



Purpose

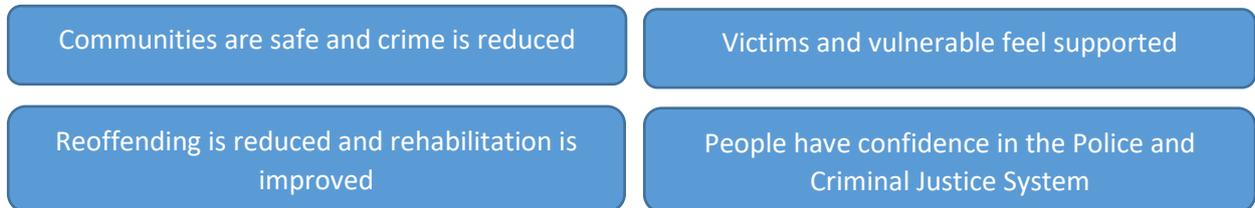
1. This report provides an update on the main delivery and achievements of the priorities set out in the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2018-21 (produced by the late PCVC Ron Hogg-CBE).

Background

2. This is the vision which PCVC Ron Hogg included in the 2018 Police and Crime Plan, and it remains current:

“County Durham and Darlington are areas where all communities are safe, victims and vulnerable people feel supported, crime and re-offending are low, and people have confidence in policing and the criminal justice system.”

3. The Plan also includes four strategic outcomes:



4. Delivery of the outcomes was supported through the development of the following 12 priorities:



5. In respect of the strategic outcomes and 12 priorities, an update is detailed below:

Communities are Safe and Crime is reduced-(During covid-19 pandemic)

- a) Force has demonstrated its commitment to delivering a Covid-19 effective model to ensure business as usual is achieved with communities and confidence is maintained;
- b) Force have engaged with the public and have consistently applied the 4 'Es' approach in the covid-19 enforcement plan and allowed for a flexible and immediate response to central government guidance;
- c) Force has fully embraced working digitally;
- d) Confidence in the police and criminal justice system remains a priority for the ODPCVC and Force and has continued to be tracked throughout covid-1;
- e) Force and Partners have embraced virtual working to maintain both community engagement and service delivery for the public;
- f) Force have adapted working practices to ensure safe systems of working during the pandemic;
- g) Force continue to monitor changing trends in crime and ASB during pandemic and respond flexibly and effectively;
- h) Force have adopted an appropriate approach to working with vulnerable people whilst the pandemic prevails, including: partnership focus on coercive and controlling behaviour; introduction of Safe Spaces; media campaigns; and, regular monitoring of domestic abuse;
- i) Force have adopted an appropriate response to custody management whilst the pandemic prevails;
- j) Force has planned and responded to fraud effectively over the course of the covid-19 emergency; and,
- k) Force have a plethora of policies in place to maintain the mental and physical health of police officers, police staff and general population during the pandemic.

Priority 1- Ensure that victims are supported at all stages of the Criminal Justice System

- a) Victim contact contracts are routinely monitored for quality and work has been done to ensure compliance with the revised Victim's Code of Practice; and,
- b) Ongoing review to ensure officer compliance with referral pathways to Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS), Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), Domestic Abuse and other appropriate services.

Priority 2- Address the root causes of offending and support rehabilitation.

- a) Force has re-emphasised problem solving to address offending-some innovative initiatives include DIVERT in police custody with the aim of reducing arrests for alcohol-related offences, use of nudges, Changing Rooms, alcohol interlocks and sobriety tags;
- b) Force continues to learn from the Checkpoint evaluation;

- c) Integrated Offender Management Unit (IOMU) have shown positive reductions in detected crimes and proportion of offenders in the IOMU cohort who reoffend each quarter; and
- d) Effective partnership working with Durham and Darlington Youth Offending Services (YOS).

Priority 3- Safeguard vulnerable people

- a) Force monitors the number of mental health incidents recorded in comms and robust pathways are in place to ensure early access to appropriate support for vulnerable people with mental ill-health and other complex needs;
- b) The Street Triage function has changed significantly during the last 12 months with the introduction of the familiar faces programme working with the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), Individuals who present as repeat demand are referred to the High Intensity User Group to identify additional support;
- c) Recent integration of Liaison and Diversion specification with local police requirements;
- d) Ongoing partnership work to reduce mental health and suicide related demand on the police;
- e) Force works in partnership with 'IF U CARE SHARE' Foundation to offer family and friends postvention bereavement support;
- f) Continual training to front-line officers to recognise Child Sexual Exploitation as well as other forms of exploitation such as Child Criminal Exploitation, County Lines, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) and Organised Crime Group (OCG) involvement; and,
- g) Development and monitoring of processes to enable partners to share intelligence and concerns with the Force around Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSA and E).

Priority 4- Improve Road Safety

- a) All RPU vehicles have ANPR capability and used to support national campaigns and pre-planned operations;
- b) Community concerns about excess speed and high harm routes and hotspots are raised via PACT meetings and social media is routinely used by the Camera Enforcement Unit to publicise deployments and spread road safety messages;
- c) Operation Close Pass- an initiative aimed at raising the profile of the safety of cyclists has been launched;
- d) Road Safety messages are delivered to schools via WiseDrive;
- e) Cleveland and Durham Special Operations Unit (CDSOU) continues to support national and local road safety campaigns; and,
- f) Community Speed Watch (CSW) will continue and promoted across the Force.

