



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

Date Tuesday 21 June 2016
Time 9.30 am
Venue Council Chamber, 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 23 March 2016 (Pages 1 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 Update: (Pages 11 - 16)
Report of Steve Watson, Deputy Chief Constable, Durham Constabulary.
8. Quarter 4 2015/16 Performance Management Report: (Pages 17 - 34)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – presented by the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management, Children and Adults Services.
9. Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2015-2018: (Pages 35 - 76)
Report of Lynn Wilson, Consultant in Public Health.
10. Review of the Committee's Work Programme 2016-17: (Pages 77 - 84)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive.

11. Overview and Scrutiny Review Update:
Verbal Update by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Jonathan Slee - Alcohol and the Demand on Emergency Services.
12. Police and Crime Panel:
Verbal Update by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Jonathan Slee.
13. Safe Durham Partnership Update: (Pages 85 - 90)
Report of the Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Services – presented by the Community Safety Manager, Children and Adults Services, Caroline Duckworth.
14. 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
13 June 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: 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 **Wednesday 23 March 2016** at **9.15 am**

Present:

Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Armstrong, C Hampson, M Hodgson, G Holland, H Liddle, J Maitland, N Martin, J Measor, T Nearney, K Shaw, P Stradling, F Tinsley, J Turnbull and C Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr J Welch

Co-opted Employees/Officers:

Chief Superintendent H McMillan

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Charlton, J Gray, S Iveson, Mr A J Cooke and Chief Fire Officer S Errington.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 15 February 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Jonathan Slee noted that in relation to Item 9 within the minutes, a response from the Committee in relation to the refresh of the Safe Durham Plan had been submitted.

The Chairman noted that the Committee's Co-opted Member from the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS), Stuart Errington had now been appointed as Chief Fire Officer, the Committee congratulated the Chief Fire Officer on his appointment.

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 noted that, in order to best accommodate presenting Officers, it was preferable to take the City Safety Group update report as the next item. Members of the Committee agreed.

6 The City Safety Group

The Chairman introduced the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services, Oliver Sherratt to give an update presentation to Members in respect of the work of the City Safety Group (for copy see file of minutes).

The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services noted that a large amount of work had been undertaken since the last update provided by Terry Collins, the previous Corporate Director, now Chief Executive, at the meeting of the Committee in September 2015. Members were reminded that the City Safety Group (CSG) had been established in February 2015 following the tragic death of three students in the river within a 14 month period and included representatives from Durham County Council (DCC), Durham Constabulary, the CDDFRS, Durham University, and Durham Students' Union. It was noted that there had been a shared commitment and urgency from all partners to work together to further improve safety in the City Centre, with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) having been commissioned to undertake an independent review of riverside safety, taking into account all aspects of river safety. It was added that RoSPA had commended the work of the CSG and a number of physical and practical options were put forward. Members were reminded that a delivery plan had been developed to implement recommendations.

The Committee noted that many activities had been undertaken, such as: Riverside Assessment; Student Volunteer Group; Guardianship Arrangements; Durham Street Lights support; Education and Awareness; Taxi Arrangements; Alcohol Retail Training; Night Bus; RoSPA; communications/briefings; Safe Haven; and pilot breathalysers.

Councillors learned that there had been a number of infrastructure works carried out along the river to improve safety, amounting to £230,000 funded by DCC, Durham University and Durham Cathedral. It was noted DCC was commissioned to undertake the works and the works were completed on time and a robust inspection and maintenance regime was put in place in addition. Members were reminded that the Lumiere event had taken place with over 200,000 visitors to the City Centre and with no river related incidents. With reference to the riverside footpaths, Members noted before and after photographs detailing the improvements made, the materials chosen to be in sympathy with the surroundings, and the process of inspection and maintenance, given that the location would be prone to erosion.

In terms of the fencing, there were a number of types as appropriate to the location, carefully chosen and in context of the area's heritage and conservation status. It was added that the communication of the works was sensitively managed and installation had been completed with no negative impact upon the Council or its partners. Members noted that similarly to the footpaths, there was an inspection and monitoring regime in place. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services explained the installation of public rescue equipment (PRE) and that all existing PRE had been upgraded and additional units installed at key risk locations. Members learned of the information on each unit identifying the location and instructions, and it was added the PRE would also be subject to a robust inspection and monitoring regime.

Councillors learned that in response to a recommendation in terms of a lighting policy, the CSG agreed to divert footpath users towards lit routes. It was explained that additional lighting was installed at "Windy Gap", and again, inspection and monitoring was put in place. Members noted works to improve signage, including reinforcing where lit routes were and the production of a poster that highlighted the lit night time walking routes around the city centre, which were publicised via the University and within licensed premises, albeit the routes were not just for students' use.

The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services noted that as part of the inspections and works the five weir structures in Durham City had been assessed independently by the Council. It was noted that 3 had required no further works, with the mill House weir having been previously identified as high risk and therefore improvement works were carried out, reducing the risk such that no further works were required. It was added that the weir beneath Millburngate Bridge would have fencing installed following the departure of contractors currently on the site.

The Committee were reminded that in addition to physical works, there was a number of education and awareness raising events, with the delivery of a social norms campaign and focus on promotion of positive behaviour, led by Durham Students' Union. It was added that this was important and it was equally as important to refresh the message in order to keep each new cohort of students advised as to the risks.

The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services informed Members that a RoSPA re-assessment was being undertaken and that all the high risk areas had now gone. It was added that a significant amount of effort had provided a much improved environment and that once the report had been finalised then it could be shared with Members for their information. It was reiterated that the work had been recognised as national best practice and the Chief Executive had been lead speaker at the RoSPA National Water Safety Conference held in Durham. Members learned that in addition the work had been used as a case study in the new national drowning prevention strategy, launched by Government in February 2016.

Members noted that in moving forward it had been explained that the CDR continued to meet quarterly and that if there was any significant incident, a meeting of the CSR would be held immediately in response and review what had happened and to consider if any further action was required. It was noted that physical risk control measures would be reviewed and revisited and that the education and awareness campaigns would be maintained, together with looking to identify new opportunities to provide education on the issues of safety. It was added this included activities such as writing to premises within Durham City to ask them as regards carry out their own risk assessments, with the feedback so far being positive.

The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services noted that in summary: a lot of good work had been carried out; there was continued support and commitment from all partners; Durham was a safe city and all involved wanted it to remain that way; there had been no reported accidents/incidents/fatalities following the introduction of the CSG recommendations; and that all involved would not be complacent and work hard to maintain the momentum gathered.

The Chairman thanked the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services and asked Members for their questions on the update report and presentation.

Councillor J Maitland asked as regards the fencing, whether it was replaced like-for-like or upgraded to the latest safer options. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services noted that fencing was as appropriate to each location, and that while no fencing could provide such a barrier to prevent access to the water, it was noted that the best options were taken forward, matched appropriately to the location.

Councillor F Tinsley noted that the CSG had rightly focussed on river safety following the recent tragedies, however, now that a lot of these issues had been addressed were there other areas the CSR would look at. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services agreed that the main focus had been the safety around the river, but the wider safety within the night-time economy and issues involving alcohol had been looked at as preventative actions and this work had been very positive. It was added that other aspects had been looked at, however, in response to the incidents the focus had been the issues of river safety for the initial period.

Councillor C Wilson asked options in terms of vandalism to the fencing and equipment, for example to fine those responsible, and how issues for maintenance could be reported. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services any reports could be directed to the Council for following up, and that issues of anti-social behaviour would be looked at and that the Council would look to learn from the RoSPA Risk Assessments and apply to other areas and number of DCC staff had received training. Members noted that there were over 200 location identified and information on any safety issues would be greatly received. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services added that feedback from the Coroner had included reference to signage to reiterated that water can be dangerous and to stay safe.

Councillor T Nearney noted the physical improvements had been great and asked whether there would be support for the voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations in supporting those affected by the night-time economy and also whether the CDR were working with Planning and Licensing in terms of designing out and issues with new developments, such as plans for Millburngate. Councillor N Martin noted feedback as regards the works had been positive and highlighted the issue of the area at "Browns Boatyard", used often by families with young children as a social area. Councillor P Stradling asked whether the works had been carried out within budget. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services explained that the VCS was as a part of wider plans and the CSG had agreed this week to look at a given year to identify the risks, such as at busy events such as the Miners' Gala, the Regatta and so on, and therefore to then see when to best target the resources we do have and how the VCS could play into that. In terms of the works on the river, it was noted there was still work to do, and that the situation would be kept under review.

The Council's Occupational Health and Safety Manager, Kevin Lough added that it was important to note that in some cases the fencing that would be considered as a barrier to prevent people falling into the river was also a means by which they would be able to pull themselves out and therefore there was a need to have a balance and to have works carried out in the appropriate place using the appropriate fencing. It was added that the budget was policy led and that it was based upon what works were deemed as being required to maintain safety.

Resolved:

That the report and presentation be noted.

7 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: the first UK Anti-Drowning Strategy, with Durham being praised for its work; an article and CCTV footage in respect of two men dumping an air-conditioning unit in countryside at Horden, part of the ongoing "Operation: 'Stop it'" campaign which has seen around 20-30 prosecutions in this regard; and the launch by Durham Constabulary of a new website in terms local updates helping with community engagement, keeping local people informed and boosting confidence levels in our communities.

The Chairman noted it would be useful for the committee to have a report back on the use of covert CCTV at a future meeting.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

8 Quarter 3 2015/16 Performance Management Report

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management, Keith Forster who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 3 2015/16 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 Care Connect call responses; the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System; and a reduction in anti-social behaviour (ASB) figures.

It was noted that the key performance issues included a further underperformance in respect of the number of people completing alcohol and drug treatment, noting the new provider, Lifeline, was still in the process of "bedding in", however, the comments from Members made at the last Committee had been fed back to the Director of Public Health. In respect of reoffending, it was noted that Durham's re-offending rate was 29% which was higher than the national average (26.5%) and that as there was a 2 year data lag in this respect, there was a work ongoing in order to produce a local measure.

It was encouraging to note that 86% of individuals who engaged through the Checkpoint programme had successfully completed. In relation to Youth reoffending, although the percentage of the offending cohort who re-offend had increased to 44.4%, there had been a substantial reduction in the number of young offenders between 2007 and 2015.

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, with the 170 incidents including 21 being children and one being a fatality. The Committee learned that the suicide rate for County Durham remained higher than the North East and England rates, and that the Public Mental Health Strategy was refreshed in February 2016 and included the development of a Suicide Prevention Framework and Action Plan for County Durham based upon local data.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management and asked Members for their questions.

Councillor H Liddle asked as regards the impact of the Youth Services review, with the Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Services, Peter Appleton explaining the review was targeted and that services were working together.

The Chairman noted that he was disappointed in the performance reported in terms of the drug and alcohol treatment and therefore a Special Meeting on the issue would be appropriate. The Chairman asked whether, while the performance in terms of the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system was good, the alternatives in terms of restorative justice and were robust and fitting to the crimes being committed. Councillor J Armstrong agreed as regards a Special Meeting, with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer adding that a Joint Meeting with the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee may be appropriate.

Councillor J Maitland noted the issues highlighted in terms of suicides, with the Head of Planning and Service Strategy agreeing that the issue was very sad. The Head of Planning and Service Strategy added that while there was data lag in terms of the statistics, a lot work was being undertaken such as the Crisis Care Concordat and it was an issue being looked at again by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Chairman added that it would be useful if the matter would be reported back at this Committee in addition.

Councillor N Martin noted that at paragraph 5 (iv) of the report the figure of 5,009 violent crimes reported represented an increase of around a quarter and asked whether changes in recording could account for this. The Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management noted that a recent redefinition had meant that a larger number of incidents would be recorded as violent crimes, with nationally an average increase of around 30% having been noted. Chief Superintendent H McMillan added that while there may have been a small actual increase and then a larger increase as a result of the changes in recording, the figures gave a more accurate picture. It was explained that in the past there was a period of 72 hours in which to gather information and to assess via established standards as to how an incident would be categorised. Members learned that the Home Office now said for recording to be within 24 hours and Police Forces had to comply with this standard. It was added that by the old rules there was no recording of the incident having involved violence until those involved had been spoken to directly, however, now the incident could be recorded prior to this and that there were a number of factors/criteria now that meant it was more difficult to "no crime" an incident.

Chief Superintendent H McMillan noted that there was a lot more reports via schools and a lot more “low-level” incidents would now be recorded as being violent.

Councillor G Holland noted that Members had previously raised the issue of where the statistics and performance had altered by a significant amount and how what was significant would be determined and reported to Members to help show what issues should be focussed upon. Councillor N Martin noted he had spoken to Officers as regards the issue and work was ongoing in this regard. Councillor J Armstrong noted that the narrative alongside the statistics was being improved to give more explanation for Members.

Councillor C Wilson noted that some training in terms of suicide prevention had been given via an AAP and this may be of some interest and use to Members of the Committee.

Councillor H Liddle asked whether those handling the calls received were determining whether an incident was a crime, and were those staff were non-Police personnel. Chief Superintendent H McMillan noted that the call handlers were predominantly Police staff and were highly trained and skilled in order to deal with the types of calls received by the Police, with performance being very good in this regard.

Councillor K Shaw asked whether indicator RED PI 44 referred to those in vehicles or included pedestrians in addition. The Strategic Manager - Performance and Information Management noted that the figures represented all those killed or seriously injured in a road accident and therefore both in vehicles and any pedestrians that may have become involved.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

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

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the report of the Assistant Chief Executive in terms of the Draft Council Plan 2016-2019 and the Refresh of the Work Programme for the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes). The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that Appendix 2 to the report contained the draft Altogether Safer Priority Theme, to be considered by Council in April 2016.

Members noted that the report set out what areas had been looked at by the Committee, what areas were in the work programme going forward, linked to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan and the Council Plan and its supporting plans and policies. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that this now included counter terrorist and the prevention of violent extremism.

The Committee were asked to note the gaps within the current work programme, namely: Work with partners to improve support services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and identify areas for improvements within the criminal justice system; counter terrorism and the Prevent duty; evaluate the effectiveness of multi-agency intervention service (MAIS); community and organisational resilience for emergency preparedness response and recovery; reduce the impact of hate crime; improved safety in the home; and cybercrime. Members noted a range of cross-cutting themes and the arrangements in place linked to the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The Chairman thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, noting the excellent work of the Committee and its Working Groups, including the Alcohol and the Demand on the Emergency Services Working Group, chaired by Councillor T Nearney, and asked Members for any questions.

Councillor J Armstrong noted the new measure in terms of improved safety in the home, the work with the CDDFRS and asked for an overview of what was being done. Councillor M Hodgson added that the home safety checks being carried out by CDDFRS were aided by a grant from Government, via DCC expanding the scope of the scheme.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Overview and Scrutiny Review Updates

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that three of the 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. Councillor T Nearney informed Members of the Committee that the Group had received presentations from the Chief Executive of BALANCE and from Sergeant M Urwin and the Council's Consumer Protection Manager, Owen Cleugh. Members were reminded of a field study opportunity on 2 April and to contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer if interested. It was added that the next meeting of the Working Group on 5 April would have representatives from Urgent Care and the North East Ambulance Service to give evidence in terms of the impact of alcohol on their services. Councillor J Armstrong noted that the issue of minimum unit pricing (MUP) had been raised at all of the meetings of Working Group so far.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that the next meeting of the 20mph Working Group would be in April and Members of the Working Group would receive a draft report for comments prior to being submitted to Cabinet in May. Members noted that the work undertaken in terms of the 20mph Working Group had been shortlisted for the Management Journal (MJ) Awards, for "Excellence in Governance and Scrutiny".

