

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

**13 December 2024**

**Serious Violence Duty**



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**Report of Helen Bradley, 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 an update on the Serious Violence Duty.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached as Appendix 2 provides Members with an overview of the partnership approach to tackling serious violence within the county.

**Recommendation**

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

## **Background**

- 4 At its meeting in July 2024, the Committee agreed its work programme to include a presentation on serious violence.
- 5 The government published a Serious Violence Strategy in 2018. This focused on public space violence, including homicide, knife crime, gun crime, robbery, gang crime and county lines activity. A Serious Violence Duty was introduced in April 2022 under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.
- 6 The Serious Violence Duty requires specified authorities within a local government area to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.
- 7 The specified authorities are the Police, Fire and Rescue, Justice (Probation Services and Youth Offending Teams), Health and local authorities.
- 8 Assistant Chief Constable Richie Allen Durham Constabulary will be in attendance to deliver the presentation attached in appendix 2

## **Background papers**

- None

## **Other useful documents**

- Home Office - Serious Violence Duty – Preventing and reducing serious violence Statutory Guidance for responsible authorities December 2022

[Serious Violence Duty](#)

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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.

### **Climate Change**

None

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Council Plan and Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.