

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

**9 July 2021**

**Safe Durham Partnership**



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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a presentation on an overview of the Safe Durham Partnership and its activity.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached in appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview of the Safe Durham Partnership including its role, responsibilities and strategic priority areas. Information within this report will be of interest to members in considering the Committee's work programme for 2021/22.

**Recommendation**

- 3 Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to
  - (a) Note information contained within the presentation from the Safe Durham Partnership and comment accordingly.

**Background**

- 4 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a statutory duty on local authorities to form a Community Safety Partnership (CSP), within County Durham, this is known as the Safe Durham Partnership.
- 5 There are currently five 'responsible authorities' on the Safe Durham Partnership, who have a legal duty to work in partnership to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and other

behaviour adversely affecting the environment, and to reduce re-offending.

- 6 The five responsible authorities are Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Probation Service and NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group. The partnership also has additional members from the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, HMP Durham and East Durham Trust.
- 7 The Safe Durham Partnership Chair is Keith Wanley, Area Manager, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service.
- 8 The Safe Durham Partnership have a statutory duty to publish a plan that sets out its priorities and how these are to be effectively implemented through joint working by the responsible authorities. This plan is known as the Safe Durham Partnership Plan and a [link](#) of the latest plan covering the period 2021-2025 is provided for reference . The plan has the following six priority areas:
  - (a) Strategic Priority 1: Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community
  - (b) Strategic Priority 2: Support victims and protect vulnerable people from harm
  - (c) Strategic Priority 3: Prevent Strategy: Countering terrorism, radicalisation and violent extremism
  - (d) Strategic Priority 4: Reduce Reoffending
  - (e) Strategic Priority 5: Alcohol and substance misuse reduction
  - (f) Strategic Priority 6: Tackle and prevent cyber enabled crime
- 9 It is to note that following public consultation in early 2021, the plan was agreed by the Safe Durham Partnership Board in March 2021 and the Council's Cabinet and County Council in June 2021.
- 10 The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee has powers under the Police and Justice Act 2006 to scrutinise work of the Safe Durham Partnership. Within this context, the Committee provided comment on the consultation of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan at its meeting in March 2021 and activity within its work programme has been closely linked to priority areas within the plan. It is to note that within its response, the Committee suggested that arson and deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour caused by off road

motorcycles and quads be included as specific areas of focus and were subsequently agreed by the SDP Board and included within the plan.

- 11 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation that provides an overview of the Safe Durham Partnership, including its structure, role and responsibilities and strategic priority areas. The presentation will be delivered by Andrea Petty, Strategic Manager – Partnerships, Durham County Council who supports the work of the Board.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 12 Information within this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership Plan to reducing crime and disorder.

## **Conclusion**

- 13 The attached report and presentation provide an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the Safe Durham Partnership and its strategic priorities and identify any areas to be considered within the Committee's work programme.

### Background papers

- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)

## **Other useful documents**

- None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

None

### **Finance**

None.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report provides an overview of the Safe Durham Partnership and its strategic priorities.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.