

DRAFT

**Safe Durham Partnership
Plan 2014/17**



Foreword

(Not yet confirmed)

Welcome to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2014-17.

Our vision is for a county where every adult and child will be, and will feel, safe. Working in partnership is essential to achieving our vision

Partnership working across County Durham continues to go from strength to strength. When introducing our first Partnership plan, in 2011, we explained how our commitment to working in partnership had ensured real and tangible improvements to the quality of life of our communities; so much so that in 2011 crime in County Durham was at its lowest since 1983. During the last three years we have built upon this success and experienced further reductions in both crime and anti-social behaviour, fewer young people in the criminal justice system and reduced re-offending. We continue to strengthen the support for victims of domestic abuse and provide more opportunities for people to recover from drug and alcohol misuse.

The financial constraints placed on public services require that we work together to maximise opportunities to ensure services remain fit for purpose now and in the future. Working in partnership will be crucial if we are to meet existing and emerging challenges and work towards achieving our vision in this time of significant change. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2014-17 demonstrates how partner organisations will work together to tackle those issues that are of most concern to the people of County Durham, in order that our communities feel safe and have confidence in those agencies delivering services to them.

We will involve a wide range of agencies, members of our communities, voluntary and community sector, social enterprises (businesses that trade to tackle social problems, improve communities, people's life chances, or the environment) and charities. Together, we will respond to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in this plan in order to deliver a safer and 'Altogether Better' Durham.



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1. Introduction

The Safe Durham Partnership Plan describes the 'Altogether Safer' priority objectives outlined in the Sustainable Community Strategy, which provides the vision for the local area and is the umbrella strategy for all the other strategies devised for County Durham. It is the Safe Durham Partnership's strategy for tackling crime and disorder and responding to those priorities, outlined within the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment.

The Plan will provide a clear picture of how the Safe Durham Partnership will continue to work towards creating a safer and more socially cohesive county and contribute to an 'Altogether Better' Durham.

It displays an improved understanding of the risks and threats to our community's feelings of safety and cohesion and describes a new approach to delivering sustainable outcomes to overcome them.

It describes how partner agencies will work together and involve a wider range of organisations, along with the community, to continue the success of the previous three years. It identifies how the Safe Durham Partnership is delivering outcomes that impact on people's health and wellbeing and relies upon sophisticated models of delivery.

The purpose of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is to build on the significant achievements of the last six years. It will continue to demonstrate new and innovative approaches that recognise our growing knowledge base and our need to respond to an ever changing and more challenging landscape. In this way, we will provide ourselves with the best opportunity to maintain our history of strong performance and deliver the outcomes needed to achieve our vision.

An annual refresh of the Plan will take place to ensure that any new and emerging risks are identified and responded to. This will also provide the opportunity to keep the people of County Durham up to date with our progress and identify new government requirements and new opportunities identified within the previous year.

The Safe Durham Partnership Plan demonstrates how strong strategic leadership, planning, performance management and problem solving will result in action plans which aim to deliver positive outcomes for our communities.

2. The Safe Durham Partnership

The Safe Durham Partnership was formed in April 2009 following Local Government Reorganisation to a single unitary local authority for County Durham. There are currently six '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.

The six responsible authorities are:

- Durham County Council
- Durham Constabulary
- County Durham and Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority
- National Probation Service (nb. comes into being 01.06.2014)
- Community Rehabilitation Company* (name to be determined - comes into being 01.06.2014)
- Clinical Commissioning Groups**

*As part of the reform of Probation Services, a new Public Community Rehabilitation Company will be formed. It will manage low and medium risk offenders, supervise prisoners serving fewer than 12 months in custody, deliver appropriate interventions and Community Payback. In April 2015 a private Community Rehabilitation Company will take over this role.

**Clinical Commissioning Groups are groups of General Practitioner practices, including other health professionals, who will commission the great majority of National Health Service services for their patients.

