

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

**9 September 2024**

**Hate Crime**



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**Report of Director of Legal and Democratic Services**

**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 from Durham Constabulary on hate crime.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached in Appendix 2 will provide members with an overview of hate crime.

**Recommendation**

- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within this report and presentation.

## **Background**

- 4 Information within this presentation is linked to the Safe Durham Partnership Strategy's ambition that 'Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe'.
- 5 At the meeting of SSC OSC on 16 April 2024, the refreshed and streamlined Safe Durham Partnership Strategy (SDP) 2024 – 2029 was presented as part of their consultation process. The Strategy was agreed at the County Council meeting on 26 June 2024.
- 6 Three priorities were identified within the Strategy as follows:
  - Anti-social behaviour and crime which disrupts our communities
  - Hate crime and building community cohesion
  - Sexual violence and other violent crime
- 7 These priorities have been split between areas of focus whereby the SDP will work with delivery groups to focus efforts and target resources and areas of assurance where the SDP will have ongoing oversight with regular assurance from established groups.
- 8 Hate crime was identified as an area of focus for the SDP and members of the SSC OSC agreed to include it in their work programme to help them understand, recognise and support their communities in facing issues with hate crime.
- 9 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation to provide members with a definition and examples of hate crime, how to report hate crime, statistics on recorded hate crime in County Durham and the SDP's approach to hate crime issues.
- 10 Inspector Ian Bowden, Durham Constabulary will be in attendance to deliver the presentation attached in Appendix 2 and respond to questions from the committee.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 11 Information within this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership strategic ambition that Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe.

## **Background papers**

- None

## Other useful documents

- [Safe Durham Partnership Strategy 2024 - 2029](#)

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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 aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan strategic ambition: Durham is a county where everyone can feel and be safe.

### **Staffing**

None

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None