple challenges, they often receive services from several separate agencies in response to a range of needs. Think Family focuses specifically on the needs of these families.

Think Family is an approach that requires all agencies to consider the needs of the whole family when working with individual members of it. It encourages a broader view of need than that normally adopted. To 'Think Family' is to understand that children's problems do not sit in isolation from their parents, and that parents' problems impact on their children. This approach ensures that all family members are able to get the support they need, at the right time, to help their children achieve good outcomes. All agencies are encouraged to 'Think Family' and to coordinate their efforts. This means making sure that families receive co-ordinated, multi-agency, solution focused support.

For many families their complex needs can result in offending behaviour or victimisation and so it is important that Think Family is embedded and integrated into the service models used by the Safe Durham Partnership. Equally, this approach can have a significant impact on crime and disorder outcomes and presents an opportunity to improve performance.

The 'Think Family' approach is intrinsically linked to our Stronger Families Programme. This programme is known nationally as 'The Troubled Families Programme' and the Government estimates County Durham has around 1320 'Troubled Families' with a range of multiple and complex needs. These are not new families but families who have been known to services, often for many years, and despite numerous interventions their problems persist, and are in many cases intergenerational, leading to cycles of disadvantage for such families.

Our key challenges

Last year we recognised that it was important to ensure offender management service staff utilised Think Family as part of their mainstream role. The challenge now will be to align Think Family Services with ARCC; the new Community Rehabilitation Company.

The process of integrating Think Family into Multi Agency Problem Solving comes at a time when Multi Agency Problem Solving is undergoing significant transformation.

It will be important to ensure that national targets for nominations into the Stronger Families programme are met and that the number of referrals increases. Government funding for Stronger Families will continue to be on a payment by results scheme. Local Authorities will be expected to demonstrate *significant and sustained progress* or *continuous employment* measured through a locally defined Outcomes Framework.



Think Family Worker
Supporting the whole family to overcome difficulties together

“ We provide early help to families who are experiencing a range of issues which place outcomes for their children at risk, these include, but are not limited to: worklessness, crime, anti-social behaviour, poor school attendance, domestic abuse and substance misuse. ”

9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Our outcome and how we will deliver it

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

- Integrate Think Family into Multi-Agency Problem Solving
- Build and develop the 'Stronger Families' programme into the anti-social behaviour interventions protocol
- Increase the whole family approach to the delivery of drug recovery services
- Work with the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention panel to support those vulnerable to the influence of organised crime

How we will measure success

- Percentage of families where a successful intervention for crime/anti-social behaviour is achieved
- Percentage of successful interventions via the Stronger Families Programme



Youth Worker

Supporting young people to develop through enjoyment, challenge and learning

“ Youth workers work with young people to enable them to enjoy, achieve and realise their potential by providing opportunities for personal and social development. ”



9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism

Why this is a priority objective

The threat to the UK from the terrorist organisation 'Islamic State' has resulted in the threat level to the UK being raised to 'Severe'. This means that an attack is highly likely.

CONTEST, the UK's Counter Terrorism strategy, aims to reduce the risk to the United Kingdom and its interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

There is a clear structure in place that supports the delivery of the CONTEST Strategy which provides oversight of a multi-agency agenda and performance. Gold (Chief Executive), Silver (Strategic Delivery) and Bronze (Operational) multi-agency groups are in place and are represented by all key sectors that understand the risk of radicalisation and their obligation to ensure terrorist ideologies, and those that promote them, do not go uncontested. It will be important to maintain such a response in order to align with all elements of the national CONTEST.

The PREVENT strand of CONTEST is concerned with preventing people being drawn into terrorism. In November 2014 the Government introduced the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill which places PREVENT on a statutory footing.

