

Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2011/14 Refresh 2013

In April 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2011/14 presented its commitment to deliver its 'Altogether Safer' priorities outlined in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Altogether Safer

This is the final refresh of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2011/14 which, again, demonstrates how the Safe Durham Partnership is reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, improving community safety and increasing public confidence.

Summary of Performance

During 2011/12 our performance built upon the significant reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour in the previous three years: crime fell by 4.8%; Anti-social behaviour fell by 25%; and deliberate and not known secondary fires fell by 17%.

During 2012/13 progress continued. Compared to 2011/12:

- Crime fell by **14%** from **26,913** to **23,034** incidents;
- Anti-social behaviour fell by **24%** from **33,718** to **25,474** incidents; and
- Deliberate and not known secondary fires fell by **43%** from **2,076** to **1,191** incidents.

During 2012/13 the repeat Domestic Abuse victim rate was **12.6%**; well below the national target of 25% or less.

There was a 61% reduction in offending from prolific adult offenders while the Pre-Reprimand Disposal programme has resulted in a 74% reduction in young people entering the youth justice system for the first time since 2007/08.

During 2012/13 anti-social behaviour in High Impact Locality areas fell by **24%**; from **4,957** to **3,761** incidents.

Some of our Achievements

11,000 school children and young people have received road safety training delivered by the Safe Durham Partnership.

The High Impact Household and Think Family programmes aligned to work with families that have a disproportionate impact as perpetrators or victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Our drive for Safe and Active Communities resulted in a higher percentage of homes in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme than any other in the country. Neighbourhood Watch volunteers deliver safety advice and help provide added security to those vulnerable to crime as part of the Safer Homes scheme.

Drug and alcohol services were strengthened during 2012/13. More front line staff were trained in alcohol screening and delivery of brief intervention advice and the Recovery and Wellbeing Centre opened in Durham.

More partner organisations are supporting the police in disrupting organised criminals by sharing information, resources and powers. Public sector staff; communities and businesses are learning more about the harm that organised crime can cause and what they can do to help. This approach will disrupt the activity of organised criminals and divert people from getting involved.

The Challenge ahead

The Safe Durham Partnership is determined to maintain this strong progress through to the end of the Partnership Plan in March 2014. It will work closely with the new Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver on our shared priorities which are shaped by the public and stakeholders.

This refresh of our 2011 to 2014 Partnership Plan will demonstrate progress against our priorities and describe how we will build upon this success in order to meet the challenges ahead.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Why this remains a priority

Reducing anti-social behaviour is a key priority for the Government and the Safe Durham Partnership alike. Incidents are reported to a range of local organisations and it is, therefore, important that we work together to reassure our communities that our partners are tackling those issues that are of most concern to them.

Our performance

The 2012 Partnership Plan refresh reported on continued reductions in the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to the police. Between April 2011 and March 2012 anti-social behaviour fell by 25% from 45,241 to 33,771 incidents, while 'deliberate and not-known secondary fires' fell by 7% from 2,249 to 2,088 incidents.

Our performance remains very strong. **During 2012/13** the number of anti social behaviour incidents reported to the police reduced by **24%**. This amounts to **8,244** fewer reported incidents than the same period the previous year

Across 'High Impact Locations' we saw a **24%** reduction in anti-social behaviour **during 2012/13**: amounting to **1,196** fewer incidents.

Some of our achievements

Following issues in Belmont, young people engaged in projects to renovate village halls, expand activities in community centres and recycle waste. The Coundon Grange 'Tackling Void properties and Environmental issues' initiative saw anti-social behaviour fall by 67%. The Peterlee ASDA Safe Stores Partnership continues to reduce anti-social behaviour and shop theft. A Bishop Auckland initiative to tackle horse related nuisance was Highly Commended by the national Tilley Awards. These are just a few examples of successful local initiatives.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Matrix has become a proven method of assessing victim vulnerability and our new Case Review Panel is now reviewing the critical few cases of anti-social behaviour that need a strategic approach.

A co-ordinated approach has been developed with Mental Health Services for anti-social behaviour cases involving perpetrators or victims who have mental health issues. It will ensure early intervention and build an added level of support for those who need it.

The challenges ahead

Despite our progress, the public still perceive anti-social behaviour to be a problem. As a result, the Safe Durham Partnership will improve the way in which partners capture and record complaints. It will also set out to tackle those specific issues that the public have raised. These include:

- Underage drinking
- Dealing using drugs
- Dog fouling
- Rubbish lying around
- Speeding

The Partnership will:

- Continue local campaigns; targeting environmental action, alcohol enforcement and awareness-raising.
- Target alcohol related anti-social behaviour.
- Develop a support package for repeat and vulnerable victims.
- Target littering and dog fouling, including the power to issue fixed penalty notices.
- Expand the use of 'Community Speedwatch' campaigns.

