



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

Date **Wednesday 23 March 2016**
Time **9.15 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 15 February 2016 (Pages 1 - 12)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. The City Safety Group: (Pages 13 - 14)
Joint Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services.
8. Quarter 3 2015/16 Performance Management Report: (Pages 15 - 26)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – presented by the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management, Children and Adults Services.
9. Draft Council Plan 2016-2019 - Refresh of the Work Programme: (Pages 27 - 40)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive.

10. Overview and Scrutiny Review Updates:
Verbal Updates by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer.
 - (i) Alcohol and the Demand on Emergency Services.
 - (ii) 20mph Limits.
11. Police and Crime Panel: (Pages 41 - 44)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive.
12. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
15 March 2016

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

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

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

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

Co-opted Employees/Officers: Acting Chief Fire Officer S Errington and Chief Superintendent H McMillan

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of **Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Monday 15 February 2016** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Armstrong, S Forster, J Gray, C Hampson, M Hodgson, G Holland, S Iveson, H Liddle, N Martin, T Nearney, J Turnbull and C Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr A J Cooke and Mr J Welch

Co-opted Employees/Officers:

Acting Chief Fire Officer S Errington and Chief Superintendent G Hall

Also Present:

Councillors J Allen and A Bonner

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Maitland, J Measor, K Shaw, P Stradling and F Tinsley.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 5 January 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that comments of the Committee in terms of the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan had been given to the Fire Service and that following the item presented by the Council's Consumer Protection Manager, Owen Cleugh, issues raised as regards engaging with Magistrates, Area Action Partnerships and linking in with the issue of cybercrime had been noted by Officers.

It was added that in terms of the item relating to the Council Plan, reference to Home Safety, as highlighted by the Chief Fire Officer and Co-opted Member, S Errington had been added within the Objectives as set out in the "Altogether Safer" section of the Draft Plan.

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.

The Chairman asked Members of the Committee to note that this would be the last meeting attended by Chief Superintendent Graham Hall, who was retiring, and all Members and Co-optees thanked the Chief Superintendent for his valuable contributions and wished him well in the future. The Chairman added that the new Co-opted Member representing Durham Constabulary was also in attendance and welcomed Chief Superintendent Helen McMillan as the new Police representative.

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: Youth Offender Workers from the Council being honoured by the Butler Trust for their outstanding contribution to the management and support of young people with communication difficulties; free training vouchers for young drivers, a part of the Excelerate programme; and the Council's promotion of Safer Internet Day 2016, as part of the international campaign.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

7 National Probation Service and the Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company

The Chairman introduced the Head of the Durham National Probation Service (NPS) Maureen Gavin to give a presentation to Members in respect of the progress made since the formation of the new NPS (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of the Durham NPS noted that the North East Division of the NPS was aiming to be the "go to division" within the country, adding that the North East was one of seven divisions of the NPS, operating over a large geographical area from Berwick to Boston in Lincolnshire.

Members were reminded of the role of the NPS in dealing with those offenders that posed the highest risk to the public and also in providing advice to courts and to assess risk and there was an aim to provide an effective and efficient service in this regard.

The Head of the Durham NPS noted that the “E3 Blueprint” was a document that aimed to deliver the best possible services to offenders to achieve better outcomes and to consistently apply best practice principles, proactively learning from the experience of others. It was added that it was also an aim to provide increased value for money whilst reducing risk, as well as providing equality of opportunity for staff and ensuring professional standards were applied consistently. Members noted the “E3” referred to Excellence, Effectiveness and Efficiency, and that in terms of excellence, evidence from international models, research, inspections and shared practice was utilised in order to achieve and maintain good quality work. Members noted that the NPS inherited a positive legacy from the 35 Probation Trusts that preceded the NPS, however, this also meant there were issues in terms of bringing those individual ways of working together.

It was explained that in terms of effectiveness, good practice was identified and shared across the organisation, building on the high performance and excellent work as previously mentioned. It was noted that there needed to be a consistency of practice, whilst retaining professional judgement. In addition maintaining a degree of flexibility where standardised practices would be introduced was important, for example when engaging with local partners, in order to achieve better outcomes. Members noted that the NPS needed to be “consistently innovative” in how they delivered their services.

The Head of the Durham NPS noted Members would be more than aware of the issues facing all public sectors services and the increasing pressure to be able to deliver more with fewer resources. It was noted that in coming together as a National Service there were efficiencies, and also opportunities to be able to look at what practices have been delivering effectively and then to be able to bring these into effect nationally. Councillors noted that elements that would not change included: the purpose of the NPS and the core work with offenders and victims in courts, prisons and the community; the commitment to multi-agency work; overall staff number, there would be no compulsory redundancies; the levels of professionalism and development of staff; and the element of local flexibility and partnership work. The Head of the Durham NPS concluded by noted that the latest data in terms of performance, December 2015, had shown County Durham as being “green” across all metrics.

The Chairman thanked the Head of the Durham NPS and asked Members to welcome the Head of Offender Services for the Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company (DTVCRC), Hazel Willoughby who would give an update on the work of the DTVCRC.

The Head of Offender Services noted that the DTVCRC worked together with the NPS, and that while there were now the two separate organisations of the NPS and CRCs, there was still a lot of contact and work ongoing.

Members noted several leaflets highlighting the background to the creation of the new CRC, what the new organisation was about, and the key drivers for the CRC, as well as a leaflet highlighting the “Through the Gate” project. The Committee were reminded that the DTVCRC was a very local organisation, the ARCC bid being made by a consortium based across the old Trust areas, including County Durham, and that the bid had been successful based upon its delivery model.

Members noted that in the transition to the new model, there had been a need to make savings while retaining frontline staff so accordingly there was a process of reorganisation of estates, ICT and staff working practices. It was noted that in the past there had been a presence in the main towns within the County, Consett, Durham, Peterlee and so on, however now the estate had been rationalised to a single location based at Wear House at Belmont Business Park. It was explained that being based at a single location had meant that there needed to be a different way of dealing with offenders, with staff now going out to “practice hubs”, based within communities in locations such as church halls, community centres and Citizens’ Advice Bureau (CAB) offices. Members noted that there would also be support at these hub locations from relevant partners such as JobCentre Plus (JCP), CAB and from Housing Providers enabling clients to have a single appointment where a number of agencies can be engaged to look at issues to be addressed.

The Head of Offender Services noted that the flexible, agile working arrangements had necessitated an ICT system that had been developed over the last year in order to allow access to all the relevant documents and information in one place, on the go via laptop and tablet equipment.

Members noted the model that underpinned all of the work being undertaken was that of the “desistance theory” which looked to build on individuals’ strengths in order to help them stay out of trouble themselves. It was noted that there had been 3 projects undertaken so far, including a “lunch club” hosted by the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service at their Community Fire Station in Darlington. It was explained that offenders would come together to cook meals, and that they had been supported by the local college in terms of health and safety and food hygiene courses. Members learned that groups such as a Dementia Careers Group had benefited from attending the lunch club and also it was noted that a number of offenders had been able to secure entry level jobs as a result of their efforts. It was explained that being able to move into sustainable employment key element of desistance theory, being able to make an offender feel they are contributing as a valuable member of the community.

The Head of Offender Services explained that other projects included that of offenders helping support the Peace Garden in Darlington, which would open in July 2016 and furniture up-cycling with a new roof having been provided to the workshop.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Offender Services and asked Members for their questions for the Head of the Durham NPS and Head of Offender Services and also asked whether there had been any elements of duplication since the move to separate organisations.

The Head of Offender Services noted that the types of offenders that each organisation dealt with were quite different, with the NPS dealing with the higher risk offenders, and that in the cases where some offenders may change in terms of the risk they presented to the public then the organisations worked together to make sure the offender was being dealt with in the most appropriate manner. The Head of the Durham NPS added that there were the requisite tools in place when assessing risk and also procedures established in order to for the CRC to be able to escalate an individual to the NPS if required.

Councillor J Armstrong noted that there was a lot of positive work being done and that the organisations were engaging to ensure the best outcomes for our communities in County Durham.