Our key challenges

Maintaining a strong understanding of the 'PREVENT' objectives, the drivers of terrorism and a strong, tried and tested Safeguarding Referral Programme, called 'Channel', will be the three important elements of stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

It will be important that all key sectors are delivering a range of tools to ensure key members of staff, and others, have a good understanding of how to recognise those vulnerable, or subject, to radicalisation and know how to respond. These challenges have formed part of a wider review to be implemented over the life of this plan. Key sectors include: Schools, Further and Higher Education, Prisons, Probation, Health, Youth Offending, Faith Establishments and the Internet.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Implement the 'CONTEST' (national strategy)

- Implement the Governments new statutory requirements for preventing people being drawn into terrorism
- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with key sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address
- Improve Preparedness for the highest risks in the national risk assessment
- Deliver "Project Griffin" training events to professional security operatives and forward facing security employees within all business sectors in County Durham

Challenge extremism and intolerance

- Implement a cohesion action plan in cases where a community presents risks from extremist groups

How we will measure success

- Building Resilience to Terrorism Self-Assessment Score (The PREVENT Self-Assessment is the formal mechanism through which the Safe Durham Partnership will manage performance. The

9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

self-assessment is a qualitative measure for each of the three PREVENT objectives and enables the partnership to arrive at a score for each criterion that is a fair reflection of where local partners are in terms of delivery on the basis of clear evidence. A self-assessment matrix is used to assess the level of performance of the Safe Durham Partnership against position statements that progress from 1 to 5; where 5 is a high score.)

9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Road casualty reduction

Why this is a priority objective

Although there has been a considerable reduction in the number of road casualties over the last 10 years, the county still has a higher than average rate of child casualties; 134 in 2013. However, County Durham has a significant roads network which present risks that many other areas do not have to contend with.

Speeding vehicles has been of particular concern to people in County Durham for many years and opportunities exist to reduce that concern as this issue cuts across both the anti-social behaviour and road casualty objectives.

Our key challenges

The county still has a higher rate of child casualties than most other English local authorities. However, this is offset by higher levels of vehicle traffic. There are peak times in the day for child road casualties and these will be targeted by the Safe Durham Partnership. Over 50% of people surveyed had a high perception of speeding vehicles and raising public confidence is an issue.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Improve education and raise awareness of road safety

- Deliver road safety education in schools, colleges, youth centres, children's centres and nurseries
- Deliver road safety training including child pedestrian training, Bikeability Training and EXCEerate young driver training in schools and colleges
- Produce and deliver a partnership road safety publicity campaign
- Continue to deliver driver training courses for business drivers, young drivers and older drivers
- Deliver a rider training programme for motorcycle riders

Improve health and wellbeing of communities through casualty reduction

- Deliver road safety initiatives and events linked to road safety themed weeks
- Develop road safety standards through Road Safety GB and the National Staff Training group
- Deliver a programme of car seat checking clinics across all major conurbations

Develop a safer road environment

- Deliver community speed watch and camera enforcement programme
- Develop road safety action plans in response to PACT priorities
- Develop and implement a Speed Management Strategy to address both excess and inappropriate speed
- Implement physical changes to the road environment in response to road casualty data
- Target the problem of inappropriate speed as part of public confidence plans led by the anti-social behaviour thematic group
- Target a reduction in Child Road Casualties

How we will measure success

- Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads
- Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads
- Number of road casualties

10. Monitoring Success of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan

The Safe Durham Partnership Board has put in place a Performance Management Framework structured around the strategic objectives. In addition to performance measures linked to the strategic objectives, the framework includes key indicators of crime for the Safe Durham Partnership Board to monitor activity trends in this area. This includes:

- The overall crime rate per 1,000 population
- Rate of theft offences per 1,000 population
- The recorded level of victim based crime
- Rate of Violence Against the Person offences per 1,000 population

Selected indicators from the Performance Framework are reported to the Durham County Council Cabinet, Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the County Durham Partnership to help monitor performance against the Sustainable Community Strategy and Council Plan.

The Performance Management Framework is refreshed on an annual basis ensuring it is relevant to the objectives and outcomes in the Partnership Plan, thematic strategies and action plans. On a quarterly basis an escalation report is submitted to the Safe Durham Partnership Board highlighting achievements and areas for improvement.

Performance management arrangements of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan will be incorporated into the Safe Durham Partnership Performance Management Framework. This will ensure responsibility and accountability of the strategic actions within the Plan. A supporting delivery plan will be implemented and monitored on a quarterly basis by the Safe Durham Partnership Board.