Protect Vulnerable People from Harm

Why this remains a priority

Vulnerability covers a range of issues and it has been important to put in place initiatives that protect those who are vulnerable to particular types of crime.

Violence Against Women and Girls is a priority for Government. Tackling Domestic Abuse is a priority for the Safe Durham Partnership which has implemented a Domestic Abuse Strategy and is commissioning a Countywide specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach Service.

The County Durham Sexual Violence Strategy brings partners together to tackle sexual violence and the negative impact it has on individuals and families.

The Government's plan to tackle Hate Crime brings together activities by a wide range of departments to meet three specific objectives; Prevention, Provision and Protection. The Safe Durham Partnership has committed to delivering these objectives locally.

Our performance

During 2012/13 the repeat Domestic Abuse victim rate was 12.6% against a new national target of 25% or less.

Local reporting of Hate Crime follows the national trend and is significantly under-reported.

The detection rate for Serious Sexual Offences stands at 36.6% against a target of 45%.

Sexual offences are under-reported and the Safe Durham Partnership wants to address this. The number of reported offences stands at 306 in comparison to the 2011/12 outturn of 333.

Some of our achievements

An Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked-After Children Services found safeguarding partnership work was outstanding; including the way services linked with the Safe Durham Partnership around the issue of Domestic Abuse.

Between 2009 and 2012, three Independent Domestic Violence Advisers were appointed and provide specialist support and advice to 209 victims.

The Domestic Abuse Voluntary Perpetrator scheme accepted over 119 referrals with over 41 women receiving support and 140 Domestic Abuse victims were able to remain safe in their home after receiving added security measures.

The new Domestic Homicide Review procedure makes sure that lessons are learned when a person has been a victim of a domestic homicide.

Our Hate Crime Action Plan has resulted in a campaign to raise awareness, help people understand how to report it and train staff to raise an alert when they suspect someone is a victim of a hate crime.

The local Sexual Violence Implementation Plan aims to safeguard victims and disrupt offenders. Eight awareness-raising sessions have been delivered to 600 practitioners to help them understand how this subject links to their role.

The challenges ahead

The Safe Durham Partnership will continue to develop its response to these three areas of work. It will:

- Ensure Domestic Abuse services are integrated with the 'Think Family' approach;
- Do more to improve hate crime reporting and recording;
- Tackle disability hate crime;
- Continue to implement the Sexual Violence action plan; and,
- Improve information sharing across partners to prevent future Domestic Homicides.

Reduce Re-offending

Why this remains a priority

The Government objective for reducing crime and re-offending encourages a focus on society's most prolific and problematic offenders. The Safe Durham Partnership will continue to prioritise the effective management of offenders who are identified as committing a disproportionate amount of crime and harm in their local communities.

Our performance

The award winning Pre-Reprimand Disposal programme has reduced the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system by 74% since 2007/08.

During 2012/13, offences committed by young people fell by **18.1% compared to 2011/12**; from **1,804 to 1,070**. The number of young people offending fell by **17.3%**; from **928 to 767**.

The Integrated Offender Management programme is well established. It continues to achieve significant reductions in adult re-offending with a current reduction of **58%**.

Some of our achievements

An Enhanced Transitions Pilot for vulnerable 18 year olds is now in place.

It will reduce re-offending by addressing gaps in service provision at key transition points into adulthood.

The award winning fully integrated pre-court system provides early assessment of need and intervention which are proving successful in reducing re-offending. It will be included as best practice in national guidance for Out of Court Disposals.

The use of Restorative Approaches for young people has been expanded across pre and post court utilising existing resources. Work to further increase victim involvement with young people will be rolled out countywide.

The Safe Durham Partnership has implemented a whole systems approach to nationally recognised accreditation of court ordered work to support young people's engagement in training and employment and reduce re-offending.

County Durham Youth Offending Service recently gained Investing in Volunteers status, recognising the work volunteers do to reduce re-offending and the high quality support provided by the service to volunteers.

The Integrated Offender Management program is in place across County Durham and is providing all agencies engaged in local criminal justice with a single coherent structure for the management of repeat offenders.

Parenting courses in prisons, mentor support for offenders, and a programme to support offenders into housing have all proven successful.

Support into employment and successful engagement with the Recovery Academy in Durham is helping offenders find work and live a drug-free life.