The Head of Offender Services added there was work ongoing via the SDP as regards developing a project linked to a “sensory garden” and that it was hoped that there would be scope to link in with the Areas Action Partnerships (AAPs) in order to identify opportunities to work within our local communities.

Chief Superintendent G Hall noted the work of the two organisations, partnership working in the context of financial constraints and funding arrangements and asked whether there was any duplication in terms of ICT, with many linked agencies such as the Police having systems to share information. The Head of the Durham NPS noted that the initial focus was to get the NPS “up and running” and now the organisation was entering a “stabilisation” stage where there would be moves to have consistency of engagement with partners and funding may change once national models became clearer. It was noted that in the context of integrated ICT across all partners it was not envisaged this would be possible in the near future. The Head of Offender Services agreed that ICT was an issue, however, organisations could work together in partnership and that information sharing would be important. The Head of the Durham NPS added that two NPS staff were based within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) with Police and there was a bid for funding for equipment to allow those staff to be alongside Officer from the Police and to be able to feed information effectively and efficiently between the organisations.

Councillor T Nearney asked for more information in terms of the ICT issues and also as regards Restorative Justice and how this linked in with the NPS and CRC in terms of any pilot schemes or trials being developed. The Head of the Durham NPS noted that it was a challenge in coming together from separate organisations to form a single national service, and that in the past as local organisations the Probation Trust were able to make decisions quickly whereas the NPS is a much larger organisation and part of the bigger machine in terms of links to the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), with decisions “coming from the centre”. It was reiterated that if the North East could be seen as the “go to” division of the NPS then there would be scope to influence policy and practices. The Head of Offender Services noted that as the CRC was a provider and that it was in the interest of the CRC to be “in the know” as regards any pilot schemes. It was added that there were changes in terms of Prisons, moving towards Governors having more responsibility in terms of budgets and therefore this would be looked at in terms of what it could mean for the CRC. It was added that in order for any bids to participate in pilot schemes and attract funding would need to be based upon good performance to be credible, and there had been a good past record within our area.

Councillor N Martin noted the difficulties often faced in terms of public sector ICT schemes and asked as regards the overall reduction in staff in moving to the NPS, though it had been noted there would be no redundancies. The Head of the Durham NPS explained that there was tiered system, with a workload management tool that allocated cases accordingly, to the relevant Probation Support Officer or Probation Officer (qualified). It was added that there were efficiencies in the move to a single organisation in terms of locations, however, it was emphasised that the NPS was not overstaffed. Councillor N Martin noted that it had been stated that the NPS was “green across all metrics” and asked for further information to be able to put this into context. The Head of the Durham NPS noted that the overall aim was to protect the public and that all the metrics feed into this, an example being a measure in terms of risk escalation from the CRCs to the NPS, in terms of how this is picked up and dealt with in a timely manner. Councillor N Martin asked whether the measures were in terms of offender outcomes or in terms of NPS processes as cited in the example.

The Head of the Durham NPS noted that it was hoped that NPS process outcomes would themselves have an effect upon offender outcomes in terms of reducing reoffending and public safety. The Head of Offender Services noted that the MoJ were interested in terms of output measures and the impact of made by the work of partnerships.

The Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Councillor J Allen noted that the point had been made in terms of efficiencies having been made while looking to maintain and improve effectiveness and that information coming as received via the Safe Durham Partnership in terms of the desistance model had proven useful and further information on this may be helpful for the Committee. The Chairman agreed that further information on the desistance model would be useful for Members of the Committee.

Resolved:

- (i) That the reports and presentations be noted.
- (ii) That further information in respect of the Desistance Model be given to Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

8 County Durham and Darlington Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2015/18

The Chairman asked the Head of Offender Services to speak in respect of the report concerning the County Durham and Darlington Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2015/18 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of Offender Services explained that the main points to note were the priority actions that sat under the strategic objectives, forming the basis of the delivery plan: preventing intergenerational offending; and preventing repeat offending. It was reiterated that the figures in respect of reducing re-offending had shown little variation, though there was a lag of around 18-24 months in terms of the data. It was explained that there was a need to understand the impact of welfare reform and austerity and there would be a series of meetings in preparation for what a strategy may look like post-2018.

The excellent work of the CDYOS was reiterated, the award received highlighting the benefit of the work undertaken in engaging with clients. Members were reminded of the success of the Checkpoint programme, the value of early intervention and that the random control trial was hoped to be started shortly in order to provide evidence of the effectiveness of the scheme. It was explained that in terms of IOM, it was important to have a set of principles in place when agencies work together in dealing with the most prolific offenders. Members noted that there would need to be a look at the cycles of behaviour and how best to deal with those who were not ready for help. It was added that the role of the Police would be in disrupting these cycles and that in the context of reducing funds then targeting those offenders who wanted to change their behaviour would help to maximise the impact of what funds were available. The desistance model was reiterated and that the question had been posed "what would a reducing re-offending strategy look like if it was underpinned by desistance theory?".

The Head of Offender Services concluded by noting that County Durham was not an unsafe place to live or work and that there were a number of changes that would come into effect over the next 12 months.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Offender Services and noted that there was a core of offenders that would not engage with approaches such as restorative justice (RJ). The Head of Offender Services agreed that RJ needed motivation and the process needed to be meaningful for both the offender and the victim.

Councillor G Holland noted that the report made bleak reading, and noted no sense of a positive outlook nationally or locally. Councillor G Holland felt that the strategy was wrong and that there was a need to identify hard core and career criminals and to have these people held to account, sent to prison and have their assets stripped accordingly. Councillor G Holland added that there was a need to also identify those individuals that were simply “victims of circumstance” and to be sensitive to the issues that may affect those people, including mental health issues, and look towards a more palliative approach that helped those people reintegrate into society.

Councillor N Martin noted that performance data showing the reduction in first time entrants to youth justice system and noted that often within peer groups there were 1 or 2 people leading the behaviours and therefore the work undertaken to divert young people from the youth justice system was important. The Head of Offender Services agreed and reiterated the successes of early intervention and noted that there was also a need to follow up with those that have entered the criminal justice system. Members noted that the “Through the Gate” programme was to help those leaving prison, as in the past there had been no follow up once offenders had completed their sentence. It was explained that a plan would be put in place prior to an offender being released, with meetings to look at issues to be address upon release such as access to housing, benefits information and also to include offers of mental health support as appropriate. An example of support given was that of an offender who was an alcoholic, who had been released and rather than being left to negotiate the journey to the train station alone, the route requiring passing several public houses, the individual was taken to the train station and British Transport Police assisted in helping the individual complete their journey without incident.

Councillor G Holland noted that he felt that those types of individuals, drug and alcohol dependants, should not be in prison in the first place, rather be in another facility receiving palliative care. The Head of Offender Services agreed that there were a number of people that needed support, however, the Probation and Prison Services were not the organisations that decided upon sentences, and the decision would be made in line with the type of offence committed.

Councillor T Nearney noted in his experience in training as a barrister, it was key to have stability in the life of an offender to prevent re-offending and that being able to secure employment was an important part in providing this stability. Councillor T Nearney asked as regards what work was ongoing with private companies in terms of helping those individuals. The Head of Offender Services noted that the question was how do you make links to employers to create opportunities in the job market for ex-offenders, possible opportunities via the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) and that there was a need to also provide stability for those individuals in their family life, looking at the Think Family approach.

Councillor J Armstrong noted the excellent work of the CDYOS and Durham Constabulary in terms of the reductions in the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system and noted that delays to the YEI funding meant there was only half the time available to deliver the programme.

Councillor M Hodgson noted comments as regards the strategy and asked whether it was relevant and from a Members' perspective it was what difference the strategy made in our communities that mattered.

Chief Superintendent G Hall noted that the Police did proactively target those offenders that did not engage, looking to disrupt to help prevent re-offending. Chief Superintendent G Hall added that the review of the Youth Justice System by Charlie Taylor could prove useful information for Members in looking at the shape of things to come.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Safe Durham Partnership Plan Refresh 2016/19

The Chairman asked the Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Services, Peter Appleton to introduce the item in relation to the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Plan Refresh 2016/19.

