

# Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee

25 February 2014



## Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17

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### Report of Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director for Children and Adults Services

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#### Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee with an update on the development of the Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Plan 2014-17 and seek feedback on the objectives and outcomes.

#### Background

2. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require that Durham County Council, along with the other responsible authorities (Durham Constabulary, NHS Commissioning Groups, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service and Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust), develop and implement a Partnership Plan.
3. The regulations also require that an annual Strategic Assessment is completed which informs the development of the new Plan every three years and also an annual refresh of actions and achievements contained within the Plan.

#### Current Position

4. A paper was presented to the Committee at the December meeting which provided an overview of key messages identified in the Strategic Assessment and the consultation processes that fed into the assessment.
5. Comments were received from the Committee in relation to prioritising alcohol misuse and drug dealer and drug use; and also hate crime. The Partnership Plan will include outcomes and actions in relation to these key issues.
6. Additional comments focussed on delivery and monitoring of the recommendations contained within the Strategic Assessment. Subsequently the Safe Durham Partnership Board has implemented an action plan to ensure the recommendations are monitored. The majority of the recommendations are operational and will be picked up through the thematic groups as part of their action plans. However, a number of the recommendations are strategic (shaded in the action plan) and the Safe Durham Partnership Board has agreed their inclusion in the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17. This action plan is attached at Appendix 2 for information.

7. The Strategic Assessment recommended that there was no change to the existing strategic objectives, which remain aligned to the objectives within the Sustainable Community Strategy and Council Plan.
8. The strategic objectives were agreed by the Safe Durham Partnership Board along with the associated outcomes which are contained within the draft Partnership Plan 2014-17. A number of the outcomes have been amended following consultation with the Chairs/Lead for each objective. The objectives and outcomes are shown below, along with the rationale for the amendments to the outcomes:

**(i) Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour**

- i. Increase public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities
- ii. Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime - including secondary deliberate fires
- iii. Create a high quality, clean, green, attractive, accessible environment

\*First outcome extended to reflect that the partnership will target those issues raised during public consultation. The second has been extended to include secondary deliberate fires which saw an increase of 80% during the first two quarters of 2013/14.

**(ii) Protecting Vulnerable People from Harm**

- i. Provide protection and support to improve outcomes for victims of domestic abuse and their children - whilst working towards preventing its occurrence within County Durham
- ii. Tackle sexual violence and the negative impact it has on individuals and families
- iii. Reduce the impact of hate crime

\*All three outcomes have been extended in order that they are more specific.

**(iii) Reducing Re-Offending**

- i. Prevent inter-generational offending
- ii. Prevent repeat offending

\*Both outcomes have been changed. 'Prevent inter-generational offending' incorporates the previous outcome (reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system), along with a range of other high level actions. Similarly the outcome 'Prevent repeat offending' has a wider scope, including restorative approaches, women offenders and recommendations in the Strategic Assessment action plan.

**(iv) Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction**

- i. Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities
- ii. Reduce the harm caused by drugs / substances - through prevention, restricting supply and building recovery

\*Both outcomes have been extended to ensure they are more specific. The second outcome also reflects the new Drug Strategy.

**(v) Embed the Think Family approach**

- i. Embed 'Think Family' and 'Stronger Families' into offender and victim services as part of the prevention and early help approach

\*This outcome has been changed to incorporate the three specific elements; Think Family, Stronger Families and Early Help.

**(vi) Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism**

- i. Implement 'CONTEST' (national strategy)
- ii. Challenge extremism and intolerance

**(vii) Road Casualty Reduction**

- i. Improve education and raise awareness
- ii. Improve health and wellbeing of communities through road casualty reduction
- iii. Develop a safer road environment

\*The outcomes reduced from five to three in August 2012 following a review of the objective and to ensure a more targeted approach.

- 9. The draft Partnership Plan will be presented to the Safe Durham Partnership Board in March 2014 for comment, with the final version being signed off in May 2014.

