

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of **Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Monday 26 June 2017** at **9.30 am**

#### **Present:**

**Councillor D Boyes (Chairman)**

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

Councillors B Avery, J Charlton, R Crute, S Durham, C Hampson, H Liddle, E Mavin, J Nicholson, A Patterson, D Stoker and C Wilson

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

Mr A J Cooke and Mr J Welch

#### **Also Present:**

Councillors J Brown and L Hovvels

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Bainbridge, J Considine, S Iveson, J Maitland, J Stephenson and J Turnbull.

### **2 Substitute Members**

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

The Chairman noted that, wherever possible, Members submitting their apologies should try to arrange for a substitute to attend the Committee.

### **3 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held 27 March 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

Mr J Welch noted that, in relation to Item 8, he had been involved with the Community Hands scheme, however, the organisation had recently closed.

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

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

## **6 Media Relations**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Jonathan Slee 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 water safety campaign carried out by Durham County Council and partners following the death of a teenager from Crook receiving a prestigious national award; the summer drink and drug driving campaign having so far caught forty people intoxicated behind the wheel; and a cyber-criminal admitting to targeting Durham Constabulary. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that the issues linked to items on the agenda, previous scrutiny reviews and the work programme for the upcoming committee cycle.

### **Resolved:**

That the presentation be noted.

## **7 Open Water Safety**

The Chairman introduced the Occupational Health and Safety Manager, Kevin Lough to give a presentation to update Members in respect of Open Water Safety (for copy see file of minutes).

The Occupational Health and Safety Manager noted reports and presentations had previously been given to the Committee in September 2015 by the then Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services, now Chief Executive, Terry Collins and then in March 2016 by the then Interim Director of Neighbourhood Services, now Head of Direct Services, Oliver Sherratt. It was explained there was the City Safety Group (CSG) and also the Countywide Open Water Safety Group (OWSG), with the Occupational Health and Safety Manager chairing the latter.

The Committee noted the success of the open water safety campaign, "Dying to be Cool", with the team winning the Management Journal (MJ) Award for Excellence in Community Engagement 2017.

The Occupational Health and Safety Manager reminded Members of the challenge in County Durham with risks not being just in terms of Durham City centre and the night-time economy (NTE), but also countywide taking into account more rural areas. It was noted the most at risk group was young males aged 10-25, with 51,600 of the county's population of 520,000 in that age range. It was added that geographically the County was large and diverse, with 300 settlements over 862 square miles.

Members were reminded of the tragedies in 2015 which prompted action in terms of how to improve safety in a proportional way. It was noted that there were hard to reach groups in terms of understanding the risks of open water and the previous approaches had been disjointed. The Occupational Health and Safety Manager explained that a consistent approach was developed in partnership that included the World Heritage Site within Durham City. Councillors noted that the CSG chaired by the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services, Jane Robinson.

The Occupational Health and Safety Manager reminded Members of all the work undertaken by the CSG including: enhanced education involving licensed premises; driver recruitment to re-establish the Durham Students' Union (DSU) night bus; a new arrangement between taxi operators and the University; looking to tackle cheap alcohol and links to where personal safety may be an issue; helping voluntary groups, including radio links from volunteers to CCTV operators; and a full audit of the riverside areas by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

Members were informed that the audit by RoSPA had pointed out the excellent work in terms of the physical measures undertaken, but also highlighted the value of the softer works in terms of looking at peer-led activities and engagement, including looking at social norms in terms of alcohol. It was also noted that solutions were swiftly implemented.

The Committee were asked to note the large amount of publicity and communications carried out in terms of the work of the CSG, and wider OWSG, with engagement events held at the Town Hall in Durham, along with media, social media, Area Action Partnership (AAP) events, as well as consultation with Local Members, MPs and the relevant Student Bodies and University and Cathedral. It was reiterated that targeted campaigns had included primary school education and "Don't Drink and Drown" in December 2016, as well as seasonal campaigns and targeting local colleges in terms of the potential dangers of open water.