The Head of Planning and Service Strategy noted the draft document was attached to the agenda papers and reiterated the common theme of the need to work in partnership in order to deliver against this high level plan, noting the elements already touched upon by Members. It was explained that the Community Safety Manager, Caroline Duckworth and Community Safety Coordinator, Graham McArdle would give a presentation outlining the Draft (for copy see file of minutes).

The Community Safety Manager reminded Members that the Plans were 3 year plans, with updates each year, and therefore this plan was coming to its final year with a new plan for 2017-20 to come from the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in due course. It was added that statutory requirements included: a Strategic Assessment; the Partnership Plan; add for consultation and community engagement. Members were informed that the strategic objectives had been agreed by the SDP Board and that the supporting outcomes, identified by the strategic assessment, had been identified by assessing: achievements; challenges; and risks including those local, regional and national.

In terms of achievements, it was noted that there had been a 19% reduction in crime since the Safe Durham Partnership had been formed in 2009 and that incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) reported to the Police and Council had reduced. Members were reminded of the work of the County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) and Durham Constabulary in terms of the significant reduction in the number of first time entrants to the Criminal Justice System (82%) and the 52% reduction in reoffending by those in the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort. It was added that also there had been low rates in terms of repeat victimisation for domestic abuse victims referred to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and a reduction in road casualties. It was added that challenges included: increases in violence against the person and sexual offences; sexual violence; reoffending rates, though data-lag was a known issue and data preceded the formation of the NPS and CRC; and cybercrime an emerging cross-cutting issue.

The Community Safety Coordinator outlined the Safe Durham Partnership strategic objectives for 2015/16. Domestic abuse, sexual violence and exploitation, and hate crime are priorities identified by Government and the Police and Crime Commissioner and all were under-reported. An increased number of violent incidents were reported, partly due to historical reporting, along with decreased levels of reported hate crime. Members noted that reducing reoffending was also a priority, working with families to help prevent intergenerational offending and to target the most difficult, chaotic and persistent offenders, noting early interventions to help “break the cycle”.

The Committee noted that alcohol and substance misuse are not only impact all to the Altogether Safer priorities but also to issues of health and the cost to the County in terms of alcohol harm. Members learned that the “Think Family” approach was being embedded within all strategic objectives and there was the emerging issue of the “Prevent Duty” contained within the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which had been identified as best practice in other parts of the world. The Community Safety Coordinator noted another strategic objective was that of reducing ASB, and that from 2007 to 2014/15 the number of incidents had reduced from around 55,000 to just over 20,000. It was added that many factors impacted upon this issue, however, there was a continuing trend in the reduction of ASB and there was a need to be able to understand this trend in a wider context of changing patterns of behaviours: for example in terms of young people tending to drink alcohol outside less often, the trend being for consumption within properties; and the issue of children and young adults moving from socialising and recreation in the street to doing this in front of their computers in their bedrooms. This presents new and more harmful risks in terms of exploitation, radicalisation and fraud and we need to be mindful that we may need to adapt our focus to meet such changes in culture.

The Community Safety Coordinator added that a new strategic objective had been added, namely “implement measures to promote a safer environment”, and that this encompassed issues such as temporary 20mph limits, open water safety, safety in the home and highlighted the need to work in partnership in order to address these issues.

The Community Safety Manager noted that the next steps in terms of the Draft Plan were to collate the feedback from stakeholders, such as the AAPs and Overview and Scrutiny, to update the refresh of the Partnership Plan accordingly, have the final draft signed off by the SDP Board in April 2016, with a Partnership Delivery Plan to come forward in May 2016. It was added that Members could provide feedback today at Committee, or directly to the Community Safety Team prior to the end of February 2016.

The Chairman thanked the Officers and asked Members for their questions and comments on the report.

Councillor J Armstrong noted the Draft Plan was a well thought out document and it was encouraging to see that the “door was open” in terms of taking issues on board and being fluid and positive. Members commented that ASB was often cited as a sign of the lack of respect exhibited by some young people and the Head of Planning and Service Strategy noted that respect was a 2-way issue and that it was important not to demonise all young people.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer added that Members would recall the work of the Committee that had contributed, in terms of briefings on the Prevent Duty, the work of the 20mph Working Group.

Resolved:

That the comments on the Draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan refresh be noted.

10 Police and Crime Panel

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

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted the main issues included:

- Council Tax Precept Consultation.
- Enhancing Police and Fire Service Collaboration.
- Report of the Rape Scrutiny Panel.
- Reports on HMIC Inspections.
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner restructure.

Councillor J Armstrong noted the current arrangements as regards the collaboration between Durham Constabulary and the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service and Committee Members noted the excellent work of the two organisations serving our County.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Overview and Scrutiny Review Updates

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that two meetings of the Alcohol and the Demand on the Emergency Services Working Group had taken place, chaired by Councillor T Nearney, with a lot of positive information coming forward. It was added that the next meeting of the Working Group had been rescheduled to early April in order to accommodate Officers from the North East Ambulance Service to enable them to present information from their perspective.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that the last meeting of the 20mph Working Group had received an update in terms of Phase 1 schemes and added there would be a report to Cabinet in due course as regards progress. The Chairman noted that Officers involved with this particular Working Group had been very receptive and responsive to the comments from Members.

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

12 Safe Durham Partnership Update

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

Members noted that many of the issues discussed by the SDP Board had been touched on during the meeting, including the desistance model in terms of rehabilitating offenders and the Safer Homes Project, providing crime and fire safety advice to isolated, vulnerable and elderly people.

The Community Safety Manager noted that other issues discussed at the SDP meetings in November 2015 and January 2016 included the Community Safety Fund for 2016/17 having been agreed by the SDP Board and the Police and Crime Commissioner with 4 priority areas: Anti-Social Behaviour; Reducing Reoffending; Youth Offending Service; and Checkpoint.

Members noted that had also been discussions in relation to: the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report; the Durham local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report; Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation, while not one of the 52 areas within the Government scheme there was a drive to reduce violence and knife crime; and awareness sessions in terms of the "Prevent" duty, with Dr Dave Sloggett being asked to come to Durham in April to speak in relation to the Counter Terrorism.

The Chairman thanked the Community Safety Manager for her update.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

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

23 March 2016



The City Safety Group

**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
and Oliver Sherratt, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Committee with information in advance of a presentation from Oliver Sherratt, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services on activity undertaken by the City Safety Group.

Background

2. The City Safety Group comprises of Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, Durham University, Durham Students' Union, Durham Cathedral and the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service. Chaired by Oliver Sherratt, the group was set up in February 2015 to enable all the agencies involved to work even more closely to improve safety in the city, including riverside safety.
3. The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a presentation from Terry Collins (former Chair of the City Safety Group) at its meeting on 22 September 2015. At that meeting it was agreed that a further update report would be presented at a future meeting of the Committee.
4. Since the previous update report was received, all infrastructure improvements have been completed. This presentation will provide Members with an overview of the work undertaken and how this has been successfully delivered.