The Safe Durham Partnership has a duty to develop an annual strategic assessment of the risks and threats that crime and disorder poses to the communities of County Durham. The purpose of this assessment is to:

- Identify its priorities for the forthcoming year;
- Highlight performance, progress and achievements against the commitments; made in the 2011/14 Partnership Plan; and,
- Identify key crime and disorder risks and threats to the community.

In addition, the Safe Durham Partnership has a duty to develop and implement a Partnership Plan which describes how responsible authorities will work together to tackle crime and disorder. The Plan is refreshed at the beginning of each financial year and as part of that 'refresh', the Safe Durham Partnership will demonstrate its progress over the previous year.

The Safe Durham Partnership also brings together a range of interested parties from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors to help deliver the outcomes in the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.

3. Progress and Achievements

Safe Durham Partnership Progress

Nearly 14,000 fewer crimes

In 2007 the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment stated that 36,908 crimes were recorded between 1st October 2006 and 30th September 2007 in County Durham. Every year since the coming together of the Safe Durham Partnership, the Partnership Plan has described to County Durham residents how crime has reduced. At the end of March 2013 the Safe Durham Partnership reported that the number of crimes had fallen again to a new low of 23,034. This represents a reduction in crime of 37.6% since September 2007.

Over 48,000 fewer complaints of anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Durham Constabulary reduced from 33,718 in 2011/12 to 25,474 in 2012/13. In the year ending September 2007 there were 73,823 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by Durham Constabulary. By the year ending 31st March 2013 that number had reduced to 25,476.

78% reduction in First Time Entrants to the youth justice system

There has been a continuous reduction, year on year, in First Time Entrants into the youth justice system in County Durham. Over the past 6 years we have achieved a 78% reduction from 1,129 young people in 2007/8 to 251 in 2012/13 with a reduction of 76 occurring in the last year.

58% reduction in the rate of re-offending

In 2012/13 the Partnership experienced a reduction in re-offending of 58% for those offenders managed within the Integrated Offender Management programme compared to their offending in 2011/12.

Repeat cases of Domestic Abuse is half that of the national target

Domestic Abuse is under reported and part of our work involves encouraging victims to seek support. This means that we will not target a reduction in the number of reports of domestic abuse. However, when victims are encouraged to seek help we are able to work towards preventing those victims suffering a repeat of their experience. 12.6% of domestic abuse victims at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) were repeat victims of domestic abuse against a national target of 25%.

467 fewer road casualties in County Durham

In 2012 the number of casualties on County Durham roads reduced by 7%. This means that the total number of road casualties has reduced from 2,011 to 1,544 when compared with our benchmark, which is an average of casualties between 2005 and 2009. This represents a long term reduction of 23%. The number of children aged 0-15 reduced at an even greater rate; by 30%. Young drivers aged 17-24 have seen the biggest reduction in road casualties at 49%.

Nearly 1,000 people successfully left drug and alcohol treatment

281 people successfully left drug treatment in 2012/13 while 662 people successfully left alcohol treatment in County Durham.

County Durham is in the top 10% for turning around 'Troubled Families'

Troubled Families are those that have problems and cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector. County Durham is currently ranked 15th highest, of 152 Troubled Families programmes nationally, based on the total number of families 'turned around', with 312 families turned around so far.

Safe Durham Partnership Achievements

Between 2011 and 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership delivered an extensive program of initiatives, including:

Restorative Approaches

In 2013 the Safe Durham Partnership began a program to bring together existing work around delivering restorative approaches with a view to delivering a 'Restorative' County Durham. A Restorative Approach brings people harmed by crime or conflict and those responsible for the harm together, enabling everyone affected by the incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward. Today, our schools are using this approach to improve the learning environment and developing important skills for learning; reducing exclusions and improving attendance. Neighbourhood police teams are applying restorative approaches to every day policing and our Youth Offending Service use the approach as an option for every young person who offends.

'Looked After Children' Services have used restorative approaches for some time as it has proved to contribute to placement stability (consistently around 98%), low staff turnover, dealing with conflict without damage to individuals and promoting wellbeing. Sometimes, for a number of reasons, children are not able to live with their families. In these cases, the children will be cared for by the council. This is called being 'looked after'. From a starting point of being three times more likely than other children or young people in County Durham to offend, they are now only marginally more likely to offend than children and young people not living in care.

