

1 March 2021



**Draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan
2021-25**

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

Electoral divisions affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1) The purpose of this report is to present the draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan (SDPP) 2021-25 for comment. The committee will receive a presentation at the meeting. The draft plan is attached as Appendix 2. A copy of the Plan has already been shared with Committee as part of the wider consultation exercise.

Executive summary

- 2) Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the responsible authorities (commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP)) in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area. In County Durham this is the Safe Durham Partnership.
- 3) The 2007 Regulations set out the way in which the responsible authorities should carry out their functions as a CSP under Section 6 of the Act, and require the preparation of:
 - (a) a partnership plan for the local government area, setting out the CSP's priorities.
 - (b) a county level community safety agreement, setting out the ways the responsible authorities in the county might work more effectively to implement the identified priorities by joint working.
- 4) The Safe Durham Partnership agreed the SDPP 2020-25 in March 2020, to provide a holding position for a year whilst further work was undertaken to ensure the Strategy takes account of the County Durham Vision 2035.

- 5) Covid-19 has had a huge impact on how Durham County Council and its partners deliver services to ensure those who need to access vital services still receive them, whilst also supporting providers who run essential services. Many of the actions in the current strategy have supported our approach in these unprecedented times.
- 6) In addition, the SDPP 2021-25 has been aligned to the Durham Police, Crime and Victims Plan and the Cleveland and Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership Plan.

Recommendation

- 7) Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to provide comment on the draft SDPP to andrea.petty@durham.gov.uk or julie.bradbrook@durham.gov.uk by 4 March 2021.

Background

- 8) The Safe Durham Partnership agreed the SDPP 2020-25 in March 2020, to provide a holding position for a year whilst further work was undertaken to ensure the Strategy takes account of the County Durham Vision 2035 and Covid-19.
- 9) The SDPP 2021-25 has been further aligned to the County Durham Vision 2035, which was written together with partner organisations and the public and sets out what we would want to county to look like in 15 years' time. This vision is structured around three ambitions which are:
 - a) More and better jobs
 - b) People live long and independent lives
 - c) Connected communities
- 10) The SDPP 2021-25 will take forward aspects of the vision that are focussed on community safety in County Durham and will contribute to other areas, working in partnership with other strategic partnership boards. For example:
 - a) Future free from harm, due to drug and alcohol misuse
 - b) Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour
 - c) Address the underlying causes of crime and community tensions
- 11) Actions to deliver these vision objectives are incorporated into the action plans within the SDPP.
- 12) Work has taken place on the SDPP 2021-25 through a strategy development group comprising of representatives from Durham County Council (Partnerships, Public Protection, Performance and Strategy and Public Health), Durham Constabulary, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Office of Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, Local Multi-agency Problem Solving Partnerships - LMAPs) to ensure that the SDPP is fit for purpose and reflects the work being undertaken in partnership by organisations across the county.
- 13) In response to the coronavirus pandemic, a County Durham Covid-19 Health Impact Assessment was undertaken which took account of the impact of the first lockdown, which was supported by detailed forecasting and modelling work. This has given a helpful, system-wide picture of the potential impact of the pandemic on County Durham residents over the next four years and has been considered in the development of the SDPP 2021-25.

- 14) Although recovery will take years, our partners will continue to work together to prevent the impact of crime on our local communities , and the actions in the SDPP 2021-25 have supported our approach in how we support and deliver community safety services in these unprecedented times.

Safe Durham Partnership Plan

- 15) The vision for the Safe Durham Partnership is agreed as '**A county where every adult and child will feel and be safe'**
- 16) The strategic priorities for the SDPP 2021-25 are:
- (a) **Strategic Objective 1: Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community by focusing on the following priorities:**
- (i) Anti-social Behaviour
(ii) Safer Homes
(iii) Road Safety
(iv) Hate Crime and Community Tensions
- (b) **Strategic Objective 2: Support victims and protect vulnerable people from harm by focusing on the following priorities:**
- (i) Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
(ii) Organised Crime; County Lines
(iii) Victims
- (c) **Strategic Objective 3: Prevent: Counter Terrorism, Radicalisation and Violent Extremism by focusing on the following priorities:**
- (i) Prevent people being drawn into terrorism
(ii) Support the work to strengthen our protection against terrorist attacks and mitigate the impact of such an attack
- (d) **Strategic Objective 4: Reduce Reoffending by focusing on the following priorities:**
- (i) Prevent offending and inter-generational offending
(ii) Prevent re-offending
- (e) **Strategic Objective 5: Alcohol and Substance misuse reduction by focusing on the following priorities:**
- (i) Prevention and early intervention
(ii) Providing specialist interventions to promote recovery
(iii) Protecting children and vulnerable adults at risk
(iv) Strengthening leadership, management and governance

(f) Strategic Objective 6: Tackle and prevent cyber enabled crime by focusing on the following priorities:

- Raise awareness of the general population about staying safe online
 - Reduce risk to the most vulnerable groups
 - Build resilience of local businesses of the threat of cyber crime
- 19) A meeting of Safe Durham Partnership subgroup chairs took place on the 18 December 2020 to discuss governance arrangements and whether these are fit for purpose to deliver the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.
- 20) Work is taking place with relevant performance leads and Safe Durham Partnership subgroup chairs and leads to ensure that key performance indicators are identified so that performance management measures are in place. Key performance indicators will be aligned to the County Durham Vision 2035 performance framework where relevant. The aim is to streamline the previous arrangements so there is focus for the Safe Durham Partnership on those performance issues that are the hardest to address. Regular updates will be provided to the Safe Durham Partnership as part of its work programme.
- 21) An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken alongside the development of the SDPP.

Accessibility

- 22) New legislation dictates how we can present information, to ensure it is accessible to all. We are working through this with colleagues, and the Strategic Planning Group will lead on this as this is an issue for strategies and plans across the council.

Consultation

- 22) Work has taken place with partners to develop the SDPP, and the draft plan has been shared within individual partner organisations.
- 23) The following has been utilised to provide comment, prior to sign off of the SDPP:
- Draft SDPP to Safe Durham Partnership - **12 January 2021**.

- Wider consultation via the Durham County Council website from **January – February 2021**. In addition, consultation will take place with a number of groups and fora including the Area Action Partnerships, Better Together Forum, Armed Forces Forum, Local Councils working group, Youth Council and the Learning Disabilities Parliament have been asked to comment.
- Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee – **1 March 2021**
- Final sign off of the SDPP will take place at the Safe Durham Partnership meeting - **10 March 2021**.

Conclusion

- 24) The development of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan has been led by a partnership group. The plan has been informed by the Strategic Needs Assessment as part of Durham Insight which provides the evidence base on which the priorities have been developed.
- 25) The SDPP has been aligned to the Durham Police, Crime and Victims Plan and the Cleveland and Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership Plan.
- 26) The SDPP is also aligned to the County Durham Vision 2035 and will be the delivery mechanism for some of the objectives which support the overall ambitions.

Background papers

- None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

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

Finance

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

Consultation

Details of consultation are provided in the report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

A full Equality Impact Assessment is being carried out alongside the SDPP.

Climate Change

There are no climate change implications.

Human Rights

There are no adverse implications.

Crime and Disorder

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

Staffing

There are no staffing implications.

Accommodation

There are no accommodation implications.

Risk

There are no risk implications.

Procurement

Commissioners will take account of the SDPP when procuring services aligned to community safety.