**Next Steps**

- 10. Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee are requested to provide feedback and comments on the Objectives and Outcomes highlighted in paragraph 8.
- 11. Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee will receive a draft version of the Plan at the April meeting in order to provide feedback on the Plan prior to sign off by both the Safe Durham Partnership Board and the County Council's corporate governance structures.

**Recommendations and reasons**

- 12. Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
  - (i) Note the content of the report and comment by the 31 March 2014
  - (ii) Receive a draft version of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan for comment in April 2014.

**Background papers**

None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Finance**

Action Plans will be developed to support the delivery of the Partnership Plan. The Police and Crime Commissioner has allocated funding to support the delivery of those action plans.

### **Staffing**

The Plan will be implemented using existing resources. Durham County Council will contribute to the delivery of the plan in partnership with other responsible authorities.

### **Risk**

No adverse implications.

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

An impact assessment in relation to Equality and Diversity implications will be undertaken when the Plan has been agreed.

### **Accommodation**

No adverse implications.

### **Crime and disorder**

The Partnership Plan outlines the Safe Durham Partnership priorities for tackling crime and disorder in County Durham.

### **Human rights**

No adverse implications.

### **Consultation**

Statutory consultation with the community and stakeholders has been undertaken as part of the Strategic Assessment process.

### **Procurement**

No adverse implications.

### **Disability Issues**

No direct adverse implications. An impact assessment will be undertaken when the Plan has been agreed.

### **Legal Implications**

No adverse implications. The County Council, as a responsible authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, has a statutory duty to produce a Partnership Plan.

## Appendix 2: Strategic Assessment Recommendations and Actions

No.	Theme	Objective	Recommendations/Actions	Lead
1	<b>Anti-Social Behaviour</b>	Increase Public Confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Encouraging people to ‘get involved’ and volunteer.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Deliver a get involved marketing campaign</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Continue the growth of Neighbourhood Watch working with AAP’s</p>	Strategic Manager, Community Safety and Involvement
		Increase Public Confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Initiatives aimed at improving public confidence should focus on those issues that the public tell us are most important.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Working with AAP’s the ASB Group should review action plans in line with public concern.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Review and combine existing Police and Partnership public confidence action Plans and begin to implement immediately.</p>	Chief Superintendent, Neighbourhoods Partnerships Command
		Reduce ASB, low level crime and secondary deliberate fires	<p><b>Recommendation (Strategic):</b> Examine ASB and crime and disorder issues compounded with deprivation, worklessness and other problems that are taking place across parts of the County.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Bring a report to the Safer Durham Partnership identifying the crime and disorder issues; providing outcomes that take advantage of wider services such as promoting the services of the Credit Union.</p>	Chief Superintendent, Neighbourhoods Partnerships Command
2.	<b>Reduce Reoffending</b>	Prevent Repeat Offending	<p><b>Recommendation (Strategic):</b> Undertake addition work through the Reducing Reoffending Group to develop greater understanding of the relationship between offending and Mental Health.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Conduct further research during 2014/15, in order to provide information to frontline practitioners and consider prioritising the 10 recommendations from the Victim Support report ‘At Risk, Yet Dismissed’.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Review current cross strategy relationships in order to ensure the Safe Durham Partnership understands the range of work going on across services and agencies, thus</p>	Director of Offender Management

No.	Theme	Objective	Recommendations/Actions	Lead
			preventing the use of isolated strategies to impact on outcomes alone and to identify trigger points under each strategy which will result in multi-agency resources being deployed. Ensure appropriate membership in task and finish group.	
			<p><b>Recommendation:</b> A continued focus on women offenders</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Reduce the number of women offenders by targeting the risks associated to women offenders in County Durham.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Evaluate the current Women Offenders Diversion project which began in April 2013</p>	Director of Offender Management / Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of CID
			<p><b>Recommendation (from Health &amp; Wellbeing Board):</b> Adults with Autism are dealt with appropriately/effectively in the Local Criminal Justice Services.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Work between partner agencies, including Prison, Probation, Police and Youth Offending to identify issues in County Durham.</p>	Strategic Commissioning Manager OP/PD/SI / Strategic Manager, Youth Offending Service / Director of Offender Management / Temporary Detective Superintendent
			<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Target health outcomes of young offenders and improve their transition from statutory supervision to mainstream services.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Reduce alcohol related offending particularly in the 14-16 age groups.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Address the health needs of young people who offend, particularly in respect of help with Speech, Language and Communication needs.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Improve exit strategies after statutory supervision and pathways into mainstream services, particularly for young people aged 16 years to 18 years.</p>	Strategic Manager, Youth Offending Service / Consultant in Public Health
			<b>Recommendation (Strategic):</b> The impact of Welfare Reform should be fully analysed and assessed against regional neighbours and most similar Forces.	Temporary Assistant Chief