Councillor P Stradling noted he hoped that the Authority was able to secure the award for the hard work that had been undertaken, and should the Authority win or otherwise, it offered a further opportunity to promote the 20mph limits being introduced within areas of the county, together with the positive impact in terms of keeping people safe in the areas around our schools.

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

11 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:

- 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.

Members noted that Durham Constabulary had recently been inspected and that across all areas the force was rated as good or outstanding, and was the only force in the country being rated as outstanding in investigating crime and managing offenders. The Chairman asked that the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner be congratulated in respect of all the hard work undertaken by Durham Constabulary to achieve these excellent high standards.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

12 Consumer Protection and Advertising

The Chairman noted that Councillor C Hampson had asked to raise an issue with Members of the Committee.

Councillor C Hampson thanked the Chairman and noted she had seen an increase in her area of shops and market stalls selling paraphernalia associated with cannabis use and felt that these items being in such open display was not appropriate. Councillor C Hampson added she had spoken to the local Police Inspector in respect of this matter. Councillor C Hampson added that another issue to be highlighted with Members was that of signage in shops referring to promotions on “booze” when referring to alcohol and asked if this wording was subject to any input from Licensing or Trading Standards. Councillor J Measor noted similar items for sale in shops located within her area.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted he would pass the comments on to the Council’s Consumer Protection Manager and Councillor J Armstrong added it may be useful to pass on the Police and Crime commissioner in addition. The Chairman concluded by noting that there was also the issue of some shops selling so called “legal highs”, and the links to anti-social behaviour and the health risks posed to the public by those psychoactive substances.

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

21 June 2016

**Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015
Update**



Safe Durham Partnership

**Report of Steve Watson, Deputy Chief Constable, Durham
Constabulary**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on progress of the collective response of all 'specified authorities' to the new duties imposed by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Background

- 2 This follows a previous report to the committee on the implications of the Act (March 2015).
- 3 The Act 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, Community Rehabilitation Companies.
 - Schools, Further and Higher Education.
 - NHS Trusts/Foundation Trusts.
- 4 The 'Prevent Duty (statutory) Guidance' sets out a series of expectations specific to each specified authority. In addition, each authority 'must demonstrate evidence of productive co-operation'.

Summary of progress against the main elements of the new duty

Productive Cooperation

- 5 The Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Contest Silver Group has responsibility for overseeing the collective response of specified authorities who are all represented on the group.
- 6 In March 2015, the Group commissioned a review of the collective response to the implementation of the Prevent Duty which, in addition to specified authorities, includes the cooperation of the Fire and Rescue Service and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).

- 7 Each member of the Contest Silver group has provided regular feedback against each expectation placed on them. This has formed the review document which was presented to the group in September 2015 and March 2016. The group is satisfied that progress is strong with many of the expectations implemented. The group is also satisfied that progress against ongoing actions will lead to full implementation and expects to close the review at the September 2016 group meeting.

Assessment of Risk

- 8 All specified authorities are required to demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in County Durham. Local Authorities are expected to use existing counter-terrorism local profiles (CTLTPs), produced by the police, to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism. This includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.
- 9 The annual CTLTP is commissioned by Durham Constabulary, with support from members of the Contest Silver Group. Durham Constabulary provides a CTLTP briefing to Durham County Council and to the Contest Silver group. Recommendations from the CTLTP are drawn up in order to mitigate risk and are included in the Contest Silver group's Delivery Plan.
- 10 Schools, Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) establishments are required to assess risks specific to their establishment. All schools have received the resources required to complete a risk assessment and have been provided with an understanding of what is required. All FE and HE establishments have carried out individual Risk Assessments.
- 11 The National Probation Service (NPS) and National Offender Management Service (NOMS) have a duty to assess the risk from offenders convicted of terrorism or terrorism-related offences and in preventing other offenders from being drawn into terrorism. They are meeting the expectations of the duty by:
- Screening offenders on conviction where issues are raised at the point of supervision (NPS).
 - Risk assessing cell sharing arrangements for every prison inmate (NOMS).
 - Risk assessing convicted TACT (Terrorism Act) offenders prior to release (NOMS).

Raising Awareness of Prevent

- 12 All specified authorities are required to ensure:
- Frontline staff, who engage with the public, understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it.

- They provide appropriate training for staff involved in the implementation of this duty.
- 13 Specified authorities, Fire and Rescue Service and CCG's are all engaged in planning and delivering this work:
- Durham Constabulary provided train-the-trainer WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) training to partner organisations and awareness raising briefings to a range of organisations.
 - Over 5,000 front-line staff have received Prevent e-learning and this includes members of the Police and Crime Panel.
 - All partner organisations are delivering WRAP.
 - Durham County Council has delivered its e-learning course to over 4,500 of its staff (including schools). WRAP training for schools concluded at the end of April 2016 and WRAP is currently being delivered to relevant supervisors and front line staff.
 - All existing and new prison staff are receiving briefings.
 - All colleges are conducting Prevent training with some completing their training plan fully. One college has delivered scenario training to 250 of its lecturers to help them understand how to determine what should and should not be referred under Prevent.
 - One Higher Education establishment is currently developing online training to complement bespoke workshops that are in the development stage.
 - Both CCG's and the Fire and Rescue Service have trained WRAP facilitators and will be delivering training to their staff.
 - 375 professionals across the Safe Durham Partnership and Voluntary and Community Sector attended four Prevent Seminars delivered by Dr Dave Sloggett; a national expert in Counter terrorism.

Channel Panel

- 14 Durham County Council has a Channel Panel in place. It has representation from Durham Constabulary and is supported by guidance and procedural documents. A referral programme for the 0-19 age group is being developed by DCC Children's Services.

Communicate and promote the importance of the duty

- 15 Communicating the Prevent Duty is a requirement of all partner agency plans. Durham County Council is required to communicate the duty to the private, voluntary and independent childcare and out-of-school sectors. The following is a summary of that progress:
- 80% of all the county's registered childcare institutions have received a comprehensive briefing and provided access to a wide range of resources.
 - Registered childminders are currently undergoing prevent briefings, while Foster Care providers received a briefing in May 2016.

- A prevent briefing document has been provided to over 1,300 out-of-school providers and two Prevent Seminars were delivered to this sector in April 2016.
- Durham Voice has communicated the duty to the voluntary and community sector; providing access to resources through the County Durham Family Information Service.

Extremism

- 16 The guidance accompanying the national Counter Extremism Strategy is still to be received.
- 17 The Counter Extremism and Safeguarding Bill 2016 was announced in the Queens Speech on 18th May. The Bill is introduced to prevent radicalisation, tackle extremism, and promote community integration. Its aim is to protect the public against the most dangerous extremists and ensure the government and law enforcement have a full range of powers to deal with extremism. It is still unclear as to whether this legislation will impact on the activity of street protest groups. The bill will:
- introduce a new civil order regime to restrict extremist activity, following consultation;
 - safeguard children from extremist adults by taking powers to intervene in intensive, unregulated education settings that teach hate and drive communities apart and through stronger powers for the disclosure and barring service;
 - close loopholes so that Ofcom can continue to protect consumers who watch internet-streamed television content from outside the EU on Freeview; and,
 - Consult on powers to enable government to intervene where councils fail to tackle extremism

Community Cohesion

- 18 The Tension Monitoring process is part of the Community Cohesion Toolkit, which was developed by Durham County Council as a resource for the Council and its partners. The Toolkit was agreed by the Safe Durham Partnership. A number of issues relating to 'right wing' activities across County Durham have been reported in communities.
- 19 Durham County Council has put in place a Task and Finish group to monitor current tensions. It will be led by the Assistant Chief Executive's office, with representation from other relevant Service Groupings, Area Action Partnerships and Durham Constabulary.

Recommendations and reasons

20 The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the contents of the report.

Contact: Graham McArdle, Community Safety Coordinator, Durham County Council Tel: 03000 265436

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

The Home Office has allocated DCC, and all other non-priority areas, £10,000 to commence the new duty.

Staffing

There will continue to be a training need for practitioners to become familiar with the new statutory requirements in terms of recognising and referring those vulnerable to radicalisation. The local authority has a multi-agency Channel Panel.

Risk

No adverse implications.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

The Bill identifies that *'a Policy Equality Statement has been prepared by the Home Office. It assessed that the policy is compliant, where relevant, with Section 149 of the Equality Act, and that due regard has been made to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations'*.

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Crime and disorder

Counter Terrorism is a strategic objective of the Altogether Safer thematic partnership and therefore, crime and disorder is the main focus of the report.

Human rights

No adverse implications.

Consultation

DCC provided a response to the draft statutory Prevent Duty guidance consultation.

Procurement

Corporate Procurement has been briefed on the implications of the duty.

Disability Issues

No direct adverse implications.

Legal Implications

The Act will place a legal duty on all specified authorities to meet its requirements. In addition, Durham County Council is the 'responsible local authority' for managing the safeguarding elements of those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

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

21 June 2016



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

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

Purpose of the Report

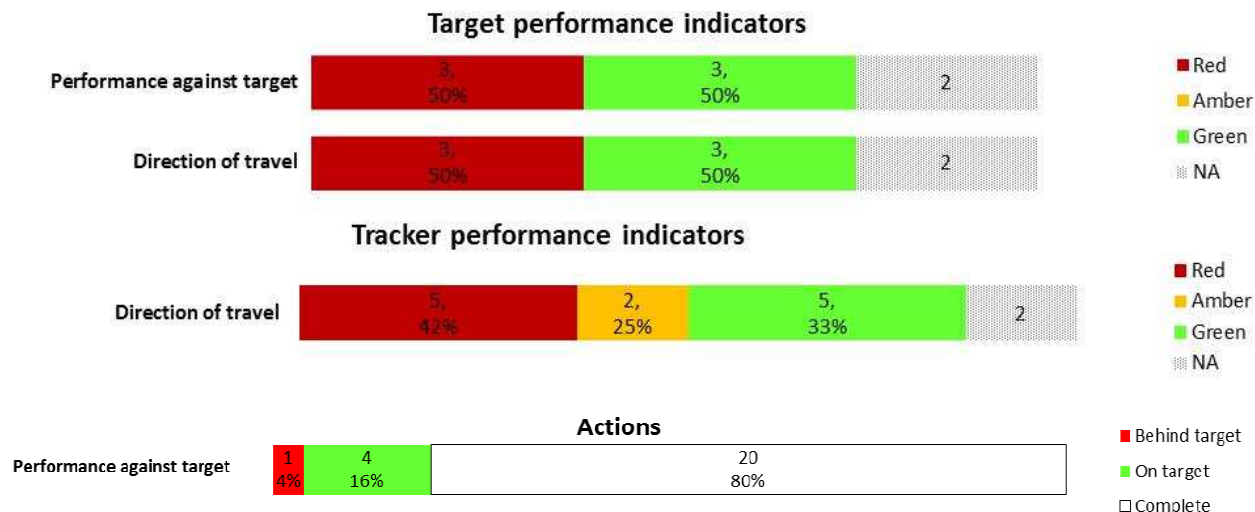
1. To present progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs), Council Plan and service plan actions and report other performance issues for 2015/16 financial year.

Background

2. The council has delivered £153.2 million of financial savings since the beginning of austerity and these savings are forecast to exceed £258 million by 2019/20. Despite this, demand for some of our key services has increased over the year such as looked after children cases, freedom of information requests received and processing of benefit change of circumstances. However, it is encouraging to note that there have been some reductions in demand placed on some of our services. The number of incidents of fly-tipping being reported has continued to reduce although more incidents were reported at quarter four. Fewer new benefit claims required processing and face-to-face customer contacts and telephone calls received are reducing as people are contacting us in other ways such as email and through the web. Other reductions have been observed with fewer people rehoused and overall planning applications have reduced.
3. Against this backdrop of reducing resources and changing demand it is critical that the council continues to actively manage performance and ensure that the impact on the public of the difficult decisions we have had to make is minimised.
5. 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).

6. 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.
7. For next year's reports work has been carried out by officers and members on developing the proposed indicator set and targets (see Appendix 4) to ensure that our performance management efforts continue to stay focused on the right areas. The suggestions raised by members of overview and scrutiny committees are appended to the report, including officer feedback and action that has been taken (see Appendix 5).
8. Members have recently raised specific issues of traffic lighting of performance indicators. We have therefore amended our traffic lighting system and introduced a 2% tolerance on direction of travel similar to that applied to variance from target. Detail of the change is outlined in Appendix 2.

Altogether Safer: Overview



Council Performance

9. Key achievements this quarter include:

- a. Provisional data from the 2015/16 national Adult Social Care Survey (ASCS) identify that 91.4% of respondents reported that the services they use have made them feel safe and secure. This is above the target of 90% and 2014/15 ASCS national (84.5%) and regional (88.8%) averages.
- b. Between January and March 2016, 100% of emergency response Care Connect calls that required a response arrived at the property within 45 minutes, against a target of 90%.
- c. Provisional data for 2015/16 indicate that there were 161 first time entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system (372 per 100,000 population). This is well within the target of 280 FTEs (648 per 100,000) and is a reduction from 192 FTEs (438 per 100,000) during the same period last year. The rate of FTEs is lower than in all three benchmarking groups.
- d. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. County Durham continues to have the lowest crime rate per 1,000 population (April 2015 to February 2016) when compared to its most similar Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). This is despite a national change to recording practices and improved local recording of victim based offence categories, specifically that of violence without injury. These have impacted on crime levels for 2015/16 and led to an increase of 12.3% (3,142 more crimes) to 28,690 (55.4 per 1,000 population).
 - ii. In 2015/16 there was an 11.2% decrease in anti-social behaviour (ASB) reported to the police compared to 2014/15; from 23,257 incidents to 20,649.
 - iii. Of these incidents, 2,399 were alcohol related, which equates to 11.6% of total ASB reported to the police. This has reduced from 12.3% during 2014/15.

- iv. During 2015/16 there were 7,544 violent crimes reported to the police, of which 28% (2,111) were recorded as alcohol related. This is a reduction from 32.4% in 2014/15.
- v. In 2015/16 there were 11,329 theft offences, equating to a rate of 21.9 per 1,000 population. This is a slight increase (99 additional offences) when compared to 2014/15 (21.8) but remains significantly better than national levels (30.7).

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

- a. Successful completions from drug and alcohol treatment have deteriorated further:
 - i. The number of people in alcohol treatment in 2015/16 was 1,069, of whom 255 successfully completed. This equates to a 23.9% successful completion rate, below the target of 39.5%. It is also lower than 2014/15 (38%) and latest national performance (39.2% (2015/16)).
 - ii. The number of people in drug treatment for opiate use between October 2014 and September 2015 was 1,459 of whom 88 successfully completed, i.e. they did not re-present between October 2015 and March 2016. This equates to a 6% successful completion rate, which is below the annual target of 9.4%, performance from the same period in the previous year (7.1%) and national performance for the equivalent period (6.8%).
 - iii. The number of people in drug treatment for non-opiate use between October 2014 and September 2015 was 631, of whom 208 successfully completed, i.e. they did not re-present between October 2015 and March 2016. This equates to a 33% successful completion rate, which is below the annual target of 41.7%, performance from the same period in the previous year (40.1%) and national performance for the equivalent period (37.3%).