A comprehensive training program is being delivered across a number of agencies to embed restorative approaches in an ever widening range of services. Our approach means fewer victims, fewer crimes and reduced demand on the criminal justice system.

Reducing Reoffending

In 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership Plan described how the Partnership had developed and implemented the 'Integrated Offender Management' program (known as the Castle Project). The program provides all agencies engaged in local criminal justice with a single coherent structure for the management of repeat offenders. Development and refinement of the program is continuous and the Safe Durham Partnership consistently explores new and inspiring ways to manage offenders. New

resources and projects have been introduced with some great results. They include mentoring, drug intervention, volunteering, diverting women offenders from prison and restorative approaches.

Fully integrated pre-court system for young offenders

In County Durham, the rate of First Time Entrants to the youth justice system continues to be lower than the North East region and its statistical neighbours. Two programmes have been crucial in delivering sustainable reductions in the number of young people entering the youth justice system in County Durham. The award winning fully integrated pre-court system provides early assessment of need and intervention. The Pre-Caution Disposal provides an alternative to court. It improves young people's life chances by ensuring that their needs are identified and met and that they avoid being criminalised.

Alcohol Seizure Project

In 2011 we developed a multi-agency alcohol seizure procedure which was highlighted as national good practice by the Home Office Alcohol Team. Our aim was to reduce anti-social behaviour, understand more about how children and young people access alcohol and engage them in early intervention services.

The benefits of this approach are clear when examining the outcome for a 12 year old child who was referred to the 'Brief Interventions Team' (provides advice and support) after being found with alcohol. The child was found to be living with a grandmother. During the intervention it became apparent that the child was consuming strong cider on a regular basis. The child admitted a pattern of drinking and it was clear that the grandmother was in desperate need of support. The child was referred to the County Durham young people's drug and alcohol service; 4Real. The child received specialist support while additional support was provided to the grandmother and the wider family.

Such cases may raise safeguarding issues. The Safeguarding Adults Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board are committed to ensuring that children and young people are kept safe and feel safe at all times, no matter what their background.

Building Recovery

Our 'Building Recovery' objective demonstrates our aim to deliver effective treatment and recovery services to help individuals achieve abstinence from illicit drugs, to ensure that recovery is sustained and to help people successfully re-integrate into their communities and wider society. A range of services are used to deliver this approach, including the 'Recovery Academy Durham'. The total abstinence based recovery service delivers a proven comprehensive 12-step recovery model to enable recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. The Recovery Academy works with a maximum of 14 clients, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The model includes a course of intensive 12-step study, on a one-to-one and group basis with trained peer therapists who are people who have had similar experiences. It offers a secondary program after graduation to help with education, employment, training and ongoing recovery support. Since opening in December 2011, 22 individuals have successfully graduated from the academy and have been involved in shaping the new County Durham Drug Strategy.

Neighbourhood Watch

In June 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership developed and implemented a strategy to modernise Neighbourhood Watch in County Durham which was later developed across the Durham Constabulary Force area. Our aim was for a bigger, stronger and more active movement; contributing to increased feelings of safety. Today, Durham Constabulary Force area has a higher percentage of households in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme than any other Force area in England and Wales. A range of initiatives have been put in place by Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, achieving demonstrable success.

One such project is the Safer Homes Scheme. Funded and supported by Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary, it is delivered by volunteer Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. Our 19 volunteers are trained to deliver crime prevention advice to provide reassurance to those who need it in their community. Volunteers are able to provide safety and security equipment such as lighting and locks and specialist packs when householders are away from home. Our coordinators have given 452 volunteer hours and visited 213 homes. One volunteer raised £2,500 for the scheme operating in Billy Row, Crook.