Members were referred to the "Dying to be Cool" campaign, launched to coincide with the pre-summer heat and post exam celebrations. It was added that there had been engagement with teens in terms of the design and messaging, with a parent of a young man who had died after cold water shock fronting the campaign and helping to explain the impact such tragedies can have. It was reiterated the physical equipment could only protect so much and therefore it was vital to have messages targeted at young people to help educate people to the dangers. The Occupational Health and Safety Manager added that Darlington Borough Council were looking to mirror the work undertaken in Durham and other Local Authorities had expressed an interest in learning from the practice in Durham. Councillors were reminded of the large number of partners engaged with and also as regards the outcomes, with reductions in the numbers of fatalities, injuries and near-misses from 2014 through to 2017.

The Occupational Health and Safety Manager was keen to point out that the process was not just of campaigns and installation of equipment, rather there was also an important monitoring role. Members were reminded of over 400 safety assessments carried out, and the works carried out as a result, and also work with riparian landowners to educate and also help in terms of installing and maintaining public rescue equipment.

*Councillor J Brown entered the meeting at 9.50am*

Councillors noted the work in terms of videos and visits to schools to give open water safety messages, as well as over 300 children attending an outdoor open water safety scheme. It was added a junior football tournament had also helped to raise awareness and engagement with communities. Members were reminded of the links to the wider work in such events as the Safety Carousels, hosted by the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) and the improved communications in terms of how to raise issues, such as anti-social behaviour, whether on public or private land.

The Occupational Health and Safety Manager noted a lot of peer-led activities in terms of students, with the DSU highlighting in particular the issue of alcohol as being a factor in some tragedies, and looking at social norms in terms of levels of alcohol consumption. It was highlighted that this had led to: an increase of 10.8% in terms of Durham students that always made sure their friends got home safely; 82% of Durham students now planning how they would get home safely after a night out; and 72% of Durham students now alternating alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Members were referred to the statistics highlighting the reach and success of social media campaigns, with a reach of over 1 million on Facebook for "Dying to be Cool". Councillors noted that Durham was being held as an exemplar in terms of community engagement and a case study in the UK's first national drowning prevention strategy. It was added that wider regional and national promotion across communities was given by the Local Government Association's recognition of Durham's work on open water safety.

The Committee learned in terms of next steps that there was more work to do in terms of: using audience insights and feedback to refresh or reposition campaigns; develop new campaigns to target education at primary school KS1 level, 5-10 year olds; identify additional community partners; target other "at risk" groups, for example runners, walkers, cyclists; maintain a focus on changing trends and behaviours across the demographic; working with private landowners at high risk locations; maintaining partnership focus and engagement; continuing all maintenance, monitoring and review programmes; and to grow County Durham's reputation as an example of best practice in community engagement nationally.

The Chairman thanked the Occupational Health and Safety Manager for a great deal of information and asked Members of the Committee for their comments and questions.

Councillor B Avery congratulated the Council and Officers for their excellent work on this issue, he was impressed with the quality of the campaigns and the positive affect in helping to keep people safe. Mr AJ Cooke reiterated Councillor B Avery's comments and highlighted that the upper dales was an area that many people flocked to in the summer, with a tragic fatality 4 years ago, and asked if safety equipment was made available in the area. The Chairman asked whether schools were keen in taking up the opportunity to have people come in and speak to the pupils as regards open water safety. The Occupational Health and Safety Manager noted they were very keen, based around their busy curriculum and use of their halls for events, exams and other activities. In respect of the dales, the Occupational Health and Safety Manager he was looking into issues of land ownership and he would also check to see how many schools had engaged and liaise with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer in terms of letting Members know.

Mr J Welch noted he had recently been on a trip at Derwent Country Park and he had noted he had lost his mobile phone signal and asked what happens in terms of raising the alarm in our more rural areas, was there signage directing people to the nearest telephone. The Occupational Health and Safety Manager explained that acknowledging challenges this had been looked into for the highest risk locations and work was being progressed with partners and private landowners.