Public Health and Commissioning are closely monitoring the service and have implemented a performance plan with Lifeline (service provider), which is monitored on a monthly basis. Actions within the plan include:

- Developing specific, intensive recovery programmes to reduce time in treatment for non-opiate clients and investigating current prescribing methods to develop programmes for reduction for long-term opiate clients.
- Improving pathways to the treatment service to increase referrals, including hospital and criminal justice pathways.
- Increasing the identification of clients lost to follow-up treatment and enhancing performance management of caseloads.
- Procuring a new IT database and undertaking a data cleanse to ensure data quality.

A special meeting of the Safer and Stronger Scrutiny Committee is being on 29 June re Lifeline performance.

b. Tracker indicators show:

- i. Latest data show 1,471 of the 5,187 adult and young offenders in the July 2013 to June 2014 cohort (cohort of offenders who offended between July 2013 and June 2014) re-offended within 12 months of inclusion in the cohort, which equates to 28.4%. This is worse than the previous year, when 28.2% of the cohort re-offended. It is also higher than the national rate of 26%. Phase two of the Checkpoint programme, which offers those charged with low-level offences such as shoplifting, theft, low-level assault and fraud the opportunity to avoid a criminal conviction by entering into a four month contract, has now begun. This commenced in February 2016 with the introduction of the randomised controlled trial which will allow the effectiveness of the Checkpoint programme (treatment group) to be compared against traditional disposals (using a control group). Those offenders who are eligible for Checkpoint or who are forecast to commit non-serious re-offending within two years of the presenting arrest will be included in the trial. Latest data from phase one highlights 509 individuals entered the programme, with 69 remaining active. Of the 440 people completing the programme, 391 have been successful (89%) and only 49 (11%) have failed. Of those who have failed, 27 (6%) have failed to engage with the programme and 22 (5%) have re-offended. If the offender breaks their contract, for example by re-offending, then they will be prosecuted.
- ii. Latest data show 186 of the 402 young people in the July 2013 to June 2014 cohort (cohort of young offenders who offended between July 2013 and June 2014) re-offended within 12 months of inclusion in the cohort, which equals 46.3%. The re-offending rate has increased when compared to the previous year (40.9%) and is higher than that in all comparator groups. As highlighted previously, there has been a significant reduction in the number of young people included in the Durham cohort. In 2005 there were 1,735 young people in the offending cohort compared to 402 in the current cohort. County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) are now dealing with young offenders who have more complex circumstances and entrenched behaviours.
- iii. For the year 2015 there has been a 16% increase in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents, from 182 in 2014 to 211 in 2015. 20 of these were fatalities. Of the 211, 24 were children and one of these was a fatality.

11. The Council Plan action to strengthen the effectiveness of the Joint Partnership Team (Durham County Council and the police) has been delayed from March 2016 until December 2016. Once the outcome of the ongoing lean review is known, work can commence on shaping a problem solving model. Any actions resulting from the lean review will be considered for inclusion in the 2017 plan.

12. There are no key risks which require any mitigating action in delivering the objectives of this theme.

Recommendations and Reasons

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

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Appendix 1: Implications

Appendix 2: Key to symbols used in the report

Appendix 3: Summary of key performance indicators

Appendix 4: Corporate indicator set and three year targets

Appendix 5: Performance indicator challenge - Member comments/queries

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

Our traffic lighting system has been amended this quarter, introducing a 2% tolerance to variance from previous performance and comparator groups, similar to that applied to variance from target. Detail of the change is outlined in the table below:

Performance Indicators:

Previous traffic light system		Current (amended) traffic light system			
<i>Variation from previous performance and comparator benchmarking groups</i>		<i>Variation from previous performance and comparator benchmarking groups</i>		<i>Variation from target</i>	
Better than comparable period / comparator group	Green	Same or better than comparable period / comparator group	Green	Meeting/Exceeding target	Green
Same as comparable period / comparator group	Amber	Worse than comparable period / comparator group (within 2% tolerance)	Amber	Worse than target (within 2% tolerance)	Amber
Worse than comparable period / comparator group	Red	Worse than comparable period / comparator group (greater than 2%)	Red	Worse than target (outside of 2% tolerance)	Red

Where the traffic light system appears in this report, they have been applied to the most recently available information.

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.

Actions:

WHITE	Complete (action achieved by deadline/achieved ahead of deadline)
GREEN	Action on track to be achieved by the deadline
RED	Action not achieved by the deadline/unlikely to be achieved by the deadline

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)	3	2015/16	Not set	NA [1]	2	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	91.4	2015/16 (provisional)	90.0	GREEN	90.5	GREEN	84.5 GREEN	88.8* GREEN	2014/15
39	CASAS1	Percentage of domestic abuse victims who present at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and are repeat victims	13.0	Apr - Dec 2015	25.0	NA [2]	14.6	NA [2]	25.0 NA	29* NA	Jul 2014 - Jun 2015
40	REDPI98	Percentage of emergency response Care Connect calls arrived at the property within 45 minutes	100.0	Jan - Mar 2016	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)	372	2015/16 (provisional)	648	GREEN	438	GREEN	376 GREEN	404** GREEN	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015

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)	23.9	2015/16	39.5	RED	38.0	RED	39.2 RED		2015/16
43	CASAS7	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	6.0	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015 (re-presentations to Mar 2016)	9.4	RED	7.1	RED	6.8 RED		Oct 2014 - Sep 2015 (re-presentations to Mar 2016)
44	CASAS8	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - non-opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	33.0	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015 (re-presentations to Mar 2016)	41.7	RED	40.1	RED	37.3 RED		Oct 2014 - Sep 2015 (re-presentations to Mar 2016)

[1] No target will be set on this PI and it will go forward as a tracker PI for information only

[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)	55.4	2015/16	39.0	Not comparable [3]	49.7	RED	66.0	63.5*	2015
154	CASAS 24	Rate of theft offences (per 1,000 population)	21.9	2015/16	16.3	Not comparable [3]	21.8	AMBER	30.7	28.5*	2015
155	CASAS 10	Recorded level of victim based crimes per 1,000 population	49.7	2015/16	35.2	Not comparable [3]	44.5	RED	58.8	57*	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 [4]	61.7	2015	63	GREEN	62.5	GREEN		58.8**	2015
157	CASAS 15	Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour [5]	20,649	2015/16	16,823	Not comparable [3]	23,257	GREEN			
158	CASAS 22	Number of hate incidents	367	2015/16	291	Not comparable [3]	311	NA			
159	CASAS 18	Proportion of all offenders (adults and young people) who re-offend in a 12 month period	28.4	Jul 2013 - Jun 2014	28.8	GREEN	28.2	AMBER	26.0		Jul 2013 - Jun 2014

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	CASCYP 29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%) (Also in Altogether Better for Children and Young People)	46.3	Jul 2013 - Jun 2014	44.7	RED	40.9	RED	37.8 RED	42.3* RED	Jul 2013 - Jun 2014
161	CASAS 19	Percentage of anti-social behaviour incidents that are alcohol related	11.6	2015/16	11.1	RED	12.3	GREEN			
162	CASAS 20	Percentage of violent crime that is alcohol related [5]	28.0	2015/16	28.5	GREEN	32.4	GREEN			
163	REDPI44	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents [5]	211	Jan - Dec 2015	170	Not comparable [3]	182	RED			
		Number of fatalities	20			14					
		Number of seriously injured	191			168 [5]					
164	REDPI45	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	24	Jan - Dec 2015	22	Not comparable [3]	23	RED			
		Number of fatalities	1			0					
		Number of seriously injured	23			23					
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	CASCYP 14	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	23	Not comparable [6]	NA	NA			

[3] Data cumulative so comparisons are not applicable

[4] A confidence interval applies to the survey results

[5] Data 12 months earlier amended (final published data)/refreshed

[6] Amended to track the number for 2015/16 and will be reported as a % target PI again 2016/17

Appendix 4: Proposed 2016/17 Corporate Indicator set and 3 year targets

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service	Frequency	Performance		2015/16 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2014/15	2015/16 Q3		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
Altogether Safer											
Tracker	CAS AS12	Overall crime rate (per 1,000 population)	CAS	Quarterly	49.7	39					66 (2015)
Tracker	CAS AS24	Rate of theft offences (per 1,000 population)	CAS	Quarterly	21.8	16.3					30.7 (2015)
Tracker	CAS AS10	Recorded level of victim based crimes per 1,000 population	CAS	Quarterly	44.5	35.2					58.8 (2015)
Tracker	CAS AS11	Percentage of survey respondents who agree that the police and local council are dealing with concerns of anti-social behaviour and crime	CAS	Quarterly	63.2	63 (Q2)					58.8 (most similar group 2015)
Tracker	CAS AS15	Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour	CAS	Quarterly	23,235	16,823					
Target	CAS AS1	Percentage of domestic abuse victims who present at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and are repeat victims	CAS	Quarterly	14.8	14.9 (Q2)	Less than 25	25	25	25	25 (Jul 2014 – Jun 2015)
Tracker	CAS AS9	Building resilience to terrorism (self assessment) Scored on level 1 (low) to 5 (high)	CAS	Annual Q4	4	2 (New definition)					

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service	Frequency	Performance		2015/16 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2014/15	2015/16 Q3		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
Target	REDPI98	% of emergency response Care Connect calls arrived at the property within 45 minutes	RED	Quarterly	100	100	90	90	90	90	
Tracker	CAS AS22	Number of hate incidents	CAS	Quarterly	311	291					
Tracker	CAS	Percentage of individuals who achieved their desired outcomes from the adult safeguarding process	CAS	TBC	New indicator	New indicator					
Tracker	CAS AS3	Proportion of people who use Adult Social Care Services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure	CAS	Quarterly	94	94.6	90				84.5 (2014/15 national survey)
Target	CAS AS5	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)	CAS	Quarterly	438	245	648 (280 FTEs)	578 (250 FTEs)	578 (250 FTEs)	Not yet set	376 (Oct 2014 – Sep 2015)
Tracker	CAS AS18	Proportion of all offenders (adults and young people) who re-offend in a 12 month period	CAS	Quarterly	27.3 (2012/13)	29 (2013)					26.5 (2013)

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service	Frequency	Performance		2015/16 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2014/15	2015/16 Q3		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
Page 32 Tracker	CAS CYP29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%) (Also in Altogether better for CYP)	CAS	Quarterly	38.7	44.4					37.9 (2013/14)
Tracker	CAS AS19	Percentage of alcohol related anti-social behaviour incidents	CAS	Quarterly	12.3	11.1					
Tracker	CAS AS20	Percentage of violent crime that is alcohol related	CAS	Quarterly	32.4	28.5					
Target	CAS AS23	Percentage of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment (Also in Altogether Healthier)	CAS	Quarterly	38	26.9 (Q2)	39.5	Top quartile	Not yet set	Not yet set	39.3 (2015)
Target	CAS AS7	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	CAS	Quarterly	7.1	6.5 (Q2)	9.4	Top quartile	Not yet set	Not yet set	7 (Jul 2014 – Jun 2015)
Target	CAS AS8	Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment - non opiates (Also in Altogether Healthier)	CAS	Quarterly	40.1	41 (Q2)	41.7	Top quartile	Not yet set	Not yet set	37.7 (Jul 2014 – Jun 2015)
Tracker	REDPI44	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	RED	Quarterly	182	170					

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service	Frequency	Performance		2015/16 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2014/15	2015/16 Q3		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
Tracker	REDPI45	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	RED	Quarterly	23	21					
Target	CAS CYP14	Percentage of successful interventions (families 'turned around') via the Stronger Families Programme (Also in Altogether better for Children and Young People)	CAS	Quarterly	New programme	PI is number this year to get baseline	12** **Stage 2 of the Programme	TBC	TBC	TBC	
Tracker	CAS AH21	Suicide rate (deaths from suicide and injury of undetermined intent) per 100,000 population (Also in Altogether Healthier)	CAS	Annual Q3	13.4 (2011-13)	13.3 (2012-14)					8.9 (2012-14)

Council and Service Plan 2016-19

Performance Indicator Challenge – Member comments/queries

Indicator	Member comment/query	Service feedback	Committee where raised
REDPI98 Percentage of emergency response Care Connect calls arrived at the property within 45 minutes	Target should be higher	Telecare Services Authority standards are their governing body and their targets are set at 90%	Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny

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

21st June 2016

**Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
Strategy 2015-2018**



Report of Lynn Wilson, Consultant in Public Health

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to share the refreshed County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2015-2018 attached at Appendix 2.

Background

- 2 The County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy has been refreshed by Durham County Council Public Health team on behalf of the Safe Durham Partnership. The refreshed strategy brings together the previous County Durham Domestic Abuse Strategy and the County Durham aspect of the County Durham and Darlington Sexual Violence Strategy, which have been adopted by the Safe Durham Partnership since 2012.
- 3 Following a review of governance of the Safe Durham Partnership late in 2014, it was decided to disband the SDP Vulnerability Group and transfer the sexual violence agenda into the remit of the previous Domestic Abuse Forum Executive Group. As these two agendas were to be managed within the same governance structure it was the logical solution to bring together the previously separate strategies.
- 4 A governance review of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group took place on the 16th January 2015. Sixteen high level objectives were identified for the Partnership going forward. These were endorsed by the Safe Durham Partnership at its meeting on 14th May 2015.
- 5 The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Action Plan 2015-2018 includes the sixteen high level objectives which fit beneath the headings of Prevention, Protection, Provision and Pursue. The Action Plan will be monitored and maintained via the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Implementation Group with escalation to the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group when necessary. Actions will be added to and closed off on a rolling basis, with additional activities included beneath the high level objectives when identified by the group as a priority.
- 6 The refreshed strategy and supporting action plan have been approved by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group at its meeting on the 3rd November 2015 where it was requested that the strategy be escalated to the board for endorsement.

County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy refresh 2012-2018

- 7 The key changes to the document include:
- the bringing together of the domestic abuse and sexual violence agendas into one strategic document;
 - national and local policy and research information has been updated;
 - the high level objectives have been updated following the governance review in January 2015;
 - where updated local data is available this has been refreshed;
 - priority groups are unchanged as these remain relevant.

- 8 The vision remains unchanged but has been brought together in the one strategic document:

Our vision for domestic abuse is that all agencies work together to seek to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse in County Durham and continue to provide and further develop a co-ordinated community response that provides high quality preventative, support and protection services and effectively deals with perpetrators.

Our vision for sexual violence is that it will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be brought to account for their actions. Victims of sexual violence will be supported, treated with dignity and respect and made to feel safe within their community whilst seeing their offenders brought to justice.

Recommendations and reasons

- 9 The Safe and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny are recommended to:
- a. Receive for information the refresh of the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2015-2018.

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Finance -

No implications

Staffing -

No additional staffing implications

Risk -

None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty -

None.