The challenges ahead

The scope of re-offending work has been increased from reducing prolific offending to reducing all proven offending by adults and juveniles.

In order to meet this new challenge the Safe Durham Partnership will provide a clear profile of all such offending and identify those offence types which are most prevalent. It will then develop a model that responds to a wider and lower risk cohort of offenders.

Alcohol & Substance Misuse Harm Reduction

Why this is a priority

Alcohol & Substance misuse contributes to a significant proportion of crime and anti-social behaviour; with links to both organised crime and child sexual exploitation. Alcohol costs County Durham £89m each year to deal with. Underage drinking and drugs in the community are in the top three issues that the public of County Durham want tackling.

Our performance

Despite a rise in alcohol related violent crime and alcohol related domestic violence in 2011/12, levels have fallen back below those in 2010/11. **During 2012/13**, the number of anti-social behaviour incidents related to alcohol remained stable at just over **16%**.

During 2011/12 there was **1,738** drug users in effective treatment and **1,758** people in treatment with the Community Alcohol Service. The Percentage of all exits from alcohol treatment that are planned discharges stand at **64%**. The percentage of drug users in treatment who successfully completed treatment during 2011/12 was **10.8%**.

Some of our achievements

A new multi-agency Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit will tackle alcohol misuse; focusing on intelligence led enforcement. Four 'Best Bar

None' schemes incorporating 64 accredited premises involve the licensing trade, police and local authority; all working to reduce alcohol related crime in town centres.

The Stanley Community Alcohol Partnership continues to tackle underage alcohol use and encourages engagement and guardianship among alcohol retailers and the community. Alcohol seizures from young people result in their referral to 4Real; a free and confidential support service for young people under the age of 18.

A Baroness Newlove funded project is targeting youth related alcohol nuisance in Tow Law, Howden-le-Wear, Sunnybrow and Crook. The project has seen a reduction in calls to the police, significant alcohol seizures from young people and young adults and 30 licensees have received responsible retailer training.

The number of people successfully leaving substance misuse treatment is increasing. **Q3 2012/13** data shows that **13%** of drug users in treatment successfully completed treatment. Criminal Justice clients make up **20%** of the treatment population and of these **11.7%** successfully completed. **72%** of discharges from the Community Alcohol Service between April 2012 and

December 2012 were planned. This is 13 percentage points above the national achievement for the same period.

Abstinent based Recovery programmes are now supporting the reduction in drug use and drug related crime; supporting recovery beyond Recovery Centres and into the community. Programmes are helping people recover from their own substance misuse and then bring them back into these programmes as volunteers to help others.

These include programmes such as SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) and the peer led volunteer Ambassador Scheme.

The challenges ahead

The public tell us their perception of alcohol and drug related nuisance remains high and this will be a key focus for the Safe Durham Partnership in the coming year. The Partnership will focus on young people drinking. This will include public places and standardising the level of alcohol seizures across the County.

The partnership will continue to focus on penetration into drug using communities ensuring that those who need a service are able to access treatment which is appropriate to their needs.

Counter Terrorism & Preventing Violent Extremism

Why this is a priority

CONTEST, the UK's Counter-Terrorism strategy, aims to reduce the risk to the United Kingdom and its interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

The Safe Durham Partnership is committed to preventing terrorism and shares concern about extremism that has the potential for developing into violence. Extremism is based on intolerance, lack of respect for other people and a rejection of community cohesion.

Our performance

The Safe Durham Partnership carries out a self-assessment of its progress; assessing performance against a set of criteria moving up in performance on a 1 to 5 scale.

During 2012/13 the Partnership maintained its target score of 3 out of 5.

Some of our achievements

Key members of staff are provided with knowledge of domestic and international terrorist and extremist ideology by maintaining links with the regional Counter Terrorism Unit and the National Domestic Extremism Team.

This knowledge is important in terms of effectively assessing the risks to County Durham.

Public sector staff are being trained to understand the methods that individuals and groups use to radicalise those who, because of their circumstances, can be vulnerable to their influence.

Training such as WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) helps staff understand how to use their safeguarding expertise and knowledge to recognise when individuals may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and extremism and safeguard them from the risk.

A 'channel' referral process formalises the way in which we can identify individuals at risk, assess the nature of the risk and develop support plans.

Channel is in place to safeguard children and adults; using early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face.

The Safe Durham Partnership works with Durham Constabulary's Security Advisers to help protect against terrorist attack.

It also works with the Local Resilience Forum to plan and prepare for localised incidents and catastrophic emergencies.

The Safe Durham Partnership has adopted the national Integration Policy and will continue to tackle intolerance and extremism that presents a potential risk to local areas.