The Chairman asked if there were still the resources in terms of keeping up momentum of the successful campaigns. The Occupational Health and Safety Manager noted that the biggest challenge in manpower terms had been the initial 400 assessments carried out and now the issue was of monitoring.

He added that in terms of the ongoing work of the CSG and OWSG there was sufficient resources, and if further work was added then assistance would be sought.

The Chairman thanked the Occupational Health and Safety Manager and asked if he would give a further update to the Committee in due course.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the contents of the report and presentation be noted.
- (ii) That an update report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

## **8 Activity of the Hate Crime Action Group**

The Chairman introduced the Head of Policy and Communications, Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner (PCVC), Jon Carling to give an update for Members in respect of the activity of the Hate Crime Action Group (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of Policy and Communications thanked Members for the opportunity to provide an update and suggested that it was a useful time to take stock of the progress so far. Members were reminded that the Hate Crime Action Group (HCAG) was set up by the PCVC, Ron Hogg in November 2013 to deliver one coordinated action plan between statutory and voluntary partners to address the PCVC's priority "to reduce the impact of hate crime".

It was explained that the HCAG was multi-agency and met quarterly, with the meeting now chaired by the Head of Policy and Communications, having previously been chaired by Durham Constabulary.

The Head of Policy and Communications explained that key areas of work included a review of "safe places", working with the Council, as regards those places being "fit for purpose". It was added that there had been the Community Hands scheme, which had offered a victim support service, helping to signpost victims to various local support agencies and supported them to report the incident to the police, though this had recently closed. It was explained that there other exercises undertaken including the mapping of the support services for those victims of hate crime, the issuing of joint communications, and raising awareness and letting people know they do not need to suffer in silence.

Members were reminded of the use of restorative approaches (RAs), though noting due to the sensitive nature of the issues involved, this would require authorisation from a Senior Officer before a RA route was taken. The Head of Policy and Communications noted work relating to Police accountability, with each HCAG meeting having an update in terms of recent crime and anti-social behaviour data.

Members were informed that problem solving was utilised to try and close the gap between the number of actual and reported hate crimes, and also the use of the "Keep In The Know" messaging system was encouraged to help achieve this.

In terms of performance, the Head of Policy and Communications explained that the number of incidents reported was increasing, and that this was in the context of confidence and satisfaction in the Police and Local Council within the BME and LGBT communities having also increased. It was noted that while confidence was high, it was lower for disabled people than others groups.

The Head of Policy and Communications explained that the Terms of Reference for the HCAG took evidence from partners and looked at best practice to inform the work programme of the Group going forward.

It was added that this programme would include: jointly planned communications; consideration of services for victims of hate crime with a view to reviewing effectiveness, identifying gaps and commissioning gaps to meet needs; exercise to map services for victims of hate crime; and reviewing use of the Institute of Community Cohesion Tension Monitoring Toolkit, looking at issues in including refugees.

It was noted that the HCAG reported back to the Safe Durham Partnership and Darlington Community Safety Partnership, as well as the PCVC and also published an annual report.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Policy and Communications for the update and noted that the issues was one that was close to the heart for the PCVC and asked Members for their comments and questions.

Councillor J Charlton asked as regards the safe place, mentioned within her electoral division, though she was not aware of this. The Head of Policy and Communications noted that those places were under review, together with the communication and publicity to those places. The Chairman thanked the Head of Policy and Communications and asked if information in terms of this could be circulated.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That following a review of identified safe places, information on locations be shared with elected Members
- (iii) That a further report on the Hate Crime Action group be included within the Committee's work programme for 2017/18.

**9 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Plan on a Page**

The Chairman introduced the Public Health Portfolio Lead, Tammy Ross to give an update for Members in respect of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Plan on a Page (for copy see file of minutes).