11. Abbreviations / Glossary of Terms

AAPs	<u>Area Action Partnerships</u> Local forums set up to give people in County Durham a greater choice and voice in local affairs.
ASB	<u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u> Behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons of another household.
CCL	Clinical Commissioning Locality
CDYOS	County Durham Youth Offending Service
CONTEST	The United Kingdom's counter-terrorism strategy
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSEW	Crime Survey of England and Wales
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
ETE	Education, Training or Employment
HIL	High Impact Locality
HMIC	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
ISIL	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
JSNA	<u>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</u> A document which provides a detailed overview of the current and future health and wellbeing needs of the people of County Durham. Used to inform future service planning.
KSI	Killed or Seriously Injured
LMAP	Local Multi Agency Partnership
MARAC	<u>Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference</u> Regular local meetings where information about high risk domestic abuse victims (those at risk of murder or serious harm) is shared between local agencies.
MFH	Missing From Home
MH	Mental Health
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
NHW	Neighbourhood Watch
NPS	National Probation Service
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
OCG	Organised Crime Groups
PACT	Police/Partnerships and Communities Together
PNC	Police National Computer
S&OC	Serious and Organised Crime
SA	Strategic Assessment
SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs
Think Family	A practice which makes sure that the support provided by children's, adults' and family services is co-ordinated and focused on problems affecting the whole family.



Safe Durham Partnership

Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015 - 2018

Partnership working across County Durham continues to go from strength to strength. When introducing our previous Partnership Plan in 2014, we explained how our commitment to working in partnership had ensured real and tangible improvements to the quality of life of our communities.

The Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18 will continue to demonstrate new and innovative approaches as we respond to an ever changing and more challenging landscape. Working in partnership is crucial if we are to meet existing and emerging challenges and work towards achieving our vision where every adult and child in county Durham will be, and will feel, safe.

Partners across the community, voluntary sector and statutory agencies are committed to working together and responding to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in this Plan in order to deliver an 'Altogether Safer' and 'Altogether Better' Durham.

If you have any questions or comments about this document please contact us:

E-mail: community.safety@durham.gov.uk

Telephone: 03000 265 436

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

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Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

16 February 2015

Police and Crime Panel



Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with progress of the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) for the Durham Constabulary Force area.

Background

2. This report builds upon information previously presented to the Committee and the aim of this report is to provide an update to Members in relation to the following areas from the Panel's meeting on 3 February 2015:
 - Consultation on Council Tax Police Precept 2015/16
 - Mutual Gain Initiative
 - Commissioning Activity
 - Review of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel – Memorandum of Understanding/Partnership Working Agreement
 - Joint working arrangements between the Police and Crime Panel and Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Detail

3. **Consultation on Council Tax Police Precept 2015/16**
Following consideration of a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Panel agreed with the proposal to set the Council Tax requirement at a level that resulted in a 1.98% increase in Council Tax for the year ending 31 March 2016. The panel also acknowledged the Commissioners approach to undertaking consultation through town centre walkabouts, an online survey and attending meetings with the Area Action Partnerships, Town and Parish Councils and Voluntary and Community Sector Forum.
4. **Mutual Gain Initiative**
Chief Superintendents Graham Hall and Ivan Wood, with support from Inspectors Mick Button and Darren Walton provided the Panel with information on a community engagement initiative called Mutual Gain that had been carried out in Darlington and Seaham. In summary, the initiative aims to develop better relationships with communities, give communities a voice and through partnership working enable participation in the policing of their area to deliver on community priorities, reduce crime and improve confidence. The panel were informed of successful partnership working and outcomes within the two pilot areas. In addition an evaluation by Durham University had also highlighted many positive outcomes to community engagement, confidence and financial benefits that could be achieved.

5. ***Review of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel – Memorandum of Understanding/Partnership Working Agreement***

The Panel reviewed and agreed to continue with its Memorandum of Understanding/Partnership Working Agreement with the Police and Crime Commissioner. In summary, the Agreement sets out expectations to support a positive and constructive relationship between the PCC and PCP. It also provides a framework for the development and agreement of additional protocols/procedures to deal with specific issues including procedures for dealing with complaints against the PCC or Deputy PCC, Confirmation Hearings for Chief Constable and Statutory Officer posts and Information Sharing.