Accommodation -

No adverse implications

Crime and Disorder -

Implementation and success of the strategy will have a positive impact on domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Human Rights -

No adverse impacts

Consultation –

This action has been approved by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group

Procurement -

No adverse implications

Disability Issues -

No adverse implications

Legal Implications -

None

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The Safe Durham Partnership

Altogether safer

**County Durham
Domestic Abuse & Sexual
Violence Strategy
2015-2018**

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Glossary of Terms

A&E	Accident and Emergency Department
BMER	Black, Minority, Ethnic and Refugees
CAS	Children and Adults Services Directorate of Durham County Council
Coercive behaviour	An act or a pattern of acts of assaults, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.
Controlling behaviour	A range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.
CPP	If the ICPC finds that a child is at significant risk of harm then a Child Protection Plan is put in place to ensure that the child will be safeguarded from harm in the future
DASVEG	Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Executive Group The thematic group of the Safe Durham Partnership focusing on Domestic Abuse issues
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review A review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by (a) a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or (b) a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation Procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons
FM	Forced Marriage A marriage in which one or both of the parties is married without his or her consent or against his or her will
HBV	So called 'Honour Based Violence' Violence toward a member of a family or social group by other members, due to the belief of the perpetrators that the victim has brought dishonour upon the family or community
ICPC	An Initial Child Protection Conference must be convened when it is believed that a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. It brings together family members (and the child where appropriate), supporters/advocates and those professionals most involved with the child and family

IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocates support victims of domestic abuse through the criminal justice process
JHWS	Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy A strategy to set out how the health and wellbeing needs of the local population will be addressed over the coming years
JCSDA	Joint Commissioning Strategy for Domestic Abuse Services Provides a strategic framework to support the commissioning of services to respond to the needs of those experiencing or witnessing domestic abuse
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment The JSNA describes a process that identifies current and future local health and wellbeing needs in light of existing services and informs future service planning taking into account evidence of effectiveness. This document informs the JHWS.
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Arrangements for responsible authorities tasked with the management of registered sex offenders, violent and other types of sexual offenders, and offenders who pose a serious risk of harm to the public
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference A coordinated community response to high risk domestic abuse cases
NHS	National Health Service
NSPCC	National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children
Ofsted	The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PDP	Potentially Dangerous Persons A PDP is a person who has not been convicted of, or cautioned for any offence placing them into one of the three MAPPA categories, but whose behaviour gives reasonable grounds for believing that there is present a likelihood of them committing an offence or offences that will cause serious harm
SDP	Safe Durham Partnership The Community Safety Partnership of County Durham
SDVC	Specialist Domestic Violence Court A specialist court put in place to deal with Domestic Violence cases
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
SVI	Seriously Vulnerable Individual Vulnerable adults who are currently not open cases and who do not want, or are deemed not to require

	an assessment of need, but who are at risk of serious or significant harm, often because of their behaviour or lifestyle choices
Trans	Transgender. An umbrella term for people whose gender identity, expression or behavior is different from those typically associated with their assigned sex at birth, including but not limited to transsexuals, cross-dressers, androgynous people, genderqueers, and gender non-conforming people.
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

Foreword

Welcome to the Safe Durham Partnership County Durham Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy 2015-18.

Our vision for domestic abuse is that all agencies work together to seek to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse in County Durham and continue to provide and further develop a co-ordinated community response that provides high quality preventative, support and protection services and effectively deals with perpetrators.

Our vision for sexual violence is that sexual violence will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be brought to account for their actions. Victims of sexual violence will be supported, treated with dignity and respect and made to feel safe within their community whilst seeing their offenders brought to justice.

For the first time both agendas have been brought together in a single strategy. The purpose of our strategy is to provide a framework to ensure the active contribution of partner agencies to the enhancement, strengthening and development of services to reduce the prevalence of both issues within County Durham and support the large number of adults and children whose safety and well being are affected in our communities. It ensures that the response to domestic abuse, rape, sexual violence and sexual exploitation is proportionate to the significant and damaging effect it has on the lives of individuals and communities within County Durham.

It presents a focus and challenge to us by ensuring that adequate and appropriate services are provided in an ever changing and uncertain financial landscape.

The strategy draws on and recognises the current services, support and good practice that already exists within County Durham and considers what role these have within the future aspirations of the Partnership and the community.

Change in this area is incremental, and through strategic management and multi-agency cooperation, cultural change is possible to make every adult, child and place in County Durham being, and feeling, safe.



Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director Children & Adults Services, Durham County Council

Executive Summary

This strategy has been written on behalf of the Safe Durham Partnership through the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group; it has clear links with existing strategies including those relating to Alcohol Harm Reduction, Drug and Substance Misuse, Mental Health and Suicide.

The strategy presents a focus and challenge to the Safe Durham Partnership by ensuring that adequate and appropriate services are provided. It reflects the outcomes from the government's stance on domestic abuse and how the government intends to tackle the issue within the wider context of violence against women and girls. The strategy also draws on and recognises current services, support and good practice that exists within County Durham and considers what role these have within the future aspirations of the Partnership and the community.

Domestic abuse and sexual violence are hidden crimes that are significantly unreported. This violence and abuse has a major and long-lasting impact on victims, witnesses, children and young people, whole families and the wider community. It violates the basic human rights of men, women and children to be treated with respect and dignity, to have control over their bodies and property and to be able to live their lives free from fear.

The majority of victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence are women and girls but men and boys can also be victims.

Both domestic abuse and sexual violence are gender based crimes in that there is more potential for women and girls to be victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence by virtue of their gender.

It is important to recognise that although domestic abuse and sexual violence often merit similar, if not identical, preventative and responsive approaches, they are not the same.

The Safe Durham Partnership does not accept domestic abuse or sexual violence; this strategy focuses on prevention and embedding cultural change within all agencies, organisations and the community.

Vision

Our vision for domestic abuse is that all agencies work together to seek to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse in County Durham and continue to provide and further develop a co-ordinated community response that provides high quality preventative, support and protection services and effectively deals with perpetrators.

Our vision for sexual violence is that it will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be brought to account for their actions. Victims of sexual violence will be supported, treated with dignity and respect and made to feel safe within their community whilst seeing their offenders brought to justice.

Objectives

The objectives within the strategy are:

1. Prevention – To prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm.
2. Provision – To 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.
3. Protection – To improve the criminal justice response to tackling domestic abuse, sexual violence and sexual exploitation.
4. Pursue – To pursue perpetrators of domestic abuse through the criminal justice system and ensure that they face up to the implications of their actions.

Key Performance Indicators

To measure our overall performance towards meeting these objectives we have set 23 key performance indicators. These are included at section 12.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Domestic abuse is a serious crime, the impact of which cuts across all social, geographical and cultural groups. It is a crime largely perpetrated in private, with few witnesses and as a consequence is under reported and under recorded. In County Durham the Partnership has adopted the definition suggested by Government following the national consultation which took place during 2012. This being:

“any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- *psychological*
- *physical*
- *sexual*
- *financial*
- *emotional”*

- 1.2 This definition also includes so called ‘honour’ based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), and is clear that victims are not confined to any one gender or ethnic group.
- 1.3 The Safe Durham Partnership recognises that domestic abuse can be experienced by anyone irrespective of sexuality or gender. This can be in straight (heterosexual), same sex (lesbian or gay) and bisexual relationships equally. Both men and women including those within trans communities can and do experience domestic abuse.
- 1.4 Although issues affecting those aged under 18 are a child safeguarding issue the Safe Durham Partnership will support the County Durham Children and Families Board and the Local Safeguarding Childrens Board in tackling these.
- 1.5 Violence within families takes many forms, and it is important to be mindful of the differences between types of violence. Kelly & Johnson, 2008 outlined that violence can generally be defined as being within four categories. These are:
- coercive controlling violence
 - violent resistance
 - situational couple violence, and
 - separation instigated violence
- 1.6 Because individual families and relationships are dynamic and unique, care is required when any system of classification is applied. However recognising the differences can lead to a range of potential benefits including better designed and articulated research, more appropriate policy formation, development of improved targeted services for those that use violence as well as for those that experience it.
- 1.7 There is no formally adopted definition in place within the UK however, the World Health Organisation (WHO) use the following to define sexual violence:
- “any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting including but not limited to home and work.*
- 1.8 This definition includes rape, defined as the physically forced or otherwise coerced penetration of the vulva or anus with a penis, other body part or object; sexual exploitation, prostitution or trafficking.
- 1.9 Although issues affecting those aged under 18 are a child safeguarding issue the Safe Durham Partnership will support the County Durham Children and Families Board and the Local Safeguarding Childrens Board in tackling these.
- 1.10 This strategy outlines our overall aspirations to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse and sexual violence in County Durham. Our strategic priorities are;

- Priority 1 : Prevention
- Priority 2 : Provision
- Priority 3 : Protection
- Priority 4 : Pursue

2. **Achievements**

2.1 A number of achievements have been met during the previous strategy period. These include:

- A single specialist domestic abuse service is now in place across County Durham. The service is delivered by Harbour Support Services and provides outreach support to adult victims and their children.
- A County Durham & Darlington wide brand for tackling domestic abuse has been developed and launched. The Sorrys Not Enough brand was launched December 2014.
- A service aimed at ensuring victims of forced marriage and honour-based violence get the support and advice they need has been commissioned. HALO is also working with agencies across County Durham to raise awareness of the issue and provide training.
- The Local Safeguarding Children Board training has been expanded to incorporate honour based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- A workplace policy template has been developed and has been rolled out across local businesses of County Durham. A PCSO is in place within Durham Constabulary to support this process and training packs are being provided along with classroom based training for the organisation that sign up to the scheme.
- A Domestic Abuse team has been developed within Durham Constabulary to improve the police response to medium and standard level incidents. Funding was secured via the Innovations fund and is in place for 2 years.
- A level 1 e-learning package has been developed which aims to raise awareness of domestic abuse across organisations of the Safe Durham Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The training identifies signs and symptoms of abuse and how to refer onwards to support services.
- A pilot for an integrated model for delivering domestic abuse services has been commissioned by Public Health. The model will test various interventions for perpetrators, victims, children and young people. The pilot will be evaluated by Durham University and will inform future commissioning priorities.
- A County Durham Procedure for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews has been developed and agreed by partners.
- A Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub is now in place within County Durham. The MASH is a central point for the screening, gathering, sharing and analysing of information about children. The MASH also includes a specialist domestic abuse worker.
- Remain Safe has continued to be funded through the Housing Solutions team with a contribution from Public Health. The scheme allows victims of domestic abuse and their children to remain in their homes by target hardening the property.

- A local procedure for implementing Clare's Law has been developed and is now in place. Clare's law aims to prevent men and women from becoming victims of domestic violence and abuse by providing a formal method of making enquiries about an individual who they are in a relationship with or who is in a relationship with someone they know, and there is a concern that the individual may be abusive towards their partner.
- Domestic Violence Protection Orders/Notices are now being used across County Durham to protect victims of domestic abuse. With DVPOs, a perpetrator can be banned with immediate effect from returning to a residence and from having contact with the victim for up to 28 days, allowing the victim time to consider their options and get the support they need.
- Body worn cameras are now used by all police officers attending incidents. 43% of our body worn video footage is Domestic Incident related. The use of body worn cameras has shown to greatly improve the evidence for prosecutions.
- Durham Constabulary has improved procedures which now ensure that any children within the household are spoken to in relation to the incident.
- A Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Training Strategy has been produced and agreed which identifies need and gaps in provision in terms of training across the Safe Durham Partnership. Implementation of the plan is taking place within the LSCB training group.
- A County Durham procedure for the conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews has been developed and adopted by the Safe Durham Partnership.
- MARAC has seen an increase in referrals following a programme of multi-agency training being delivered across the County.

Sexual Violence

- Operation Seabrook continues with the team hearing from 1,148 former inmates who were either physically or sexually abused at the detention centre in Medomsley. A number of files have been submitted to the CPS for a charging decision and the investigation continues. The operation has enabled 288 victims to access counselling services via 'The Meadows', the Partnerships Sexual Assault Referral Centre.
- Changing Lives have been commissioned to provide peer based research into sex work in County Durham and Darlington.
- A Child Sexual Exploitation worker continues to work in Durham Constabulary.
- Multiagency Child Sexual Exploitation audit highlighted good practice where agencies have worked together to reduce the risk of CSE and improved outcomes for young people. Suspected CSE offenders have been identified, disrupted or arrested.
- A training package has been adopted by Durham Constabulary around identifying potential victims of child abuse. 'Intervene to Protect a Child' training has been in place since March 2015 and has already seen good results.
- A Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2014- 2017 has been developed and agreed. The vision of the strategy is for children and young people in County Durham to be free from the risks and harm of sexual exploitation.

- A Rape Scrutiny Panel is now in place. The panel scrutinise case files which have failed to be taken forward for a prosecution or where a prosecution has failed, to see what lessons can be learned.
- A system is now in place at the SARC which enables victims of sexual violence to present to the SARC to give their evidence via a video link to the Court.

3. **Equality and Diversity**

- 3.1 This strategy has a number of implications for equality and diversity in line with the Equality Act 2010 in relation to age; ethnicity; religion or belief; disability; sexual orientation; and gender (including transgender, pregnancy and maternity). Issues are integrated within the strategy an example being the emphasis on services for women, who are disproportionately affected by domestic abuse.

4. **Safeguarding**

- 4.1 The Safe Durham Partnership recognises that every person within our community has the right to live their lives free from violence and abuse. Safeguarding adults and children is a shared responsibility and a high priority for all agencies in County Durham. All services must ensure they follow the safeguarding procedures for adults and children and are subject to monitoring and reviewing processes, which includes an assessment of their safeguarding processes.

5. **Vision and Purpose**

- 5.1 This strategy is intended to be an over-arching strategy for County Durham and covers the period 2015-2018. It has been prepared in consultation with partners in the voluntary and statutory sectors. Its purpose is to provide a framework to ensure the active contribution of partner agencies to the enhancement, strengthening and development of services to reduce domestic abuse and sexual violence and support the large number of adults and children whose safety and well being are affected in our communities.
- 5.2 Our strategic vision for domestic abuse is that all agencies to work together to seek to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse in County Durham and continue to provide and further develop a co-ordinated community response that provides high quality preventative, support and protection services and effectively deals with perpetrators.
- 5.3 Our strategic vision for sexual violence is that sexual violence will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be brought to account for their actions. Victims of sexual violence will be supported, treated with dignity and respect and made to feel safe within their community whilst seeing their offenders brought to justice.

6. **National and Local Context**

National

- 6.1 The Government strategy, "*Call to end violence against women and girls*" (VAWG) continues as part of their ongoing commitment to tackle all aspects of abuse in its widest context. The priority of VAWG includes tackling both domestic abuse and

sexual violence. Ending VAWG continues to be a top priority for UK Government which has made a number of commitments both national and internationally. Although the priority for government is VAWG they acknowledge the importance of preventing and responding to the sexual and gender-based violence suffered by women, men, boys and girls.