The Public Health Portfolio Lead reminded Members that the County Durham and Darlington Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Groups (DASVEG) was a sub-group of the Safe Durham Partnership and Safer Darlington Partnership, with a priority of working together to tackle domestic abuse and sexual violence. It was added that a Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy was developed in 2015 and an associated Action Plan was developed and was monitored updated.

It was explained that following a multi-agency development session in December 2016 held by DASVEG, a “Plan on a Page” was developed, focussing on key areas of activity to take place over the next 12 months.

Members noted that those key areas were: reducing repeat victims and serial perpetrators; preventing domestic abuse through early intervention; and identifying “invisible” victims and offering them support and guidance. It was explained that in terms of the last area, work was ongoing with the local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), GPs and Public Health to help identify those victims, and a multi-agency task and finish group had been established to take those actions forward.

The Chairman thanked the Public Health Portfolio Lead and noted the Portfolio Holders, Councillors J Brown and L Hovvells were in attendance.

Councillor J Brown, Portfolio Holder for Social Inclusion noted the excellent work and that suggestions would be welcomed from Members. Councillor R Crute, Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny noted the work was very good as was the establishment of the task and finish group, though with concern in terms of repeat victims and offenders. Councillor R Crute asked if there could be comparisons with our nearest statistical neighbours and to look at trends and performance as early intervention would be keep. The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted that the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims’ Commissioner would be able to help in terms of Performance Indicators and benchmarking, with national research suggesting that while many victims engaged with services, many did not, or did not re-engage” and therefore services needed to be ready to deal with those people. Councillor R Crute noted that it was a good report and gave him confidence in the positive work being undertaken.

The Chairman asked if there were links between repeat perpetrators and alcohol and/or drug misuse. The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted that it could be a factor or “stressor” and this linked to the work within Public Health, in terms of health and wellbeing. Councillor J Brown asked if practice at other Local Authorities was being looked at, and Councillor R Crute reiterated also in terms of those areas with common statistics and demographics. The Chairman noted that the basket of Performance Indicators looked at comparative Local Authority areas in terms of demographics. The Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Peter Appleton noted that the headline figure in terms of repeat perpetrators was compared, though the Performance Indicators at Appendix 3 to the Performance Report, set out the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) presentations. He added that a lot of information underpinned those figures and that those being high was not necessarily negative as those approaching services for help was to be supported.

Councillor J Charlton noted she felt an important element was for young people to be educated to be respectful of each other and also to explain that abuse was not only physical, it could also be mental and asked if local schools were taking up the opportunity to help raise this issue with young people and how the Authority could help, also in the cases of Academies. Councillor C Hampson added that also there was a perception that abuse was men against women, however men could also be victims too. The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted that men could also be victims and support services were in place, though statistically women were more likely to suffer abuse.

## **Resolved:**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That an progress report on delivery of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Plan on a page be included within the Committee's work programme for 2017/18

## **10 Quarter 4 2016/17 Performance Management Report**

The Chairman introduced the Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management, Children and Adults Services, Keith Forster who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 4 2016/17 Performance Management Report for the Altogether Safer priority theme (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management referred Members to the performance information as set out in the report and noted the Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Manager, Tom Gorman would be presenting the performance report at future Committee meetings.

The Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management highlighted that there had been a significant increase in reported crime, however, speaking to Police colleagues it was noted as a national trend following compliance across forces in terms of national crime statistics and campaigns in terms of promoting the report of crimes, such as domestic violence. It was added that the increase in violent crime was attributed to more accurate reporting, with harassment now not classed as anti-social behaviour, rather crime, with all 43 forces noting as increase in their statistics in this regard. Members noted a 10% increase in theft offences, with shoplifting attributing a quarter of this increase. Councillors noted a new Police IT system which allowed for the uploading of CCTV footage directly to the Police. Members noted an overall reduction in anti-social behaviour, with Police noting that the positive trend was real and while alcohol related anti-social behaviour had increased, further analysis was being undertaken by Durham Constabulary to understand all the factors impacting upon this.