6. ***PCP Joint working arrangements between the Police and Crime Panel and Overview and Scrutiny Committees***

The joint working arrangements document has been in place since October 2012 to ensure communication and avoid duplication of activity between the Panel and overview and scrutiny arrangements at Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council. Since initial agreement of this arrangement, reports containing activity from the Panel's meeting have been shared with Overview and Scrutiny at both constituent authorities and the Panel agreed to continue the existing arrangement and review on an annual basis.

Recommendation

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

Background Papers

Contact: Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 03000 268 142 E-mail: jonathan.slee@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – information contained within this report is linked to Altogether Safer element of the Council Plan and establishment of a Police and Crime Panel to scrutinise the elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – the Panel's responsibilities within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act is referenced within the report

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

Safe Durham Partnership Update

16 February 2015



Safe Durham Partnership

Report of Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service Strategy

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a summary update on key issues from the January Safe Durham Partnership Board.

Cyber Crime

2. An emerging issue identified in the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment was the threat from cyber-crime. Analysis has shown that the highest reported category in Durham Constabulary force area was fraud accounting for 35% of total cybercrimes and these include dating scams, goods and services not received. This was followed by violence against the person offences, typically harassment committed by ex-partners who had breached orders, accounting for 20%. Cybercrimes of a sexual nature accounted for 15%.
3. The Safe Durham Partnership are currently reviewing the implications of cyber-crime for the Partnership, and a baseline audit / health check will be undertaken by the Police with partner organisations.

Integrated Restorative Practice

4. The Safe Durham Partnership was awarded a National Howard League Community Award in July 2014 for their restorative practice work (runner-up in the Restorative Justice category). The award recognises the continued work in County Durham to embed the use of restorative practice into the everyday work of all partner agencies and diverting people from the criminal justice system.
5. A snapshot of the performance recorded by partners is presented below. Our Integrated Restorative Practice has worked with **over 7,000 people** (adults and young people) over the last 12 months.

County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS)

- Face-to-face victim/young person (offender) restorative conferences: **over 80 conferences (at least 160 people)**.
- Reparation hours (work delivered by young people (offenders) either to the community in general or to victims directly): **over 4,000 hours**.
- Referral Panel meetings (a panel made up of community volunteers and a CDYOS staff member meets with the victim, young person (offender) and their parent/carer to agree a contract of intervention): **over 500 panel meetings (500 young people, 250 victims/proxy victims)**.
- Restorative interventions with young people (all young people under the supervision of CDYOS – all sentenced young people and all young people receiving an Out-of-Court Disposal – will undertake some form of restorative intervention as requested by the victim eg letter of apology/explanation to the victim, being made aware of consequences for victims, contact between victim and young person, but not face-to-face): **over 700 young people**.

Durham Constabulary (figures from January to December, 2014)

- **2141** restorative justice interventions were used as the primary disposal.
- An additional **581** restorative justice interventions were used alongside other formal police disposals.
- This gives a total figure of **2722** restorative justice interventions (**at least 5,444 people**) over a twelve month period.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

- IOM and HMP Durham have held over **43 conferences** with 23 conferences held in a prison setting (**86 people**).

Neighbourhoods

- **35 referrals** have been received with **19** leading to a restorative conference (**at least 38 people**).

Children and Families (Residential Services and Looked After Children Services)

- Police call outs have **reduced by 50%** and this has negated the need for police investigations and the take up of court time.
- **4** restorative conferences (**8 young people**).

Emotional Wellbeing & Effective Learning Team (EWEL)

- Training undertaken with **13 schools** (within the primary, secondary and special sectors), this has included a total of **137 staff**.
- **8 schools (32 staff)** have sent staff on the rolling programme of 3 day practitioner training.
- **3 schools (42 staff)** have taken part in a pilot project of offering practitioner training to whole school staff through a more flexible training programme to fit school timetables (equivalent to the 21 hours required by the Restorative Justice Council).

- **2 further schools (63 staff)** working with pupils following exclusion from a mainstream setting have been provided with training and support to embed RA practices.