- 6.2 The National Group on Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable People was formed by the Government in 2013 to examine lessons learned from recent inquiries, and to shape the Government's response to all forms of sexual violence against children and vulnerable people. The progress report and action plan published in March 2015 sets out progress so far and next steps in the Government's response to sexual violence against children and vulnerable people.
- 6.3 Some of the recent policies the Home Office has implemented include; the introduction of a new definition of domestic violence and abuse, publishing guidance for reviewing domestic homicides, and the rolling out of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (commonly known as Clare's law) throughout England and Wales in March 2014.
- 6.4 In February 2014, HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) published the findings from its review of the police's response to domestic violence. HMIC concluded that the current police response to domestic abuse is failing victims and made a number of recommendations. The Government launched a consultation Strengthening the law on domestic – a consultation in August 2014. As a result, the Government have added clauses to the Serious Crime Bill [HL] 2014-15 to make coercive control a specific criminal offence. There are a number of legal remedies for victims of domestic violence and abuse, including occupation orders, non-molestation orders, restraining orders and, now, DVPOs.
- 6.5 New laws have also been introduced on forced marriage and modern slavery. There have been amendments to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), revenge and rape pornography and grooming legislation and further changes are planned on criminalizing sexualized messaging. A FGM (female genital mutilation) prevention programme has been launched by the Department of Health and NHS England at the Girl Summit 2014. The programme focuses on prevention and care and aims to improve the response to FGM from health services. Mandatory reporting to the police for FGM carried out on under 18's come into effect on 31st October 2015 and Home Office procedural information has been released. Revised multi-agency practice guidelines are expected at the end of 2015.
- 6.6 SafeLives Getting it right first time was published February 2015 and highlights a change in the approach from a response to high-risk victims to a response for all victims and children, and that we have to find every family where there is domestic abuse much more quickly to lessen the impact on the victim and children.
- 6.7 The CPS VAWG Crime Report for 2014-2015 highlights that the CPS reached the highest volume ever of all VAWG police referrals, charged defendants, prosecutions and convictions. Work with the police has successfully reversed the fall in volumes identified by the CPS over the previous few years. 2014/15 saw the highest volume ever for domestic violence, rape, sexual offences and child abuse convictions. The

report highlights the impact of social media on VAWG victims, the protection of more victims through restraining orders used in stalking and domestic abuse, the introduction of European Protection Orders, Sexual Harm Prevention Orders, new offences for forced marriage, protection orders for FGM and prevention orders for human trafficking.

- 6.8 The Department of Health, protecting people promoting health, outlines a public health approach to violence prevention for England. This document outlines the extent and impact of violence nationally, covering violence in the general population as well as specific violence types that can impact dramatically on different sectors of society: child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence and elder abuse.
- 6.9 NICE Domestic violence and abuse: how health services, social care and the organizations they work with can respond effectively was published in February 2014. This guidance aims to help identify, prevent and reduce domestic violence and abuse. The guidance outlines that working in a multi-agency partnership is the most effective way to approach the issue at both an operational and strategic level. Associated quality standards are due for publication early 2016.
- 6.10 Paladin is a national advocacy service for victims of stalking and they highlight that stalking is one of the most frequently experienced forms of abuse which can escalate to rape and murder. Stalking is a pattern of repeat and persistent unwanted behaviour that is intrusive and engenders fear. It is when one person becomes fixated or obsessed with another and the attention is unwanted. Threats may not be made but victims may feel scared. Even if there is no threat this is still stalking and it is a crime. Stalking often takes place towards an ex-intimate partners but it can also occur in other circumstances and even where the victim does not know the perpetrator.
- 6.11 Data from the Crime Survey of England and Wales shows up to 700, 000 women are stalked each year (2009-12) although the British Crime Survey (2006) estimated 5 million people experience stalking each year but there are no official statistics on the percentage cyberstalked.
- 6.12 1 in 5 women and 1 in 10 men will experience staking in their adult life (Homicides, Firearm offences and intimate violence 2009/10; Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 2nd Edition. Home Office Statistical Bulletin 01/11).
- 6.13 The Office for National Statistics (2013) stated it was 1 in 6 women and 1 in 12 men. Paladin believe this to be grossly underestimated.

Local

- 6.14 The County Durham Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-2030 is the overarching Strategy for the County Durham Partnership, it identifies clear priorities relating to domestic abuse and sexual violence. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2014 highlights both domestic abuse and sexual violence as an issue within County Durham. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17 and the Joint Health

and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) 2015-18 have identified protecting vulnerable people from harm as a priority which encompasses both of these issues.

- 6.15 In September 2013, the Home Secretary commissioned HMIC to conduct an inspection of Home Office funded forces. The report found that the communities of County Durham and Darlington can have confidence that the police provide a good service to victims of domestic abuse and help keep them safe. Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for the force and staff demonstrated a high level of commitment and awareness. They exercised appropriate discretion and worked well with partners. HMIC found that there is a strong focus on victim care and safety at each stage in the process. There are many positive examples of good practice that the constabulary has developed, and there are sound and robust processes in place to help keep victims safe. However, the report outlines a number of areas where the constabulary could further strengthen its response. These include reviewing practices and procedures, improved training which includes reference to stalking, harassment and so-called honour based violence, recording of information, reviewing of safety planning arrangements.
- 6.16 The County Durham draft Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-2018 clearly identifies the links between alcohol and domestic abuse. The strategy highlights that although excessive alcohol consumption does not cause or is an excuse for domestic violence, it might escalate the risk, as is the case with all violent crime. In County Durham 38.6% of domestic abuse incidents were recorded as alcohol related, alcohol was also cited as a factor in 86% of local Domestic Homicide Reviews. In a regional consultation on the impact of alcohol on frontline policing (Balance, April 2013) 91.6% (271) of Durham police who responded said that alcohol has a large impact upon domestic abuse. Research into alcohol and sexual violence (Finney, 2004) indicates a strong association between alcohol use and sexual violence. Many perpetrators have been drinking when they attack their victim or have alcohol abuse problems. Alcohol related sexual violence is more likely to occur between people who do not know each other well, and more likely to occur in bars and at parties than at either persons homes. There is often both offender drinking and victim drinking in incidents of sexual violence. The presence of alcohol has implications for the severity of the attack.
- 6.17 There is much evidence that exists of the links between domestic abuse and sexual violence. When rape and sexual violence occurs within the confines of an intimate relationship, it is, quite apart from a physical and sexual violation, a betrayal of trust. This type of sexual assault is so destructive because betrays the fundamental basis of their relationship, leaving victims questioning every understanding they have not only of their partner and their relationship, but of themselves, leaving them feeling betrayed and humiliated.
- 6.18 The Police & Crime Commissioners Police and Crime Plan 2015-2017 identifies a clear objective for the PCC to support victims, this includes key areas of focus including commission effective, appropriate and efficient Services for Victims, Deliver the regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, Reduce the incidence and impact of domestic abuse in all its forms, Reduce the impact of hate crime.

- 6.19 The Early Help Strategy for Children, Young People and Families in County Durham was published in 2014 by the Think Family Partnership with input from various partner agencies across County Durham. It outlines a commitment from partners to build on what they know works and to strengthen joint working and consistency across partners to ensure they work together to identify needs and provide support to children, young people and their families at the earliest possible stage, improving outcomes and reducing costs.
- 6.20 Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has the lead in tackling child sexual exploitation. Their strategy, published in 2014, outlines the vision and priorities of the Board. The vision of the strategy is for Children and Young People in County Durham to be free from the risks and harms of sexual exploitation. The priorities underpinning the work on CSE for 2014 – 2017 have been formulated under the following strategic aims; prevent – making it more difficult to exploit children; protect – identifying and safeguarding children who are at risk; pursue – the offenders, disrupt and where possible prosecute their activity.
- 6.21 The County Durham Public Mental Health Strategy 2013-2017 identifies the importance of social support being protective against suicide especially for women experiencing domestic abuse. Good relationships with parents and supporting school environments also mitigate against suicide risk in adolescents who have been sexually abused.
- 6.22 Examples of other linked local strategies and procedures include:
- County Durham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2014-2017;
 - County Durham Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015–2017;
 - County Durham Drug Strategy 2014-2017 ;
 - County Durham and Darlington Dual Needs Strategy 2015-2018;
 - County Durham Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015-2017;
 - Safe Durham Reducing Reoffending Strategy 2011-2014;
 - County Durham Mental Health Strategy 2014-2017;
 - Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17;
 - Safe Durham Partnership ‘honour’ based violence and forced marriage policy
 - County Durham Inter-Agency Adults Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
 - County Durham Procedure for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews
 - Safe Durham Partnership Multi Agency Training Strategy

7. **Needs Analysis**

Demographics

- 7.1 The Office of National Statistics in 2014 estimated that the 15+ age group of County Durham was 434,900 of which 48.7% were male (211,741) and 51.3% were female (223,206). The ONS Survey estimates that approximately 1.6% of the population have identified themselves as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) people.
- 7.2 Given that research indicates 30% (1 in 4) women and (16.3%) 1 in 6 men will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime (figures derived from 20012/13 British

Crime Survey) based on the population figures, this means potentially 66,100 female and 34,400 males including approximately 1,600 LGBT people 16 years and above will experience domestic violence in County Durham.

- 7.3 The “ready reckoner” produced by the Home Office to estimate numbers and costs of violence against women and girls’ estimates that in County Durham, based on the population size and the regional prevalence rate from the British Crime Survey, 17,285 women and girls aged 16-59 have been victims of domestic abuse in the last year; 7,223 have been victims of sexual assault and 20,553 have been victims of stalking.

Ethnicity

- 7.4 The ethnic make-up of the County Durham population (ONS Mid-2011 experimental estimates) is shown in the table below:

<i>Ethnicity</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Percentage of Population</i>
White	503,302	98.1%
Gypsy/Traveller	467	0.1%
Mixed	3,094	0.6%
Asian/ Asian British	3,258	0.6%
Black/ Black British	701	0.1%
Chinese	1,598	0.3%
Other Ethnic Group	822	0.2%

- 7.5 Language and communication skills can present barriers to individuals’ confidence and ability to disclose abuse. Cultural issues are extremely important and need to be understood, especially if we want to encourage all communities to be able to disclose any type of abuse that they may be suffering.
- 7.6 Ethnicity for the purposes of this strategy needs to be recognised as barriers can exist or can be created between communities and agencies through a lack of understanding of what communities need.

Age

- 7.7 The age of the population within County Durham has been taken from the ONS Mid-2014 population estimates and is shown in the table below:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Population</i>
0-4 years	28,800
5-14 years	54,000
15-24 years	68,800
25-44 years	120,900
45-65 years	143,700
65 and above	101,500

7.8 The Safe Durham Partnership recognise that domestic abuse can and does occur across all adolescent and adult age ranges and impacts on children and young people.

Disability

7.9 The number of people with a registered disability or health issue has been provided by Durham County Council and is accurate to the end of March 2011.

People registered as:	Number
Have a physical disability	29,506
Having a learning disability	2,032
Deaf/hard of hearing	3,006
Blind/partially sighted	3,913
Having a car badge	35,815
Total registered disabled	74,272

7.10 Disability can be a factor which increases the victim’s vulnerability to abuse.

8. Local Domestic Abuse Profile

8.1 There are a number of datasets available which highlight the current pattern within County Durham around domestic abuse related issues. These are provided below.

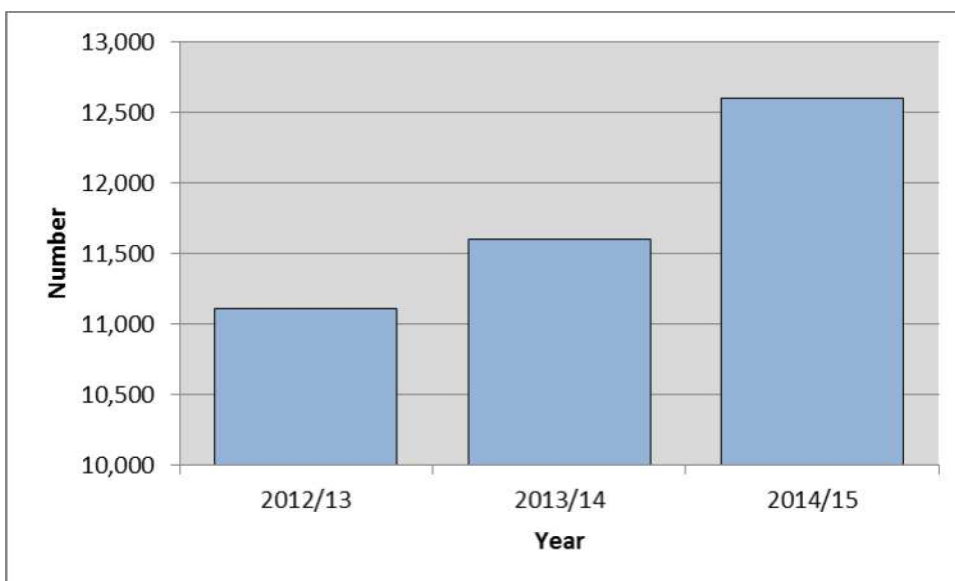


Chart 1 – Number of domestic incidents recorded by the Police 2012/13-2014/15 (Durham Constabulary 2015)

8.2 Chart 1 highlights that within County Durham the number of reported domestic incidents has increased by 13.4% since 2012/13 which may indicate:

- Increased confidence in reporting to the police
- Increased incidents of domestic abuse
- Increased early recognition of the signs of abuse
- Increased awareness of all aspects of abuse

- 8.3 The evidence for assigning the increase in incidents to confidence in reporting is strong. It is reasonable to assume that significant efforts at improving confidence to report domestic abuse have had a positive impact.
- 8.4 The commissioning of services (e.g. Harbour, Halo), awareness raising (e.g. sorry's not enough'), awareness raising of professionals (e.g. multiagency training strategy, workplace policy template, e-learning...) and improved practices (e.g. whole family approach, improved first response) coincide with increases in reporting of domestic abuse which is widely accepted as being significantly under reported.
- 8.5 While an increase in reporting is welcomed there may be implications in terms of demand on current levels of service. Referrals into specialist domestic abuse services have also increased year on year highlighting the need for sufficient services to meet this increasing demand.
- 8.6 Domestic abuse is classified by the Police into three categories: **standard** - current evidence does not indicate likelihood of causing serious harm; **medium** - there are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The offender has the potential to cause serious harm but is unlikely to do so unless there is a change in circumstances, for example, failure to take medication, loss of accommodation, relationship breakdown, drug or alcohol misuse; and **high** - there are identifiable indicators of risk of serious harm. The potential event could happen at any time and the impact would be serious.
- 8.7 Risk Levels from April 2014 – March 2015 for County Durham are highlighted in the table below.

Risk Levels	% of incidents	Numbers
Standard	57.3	5684
Medium	39.1	3876
High (referral to MARAC)	3.6	361

- 8.8 Regardless of the level of risk all victims would require some form of support or intervention. In the past standard risk cases have not received targeted resource. Durham Constabulary have been successful in receiving funding from the Police Innovations Fund to develop a domestic abuse team to work on those high volume cases that are assessed to be either standard or medium risk. The team will develop interventions suitable to address the issues and quality assure those cases deemed as medium risk.
- 8.9 Repeat victims to MARAC have increased since 2012/13, this is due to ongoing work to improve the identification of repeat incidents through agencies flagging and tagging files and the delivery of improved training. National data shows average repeats to MARAC at 24% and SafeLives have recommended that we continue to progress work that ensure these repeats are identified and re-referred into MARAC.