Another key performance issue was with a slight underperformance in respect of the number of people completing alcohol and drug treatment, though it was noted that the Committee was particularly well-sighted on the issue, with the Public Health Portfolio Lead, Jane Sunter, who was in attendance as regards the next agenda item, leading on the novation of the contract for a new provider.

The Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management explained that in terms of road traffic accidents, the overall numbers had reduced and also there had been no child fatalities over the period. It was noted that the reoffending rate for young people in comparison to the same period the previous year had fallen, though it was noted that there was a data lag of around 2 years.

The Chairman asked if there was any more information as regards the Drug and Alcohol Service. The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted that the process of novating the contract was ongoing, with the option to procure a new service at year three still in place. It was added that in terms of the end service-users, they should not notice any difference in how the service was provided.

Councillor B Avery noted problems in terms of underage drinking, particularly in his area where people would come from surrounding area to consume alcohol. He asked whether there could be anything done in schools to help educate young people as regards the dangers. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer advised he would contact the Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit (AHRU) for further information and Councillor L Hovvels suggested that the local AAP could be a useful means of looking at such an issue.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted and a progress report on implementation of recommendations from the review be included within the Committee's work programme.

**11 Progress of Recommendations following the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Alcohol and its demand on the Emergency Services**

The Chairman introduced the Public Health Portfolio Lead, Jane Sunter who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the progress of recommendations following the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Alcohol and its demand on the Emergency Services (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer first gave an overview of the work carried out by the Working Group that looked at the topic of Alcohol and its demand on the Emergency Services, chaired by the then Vice-Chairman of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor T Nearney. Members were reminded that the group had looked at the links to licensing and demand and also to national work in this regard, such as minimum unit pricing. A number of recommendations were made to Cabinet and the Safe Durham Partnership Board, as set out at Appendix 2.

The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted that when looking at the data from the Cumulative Impact Assessment there had been no link shown in terms of alcohol related incidents and the density of licensed premises. It was explained that there was a link demonstrated in terms of alcohol related incidents and areas of deprivation. It was explained that a direct indicator was the number of incidents of people admitted directly to hospital with an alcohol related issue, with Durham having great numbers that England, though was the fourth lowest in the region. Members were reminded of the work with colleagues from Gateshead in terms of a "Fifth Licensing Objective", to look at the influence in terms of alcohol related harm, this work with Gateshead and Public Health England being evaluated.

The Committee noted in respect of the second recommendation, educational events and use of a video produced by the PCVC that training was continuing to be delivered as per the work plan and the video was utilised as a training tool to raise awareness of the demands placed on emergency services. Members noted in terms of national and annual awareness campaigns that the usual process of aligning to help maximise the use of funding would continue, with those such as the run up to the festive period and "Dry January".

The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted a further recommendation from the Working Group was in connection to the Cardiff Model, and that as data was available, Public Health and Durham Constabulary met with the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust in April 2017 with hospitals looking at their databases and also at a regional level, BALANCE were undertaking activities.

It was explained that the Working Group report, with a covering letter from the Safe Durham Partnership had been shared with local MPs to help raise awareness of the issues and also the Safe Durham Partnership looked for ways to lobby for a reduction in the drink drive limit and a minimum unit price for alcohol. The Public Health Portfolio Lead concluded by noting that in terms of sharing the Working Group report with the Local Government Association's (LGA) Safer Communities Board (SCB) the report and a letter was sent to the Chairman of the LGA SCB.

The Chairman thanked the Public Health Portfolio Lead for the update and asked Members for their comments and questions.

Mr AJ Cooke noted a lot of good work ongoing, however asked about the challenges of tackling the cheap availability of alcohol, with supermarkets having lead-loss deals. The Chairman noted that minimum unit pricing was something the Committee had supported, and that the issue was resisted at Government level.

Councillor D Stoker noted the recent planning approval for expansion at the University Hospital of North Durham, with there being a possibility of the loss of Accident and Emergency provision at North Tees or Darlington and asked whether therefore there was any contingency in this regard.