Recommendation

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

Background Papers

None

Contact: Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 03000 268 142
Contact: Lynsey Walker, Special Projects Officer
Tel: 03000 268 082

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

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

23 March 2016



**Quarter Three 2015/16
Performance Management Report**

**Report of Corporate Management Team
Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
Councillor Simon Henig, Leader**

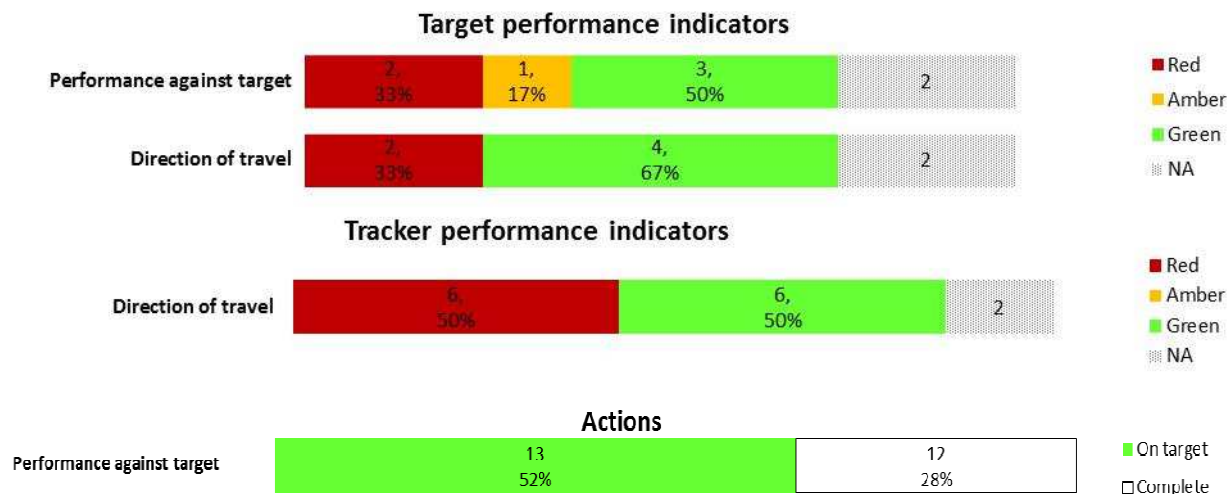
Purpose of the Report

1. To present progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs), Council Plan and service plan actions and report other performance issues for the second quarter of the 2015/16 financial year, covering the period October to December 2015.

Background

2. The report sets out an overview of performance and progress by Altogether priority theme. Key performance indicator progress is reported against two indicator types which comprise of:
 - a. Key target indicators – targets are set for indicators where improvements can be measured regularly and where improvement can be actively influenced by the council and its partners (see Appendix 3, table 1); and
 - b. Key tracker indicators – performance will be tracked but no targets are set for indicators which are long-term and/or which the council and its partners only partially influence (see Appendix 3, table 2).
3. The report continues to incorporate a stronger focus on volume measures in our performance framework. This allows us to better quantify productivity and to monitor the effects of reductions in resources and changes in volume of activity.
4. The corporate performance indicator guide provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2015/16 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet (at Councillors useful links) or can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at performance@durham.gov.uk.

Altogether Safer: Overview



Council Performance

5. Key achievements this quarter include:

- a. Between October and December 2015, all 9,127 emergency response Care Connect calls that required a response arrived at the property within 45 minutes.
- b. Local data for April to December 2015 indicate that there were 106 first time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System (245 per 100,000 population). This is well within the locally agreed quarterly target of 210 FTEs (486 per 100,000) and is a reduction from 158 FTEs (360 per 100,000) during the same period last year.
- c. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. Durham area continues to have the lowest crime rate per 1,000 population (April to December 2015) when compared to its most similar Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) (54.2 per 1,000 population). This is despite an increase reported this quarter due to changes in national timescales, which came into place from October 2015, for the recording of identified crimes (reducing from 72 hours from initial report to 24 hours) and improved local recording of victim based offence categories, specifically that of violence without injury. These have impacted on performance in this period and led to an increase of 3.7% (727 more crimes) to 20,184 between April and December 2015 (39 per 1,000 population).
 - ii. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) continues to reduce from 18,518 between April and December 2014 to 16,823 between April and December 2015. This is a 9.2% reduction. Durham Constabulary is forecasting a 9.8% reduction in ASB incidents by the end of 2015/16.

- iii. Of these incidents, 1,872 were alcohol related, which equates to 11.1% of total ASB reported to the police. This has reduced from 2,409 incidents (13%) in the same period in 2014. Durham Constabulary is forecasting an overall decrease of 18.3% in alcohol related ASB by the end of 2015/16.
- iv. Between April and December 2015 there were 5,009 violent crimes reported to the police, of which 28.5% (1,430) were recorded as alcohol related. The percentage of violent crimes that were alcohol related decreased from 31.4% in the equivalent period in 2014/15, although the actual number of these crimes increased from 1,276.
- v. Between April and December 2015 there were 8,438 theft offences, equating to a rate of 16.3 per 1,000 population. This is a 1.9% reduction from 8,604 offences during the same period in 2014. Durham Constabulary is forecasting a slight (0.5%) reduction in theft offences by the end of 2015/16.

6. The key performance improvement issues for this theme are:

- a. Successful completions from alcohol treatment have deteriorated further. The number of people in alcohol treatment between October 2014 and September 2015 was 1,079, of whom 290 successfully completed. This equates to a 26.9% successful completion rate which remains below the target of 38.6%. It is also worse than the previous year (34.8%) and latest national performance for October 2014 to September 2015 (39.1%).
- b. Successful completions from drug treatment for opiates remain below target. The number of people in drug treatment for opiate use between April 2014 and March 2015 was 1,451, of whom 94 successfully completed, i.e. they did not re-present between April and September 2015. This equates to a 6.5% successful completion rate, which is similar to the same period in the previous year (6.8%), but has not achieved the quarterly target of 8.9% and is worse than the national performance of 7.2%.
- c. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. Latest data shows 1,520 of the 5,237 adult and young offenders in the January to December 2013 cohort re-offended within 12 months of inclusion in the cohort, which equates to 29%. This is worse than the same period in the previous year, when 26.7% of the cohort re-offended. It is also worse than the national rate of 26.5%. The Reducing Reoffending Group is currently developing a new delivery plan which will be implemented from April 2016. Various initiatives have been put in place in County Durham with the aim of reducing re-offending, including:
 - At 12 January 2016, 262 people were on the Checkpoint programme (this offers eligible offenders a four month long contract to engage as an alternative to prosecution. If the offender successfully completes the contract and does not reoffend, no further action will be taken against them). Of these 225 successfully completed (86%), 14 reoffended (5%) and 23 failed to engage (9%).

- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) – between July and September 2015 there was a 52.1% reduction in crimes detected of offenders in the IOM cohort in the last 12 months, with 98 offences recorded.
- ii. Latest data show 186 of the 419 young people in the January to December 2013 cohort re-offended within 12 months of inclusion in the cohort, which equates to 44.4%. The cohort has reduced by 19% from 515 offenders in 2012. The number of re-offenders has also reduced but at a slower rate (2%) which is why the rate has increased (from 36.9%) despite reductions in re-offenders. The re-offending rate in Durham is worse than all three comparator groups (England: 37.9%, North East: 40.8% and statistical neighbours: 39%).

County Durham Youth Offending Service has launched an enhanced intervention programme with 32 young people who committed at least six offences in a 12 month period or were classed as high risk of re-offending. Re-offending levels after six months are encouraging and from 1 September 2015 an additional 17 young people have now also been added to the programme. Analysis of the young people now in this high-risk reoffending cohort will be provided at the meeting. A peer review of the youth offending service undertaken in October 2015 was very positive and areas for consideration are being progressed as part of the service improvement plan for 2016/17.

- iii. For the year January to September 2015 there has been a 21% increase in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents, from 141 in 2014 to 170 in 2015. 13 of these were fatalities. Of the 170, 21 were children and one of these was a fatality.
- iv. The suicide rate for County Durham remains higher than England and the North East. For 2012-14 the rate was 13.3 per 100,000 population compared to 8.9 in England and 11 in the North East. There is no significant change from the previous period (13.4). Suicide rates in County Durham have been increasing over time. The Public Mental Health Strategy was refreshed in February 2016 and includes the development of a Suicide Prevention Framework and action plan for County Durham based on local data and evidence base.

7. There are no Council Plan actions which have not achieved target in this theme.
8. There are no key risks which require any mitigating action in delivering the objectives of this theme.

Recommendations and Reasons

9. That the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the report and consider any performance issues arising there from.

Contact: Jenny Haworth, Head of Planning and Performance
Tel: 03000 268071 **E-Mail:** jenny.haworth@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

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

Staffing - Performance against a number of relevant corporate health Performance Indicators (PIs) has been included to monitor staffing issues.

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

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - Corporate health PIs are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Accommodation - Not applicable

Crime and Disorder - A number of PIs and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Human Rights - Not applicable

Consultation - Not applicable

Procurement - Not applicable

Disability Issues - Employees with a disability are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Legal Implications - Not applicable

Appendix 2: Key to symbols used within the report

Where icons appear in this report, they have been applied to the most recently available information.