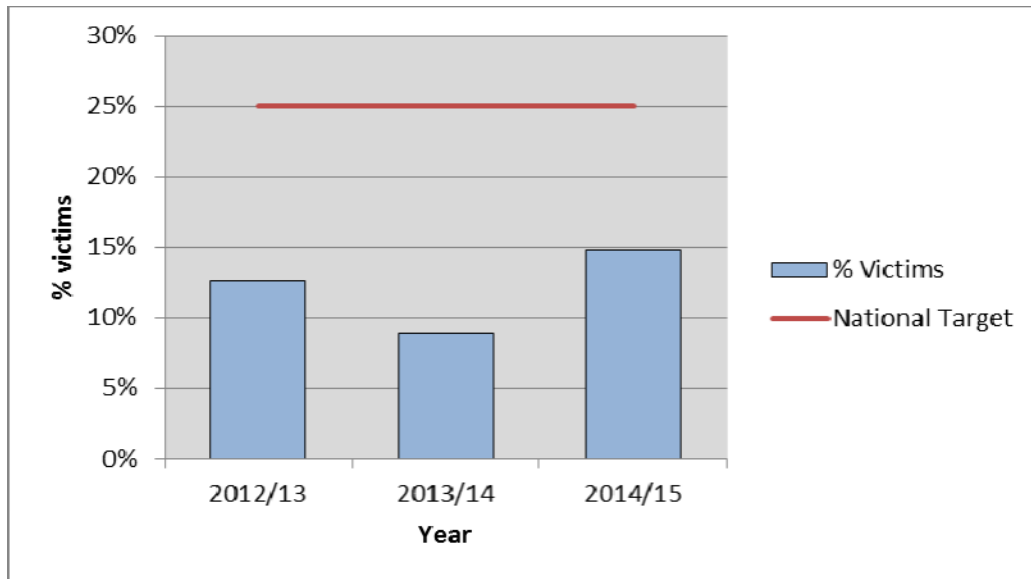


Chart 2 - % of Domestic Abuse victims who are repeats victims compared with National target (County Durham MARAC, 2015)

8.10 The majority of referrals into MARAC continue to originate from the Police. SafeLives have recommended that any potential barriers to agencies identifying and referring high risk cases to MARAC are reviewed in order to increase the range, volume and also ratio of partner agency/police referrals to approximately 40%/60%. Work is underway to progress this through targeted training by the MARAC Coordinator.

MARAC Data	Number	%	Referring Agencies	Number
No. of Cases	472	-	Police	307
No. of repeats	80	17	Health	8
BME	33	7	Probation	7
LGBT	0	0	Mental health	6
Registered Disabled	24	5	DCC Childrens Services	5
Male	24	5	Housing	5
Female	448	95	IDVAs	2
Children involved	506	-		

8.11 National research indicates that minority groups are as vulnerable and sometimes more vulnerable to domestic abuse as predominant groups. Given this research and the data above, when comparing these figures with countywide population breakdowns, it is evident that LGBT and registered disabled groups are under-represented on MARAC. These figures identify that under-reporting is more prevalent within these groups and referrals to MARAC are not being received.

8.12 A Rape Profile carried out by Durham Constabulary in 2012 showed that within County Durham 25% of all recorded rapes are related to domestic abuse. The most violent rapes were found to involve partners or ex-partners of the victim.

- 8.13 Seven domestic homicide reviews have been conducted since the introduction of statutory guidance in April 2011. Analysis carried out through the review process show that alcohol and mental health feature in all but one of the reviews; a lack of professional curiosity often featured within agencies working with individuals; non attendance of onward referrals/appointments was often a feature; women aged 40+ are often the victim of domestic homicide reviews; there is a lot of work that has taken place or is underway, concentrated around statutory agencies; and in all cases the review panel found that the homicides could not have been prevented.
- 8.14 Four Women's Refuges are available within County Durham. Usage for 2011/12 is identified below.

Refuge Age Group 2011 – 2012	Numbers*
16-24 years	43
25-38 years	49
39-45 years	18
46-49 years	18
60-64 years	2

*Please note that service usage is not statistically representative of domestic abuse incidents in County Durham

- 8.15 Harbour Support Services are part of the SafeLives Insights project and provide information in relation to clients accessing outreach support. Information is based on 12 months data from April 2014 – March 2015. During this period 465 intake forms were submitted to the outreach service with 433 of these being suitable for analysis. Headline facts from the report are identified below:

- 14% of adults referred had previously accessed the service during the last 12 months, i.e. were repeats.
- The primary referral route to the service was from the Police (27%) followed by self referrals (26%)
- 96% of referrals were from females.
- 74% of households had children present with an average of 1.9 children per household.
- 31% had children and young peoples service involvement.
- 77% of clients identified the primary perpetrator as an ex-partner and 85% stated they were not living together at the time of intake to the service.
- 36% had stated a mental health problem in the past 12 months, of which almost half had accessed a specialist service in relation to this.
- 18% had planned/attempted suicide and 19% had self harmed.
- 7% have a disability.

- 8.16 Information in relation to perpetrators is reported by victims and the data report shows the following:

- 34% misused drugs and 39% misused alcohol in the past 12 months.
- 31% experienced mental health issues in the past 12 months.

Of the 344 exit forms submitted to the project, 309 were suitable for analysis and they showed the following key points:

- 72% of caseworkers perceived a moderate/significant reduction in risk.
- 79% of clients reported feeling somewhat or much safer.
- 76% of clients reported that their quality of life was much/a little improved.
- 88% were confident or very confident to access support.

8.17 SafeLives also provide a data on intake into the womens refuges within the County that Harbour currently manage. 17 intake forms were submitted during this time period and headline facts are identified below:

- 94% of clients had attempted to leave the perpetrators in the 12 months prior to intake.
- 65% identified a mental health problem in the last 12 months and 45% of these had accessed specialist services.
- 24% identified that they had mental health issues and substance misuse.
- 41% had planned/attempted suicide and 35% had self harmed.
- 41% of clients had attended A & E as a result of abuse or accompanied a child injured in the abuse.
- In terms of client reported information on the perpetrator of violence, 47% reported drugs misuse, 29% reported alcohol misuse and 41% reported mental health issues in the last 12 months.
- 35% of perpetrators were reported to have a previous criminal record in relation to domestic abuse.

8.18 Of the 13 exit forms submitted to the project, 12 were suitable for analysis and they showed the following key points:

- 67% of caseworkers perceived a moderate/significant reduction in risk.
- 80% of clients reported feeling somewhat or much safer.
- 70% of clients reported that their quality of life was much/a little improved.
- 90% were confident or very confident to access support.

8.19 During 2014/15, 358 victims have presented to Housing Solutions as homeless due to fleeing domestic abuse. 155 of these were referred to the Remain Safe project and their homes were target hardened in order to avoid homelessness. 34 of the presentations were accepted as homeless due to domestic abuse. This equates to 18.3% of all acceptances of homelessness within County Durham being due to domestic abuse. The number of acceptances of homeless due to domestic abuse has reduced since 2013/14 by 27.3% since 2011/12.

8.20 Data obtained from DCC Children and Adults Service (CAS) Children Care shows the percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences resulting in a Child Protection Plan due to one of the key Parental Risk Factors being domestic abuse. In 2013/14 this was at 61.0% rising to 35.0% in 2014/15.

Local Sexual Violence Profile

- 8.21 In County Durham between April 2014 and March 2015 there were 280 rapes and 516 other instances of sexual violence recorded by the Police which would suggest significant under reporting. Indeed it is estimated that nationally around 90% of rapes are not disclosed by the victim. It is therefore difficult to assess with any accuracy the level of sexual violence that takes place within the County and also potentially raises concerns about a lack of confidence in reporting to the police.
- 8.22 Of the 796 rapes and sexual offences reported to the police during this period, 66% of victims were female and 33% were male.
- 8.23 A rape profile published by Durham Constabulary in 2011 identified the following key points:
- Victims were more likely to be attacked by somebody they knew and more than likely within familiar surroundings;
 - In 66% of reported cases, the rape or act of sexual violence was historic.
 - Where 'acute' rapes were reported they were more likely to be reported on weekends between 2100 and 0700 the following morning. Alcohol was believed to be a contributory factor in the majority of these cases.
- 8.24 Of the 796 incidents recorded during 2014/15, 580 cases involved a victim under the age of 16 years. Breaking this down further, 177 were under the age of 13 and their relationship with the offender was most commonly that of a family member or an acquaintance.
- 8.25 Within the profile conducted in 2011, partners reported growing concerns about the increased use of social networking sites by young people which increased the risk of sexual exploitation. A worrying culture and changing of attitudes towards sex has developed amongst children and young people, which resulted in the increased sexualisation of young people and therefore an increased vulnerability to sexual harm. This continues to be an issue particularly around the issue of sharing sexualised images of themselves.
- 8.26 Concerns were also highlighted around the vulnerability of young people going missing from home and their vulnerability to sexual exploitation. This vulnerability is magnified for those young people who go missing from the Looked After system.
- 8.27 Sample testing of incidents recorded by the police would suggest that victims of sexual violence have often been considered vulnerable in other areas. Common factors which were evident were domestic abuse, or child abuse as a young person. In almost half of all reported rape cases, the offender was reported as a partner or family member. It is likely that other forms of abuse were also present within these relationships – indeed in more than a third of cases involving sexual assault within an intimate relationship, domestic abuse was also a feature of the relationship. The majority of rapes that had been reported within intimate relationships, were reported historically, i.e. more than 12 months after the rape took place.
- 8.28 Reports of stranger rape were rare, but when reported, were more likely to be reported as acute rape. Of the stranger rapes identified, they occurred most frequently within open spaces. In a proportion of cases, there were rapes that were

reported to the police but that did not result in a crime being recorded. There are a number of factors why this may be the case. In some instances, the victim became uncooperative with the criminal justice process, but on some occasions complaints were shown to have been fabricated. There is a potential that where victims have refused to co-operate with the criminal justice process, that this could be due to a lack of confidence in the criminal justice process, once the crime had been reported, causing the victim to retract their complaint. 8% of reported rapes involved male victims. This is in line with national trends, however it is believed to highlight a significant under reporting in cases of male rape and therefore the true picture could not be established.

- 8.29 The number of sexual offences reported to the Police has increased from 306 during 2012/13 to 803 during 2014/15 and referrals into the Sexual Assault Referral Centre have increased from 252 to 576 during the same period. As for rape and other sex offences, that rise is largely due to the greater confidence of victims to come forward rather than an increase in the crime itself, following recent national media coverage of the issue. The majority of these incidents are in relation to historic offences.

9. **Priority Groups**

Women

- 9.1 Nearly 1 million women experience at least one incident of domestic abuse each year (*2009/10 British Crime Survey*). Two women are killed each week by their partner or ex-partner (*Womens Aid (March 2011)*). 54 per cent of women victims of serious sexual assault were assaulted by their partner or ex-partner (*Stern, (2010)*). Women experience an average of 35 incidents of domestic violence before reporting an incident to the police (*Yearshaw 1997*). 19 per cent of women have experienced stalking since the age of 16 (*Smith (Ed.), Coleman, Eder and Hall (January 2011)*).
- 9.2 Research indicates that one in four women and one in six men will be a victim of domestic abuse. This suggests a level of parity; however, what these figures conceal is the fact that the 47% of males experienced a single incident, with an average of seven incidents per victim, compared with 28% of female victims experiencing a single incident, with an average of 20 incidents per victim (Walby and Allen 2004). Women victims of male perpetrators are more likely to be repeatedly abused or murdered.
- 9.3 Domestic abuse is experienced by women of all ages however older women are often overlooked. The government define older women as those over the age of 50. There is very little recent research on this issue however, nationally there have been a number of high profile domestic homicides involving female victims that fall within this age group.
- 9.4 Local domestic homicide data within the local profile above also supports the need for interventions for women within the 40+ age group.
- 9.5 The majority of victims in County Durham who report to the Police and who are involved with other agencies including MARAC are females, in line with national trends.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans (LGBT)

- 9.6 Nationally, there is limited research into the issue of domestic abuse in LGBT communities. However research that has been carried out has identified the following:
- One national survey into prevalence among lesbians and gay men reported that 29% of men and 22% of women had experienced domestic abuse. Of these, 24% and 19% had experienced some recurrent abuse (Henderson, 2005)
 - A more recent national survey completed by gay men and lesbians, 38% of respondents reported they had experienced domestic abuse at some time in a same-sex relationship (Donovan, et al 2006)
 - An evaluation of a men's domestic abuse project in South Wales reported that 31.2% of gay men referred were assessed as being at high or very high risk, with 27% of gay men experiencing repeat victimisation (Robinson and Rowlands, 2006)
 - Nationally, knowledge of the experience of trans communities is limited, although one study found that one in ten transgender people had experienced domestic abuse, while another found that 50% of participants had been raped or assaulted by an intimate partner (Fish, 2006)
- 9.7 Nationally there is a general lack of recognition that domestic abuse can occur within LGBT relationships. Stonewall, the lesbian, gay and bisexual charity, highlight that this lack of visibility makes it difficult for people to report incidents of domestic abuse or feel protected by structures that exist to protect people.

Black, Minority, Ethnic and Refugee (BMER)

- 9.8 The population within County Durham from BMER groups is low however it needs to be recognised that language and communication skills can create barriers to individuals' confidence and ability to disclose abuse. Cultural beliefs or concerns such as pressure to stay from family members, bringing shame on the family, or abuse being viewed as accepted behaviour are extremely important and need to be understood, especially if we want to encourage all communities to be able to disclose any type of abuse that may be suffering. Other issues relevant to the Domestic Abuse agenda include Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage (FM) and so called 'honour' based violence (HBV).
- 9.9 FGM involves procedures that include the partial or total removal of the external female genital organs for cultural or other non-therapeutic reasons. The Home Office estimates that over 20,000 girls under the age of 15 are at high risk of FGM in the UK each year and that 66,000 women in the UK are living with the consequences, although its true extent is unknown due to the hidden nature of the crime. The majority of cases of FGM are thought to take place between the ages of 5 and 8 and therefore girls within that age bracket are at a higher risk however adult females can also be at risk.

- 9.10 Although County Durham does not have a large resident population from the practising countries e.g. Somalia, Guinea, Djibouti, Sierra Leone, Egypt, Sudan, etc, all areas, responsible authorities and professionals should be aware of and actively prevent and tackle FGM. However, home office guidance identifies that dispersed migrant populations in overwhelmingly white areas are more likely to support FGM because they are isolated as there are no support networks to tell them otherwise.
- 9.11 Forced marriage and so called ‘honour’ based violence can be disproportionately prevalent within Asian communities.
- 9.12 There have been a low number of cases of FM and HBV reported within Durham Constabulary. Due to the small number and in order to avoid disclosure of sensitive information we are unable to report the exact numbers. However, the ability of services to deal with this issue needs to be incorporated within specialist services.

Gypsy & Travellers

- 9.13 Gypsies and Travellers are one of the largest ethnic minority groups in County Durham. However the population of this group changes on a seasonal basis as many travel through and temporarily stay in the county during the year. The nature of their lifestyle can mean that access to education for children and access to health for all age groups are particular issues of concern.
- 9.14 A briefing paper published by the Equality and Human Rights Commission in October 2010, highlights that:
- Although no reliable statistics are available regarding prevalence of domestic abuse in Gypsy and Traveller communities, a 2007 study in Wrexham found that 61% of English Gypsy Woman and 81% of married Irish women interviewed had experienced direct domestic abuse.
 - Domestic abuse is accepted as normal for many women and although many incidents of domestic abuse are perpetrated by husbands and intimate partners, other family members may also be perpetrators.
- 9.15 National research identifies that forced marriage and honor based violence also features within this community as well as BME communities.