Priority 5- Reduce the Harm caused by Alcohol and Drugs

- a) Force utilises a pro-active problem-solving and demand reduction approach to deal with issues of alcohol and drugs;

- b) There are a number of educational, awareness raising programmes delivered in Force- WiseDrive, DeadDrunk, Insight Education Programmes, Safety Carousels, Fresher Events, Best Bar None and PubWatch;
- c) Force continues to promote programmes aimed at preventing violence. For example, One Punch Media Campaign;
- d) A focus of work between the PCVC office, Force and the A&E Hospital is being carried out to support the improvement of the data quality to enable accurate analysis of injury data to reduce violence;
- e) Force have been the first in the country to implement a number of initiatives- City Centre Drug Testing using the Loop, Nalaxone in Custody, Operation Staysafe, DIVERT, Alcohol interlocks and alcohol sobriety tags; and,
- f) The Organised Crime Group (OCG) team work closely with partner agencies to maximise and enhance disruption opportunities encompassing a holistic approach in the tackling of OCGs.

Priority 6-Improve Community Safety in Rural Areas

- a) Force engage with rural communities by use of technology such as What3Words and support the Community's own established engagement methods. i.e WhatsApp Groups; and,
- b) Force work in effective partnership with rural stakeholders on operational rural affairs priorities in accordance with the joint PCVC and Constabulary Rural Statement.

Priority 7- Tackle and Prevent Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in all their Forms

- a) Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, mechanisms have been in place to monitor the situation across the Force area in terms of the number of DA reports to the police and referrals into our local support services to ensure business and service delivery continuity;
- b) The Force has actively supported national awareness raising campaigns such as '#you're not alone', Crimestoppers 'make yourself heard' and the 'silent solution' as well as the local multi-agency campaign led by the PCVC office;
- c) The Force routinely dip sample medium risk cases to ensure early intervention and prevent escalation and all cases, whatever risk level, where children are involved are triaged by specialist officers;
- d) A new MARAC process has been in place since May 2019 and its evaluation is now demonstrating positive outcomes;
- e) MATAC has been evaluated and has provided evidence of positive outcomes;
- f) Domestic Abuse Support Services are now jointly commissioned with partners from Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council and include IDVA, Outreach. Children and Family and Prevention Support Programmes;
- g) Provision of Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) support has been increased and a child ISVA continues to work from the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in partnership with a Consultant Child Psychologist;

- h) Multi-Agency Communications Plan is being developed by Domestic Abuse Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG) with this expected to be implemented in April 2021; and,
- i) Support Pathways into ISVA and the SARC have been reviewed and proposals for a revised Pathway is being discussed.

Priority 8-Tackle and Prevent Hate Crime

- a) Force have led on a review of reporting mechanisms, pathways and how organisations share intelligence;
- b) Force contribute to the implementation of the Hate Crime Action Plan under the Community Safety Partnerships;
- c) Force support the 'Hate Hurts' campaign and distribute all key messages to protected communities giving them the information they need to report;
- d) Force work with Teesside and Durham Universities with a view to implement hate crime reporting mechanisms;
- e) Force are substantial participators in 'Hate Crime Awareness Week';
- f) Force have a rolling training programme so that all officers are trained to identify incidents of Hate and Community Cohesion;
- g) Cohesion Officers support victims of Hate Crime and refer victims to the Hate Crime Advocacy Service (HCAS); and,
- h) Force engage in a programme of continuous internal and external scrutiny around hate crime investigations and victim care.

Priority 9- Tackle and Prevent Fraud.

- a) Force has planned and responded to fraud effectively over the course of the Covid-19 emergency;
- b) Force is undertaking activities to prevent people from becoming victims of fraud and cyber-related fraud. For example, recruitment of PROTECT officers and delivery of local. Regional and national campaigns;
- c) 'Friends Against Scams' training initiative is being rolled out to Neighbourhood Policing Teams around protecting people from fraud and dealing with victims and repeat victimisation;
- d) Banking Protocol is fully adopted in Force which provides a mechanism and inspires confidence for the financial sector to make calls for urgent responses when financial crime in action is suspected; and,
- e) Local victims and perpetrators are recorded on the Force's Crime Recording System in the same way as any other crime, ensuring that the Force's Fraud profile is accurate as possible.

Priority 10- Tackle and Prevent Anti- Social Behaviour

- a) There are a number of embedded approaches and referral options used by the Force- Mutual Gain has now been superseded by the Confidence Academy;

- b) Significant police activity continues in traditional meetings and there is currently a corporate community newsletter led by each Inspector in the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT);
- c) Style of the Constabulary remains to take a problem-solving approach with enforcement action at the end of an exhaustive and proportionate response;
- d) There are several embedded approaches and referral options used by the Force including Community Peer Mentors and Restorative Justice; and,
- e) Effective participation in Multi-Agency Problem Solving (MAPS) mechanisms and earlier identification of which partner organisation should lead any subsequent problem-solving Time Limited Projects (TLPs).

Priority 11- Tackle and Prevent Modern Slavery

- a) Modern Slavery Statement has now been published in Partnership with six neighbouring police forces and PCCs outlining the commitment and intended actions in terms of addressing Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) through business activities and supply chains.

Priority 12- Tackle and Prevent cyber-enabled crime.

- a) Force delivers on the four 'Ps'-Prepare, Prevent, Protect and Pursue;
- b) Partnership work continues through the Safer Cyber Working Group- a multi-agency group which aims to promote cyber security; and,
- c) Force delivers awareness raising sessions on the risks and threats of cyber-crime targeted both at individuals and organisations (from businesses and the third sector).

Recommendations

- 6. Panel Members are recommended to note the information contained in this report.

Sweety Sahani
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Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

None

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Children's Act 2004

None

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

None

Environment

None

Collaboration and Partnerships

None

Value for Money and Productivity

None

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Positive coverage of activity will help to boost confidence in policing.

Commissioning

None

Other risks

None

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