Total Home Safety

The Total Home Safety project played an important part in our drive to reduce house burglaries and house fires across County Durham. The project drew external funding of £300,000 to deliver safety and security measures to 4,563 risk assessed households. Over the period of the project the Safe Durham Partnership experienced a reduction of 398 house burglaries and 21 house fires generating savings of £832,000. 93% of clients reported that they felt safer, 88% felt more independent in their home and 36% said they were referred to other services as a result of their referral to Total Home Safety.

Children and Road Safety education

County Durham's children and young people benefited from a wide range of education and awareness raising as part of a series of initiatives delivered in 2013/14. A total of 10,000 accessed courses in driver, pedestrian and cycle training along with education in schools, colleges, children's centres and nurseries.

Stronger Families

Partners across County Durham are committed to tackling the complex needs of families that persist between generations through the Stronger Families Programme (known nationally as Troubled Families) which is designed to work with those families facing multiple and complex challenges.

The Stronger Families Programme is a 3-year payment-by-results scheme, whereby the Local Authority will be paid by the Government if successful in achieving the targets set. The intention is to work with 1,320 families by 31st March 2015 who:

- have children who don't attend school or who are excluded;
- are involved in crime or anti-social behaviour or crime;
- are not in work; and
- are high-cost and have a range of health issues.

The aim is to ensure the children in these families have the chance of a better life, and at the same time bring down the cost to the taxpayer. By formally embedding this program within the activities of the Safe Durham Partnership we have been able to contribute to this success, which includes a 60% reduction in family's anti-social behaviour and a reduction of 33% in the offending rate by all minors in relevant families.

Building resilience to terrorism and extremism

In addition to being one of the safest places to live in England, County Durham has benefited from resources and expertise used to build our local resilience against terrorism.

Since 2008, partner organisations have been working together to prevent people from becoming or supporting terrorism, strengthen our overall protection against any form of terrorist attack and prepare to mitigate the impact of a future incident. Our university, colleges, health services, prisons, council, police, fire service and many other agencies work to a national strategy called CONTEST and understand how their work connects with regional, national and international efforts. Our local plans reflect national strategy which requires us to deliver a response proportionate to the risks we face and to only engage in activity which is necessary to address those risks.

4. Delivering Sustainable Improvements

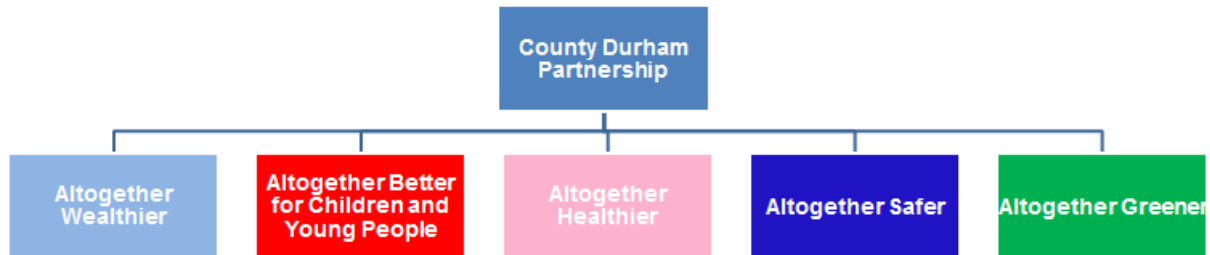
Our efforts to deliver improvements to the safety of our communities have been rewarded with consistent and continuous reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour alongside an increase in high performing interventions.

The 2011/14 Safe Durham Partnership Plan demonstrated an approach aimed at maintaining strong performance. Key improvement areas included an early approach to tackling problem families and locations, anti-social behaviour, tackling alcohol harm and supporting our police service in its drive to disrupt and bring to justice organised criminals. This approach proved successful. For example, after two years of targeting those areas of the county that presented the greatest challenges, anti-social behaviour was reduced by 47% in those areas.

In a rapidly transforming landscape, built around reform, sustaining such strong performance will become increasingly challenging. The Safe Durham Partnership continues to anticipate and shape its response in a way that mitigates potential risk and takes full advantage of new opportunities. Our approach to the transforming rehabilitation programme and our vision for a restorative County Durham are examples of our proactive approach to change and opportunity. Reshaping our multi-agency problem solving model means we will be able to take a 'whole family' approach and apply 'Think Family' principles.