Children & Young People

- 9.16 County Durham Children’s Trust Children and Young Peoples Plan 2009-12 has a clear role to play in addressing the negative impact of domestic abuse has on children and young people. The importance of this issue is reflected in the Business Plan of the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board and the Board being represented at the Safe Durham Partnership Domestic Abuse Forum Executive Group.
- 9.17 Domestic abuse impacts on all five Every Child Matters Outcomes: staying safe, being healthy, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well being.

- 9.18 The Munro Review, 2011 highlights that an association between parental problems, such as domestic abuse, and abuse and neglect of children in well-established and makes it clear that adult services are vital in recognising the possible impact that such problems may be having on children. Similarly, children and young people rely on the police being sufficiently aware of the link between domestic abuse and the harm done to them when witnessing or being caught up in violence.
- 9.19 Children as witnesses, victims or perpetrators of domestic abuse are more likely to continue this pattern of behaviour into adulthood. Early intervention can improve the long term effects of abuse, and can make long-term improvements both socially and financially across all statutory agencies.
- “The majority of children witness the violence that is occurring, and in 90% of cases they are in the same or next room” (Hughes, 1992).*
- 9.20 Research carried out by the NSPCC identified that, nationally 750,000 children witness domestic violence each year.
- 9.21 In terms of abuse within teenage relationships the NSPCC identified that one in four teenage girls have been hit by a boyfriend (with one in nine reporting severe physical violence) and 18 per cent of boys reported some form of physical partner violence (NSPCC, 2009).
- 9.22 Changes have been made within legislation due to the increased awareness of the impact of abuse on children. Children living in households where domestic violence is happening are now identified as "at risk" under the Adoption and Children Act 2002. From 31 January 2005, Section 120 of this act extended the legal definition of harming children to include harm suffered by seeing or hearing ill treatment of others. This would include witnessing domestic abuse.
- 9.23 The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process heard 293 cases between April 2011 – March 2012, which included 370 children. As MARAC concentrates on our most at-risk victims, this highlights the level of risk that children are living with and potentially being subjected to within County Durham.
- 9.24 The embedding of sex and relationship education in schools with a strong emphasis on healthy appropriate friendships and relationships is paramount in tackling inappropriate attitudes and values around domestic abuse for both adults and children.
- 9.25 As well as educating children and young people on sex and relationships, schools are in a prime position to identify the early signs of children as witnesses/victims of domestic abuse, and to take supportive action for the child through the Common Assessment Framework.
- 9.26 Significant changes are taking place within Childrens Social Care following the successful bid to the Innovations Fund which may have a positive impact upon the levels and severity of domestic abuse in families within County Durham. It is important to ensure that strong links exist between the Innovations project and the

wider work within Childrens Services and the Safe Durham Partnership to ensure a joined up approach exists to tackle domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Parents and Carers

- 9.27 Anecdotally, we do know that child-on-adult abuse between parent/carers and their children exists in County Durham, with likely negative outcomes such as poor school attendance as a result.
- 9.28 This definition of domestic abuse adopted by the Safe Durham Partnership has recently been updated in line with the findings of the recent Government consultation. The definition now includes those aged 16 years or over and includes abuse between family members and those in intimate relationships.
- 9.29 In comparison to studies of domestic violence between intimate partners and of parental abuse of children, less attention has been paid to adolescent violence towards parents. Research has found that there is little tangible evidence surrounding this in much the same way that other forms of family violence have been hidden in the past (Browne & Hamilton, 1998; Downey, 1997; Sheehan 1997).

Those with Disabilities

- 9.30 MARAC data recorded 9 victims as registered disabled between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012 which equates to 3.1% of cases. It must be noted that this is not the total number of disabled victims recorded for the period, only those risk assessed through MARAC, and not all disabled people are registered as disabled. Local information relating to those with disabilities as victims or perpetrators of domestic abuse is limited. However it is recognised nationally that under-reporting is an issue in this within this group.
- 9.31 Disability can be a factor that increases a victims vulnerability when they are in an abusive relationship. The victim can be reliant on their abusive partner to help, support and assist them and abusive partners can use this vulnerability and need for support as another way of controlling them.
- 9.32 Disability is one of the risk factors within the risk assessment used to make a referral into MARAC.

10. Current Services for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence within County Durham

- 10.1 Good practice can be seen both locally and nationally and the Safe Durham Partnership will always look to support programmes and services which are demonstrating an impact on tackling the issue of domestic abuse.
- 10.2 Although not comprehensive, examples of local good practice have been highlighted by professionals but more importantly by victims who have used the services or accessed the programmes within County Durham.

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) & Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA)

- 10.3 MARAC provides a consistent approach to risk assessment which identifies those victims who are at most risk of serious harm. Once a victim has been assessed at this level of risk a multi agency meeting is held and agencies will work together to find a way of reducing that risk using available interventions.
- 10.4 The IDVA Role is a component part of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) and exists to provide specialist support and advice to victims of domestic abuse-related crimes whilst they are involved in the criminal justice system. The IDVA also contributes to the MARAC process.
- 10.5 The IDVA service throughout County Durham and Darlington collates direct feedback from victims about the service they received from the IDVA and also about their views on how successful the final outcome of any case heard at court was for them. This feedback is invaluable and has assisted in highlighting from the victim's point of view the importance of the IDVA role and how this role has assisted and sometimes represented the one thing that has kept the victim going throughout very difficult and high risk times.
- 10.6 There are three IDVAs in place within County Durham, working within the MARAC.
- 10.7 MARAC and IDVA are funded via contributions from Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council & Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust. A Memorandum of Agreement is in place between these organisations which outlines the current funding arrangements for the MARAC and IDVA Service.

Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC)

- 10.8 When referring to a specialist DV court, this is not so much referring to a court building or jurisdiction, but to a specialised way of dealing with domestic violence cases in the magistrates' courts. The aim of the SDVCs is:
- To provide a coordinated judicial response to criminal proceedings involving domestic violence incidents.
 - To develop and coordinate the provision of victim/witness services within the criminal justice system.
 - To encourage the victims of domestic violence incidents to come forward and report cases and to remain engaged with the criminal justice system throughout the process.
 - To improve the experience of victims and witnesses.
 - To increase the confidence of the public and victims in the criminal justice system to deal justly with offences.
 - To increase the number of perpetrators brought to justice.

Outreach Services

- 10.9 The specialist domestic abuse outreach service within County Durham provides services within the community to adult victims and children who witness and experience domestic abuse. The service provides individual practical and emotional support to adult victims; counselling services for adults and children; group

programmes; training to other agencies; and awareness raising to partner agencies and the general public to highlight that domestic abuse is unacceptable. The service also provide a programme for perpetrators of domestic abuse.

- 10.10 Harbour Support Services are currently delivering this service, commissioned by Durham County Council's Public Health. The contract runs until September 2016 and the procurement process for this service will commence early 2016.

Womens Refuges

- 10.11 There are four womens refuges in County Durham funded through Durham County Council CAS Commissioning Team.

- Thirteen Capacity 9
- Harbour Capacity 9
- Harbour Capacity 6
- Wear Valley Womens Aid Capacity 6

Women's Empowerment Programmes

- 10.12 The Freedom Programme is a nationally recognised programme which is open to women who wish to learn more about the reality of domestic abuse, whether she is in or has left an abusive relationship, including women who have no plan to leave their partner. Anyone can train to be a facilitator for the Freedom Programme and these are ran at numerous venues across the County and are provided by Harbour Support Services.
- 10.13 Other empowerment programmes are available across the County through local voluntary and community groups, DCC's One Point Service have been trained to deliver the iGroup programme to women survivors.

Remain Safe Scheme

- 10.14 The Remain Safe Scheme is target-hardening for existing victims of domestic abuse which enables them to remain in their homes where possible when under threat of violence. Target hardening is the implementation of practical security measures such as changing locks and adding panic alarms.
- 10.15 The Remain Safe Scheme is funded by Durham County Councils Housing Solutions with a contribution made to the scheme by Public Health. Any target hardening work required is carried out in-house by Durham County Council Direct Services within specified timescales.

Mandated Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

- 10.16 The mandated perpetrator programme is provided by the Probation Trust funded through the service base budget. It is a 29 session programme for men with a women's safety worker attached to the programme to support the partners of participants. Seven programmes run a year across County Durham.

Voluntary Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

- 10.17 Harbour Support Services provide a voluntary perpetrator programme within County Durham. The programme started taking referrals early 2015. The programme will be delivered based on the needs of the perpetrator and this new model will be evaluated by Durham University in 2016. The findings from the evaluation will be used to re-procure the service late 2016.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

- 10.18 Multi agency statutory guidance for domestic homicide reviews came into effect on April 13th 2011. Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) were established on a statutory basis under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims act (2004). Domestic Homicide Reviews are a statutory function of the Safe Durham Partnership and a review is commenced shortly after a Domestic Homicide has taken place.
- 10.19 These reviews allow professionals to establish and act upon any lessons learned from the homicide and apply these lessons to changes in the policies and working practices of relevant organisations in order to improve service responses for all domestic violence victims and their children through improved intra and inter-agency working.

The Meadows Sexual Assault Referral Centre

- 10.20 The Meadows Sexual Assault Referral Centre aims to provide a sensitive and comprehensive service to residents of County Durham and Darlington who have experienced rape or sexual assault. All services are free and are available to both men and women. The SARC is joint funded by Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council and Durham Constabulary. The SARC has recently introduced a system which allows vulnerable victims of crime to provide evidence to court through video link.

Other Services

- 10.21 Durham County Councils Children and Adults Services Safeguarding and Specialist Services work with significant numbers of children as a consequence of witnessing or experiencing domestic abuse.
- 10.22 Universal services such as Health Visitors, School Nurses, Sexual Health Services, Midwifery, ED's, etc all have a role to play in identifying and signposting victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence to appropriate support.
- 10.23 Durham County Councils Housing Solutions Team are available to give full information and advise on accommodation issues including where clients are at risk of homelessness due to domestic abuse. A regional bid was submitted to access DCLG funding in March 2015, this bid was successful and a service is now in place focused around a Rapid Response Team of specialist Domestic Abuse Navigators who could provide rapid access to suitable tenancies in the private and social rented sector for those at risk of homelessness or in need of refuge accommodation. The

service will be further supported by a personalisation fund enabling purchasing of essential items to set up a new home and will provide a response that enables victims to plan a move or access alternative housing within 48 hours via the rapid response team together with specialist support. The service will also provide a cohort of 9 dispersed properties around the County for families to access.

10.24 Aside from statutory services, the voluntary and community sector deliver a large amount of services locally, largely funded through charitable organisations and local community funding such as Area Action Partnerships. These range from support for LGBT survivors, the delivery of education packages to schools, counselling and therapeutic services for victims. The Safe Durham Partnership recognises the valuable contribution that these services make to tackling both issues of domestic abuse and sexual violence within the current difficult times of ongoing austerity measures.

11. **Aims and Objectives of the Strategy**

11.1 This strategy outlines our overall aspiration to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse and sexual violence in County Durham. Our objectives for the next three years are:

- Prevention – To prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm.
- Provision – to 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.
- Protection – to improve the criminal justice response to tackling domestic abuse, sexual violence and sexual exploitation.
- Pursue – to pursue perpetrators of domestic abuse through the criminal justice system and ensure that they face up to the implications of their actions.

11.2 High level objectives have been agreed by the DASVEG with activity falling beneath these. The high level objectives are outlined below:

Prevention

11.3 We will:

- Ensure that all children and young people have an understanding that healthy relationships are based on respect, with sexual activity between adults being consensual and reinforcing which attitudes and behaviours are acceptable and which are not.
- Raise public awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence, across services, organisations and the general public.
- Ensure early identification and coordinated intervention by front line professionals to protect victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. This includes children, young people and adults.
- Prevent abuse from happening by intervening early to prevent it and challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it.

Provision

11.4 We will:

- Produce a three year multi-agency training strategy and action plan around domestic abuse and sexual abuse and exploitation, which links to the national and regional violence against women and girls strategy, findings from external and internal audits and learning following domestic homicide and serious case reviews.
- 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.
- Develop an accurate picture of the scale and nature of all aspects of domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- Commissioning county wide specialist services for domestic abuse, sexual violence and sexual exploitation.

Protection

11.5 We will:

- Reduce the attrition rate and maintain the high conviction rate in cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence. 'Attrition' refers to the gap between levels of known crime and the response of the criminal justice system in terms of prosecutions, convictions and sentencing.
- Ensure that victims are provided with an enhanced level of support throughout the end to end criminal justice process.
- Ensure that all criminal justice agencies address the issues in reporting of rape and in prosecuting rape and CSE cases.
- Provide the opportunity, where appropriate, for victims and perpetrators to access restorative approaches as a means of conflict and repairing harm.

Pursue

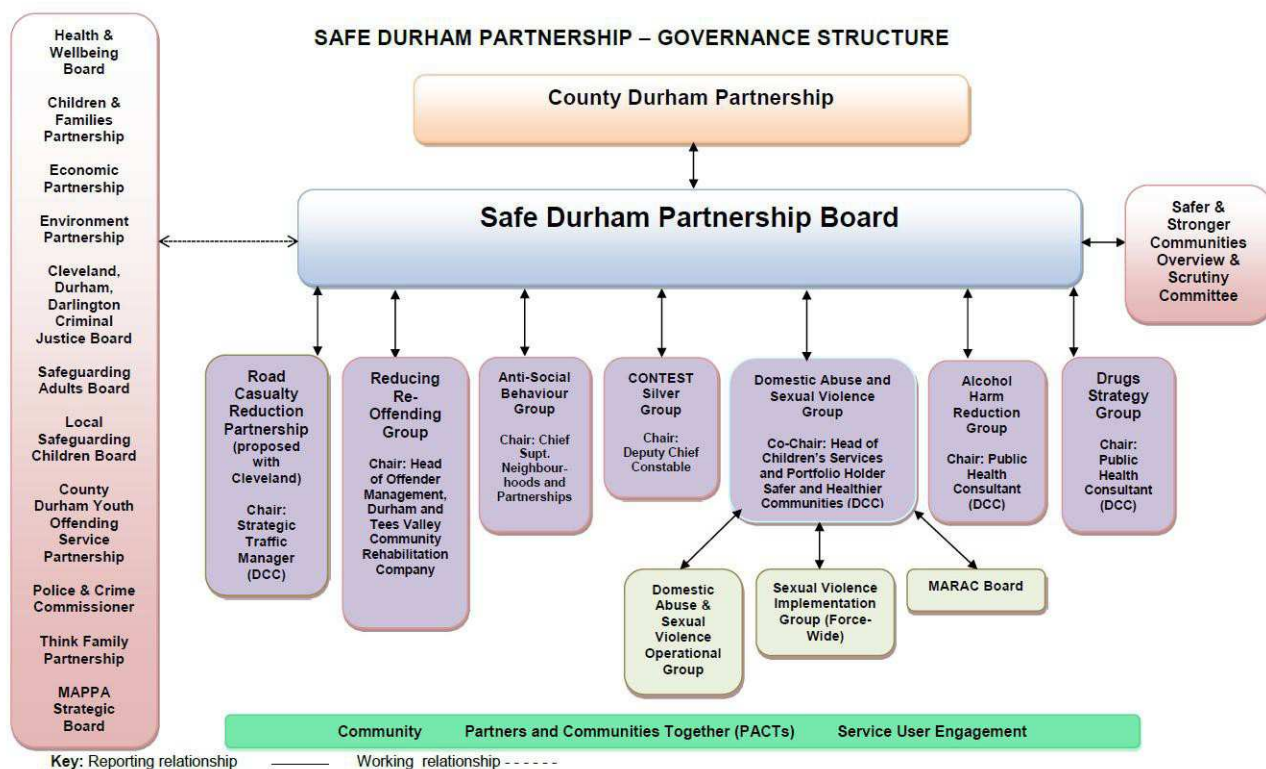
11.6 We will:

- Implement a multi faceted perpetrator programme across County Durham in order to change attitudes and behaviours of perpetrators
- Identify and pursue serial perpetrators of domestic violence by targeting via multi agency approach and problem solving
- Review the impact of Clare's law in County Durham and pro-actively advertise its existence to increase its use
- Increase awareness of DVPO/N's in order to increase the use of these valuable tools to combat perpetrators

12. **Governance and Performance Management Framework**

- 12.1 The Performance Management Framework aligns to the priorities identified by the Safe Durham Partnership. Each of the priorities is supported by a thematic group with responsibility for delivering improvements. The Domestic Abuse and Sexual

Violence Executive Group is a thematic group of the Safe Durham Partnership, the Community Safety Partnership of County Durham.