The Public Health Portfolio Lead noted in terms of young people drinking, there was the police alcohol seizure pathway and therefore if there is an issue, people should continue to call the Police. It was explained that should alcohol be seized in an area, the school attended by those individuals would be attended and a presentation made to highlight the harm that can be caused. It was added new procurement within hospitals was for specific staff the can make referrals from within the hospitals. Councillor D Stoker noted that his concern was that if there was an increase in "out of county" admissions in terms of alcohol harm, and other emergency admissions, would the hospital be allocated the extra resources required accordingly. The Head of Planning and Service Strategy noted that this would be an issue looked at through the Sustainability and Transformation Plans and there would be a Joint Scrutiny exercise in September looking at all demands and therefore a meticulous piece of work needed to be carried out in this regard.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**12 Review of the Committee's Work Programme 2017-18**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the report in the agenda papers relating to the Review of the Committee's Work Programme for 2017-18 (for copy see file of minutes).

Members noted the report set out the work programme for the year ahead and suggested topics for review, though Councillors were reminded of the need to include some ability to look at any emerging issues within the year and the need to complete reviews in a timely fashion, prior to the purdah period. The Committee noted that Appendix 2 set out the work programme and priorities and noted that an issue that had been put forward for consideration as a focused review was Cybercrime, notable a potential gap in the work being currently undertaken, in preventing young people becoming offenders. It was noted that the Chief Fire Officer, and Co-opted Member, S Errington had noted arson and deliberate secondary fires as an issue in certain areas of the County and that that could be an topic for the Committee to have a focussed session to discuss.

The Chairman noted the suggested topic of Cybercrime, with the Vice-Chairman, Councillor H Liddle proposed to chair the Working Group. Members agreed. The Chairman noted the issue of secondary fires and Members agreed as regards a focussed session to look at this topic.

Councillor J Charlton asked that the secondary fires session also look at the aspect of derelict buildings and such fires, this was noted by the Chairman.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the Work Programme at Appendix 2 to the report be agreed.
- (ii) That the review topic of Cybercrime be agreed.
- (iii) That arrangements be made for a focussed meeting to be held on the issue of arson and deliberate secondary fires.

**13 Police and Crime Panel**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) would be its Annual General Meeting on 30 June with the main items of business would include the appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner's Annual Report. It was added that following the meeting the PCP would circulate links to the annual report and quarterly performance report.

Members noted there would be a further update at the September meeting of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Chairman noted that the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee was the statutory committee to feed into the PCP and therefore he encouraged Members to get in touch with him or the Portfolio Holder for Adult and Health Services, L Hovvells as regards any relevant issues.

**Resolved:**

That the verbal update be noted.

## **14 Safe Durham Partnership Update**

The Chairman asked the Strategic Manager – Policy, Planning and Partnerships, Andrea Petty to speak to Members as regards an update from the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) (for copy see file of minutes).

Members noted several of the issues discussed at the last Partnership Board meeting included those updated at Committee today, including Open Water Safety. It was noted that the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 was an issue discussed, including the SDP and “Durham Agency Against Crime” utilising £30,000 of Home Office innovation funding for a creative arts project which aimed to raise young people’s awareness of, and build their resilience to, radicalisation and a link to a video with the young people could be circulated to Members. Members were reminded of their important role in PREVENT, being the “eyes and ears” within our communities.

Councillors noted other topics discussed included: County Durham Youth Offending Service Health Needs Assessment and New Model of Health Provision 2017/19; Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat; Cybercrime; and on how to best maximise funding when commissioning community safety services.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Manager – Policy, Planning and Partnerships for her update and noted that the issues discussed at the SDP mirrored the previous item on the work programme for the Committee, with Cybercrime as a review topic, the Youth Justice Plan to be discussed at the September meeting, and Counter Terrorism and the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat to be discussed at the October meeting.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.