Altogether Better Durham

The Safe Durham Partnership contributes to the vision of an 'Altogether Better Durham'. The Safe Durham Partnership is an integral part of this wider vision and is responsible for delivering an 'Altogether Safer' Durham. As such it sits alongside four other partnerships, represented in the diagram below. Their combined efforts, described within the Sustainable Community Strategy for County Durham, demonstrate how this wider vision will be achieved.



The 2013 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is an evidenced based document designed to help improve the health and wellbeing of the local community and reduce inequalities for all ages, by providing an understanding of the relationships that occur across different themes. This provides a greater opportunity for a shared approach to delivering outcomes across different themes and achieving our vision of an 'Altogether Better Durham'.

Our 2013 Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment also required a review of current cross-strategy relationships in order to ensure the Partnership understands the range of work across services and agencies, thus preventing the use of isolated strategies to impact on outcomes.

Our problem solving model is a useful example of how we can do this. It avoids looking at victims, offenders and communities in isolation and considers much broader health and social needs which often require action from multiple teams, services and organisations; something we refer to as cross-cutting work. By taking this approach we are in a much better position to provide more effective outcomes.

This section, therefore, will describe key cross cutting relational issues and how they are, and will be, managed across different themes and their strategies.

Altogether Wealthier

The focus for the County Durham Economic Partnership is improving the county's economy. The ambition is to create sustainable places where people want to live, work, invest and visit. This ambition requires a vision and commitment to the fundamental transformation of place, shared across public and private stakeholders and supported by residents. The Altogether Wealthier Delivery Plan illustrates the County Durham Economic Partnerships collective effort, responsibilities and key activities to deliver a step change toward its long term vision.

Increased Unemployment

Increased employment is a recurring intended long term impact of the Altogether Wealthier delivery plan. It is also an important issue in terms of offenders and one of those cross cutting issues that must not be ignored when managing them. We know that unemployment is a key risk factor to offending and re-offending and that increasing employment is a protective factor, particularly for those who re-offend. Therefore, helping offenders into employment is an important part of their rehabilitation. Exactly the same scenario exists for those in drug and alcohol recovery.

By utilising our knowledge, generated from our County Durham Plan and Regeneration Statement, we can take advantage of opportunities to contribute to Altogether Wealthier outcomes. For example, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment tells us that not being in education, employment or training is a future predictor of later unemployment, involvement in crime and poor mental health for young people. It is clear that getting young people into employment has benefits across themes.

As part of a Neighbourhood Watch regeneration project, designed to reduce anti-social behaviour in Chilton, a local company was selected to carry out the work because it provides apprenticeships to young people 'Not in Education Employment or Training'. Twelve young people, local to Chilton and its surrounding areas, learnt new skills and the Local Area Action Partnership presented the youngsters with the tools to deliver the regeneration work and gifted the tools to help them in their pursuit of employment in the building trade. We have Area Action Partnerships for all areas of the county to help deliver high quality services and give local people and organisations a say on how our services are provided.

Reduced road casualties

'Reduced risk of death or injury from accidents' is an expected long term impact of the programme of improvements to Economic/Transport corridors. Similarly, the cross cutting and transformational action, relating to the transport strategy, aims to contribute to better safety, security and health. It is clear that the two themes are working towards safety on our roads. The network of roads across County Durham is extensive and, while road casualties have fallen significantly over the last five years, it has been a challenge to meet the reductions of those areas with smaller road networks.

This provides a clear link between the Altogether Wealthier Action Plan and the Road Casualty Action Plan and between the themes 'Vibrant Successful Towns' and 'Developing a safe road environment'.

Altogether Healthier

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places a duty on local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups to develop a Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy to meet the needs identified in the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The vision for the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to 'improve the health and wellbeing of the people of County Durham and reduce health inequalities.'