12.2 The DASVIG group consider a quarterly performance report which contains a range of indicators (examples below). The DASVIG maintain a detailed action plan appropriate to the issues raised from the performance report. Any key issues are escalated initially to the DASVEG and then to the Safe Durham Partnership Board if appropriate.

12.3 There are 25 key performance indicators that are reported into DASVEG on quarterly basis. These are:

- Number of incidents of domestic abuse reported either directly to the Police or through a third party
- Percentage of cases that are assessed as high, medium and standard risk
- Percentage of repeat incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the Police
- Number of domestic homicides
- Number of Clare's Law applications received and processed
- Number and percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences resulting in a Child Protection Plan due to one of the Key Parental Risk factors being domestic abuse
- Number of defendants arrested and charged with a domestic abuse related offence and percentage that resulted in successful prosecution at court
- Number of all reported sexual offences
- Detection rate for serious sexual offences
- Number of referrals into SARC
- Alcohol related sexual violence
- Alcohol relation violence against the person crime with domestic abuse qualifier

- Missing from home
- Percentage of domestic abuse victims at MARAC who are repeat victims
- Utilisations of Durham County Refuges
- Number of adult referrals received into the countywide domestic abuse service
- Number of child referral received into the countywide domestic abuse service
- Number of adult referrals that went onto engage with the countywide domestic abuse service
- Number of children referrals received that went on to engage with the countywide domestic abuse service
- Percentage of adults reporting feeling safe at exit from the countywide domestic abuse service
- Percentage of adults reporting feeling safe at exit
- Percentage of children reporting feeling safe at exit from countywide domestic abuse service
- Percentage of victims of domestic abuse who were referred to the Remain Safe scheme and the status of their referral is complete
- Number of referrals received by Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) in County Durham
- Percentage of IDVA referrals where the IDVA provided support to the victim

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Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

21 June 2016



Review of the Committee's Work Programme 2016-17

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide for Members consideration an updated work programme for the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2016 - 17.

Background

2. At its meeting on 23 March 2016, the Committee considered the actions identified within the Council Plan 2016 – 2019 for the Altogether Safer priority theme and agreed to refresh its work programme to include a number of these actions. In addition topics have also been identified that are in line the Council Plan, Cabinet's Forward Plan of decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy and Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Plan.

Detail

3. In accordance with this decision, a work programme for 2016 – 2017 has been prepared and attached in Appendix 2. It is to note that the work programme is flexible to enable additional items to be accommodated throughout the year.
4. In considering its work programme, Members are asked to identify a topic for review activity to be undertaken. At present, the Committee are concluding its work on Alcohol and its Demand on Emergency Services to which its report is scheduled to complete by September 2016.
5. With regard to future review activity, at its meeting in March a suggestion was made to look at work in relation to the new Council Plan and SDP Plan objective of 'Improved Safety in the Home'. This suggestion has been explored with the Fire Service who is leading on this work and would be a feasible topic area with potential to lead to beneficial outcomes in relation to this objective.
6. In addition suggestions have been received to look at psychoactive substances in relation to new legislation and road safety with regard to young drivers and the fatal four causes of accidents. These suggestions have also been explored but could be more challenging in terms of identifying useful outcomes. However, these are important areas and can also be accommodated in the committee's work programme. It is therefore proposed to hold focused meetings with service professionals on both of these areas to which could lead to a report from these meetings being submitted to the Safe Durham Partnership Board and Cabinet Portfolio Members.

7. Within this context, it is for Members to consider undertaking review activity around improved safety in the home and holding focussed meetings on psychoactive substances and road safety for young drivers.

Recommendation

8. Members of the Committee are asked to:
 - a) agree the work programme within Appendix 2
 - b) agree to undertake review activity on Improved Home Safety
 - c) agree for arrangements to be made for focussed meetings on Psychoactive Substances and Road Safety for young drivers.

Background Papers

‘Council Plan 2016-2019- Refresh of the Work Programme’ – Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 23 March 2016

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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 – The Committee’s Work Programme is to provide challenge and contribute to the Altogether Safer element of the Council Plan 2016 -2019.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2016 - 2019

<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2016 - 2019</p> <p>Safer and Stronger Communities OSC</p> <p>Lead Officer: Tom Gorman</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Jonathan Slee</p> <p>IPG contact: Peter Appleton</p>	<p>Note:</p> <p>O/S Review - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan</p> <p>Scrutiny/Working Group – In depth Review</p> <p>Overview/progress – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p>Performance – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets</p>
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	Date of O/S Review	Start Date	End Date	Who	Outcome	Comment
O/S Review						
20 mph Limits	2015/16	April 2015		John Reed	To follow up on recommendations following the Committee's review.	Working group report agreed at Cabinet May 2016 with recommendation for update report to be included within SSC OSC work programme
Drug Treatment Centres	2014/15	July 2014	October 2015	Lynn Wilson	Consider progress on delivery/performance on Substance Misuse Services	Requested following recommendation within report to SSC OSC in October 2015
Organised Crime	2014/15	November 2014	Sept 2015	Durham Constabulary Andrea Petty Paul Bradley	To follow up on recommendations following the Committee's review	

	Date of O/S Review	Start Date	End Date	Who	Outcome	Comment
Scrutiny/Working Group						
Alcohol and the Demand on Emergency Services	Jan 2016			SDP Alcohol Harm Reduction Group	The aim of this work is to gain an understanding of the impact of alcohol related incidents on levels of demand for emergency services within County Durham and to contribute evidence to support delivery of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy	Evidence has been gathered and a report is to be scheduled for Sept SSC OSC, Cabinet and SDP Board
Overview/Progress						
Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015		June 2016		Deputy Chief Constable, Stephen Watson	To receive an update report on progress of the Altogether Safer priority, 'Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism' and the implications of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.	Report builds upon presentation at March 2015 SSC OSC meeting and identified within SDP Plan
SDP Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy		June 2016		Lynn Wilson	Consider a report on delivery of the Strategy	Identified within the SDP Plan
ERASE – Child Sexual Exploitation		25 th July 2016		Helen Fergusson	Overview presentation by Officers from the Council and Durham Constabulary on the work of the ERASE Team	Joint meeting with CYP OSC Meeting

	Date of O/S Review	Start Date	End Date	Who	Outcome	Comment
Road Casualty Reduction Forum		September 2016		Dave Wafer	To receive information providing an overview of work undertaken and campaign for 2016/17	Identified within the Safe Durham Partnership plan and Council Plan.
County Durham Youth Offending Service – Youth Justice Plan		September 2016		Gill Eshelby	To receive and consider information on activity to deliver the Youth Justice Plan.	Identified within the Council Plan
Multi-Agency Interventions Project (MAIS)		September 2016		Ian Hoult	To consider a report following outcomes from a review of the MAIS service	
Checkpoint		October 2016		Alan Reiss, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner	To consider a report on delivery of the Checkpoint project.	Identified within the SDP Plan and presentation to Oct 2015 SSC OSC meeting.
Community and Organisational Resilience		October 2016		Su Jordan		Identified within SDP and Council Plans
Safe Durham Partnership Plan		October 2016		Andrea Petty	Report on actions within SDP Plan and development of SDP Plan for 2017-20	
Cybercrime		January 2017		SDP Thematic Lead		Identified within SDP Plan and suggested at Feb 16 OSC meeting
Safe Durham Partnership Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy		January 2017		SDP Thematic Lead	To consider progress and delivery of the SDP Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy	Identified within the SDP Plan and linked to review activity on Alcohol and demand on Emergency Services

	Date of O/S Review	Start Date	End Date	Who	Outcome	Comment
Draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan		February 2017	Ongoing	Peter Appleton	To receive and comment on the draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan and findings from the Strategic Assessment	Key strategic document, Committee provided commented throughout development of the Safe Durham Partnership plan.
Reducing Re-offending strategy		February 2017		Re-offending lead	To consider a report on a refresh of the reducing re-offending strategy and activity of the thematic group.	Identified as a key area within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan
Consumer Protection – enforcement activity		February 2017		Owen Cleugh	Report on intelligence led enforcement activity in relation to reduce door step crime, rogue traders and supply of illicit, counterfeit and age restricted products	
County Durham & Darlington Fire Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP)		TBC		Stuart Errington	Receive update on current plan and provide comment to the Fire Service’s IRMP consultation.	

	Date of O/S Review	Start Date	End Date	Who	Outcome	Comment
Performance						
Performance 2015/16 Quarter 4		June 2016		Peter Appleton	Members are to consider quarterly reports detailing performance against indicators within the Council's Altogether Safer theme. Members may wish to comment both on areas of good performance and areas that are below target.	The report is to also provide an opportunity to identify topics within the Committee's work programme and have been key factors to undertake review activity.
Performance 2016/17 Quarter 1		September 2016				
Quarter 2		January 2017				
Quarter 3		April 17				
Quarter 4		TBC				

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

Safe Durham Partnership Update

21st June 2016



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 discussed at the May Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Board meeting.

Open Water Safety

2. The Safe Durham Partnership agreed a new outcome in relation to 'Improved Understanding of Open Water Safety' within the refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership 2016/19.
3. A report was provided to the Safe Durham Partnership Board to provide information regarding the actions taken by Durham County Council and its partners in relation to Open Water Safety; to provide the background into the development of Durham City Safety Group (CSG) and Council's Open Water Safety Group (OWSG) and to provide governance arrangements for both groups.
4. Both water safety action groups, OWSG and CSG, have made significant progress in relation to improving physical infrastructure and public awareness of hazards associated with open water, from a Durham City and County wide perspective. In doing so, the Council and its partners have become a national example of best practice with regards to water safety management within Durham City.
5. The CSG will continue to meet on a quarterly basis and monitor and review the physical and cultural safety improvements introduced. The future challenge for the CSG, aside from physical control measures, is to develop a sustainable, long term programme for education and awareness of open water safety risks, particularly those linked to the night time economy of the City Centre. More specifically the targeting of 'at risk groups' which most research indicates to be males aged between 15 and 26.
6. In terms of the OWSG, collaborative working with partner organisations will continue in 2016, with particular emphasis being placed on preventative and educational initiatives for local schools and to ensure key water risk are appropriately managed and communicated to stakeholders. The development of a calendar of water safety initiatives and events for 2015/16 will be effective in coordinating approaches and avoidance of duplication of campaigns and activities.
7. The Safe Durham Partnership Board have agreed that in terms of governance arrangements, both groups will become sub-groups of the Safe Durham Partnership, reporting in on a six-monthly basis.

Safe Durham Partnership Governance Review

8. At the Safe Durham Partnership Board development session held on 30th June 2015 it was agreed that a Governance Review would be undertaken to ensure the structures and membership of the Safe Durham Partnership was still fit for purpose. Any changes to governance arrangements will feed into future planning documents (eg Safe Durham Partnership Plan).
9. The final report containing recommendations will be presented to the Safe Durham Partnership Board in July.

Victim Care and Advice Service

10. The Safe Durham Partnership were updated by the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner (OPCVV) on the new victim needs assessment and onward referral service that commenced with effect from 1st April 2016.
11. Victim referral services, up to the 31st March 2016, were delivered by Victim Support via a grant from the PCC for Cleveland and the PCC for Durham. A procurement exercise, in collaboration with the Cleveland Office of the PCC, commenced in September 2015 to select a provider to commence service delivery from 1st April 2016. Safe in Tees Valley have been awarded the contract.
12. The service commissioned was specified to take account of the most recent Victims Code of Practice. The Code of Practice forms a key part of a national strategy to transform the criminal justice system by putting victims first and making processes more responsive and easier to navigate. In essence the shift was to offer support to all victims of crime and replace the previous approach that only offered support if the crime was classified within a group of categories determined by the Home Office. This means that support can be offered to victims assessed as vulnerable in relation to age, social isolation, hate crime, repeat victimisation, having a physical or learning disability or other mental health needs.
13. The benefits of this new service which include:
 - Tailored to the needs of local communities rather than organisational need;
 - Locally based service that is flexible and can adapt to any identified need for change quickly;
 - Based on a collaborative approach to risk and needs assessment processes that enable speedy onward referral/access to appropriate service/support for victims;
 - Victim rather than process centred;
 - Reduces the number of steps involved in the current automated data processing arrangements thereby enabling a more speedy response to victims in urgent need;
 - More effective liaison with police and other partners to reduce duplication for victims;
 - Focuses resources on the most vulnerable and those in greatest need

Checkpoint Update

14. The Safe Durham Partnership Board received a report updating progress with the Checkpoint Project.
15. A Checkpoint needs assessment is undertaken at the first meeting with the navigator. From the self-disclosure data, it can be seen that males and females equally identified Attitude, Thinking and Behaviour (24%), Alcohol (21%), and Mental Health (18%) as the most common factors contributing to their offending, health and wellbeing.
16. Phase 2 (Randomised Control Trial) commenced on the 8th February. This allows for a robust, academic comparison of Checkpoint's effectiveness against traditional disposals.

Prevent (Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015)

17. The Safe Durham Partnership Board received a report providing progress on the Prevent Duty.
18. All specified authorities in County Durham continue to work towards meeting their individual responsibilities within the Act. A formal review of the collective approach was initiated in March 2015 and included non-statutory agencies such as Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Fire and Rescue Service. At the latest review point (March 2016) the collective progress was recognised as being strong and it is anticipated that the review will successfully conclude in September 2016.
19. Productive cooperation, required by the Act, has led to the shared assessment of the risk to County Durham, a combined effort to train trainers and deliver training across every organisation and a joint approach to implementing a Channel Panel to provide support and intervention to those who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
20. In addition, the partnership has reached out to nearly all childcare institutions, the out-of-school-sector, registered child minders and foster carers; providing Prevent Seminars, briefings and regular communications.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

21. The Safe Durham Partnership Board received a report on the refreshed County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy.
22. The refreshed strategy brings together the two agendas into one strategic document with national and local policy and research information brought up to date. Priority groups are unchanged though high level objectives have been updated which reflect a governance review of this agenda in January 2015 and the need to continually progress the aim of the strategy; to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse and sexual violence in County Durham.

Recommendations and reasons

23. The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the contents of the report.

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Caroline Duckworth, Community Safety Manager Tel: 03000 265435

Appendix 1 – Implications

Finance – N/A

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

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