Counter Terrorism and Security Bill 2015

6. The Safe Durham Partnership received an update in relation to Counter Terrorism including events surrounding the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (the region incorporating Jordan, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Cyprus and part of southern Turkey) have led to the UK Government raising the UK Threat Level to Severe. The terrorist organisation is also referred to as IS (Islamic State) and ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria).
7. In response to the growing threat the Government presented the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill to Parliament in its first reading on 26 November 2014. The Bill was not preceded by a White Paper or a Draft Bill and was not part of a consultation. The Bill has passed through the House of Commons and had its second reading in the House of Lords on 13 January 2015. It began its House of Lords Committee stage on 20th January.
8. The Bill places a general duty on each specified authority who must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Specified Authorities are:
 - Local Authorities
 - Police
 - Prisons
 - Probation
 - Education, Further Education & Higher Education
 - NHS Trusts/Foundation Trusts
 - Clinical Commissioning Groups
9. Each specified authority will be expected to demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area, institution or body. No area will be deemed as risk free.
10. Section 28-30 of the Bill make provisions for Local Authorities to be the 'Responsible Local Authority' required to put in place, chair and manage a multi-agency group that will receive referrals of those who are suspected of being vulnerable to radicalisation. This will occur within, what is referred to, as a pre-criminal space. This responsibility has existed for some time within priority funded areas and is called 'Channel'.
11. A more detailed update on the Bill and other issues in relation to prevention of violent extremism will be presented to the March Committee.

Offender Checkpoint

12. The aim of 'Checkpoint' is to extend the integrated offender management principles to a wider lower level adult cohort by transforming the way offenders are dealt with through police custody suites and divert them from prosecution. Currently, cautions, arrests, attendance at court etc. do not provide the adult offender with access to support functions to address their offending behaviour. Most are leaving police custody with little or no consideration of the causes of their offending or its management.
13. Many adult offenders when arrested could be at crisis point, feeling unable to find a way out, as they are often without coping mechanisms or support networks. It is Partnership's intention that the client would be supported by 'navigators' (funding required) who will work with them to complete the contract, received access to support services, develop resilience and behaviour change.
14. Checkpoint can provide a credible alternative by identifying and supporting the critical pathways of need with the result that low and medium level adult offenders are diverted away from the Criminal Justice System, (or exit the Criminal Justice System at an earlier stage), while also addressing the underlying cause of their offending behaviour.
15. In July 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership bid for a DCLG Transformation Challenge Award however it was not successful.
16. The ideas for checkpoint have continued to develop, identifying and planning the required changes to ITC / Custody systems, consulting with partners and working with Cambridge University to develop the scope of the research and evaluation.
17. A Checkpoint bid has also been submitted to the Police Innovation Fund through the Home Office in January 2015. We are still awaiting the outcome of this bid.
18. At present Durham Constabulary are developing / reshaping their ITC systems in conjunction with Cambridge University to introduce a system to identify:
 - Appropriate crime types to be included in the project
 - Appropriate offenders for Checkpoint
 - Appropriate control sample
19. A partnership working group has been formed at a Service Manager level and has begun to map what existing services Checkpoint clients can be referred into, a 'Service Offer' based on the critical pathways: Accommodation; Drug and Alcohol Misuse; Financial Management and Income; Education, Training and Employability; Children and Families; Health; Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour.

20. The development of this project comes at a time for change in probation services through the Government's 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme and there is an opportunity to align strands of offender management work with Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company. In this regard a Multi-agency Checkpoint Project Board (at Head of Service / Strategic Management level) covering Durham and Darlington will be set up to steer development of the project, its operational plans, its initialisation phase and to provide continued strategic management overview. The Project Board is the responsible group for the Checkpoint Project and report directly to the Safe Durham Partnership Board and the Darlington Community Safety Board.

Recommendations and reasons

21. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

Note the contents of the report.

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Appendix 1 – Implications

Finance – The Safe Durham Partnership agreed funding proposals in relation to the Community Safety Fund provided to the Safe Durham Partnership by the Police and Crime Commissioner

Staffing – N/A

Risk – N/A

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

Accommodation – N/A

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

Human Rights – N/A

Consultation – N/A

Procurement – N/A

Disability Issues – N/A

Legal Implications – N/A