Performance Indicators:

Direction of travel

Latest reported data have improved from comparable period



Latest reported data remain in line with comparable period



Latest reported data have deteriorated from comparable period



Performance against target

Performance better than target

Getting there - performance approaching target (within 2%)

Performance >2% behind target

Actions:



Complete (action achieved by deadline/achieved ahead of deadline)



Action on track to be achieved by the deadline



Action not achieved by the deadline/unlikely to be achieved by the deadline

Benchmarking:



Performance better than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available



Performance in line with other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available



Performance worse than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

Nearest Neighbour Benchmarking:

The nearest neighbour model was developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), one of the professional accountancy bodies in the UK. CIPFA has produced a list of 15 local authorities which Durham is statistically close to when you look at a number of characteristics. The 15 authorities that are in the nearest statistical neighbours group for Durham using the CIPFA model are: Barnsley, Wakefield, Doncaster, Rotherham, Wigan, Kirklees, St Helens, Calderdale, Dudley, Northumberland, Tameside, Sheffield, Gateshead, Stockton-on-Tees and Stoke-on-Trent.

We also use other neighbour groups to compare our performance. More detail of these can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at performance@durham.gov.uk.

Appendix 3: Summary of Key Performance Indicators

Table 1: Key Target Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Safer											
37	CASAS9	Building resilience to terrorism (self assessment). Scored on level 1 (low) to 5 (high)	2	2014/15	4	NA [1]	4	NA [1]			
38	CASAS3	Proportion of people who use adult social care services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure	94.6	Apr - Nov 2015	90.0	GREEN	93.9	GREEN	84.5	88.8*	2014/15
39	CASAS1	Percentage of domestic abuse victims who present at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and are repeat victims	14.9	Apr - Sep 2015	25.0	NA [2]	14.7	NA [2]	25.0	29*	Jul 2014 - Jun 2015
40	REDPI98	Percentage of emergency response Care Connect calls arrived at the property within 45 minutes	100.0	Oct - Dec 2015	90.0	GREEN	100.0	GREEN			
41	CASAS5	First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population of 10 to 17 year olds) (Also in Altogether better for Children and Young People)	245	Apr - Dec 2015	486	GREEN	360	GREEN			

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
42	CASAS23	Percentage of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment (Also in Altogether Healthier)	26.9	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015	38.6	RED	34.8	RED	39.1 RED		Oct 2014 - Sep 2015
43	CASAS7	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	6.5	2014/15 (re-presentations to Sep 2015)	8.9	RED	6.8	RED	7.2 RED		2014/15 (re-presentations to Sep 2015)
44	CASAS8	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - non-opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	41.0	2014/15 (re-presentations to Sep 2015)	41.2	AMBER	36.3	GREEN	38.5 GREEN		2014/15 (re-presentations to Sep 2015)

[\[1\] Performance is not comparable due to significant changes to the self-assessment following the introduction of the PREVENT Duty in July 2015. 2014/15 will therefore represent a new baseline](#)

[\[2\] The MARAC arrangements aim to increase the number of referrals but to remain below a threshold of 25%](#)

Table 2: Key Tracker Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Safer											
153	CASAS 12	Overall crime rate (per 1,000 population)	39	Apr - Dec 2015	24.4	Not comparable [3]	37.9	RED	51 GREEN	54.2** GREEN	Apr - Dec 2015
154	CASAS 24	Rate of theft offences (per 1,000 population)	16.3	Apr - Dec 2015	10.3	Not comparable [3]	16.8	GREEN	23 GREEN	22.3** GREEN	Apr - Dec 2015
155	CASAS 10	Recorded level of victim based crimes per 1,000 population	35.2	Apr - Dec 2015	22.0	Not comparable [3]	34.0	RED	45 GREEN	48.2** GREEN	Apr - Dec 2015
156	CASAS 11	Percentage of survey respondents who agree that the police and local council are dealing with concerns of anti-social behaviour and crime	63	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015	62.2	GREEN	61.4	GREEN		59.1** GREEN	Jul 2014 - Jun 2015
157	CASAS 15	Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour	16,823	Apr - Dec 2015	11,725	Not comparable [3]	18,518	GREEN			
158	CASAS 22	Number of hate incidents	291	Apr - Dec 2015	179	Not comparable [3]	236	NA			
159	CASAS 18	Proportion of all offenders (adults and young people) who re-offend in a 12 month period	29	2013	28.1	RED	26.7	RED	26.5 RED		2013

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
160	CAS CYP29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%) (Also in Altogether Better for Children and Young People)	44.4	Jan - Dec 2013	42.4	RED	36.9	RED	37.4 RED	39.7* RED	England - Oct 2012 - Sep 2013 NE - 2012/13
161	CAS AS 19	Percentage of anti-social behaviour incidents that are alcohol related	11.1	Apr - Dec 2015	11.8	GREEN	13.0	GREEN			
162	CASAS 20	Percentage of violent crime that is alcohol related	28.5	Apr - Dec 2015	30.2	GREEN	31.4	GREEN			
163	REDPI 44	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	170	Jan - Sep 2015	106	Not comparable [3]	141	RED			
		Number of fatalities	13			10					
		Number of seriously injured	157			131					
164	REDPI 45	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	21	Jan - Sep 2015	11	Not comparable [3]	18	RED			
		Number of fatalities	1			0					
		Number of seriously injured	20			18					
165	CASAH 21	Suicide rate (deaths from suicide and injury of undetermined intent) per 100,000 population (Also in Altogether Healthier)	13.3	2012-14	13.4	GREEN	13.4	GREEN	8.9 RED	11* RED	2012-14

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
166	CAS CYP14	Number of successful interventions (families turned around) via the Stronger Families Programme (Also in Altogether Better for Children and Young People)	129	Sep 2014 - Dec 2015	NA	NA	NA	Not comparable [4]			

[\[3\] Data cumulative so comparisons are not applicable](#)

[\[4\] Amended to track the number for 2015/16 and will be reported as a % target PI again 2016/17](#)

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

23 March 2016



**Draft Council Plan 2016-2019-
Refresh of the Work Programme**

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to provide members with information contained within the draft Council Plan 2016-2019, relevant to the work of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This enables the opportunity for Members to refresh the Committee's Work Programme to reflect the six objectives and subsequent actions identified within the draft Council Plan for the Council's Altogether Safer priority theme.

Background

2. The current Overview and Scrutiny Committees Work Programmes focus on the priority areas identified within the context of the Council Plan, Cabinet's Forward Plan of decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy, Safe Durham Partnership plans and strategies, performance data and changes in Government legislation.
3. In relation to the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Members will recall that the Work Programme was refreshed at the Committee meeting held on the 19 June 2015, ensuring that areas of focus were in line with current and forthcoming priorities within the Committee's remit. Further areas of focus for the Committee have been added throughout 2015 to reflect changing Government policy and at the request of Members.

Council Plan 2016- 2019

4. The Council Plan is the overarching high level plan for the County Council, which covers a four year period, is updated on an annual basis and is to be agreed by a meeting of Council. The plan sets out how the Council will consider the corporate priorities for improvement and the key actions the Authority will take in delivering the long term goals in the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Council's own improvement agenda. Attached as Appendix 2, is the Altogether Safer section of the draft Council Plan for Members consideration.
5. A small number of proposed changes have been made to the objectives and outcomes from the previous year's Council Plan within the Altogether Safer priority theme. As suggested by the Committee at its meeting in January, Home Safety is an outcome within the new objective 'To implement measures for a safer environment'. In addition, minor wording changes have been made to some of the remaining objectives. The previous wording contained in the plan for last year is detailed below in parentheses for comparative purposes.