A response to such risk has been developed by the Safe Durham Partnership. It aims to develop a better understanding of local conditions, protect against violent extremism and hate crime and prevent a breakdown in community cohesion.

The challenges ahead

The Safe Durham Partnership recognises the need to continue its staff awareness-raising programme to protect those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and extremism. It will focus on key institutions such as schools, further education, health and offending.

It will target the risks from domestic extremism by pursuing safe and cohesive communities.

Road Casualty Reduction

Why this is a priority

There has been a significant reduction in the number of road casualties over the last ten years. Despite this, the rates of reduction in County Durham are not always at the level of some other areas. County Durham has a significant roads network which presents risks that many other areas do not have to contend with. It is for this reason that reducing road casualties should remain a priority.

Our performance

There were 1,736 slight injuries on County Durham roads, between October 2011 and September 2012. This compares with 1,705 in the previous year.

During the same period, there were 239 people killed or seriously injured compared with 212 the previous year. This included 21 children compared with 26 the previous year.

Some of our achievements

The Safe Durham Partnership has developed a range of initiatives to keep people safe on our roads.

In car safety awareness sessions are being delivered to year 5 and 6 school children.

These sessions are part of the Junior Neighbourhood Watch scheme; a ten week programme designed to help children to stay safe, know how to report an incident and understand the principles of Neighbourhood Watch. 900 primary school children have so far been part of Junior Neighbourhood Watch.

External funding was awarded to Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre for 'First Gear and On Two Wheels'; a project aimed at 14 to 25 year olds. It teaches young people about responsible car and motorbike ownership; something that can contribute to reducing road casualties among young people.

Older drivers, motor cyclists and the wider community have also had the opportunity to benefit from road safety training courses and the Partnership has ensured that road safety messages are publicised across the whole of County Durham.

1,300 young people completed a young driver training scheme, while 400 children and young people have attended road safety education programmes in schools and colleges. 3,000 school children have taken part in a practical child pedestrian training scheme.

4,700 school children have received cycle training, while 4,600 children attended the Safety Carousel which delivers a broad range of safety measures.

Given the sizable road network covering the County, passenger safety on our public transport network is particularly important. 80,000 bus pass holders have received safety advice and the partnership will cooperate with operators to ensure passenger safety.

The challenges ahead

Child road casualties, motorcycle safety and young driver casualties present a challenge for County Durham.

In addition, the public are concerned about speeding vehicles which they view as anti-social as well as presenting a danger to other road users.

New and existing initiatives are part of a new multi-agency Road Casualty Action Plan which will help us to respond to these challenges in the coming year.

Embed the Think Family Approach

Why this is a priority

Think Family is a multi-agency approach that seeks to provide early intervention for those families that have problems and cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector.

Think Family touches on the priorities of several thematic groups of the County Durham Partnership; of which the Safe Durham Partnership is one. Therefore it requires a joined-up response at strategic as well as operational level.

The Safe Durham Partnership will, therefore, adopt and embed this approach in order to provide families with the best possible opportunity to avoid involvement in crime and disorder and reduce their impact on our services.

Our performance

In order to measure the success of this priority we will monitor the percentage of identified families where a successful intervention for crime and anti-social behaviour is achieved. Achieving our targets will have financial benefits and will present social benefits for those areas of the County where communities suffer most.

Maintaining significant and continuous reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour can only be achieved by building on what works and being able to adapt the way we approach problems. The Think Family programme offers us the opportunity to do this.

Our objectives

The programme aims to:

- Get children back into school;
- Reduce youth crime and anti social behaviour;
- Put adults back on a path back to work; and
- Reduce the high costs some families place on the public sector each year

This approach will:

- Join up local services;
- Deal with each family's problems as a whole;
- Provide a single key worker to work intensively with the family to change their lives for the better; and
- Use a range of methods that support families and challenge poor behaviour

It will also build upon the 'High Impact Household' programme adopted by the Safe Durham Partnership in 2011.

This delivers a toolkit of early and effective intervention, which comprises a range of proven and successful working practices.

The challenges ahead

'Think Family' is a cross-cutting priority which all our thematic groups and local problem-solving groups will need to embed.

Enhancing initiatives such as the anti-social behaviour escalation policy and mental health protocols are examples of how we can intervene early

Our Domestic Abuse services already provide intensive support to those families who need it. By embedding Think Family, existing services will be able to draw upon additional support networks.

Our offender management programme will benefit from additional engagement with families of offenders so that services can be designed around the issues that they raise with us.

We will ensure that we contribute to helping Think Family services provide value for money and are effective.