No.	Theme	Objective	Recommendations/Actions	Lead
			<b>Action:</b> Monitor the situation through Force Threat and Risk <b>Action:</b> Link with DCC Welfare Reform work <b>Action:</b> Undertake a North East comparison with other Community Safety partnerships	Constable/ DCC Welfare Reform Board
3	<b>Protect Vulnerable People From Harm</b>	Reduce the impact of Hate Crime	<b>Recommendation:</b> Contribute to and implement actions in the police-led Hate Crime action plan. <b>Action:</b> Set targets for hate crime reporting to tackle the issue of significant under-reporting.	Temporary Assistant Chief Constable
4	<b>Alcohol &amp; Substance Misuse Harm Reduction</b>	Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities	<b>Recommendation:</b> As Durham is well below national rates in terms of alcohol related crime, more needs to be done to understand the impact of alcohol on crime in County Durham. <b>Action:</b> Improve alcohol related crime recording. <b>Recommendation:</b> A Health Needs Assessment to be carried out as part of any future diversion projects (e.g. 'The Alcohol Diversion Scheme') in order to provide opportunities for improving chances for abstinence and contribute to health and mental health outcomes. <b>Action:</b> Future initiatives to adopt a Health Needs Assessment.	Consultant in Public Health  Consultant in Public Health
5	<b>Substance Misuse Harm Reduction</b>	Reduce the harm caused by drugs/substances through preventing harm, restricting supply and building recovery	<b>Recommendation:</b> To develop a strategy to reduce dependency on drugs for those in County Durham <b>Action:</b> Develop and implement the County Durham Drug Strategy 2014-17.	Consultant in Public Health
6	<b>Embed the Think Family Approach</b>	Embed Think Family into offender and victim services as part of the prevention and early help approach	<b>Recommendation:</b> Increase nominations to the Stronger Families Program across all services. <b>Action:</b> Increase referrals from all services and partners. <b>Action:</b> Significantly increase referrals and the lead professional role from ASB Teams.	ALL Head of Direct Services
7	<b>Counter Terrorism and Prevention of violent extremism</b>	Implement 'CONTEST' (national strategy)	<b>Recommendation:</b> Review the progress of the Safe Durham Partnership with a view to increasing County Durham's resilience to terrorism. <b>Action:</b> Develop and implement the new CONTEST Action Plan 2014-17 following the results of the review and set an improved self-assessment performance target.	Deputy Chief Constable
8	<b>Road Casualty Reduction</b>	Improve health and wellbeing of	<b>Recommendation:</b> Reduce the number of Child Casualties. <b>Action:</b> Target a reduction in Child Road Casualties both on the journey to school and with	Director of Public Health / Strategic

No.	Theme	Objective	Recommendations/Actions	Lead
		communities through road casualty reduction	local communities. <b>Action:</b> Include the target within the Safe Durham Partnership performance report.	Traffic Manager
		Develop a safer road environment  (Increase Public Confidence – ASB objective)	<b>Recommendation:</b> increase safety and contribute to increasing public confidence. <b>Action:</b> The Road Casualty Reduction Forum to address the issue of inappropriate speed which is a key concern of the public. <b>Action:</b> Road Casualty Reduction Forum to target the problem of inappropriate speed as part of public confidence plans led by the ASB group. <b>Action:</b> Ensure the Durham County Speed Management strategy and its objectives go to the Safe Durham Partnership Board so that opportunities for increasing public confidence can be explored.	Strategic Traffic Manager