6. Within the Council's Altogether Safer priority theme, the focus is to work with partner organisations, as part of the Safe Durham Partnership, to tackle crime and disorder in County Durham.
7. The Council supports the Safe Durham Partnership Plan in its strategic plan to deliver a day-to-day operational response to issues impacting on our neighbourhoods. The Council will work with partners to involve the community in tackling priorities, with the aim of creating a safer county and contributing to an Altogether Better Durham. Below are the relevant objectives and actions for the Altogether Safer priority theme:
 - **Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour**
 - Increased public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Reduced incidence of anti-social behaviour and low level crime
 - **Protect vulnerable people from harm**
 - Prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm.
 - Safeguarding children and adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect them from avoidable harm
 - Community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness, response and recovery
 - **Reduce re-offending**
 - Prevent repeat offending
 - **Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction**
 - Reduced harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities
 - Reduced harm caused by drugs/substances
 - **Implement measures to promote a safe environment (2015-18 wording 'Casualty Reduction'.**
 - Develop a safer road environment
 - Improved Safety in the home
 - Improved understanding of open water safety
 - **Embed the Think Family approach**
 - The most vulnerable families are diverted from offending and anti-social behaviour
8. The draft Council Plan also identifies a series of actions detailing the work which needs to be undertaken by the Authority in order to deliver the above areas.
9. In addition to providing a scrutiny role for activity of the council, the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is the designated Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of Part 3 of the Police and Justice Act 2006. The Committee is therefore responsible for scrutinising the work of the Safe Durham Partnership. At its meeting on 15th February, the Committee considered and responded to the draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan. It is to note that with exception to 'Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism, the priority objectives are aligned to the objectives within the Council Plan and include the following outcomes.

Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour

- Increase public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues
- Reduce incidence of anti-social behaviour and low level crime

Protecting vulnerable people from harm

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

Reducing re-offending

- Prevent inter-generational offending
- Prevent repeat offending

Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction

- Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to communities by tackling alcohol related crime and disorder and vulnerability
- Reduce the harm caused by drugs/substances – through prevention, restricting supply and building recovery

Embed the Think Family Approach

- The most vulnerable families are diverted from offending and anti-social behaviour

Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism

- Implement CONTEST (national strategy)
- Challenge extremism and intolerance

Implement measures to promote a safe environment

- Develop a safer road environment
- Improved understanding of open water safety
- Improved safety in the home

Current Work Programme

10. During 2015/16, the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee has undertaken performance monitoring, in depth Scrutiny Reviews, systematic reviews of progress against recommendations and overview presentations in relation to the following areas:

In depth Scrutiny Review

- ***Organised Crime***
- ***Drug Treatment Services***
- ***20 mph limits/zones***
- ***Alcohol and the Demand on Emergency Services***

Systematic Review

- **Neighbourhood Wardens**

Areas of Overview Activity

- **Safe Durham Partnership Plan Refresh 2016/19**
(All objectives)
- **Consumer Protection – Enforcement Activity**
(Objective Alcohol and Substance misuse harm reduction and protecting vulnerable people from harm)
- **Safe Durham Partnership Draft Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-20**
(Objective Alcohol and Substance misuse harm reduction)
- **Transforming Rehabilitation – update reports from National Probation Service and Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company**
(Objective Reduce re-offending action)
- **County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan 2016/17 Consultation**
(Objectives ‘Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour’ and ‘Implement measures to promote a safe environment’)
- **County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service – Reducing the number of Secondary deliberate fires**
(Objective – ‘Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour’)
- **Activity of the Road Casualty Reduction Forum**
(Objective – ‘Implement measures to promote a safe environment’)
- **Safe Durham Partnership Reducing Re-offending Strategy**
(Objective – Reduce re-offending)
- **Implementation of Anti-Social Behaviour, Police and Crime Act 2014**
(Objective – Reduce anti-social behaviour)
- **County Durham Youth Justice Plan 2014/16: Progress Update 2014/15**
(Objective – ‘Reduce re-offending’)
- **Novel Psychoactive Substances**
(Objective – Alcohol and Substance misuse harm reduction)
- **The City Safety Group**
(Objective – ‘Implement measures to promote a safe environment’)
- **Checkpoint**
(Objective – ‘Reduce re-offending’)
- **Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat Local Action Plan Update**

Performance monitoring

11. Quarterly performance reports on ‘Altogether Safer’ performance indicators and Council Plan objectives

Police and Crime Panel

12. The Committee has a joint working arrangement with the Durham Police and Crime Panel (PCP) that is crucial to provide a communication between the PCP and the Committee.

This arrangement includes receiving update reports from the PCP at each Committee meeting and prior to undertaking an in-depth study into a crime and disorder issue, discussion takes place between both the Chairs of the PCP and Committee and Secretariat to avoid duplication of effort and resources.

Gaps within current Work Programme

13. Having considered the Altogether Safer section of the draft Council Plan for 2016 – 2019 and draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan the following could be considered for inclusion within the Committee’s work programme.

Protect Vulnerable People from harm

- Work with partners to improve support to services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and identify areas for improvements within the criminal justice system
- Counter Terrorism and Prevent Duty
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the Multi- Agency Intervention Service (MAIS)
- Community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness, response and recovery
- Reduce the Impact of Hate Crime

Implement measures to promote a safe environment

- Improved Safety in the Home

National Policy Context

- Cybercrime

Cross Cutting Arrangements

14. The draft Council Plan also identifies the following areas from other ‘Altogether’ themes that are linked to objectives and actions within ‘Altogether Safer’. In addition areas for improvement within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan also cross cut with areas of the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Altogether	Objective	Action	Link to Altogether Safer	OSC
Better for Children and Young People	A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families	Children are safeguarded and protected from harm	Safeguarding children and adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect them from avoidable harm	Children and Young People
Healthier	Reduce health inequalities and early deaths	Reduced levels of alcohol and drug related ill health	Reduced harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities Reduced harm caused by drugs/substances	Adults, Wellbeing and Health
Greener	Deliver a cleaner, more attractive and sustainable environment	Reduced environmental crime	Reduced incidence of anti-social behaviour and low level crime	Environment and Sustainable Communities

Review topics

15. The Committee are currently undertaking review activity on 'Alcohol and the Demand on Emergency Services' and are also involved with activity on 20 mph limits. However, Members are requested to suggest a potential topic for future review activity throughout 2016/17 and agree at its meeting in June.

Next Steps

16. The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the appropriate section from the draft Council Plan, Appendix 2 (copy attached) to inform the Committee work programme for 2016 -2017, reflecting on the current work programme detailed in paragraphs 9 and 13 above and paragraph 15 for future review activity.
17. Members will receive a further report at the next Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee confirming/agreeing the Committee's work programme for 2016- 2017 based on today's discussion and agreement.

Recommendations

18. That the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the information contained in the Altogether Safer priority theme of the draft Council Plan 2016 -2019, Appendix 2 (copy attached).
19. That the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee refresh the work programme for 2016 - 2017 by discussing and considering those actions identified within Appendix 2.
20. That the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 21 June 2016, receive a further report detailing the Committee's work programme for 2016 -2017.

Contact:	Tom Gorman, Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Manager
Tel:	03000 268 027
Author:	Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Tel:	03000 268 142

Appendix 1: Implications (The following implications are taken directly from the report to Cabinet on 16 March 2016)

Finance - The Council Plan sets out the corporate priorities of the Council for the next three years. The Medium Term Financial Plan aligns revenue and capital investment to priorities within the Council Plan.

Staffing - The Council's strategies are being aligned to achievement of the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

Risk - Consideration of risk is undertaken in the preparation of the Council Plan and Service Plans.

Equality and diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty - A full impact assessment has previously been undertaken for the Council Plan. The actions underpinning the Council Plan include specific issues relating to equality and aim to improve the equality of life for those with protected characteristics. The Plan has been influenced by consultation and monitoring to include equality issues. There is no evidence of negative impact for particular groups.

Accommodation - The council's Accommodation programme is a key corporate programme contained within the Council Plan.

Crime and disorder - The Altogether Safer section of the Council Plan sets out the Council's contributions to tackling crime and disorder.

Human rights – None

Consultation - Council and partnership priorities have been developed following an analysis of available consultation data including an extensive consultation programme carried out as part of the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and this has been reaffirmed by subsequent consultation on the council's budget.

Procurement – None

Disability Issues - Accessibility issues are considered in the design of our planning document.

Legal Implications- None

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Priority Theme Safer

Through the Altogether Safer theme, we work to achieve our vision for County Durham where every adult and child will be, and will feel, safe. Working in partnership is essential to achieving our vision and through the Safe Durham Partnership we set priorities and plans for tackling crime and disorder, demonstrating strong leadership, planning, performance management and problem-solving to deliver positive outcomes to keep our communities safe.

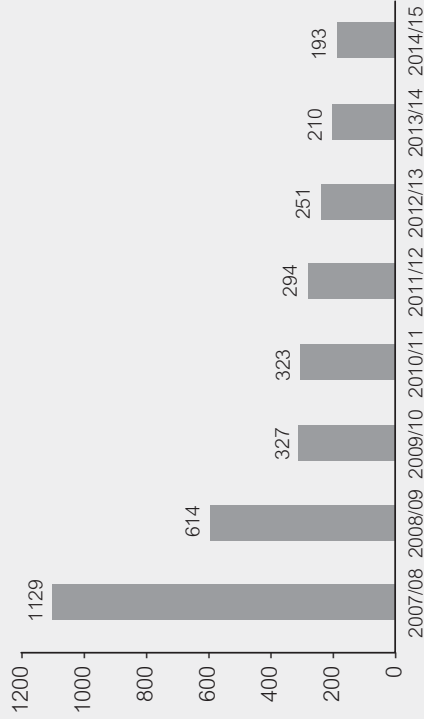
Achievements 2015-2016

- The County Durham Youth Offending Service received an award for its work on Speech, Language and Communication Needs, to support young people who offend.
- Supported the establishment of the Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company, which aims to reduce re-offending in the county, protect the public and provide successful and effective rehabilitation services for offenders.
- Introduced an integrated drug and alcohol recovery service and developed six recovery centres across the county, to provide consistent, high quality, recovery-focused interventions for all people irrespective of age or level of substance misuse.
- The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system continues to reduce. We have achieved an 82.9% reduction in first time entrants, from 1,129 in 2007/08 to 193 in 2014/15 (Figure S1).
- Durham has the lowest overall crime rate when compared to similar police force areas (Figure S2).
- Implemented a Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) to provide tailor-made support to help vulnerable and 'at risk' adults.
- Introduced a programme of riverside safety improvements in Durham City in partnership with Durham City Safety Group.

- Promoted a safer and healthier road environment by introducing Phase 1 of part-time 20 mph speed limits on main and distributor roads near schools in the county.
- New, revised open water safety policy/procedures outlining how open water risks are managed and promoting good practice across privately owned open water sites.

Figure S1.

First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 2007/8 to 2014/15



Priority Theme Safer

Issues to address

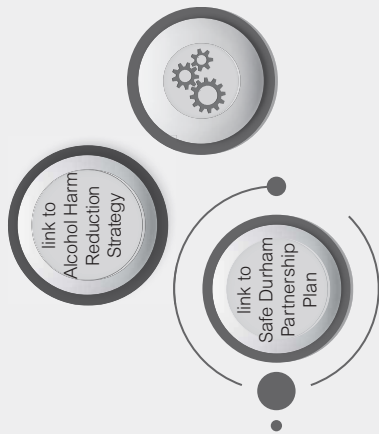
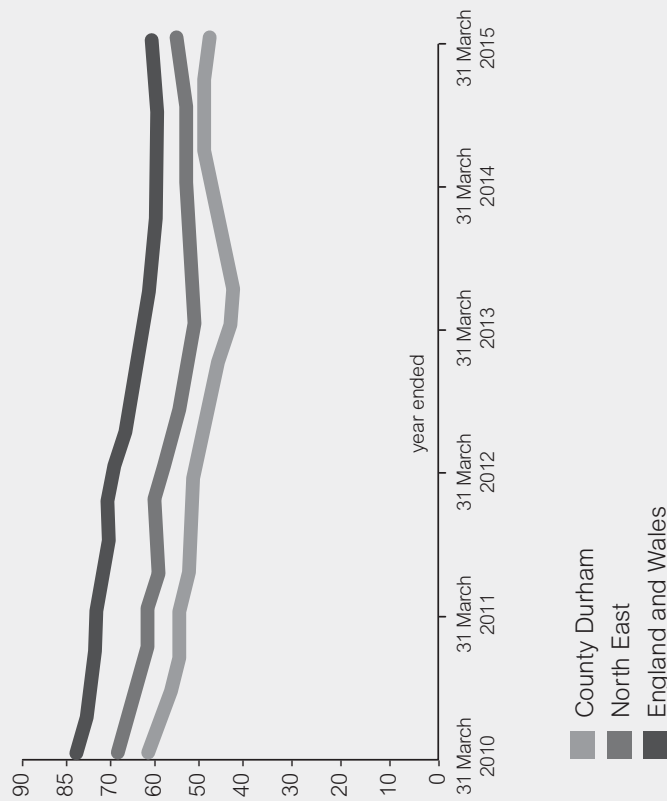
- The number of incidents of anti-social behaviour have reduced during 2015/16. We will need to evaluate the effective Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) to ensure that it is meeting its aims.
- We are working with partners to improve our support services for victims of violence and sexual offences and identify areas for improvements in the criminal justice system.
- Domestic abuse features in over one third of all initial child protection conferences and continues to be the most common factor across all localities.
- County Durham has a higher re-offending rate by adults and young people at 27.3% compared to the national average (26.4%), although the number of re-offenders in the county has reduced. Further developing restorative approaches will enable those directly affected - offenders or perpetrators, victims or family members and members of the community - to communicate and agree how to deal with a particular incident and its consequences.
- There is a need to reduce harm caused to the individual, families and communities by alcohol and drugs. During April to September 2015, of those in treatment, 51% reported using opiates, 43% using alcohol and 21% using cannabis. The figure for those using opiates is higher than the national rate of 34.7%. We will be working with partners to raise awareness, and use licensing laws effectively to implement controls.
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places responsibility on local authorities to work with partners to deliver 'Prevent': the government's strategy for preventing people being drawn into terrorism.

- Riverside and water safety is a key issue with 56 incidents occurring in Durham City between January 2010 and March 2015. The Durham City Safety group made a number of improvements to Durham riverside and further work will be undertaken countywide as part of the open water programme on managing open water risks.
- In order to ensure road safety around schools, we will continue to implement the programme of part-time 20 mph speed limits on main and distributor roads near schools in the county with the highest accident rates.



Key Facts and Figures

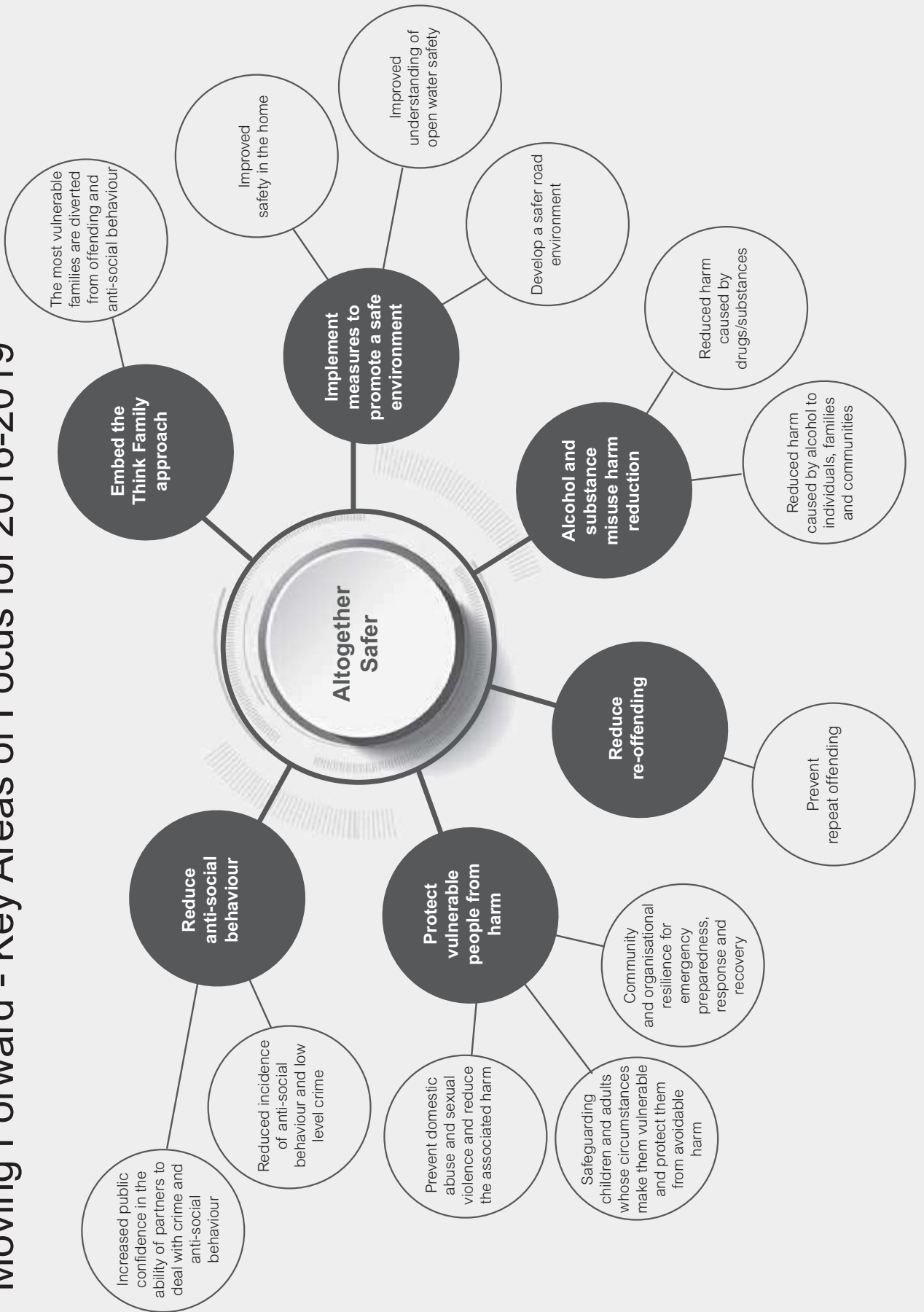
Figure S2.
Crime rate per 1,000 population 2010-2015



- 19%** Reduction in crime in County Durham since 2009
- 2,700** Reduction in the number of adults and young people who offend in a year in County Durham since 2007/08 (8,000 to 5,300)
- 3,300** People received help with drug/alcohol problems at treatment centres in 2014/15

The Safe Durham Partnership for County Durham involves the Police, County Council, Fire and Rescue Service, the NHS and Probation Services, who work together to improve community safety.

Moving Forward - Key Areas of Focus for 2016-2019



Moving Forward - Key Areas of Focus for 2016-2019

<p>Objective 1 Reduce anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Increased public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour</p> <p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a Safe Durham Partnership Plan to describe how responsible authorities (including the council, Durham Constabulary and the Fire and Rescue Service) will work together to tackle crime and disorder in the county. • Work with partners to develop a plan to dismantle organised crime groups thereby reducing the risk of harm to the local community. <p>Reduced incidence of anti-social behaviour and low level crime</p> <p>We will implement a programme to reduce anti-social behaviour particularly in public open spaces.</p>	<p>Objective 2 Protect vulnerable people from harm</p> <p>Prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm</p> <p>We will work with partners to improve our support services for victims and identify areas for improvements in the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Safeguarding children and adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protect them from avoidable harm</p> <p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to deliver the government's strategy for preventing people being drawn into terrorism by establishing a multi-agency assessment panel to provide support and intervention. • Deliver training to staff, including schools to raise awareness of the 'Prevent' Duty • Evaluate the effective Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) to ensure that it is meeting its aims. <p>Community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness, response and recovery</p> <p>We will work with local communities to develop and ensure Community Resilience plans are in place, to minimise the damage from emergencies such as flooding.</p>	<p>Objective 3 Reduce re-offending</p> <p>Prevent repeat offending</p> <p>We will aim to reduce re-offending by appropriately targeting our resources, ensuring we listen and respond to young people and their families and making sure that volunteering is a key part of the work we undertake with young people and victims.</p>
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Moving Forward - Key Areas of Focus for 2016-2019

Objective 4

Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction

Reduced harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities

We will work with partners to deliver a number of initiatives to reduce the damage caused by alcohol, including use of licensing laws to control availability and the targeting of underage drinkers.

Reduced harm caused by drugs/substances

We will work with partners to prevent harm, restrict supply, minimise the impact of drugs and build recovery within communities by raising awareness of emerging trends with communities and partners.

Objective 5

Implement measures to promote a safe environment

Develop a safer road environment

We will continue to implement our programme to introduce 20mph speed limits on main and distributor roads around schools with the highest accident rates.

Improved understanding of open water safety

We will implement our water safety programme including management of risk of public open spaces near open water and the promotion of good practice across privately owned water sites.

Improved safety in the home

We will:

- Work with partners to undertake initiatives to reduce doorstep crime, rogue traders, and the supply of counterfeit products.
- Building on the national pilot, explore opportunities with the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service to engage a wide range of people including those who are isolated and vulnerable to support them to improve safety within the home.
- Ensure changes arising from the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 are incorporated into operational practices.

Objective 6

Embed the Think Family approach

The most vulnerable families are diverted from offending and anti-social behaviour

We will:

- Deliver Phase 2 of our Stronger Families programme to families to help them address the complex issues they face such as children not attending school or anti-social behaviour.
- Embed restorative approaches in the Stronger Families Programme by training and developing staff in approaches for early intervention when working with families to prevent them from offending.

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

23 March 2016

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 held on 3 March 2016:
 - Revenue and Capital Budgets 2016/17, Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20, Revenue and Capital Budgets 2015/16
 - Community Safety Funding 2016/17
 - Quarter 3 Performance Report 2015/16
 - Recent HMIC Inspection Reports
 - New Policing and Crime Bill

Detail

3. Mr Gary Ridley, PCC's Chief Finance Officer presented the report that provided detail on the PCC'S decisions in respect of:
 - Approving the revenue budget and policing precept for 2016/17;
 - Approving the capital budget for 2016/17;
 - Approving the revised revenue & capital budgets for 2015/16;
 - Approving the medium term financial plan, and
 - Considering the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves.

Community Safety Funding 2016/17

4. The report, presented by Mr Alan Reiss, Chief of Staff provided detail to members on the allocation of funding to both County Durham and Darlington Community Safety Partnerships and how the money has been allocated to their respective priority areas for 2016/17.
5. The PCC's Community Safety Fund is administrated through the County Durham Foundation and the report identifies projects that have received Community Safety Funding within the County Durham & Darlington area during 2015/16. Members were also informed that the process to apply for funding applications for 2016/17 was launched on 22 February 2016.

6. **Quarter 3 Performance Report 2015/16**
The Panel received a presentation on the Quarter 3 2015-16 Performance report from the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Ron Hogg. The interactive report provided Members with performance information on Victim Based Crime, Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction. The report is available from the PCC's website and provides information on key performance data linked to the Commissioner's priorities and anti-social behaviour at a local level.
7. In considering the report the Panel asked, where possible, if consideration could be given to include comparison data of performance information with other forces.

Recent HMIC Inspection Reports

8. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Ron Hogg presented a report on outcomes following HMIC Inspection reports that rated Durham Constabulary as 'outstanding' for Effectiveness and Efficiency and 'good' for Legitimacy.
9. The Panel noted this was an extremely positive report with many areas within each inspection being rated as 'outstanding', the report also included information on an action plan in place with regard to stop and search and that Durham Constabulary were the only force in the Country to receive a rating of outstanding for Effectiveness. It is also to note that within the Effectiveness inspection, the Force were graded as outstanding in relation to tackling serious and organised crime.

New Policing and Crime Bill

10. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Ron Hogg presented a report to inform Panel members of the proposals within the Policing and Crime Bill which has been recently introduced into the House of Commons. Members were advised that the Bill covers a number of areas including proposals on collaboration, police volunteer powers, reforming the police complaints system and firearms and alcohol licensing laws.

Recommendation

11. 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

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.

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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