Illicit Tobacco

The strategy aims to ensure that children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life. This includes reducing the availability of illicit tobacco and alcohol to children and young people and reducing negative risk-taking such as smoking and drinking alcohol. This work will have a clear impact on the objectives of the Safe Durham Partnership in terms of alcohol related offending by young people, negative public perception about underage drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour; ultimately contributing to fewer children and young people entering the Criminal Justice System. Both Altogether Safer and Healthier themes contribute to shared services, such as the 4Real service which means that children involved in alcohol related anti-social behaviour can be referred for support and advice in a way that meets their health needs and the safety needs of themselves and their community.

More children and young people are being offered illegal tobacco than adults. Dealers encourage young people to visit 'tab houses', putting them in risky situations with people who may also sell drugs and alcohol. Illegal tobacco has strong links to organised crime, so many of the people smuggling, distributing and selling it are involved in drug dealing, money laundering and other crime. For this reason the work of the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel is connected to the 'Smoke Free County Durham Tobacco Control Action Plan'.

Drugs and Alcohol

The Health and Wellbeing Board recognises the need to work together to reduce the number of people who misuse drugs and alcohol'. Both the County Durham Alcohol Strategy 2012/15 and the County Durham Drug Strategy 2014/17 have been jointly developed between the Healthier and Safer agendas.

Mental Health

The Health and Wellbeing Board aims to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the population. Having mental health problems is a key risk factor for both offenders and victims. We know that 'mental health problems' is a priority health need of offenders as well as being inter-related with other issues such as domestic abuse. Understanding these relationships is important in terms of improving pathways through the criminal justice system for both offenders and victims and this is why more will be done to improve our understanding and implement change.

The County Durham Public Mental Health Strategy 2013–2017 aims to build a healthier, more productive and fairer society which builds resilience, promotes mental health and wellbeing and challenges health inequalities. Reducing risk factors that are directly associated with crimes and their causal factors is a key part of the 'Public Mental Health Framework for Developing Well-Being'. Cross-cutting issues include drugs, alcohol, violence, child abuse, homelessness and unemployment. Safe Durham Partnership analysis of offender and victim mental health has taken place to improve understanding of the impact of mental health on offending and pathways through the criminal justice system. This provides an opportunity to contribute to the Public Mental Health objectives in terms of reducing risk factors and avoidance of, or better outcomes within, the criminal justice system.

Dual Diagnosis is defined within the County Durham and Darlington Dual Diagnosis Strategy as people with concurrent mental health, learning disabilities, behavioural diagnosis and substance misuse problems. The County Durham Dual Diagnosis Strategy has identified that 'Offenders' is one of its priority groups. The County Durham Dual Diagnosis Strategy provides a comprehensive overview of policy drivers.

Autism is a condition which is characterised by impaired social and communication skill. The County Durham Adult Autism Strategy: Action Plan 2014/15 Action Plan aims to ensure adults with autism are dealt with appropriately and effectively in the local criminal justice service.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy recognises that all adults should be able to live free from fear and harm and have their rights and choices respected. Safeguarding adults is a key priority for Durham County Council and partner agencies. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy describes how the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board are committed to ensuring that children and young people are kept safe and feel safe at all times. Both the Health and Wellbeing Board and Safe Durham Partnerships work in alignment and prioritise the need to protect vulnerable people from harm.

Altogether Better for Children and Young People

The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014-2017 is the single overarching, multi-agency plan for the delivery of priorities for children and young people in County Durham. It is therefore important that the Safe Durham Partnership aligns its own outcomes with those of the Children and Families Partnership. Examples of issues that contribute to those outcomes include education and awareness in terms of risk taking, keeping children and young people out of the criminal justice system, reducing their re-offending, protecting them from drugs, alcohol and illicit tobacco, protection against child sexual exploitation, and early intervention and help through the Think Family approach.

Think Family is our approach to addressing the needs of those families that face multiple challenges. It prevents those needs from escalating by making sure that families receive early integrated, coordinated, multi-agency, solution focused support.

The Early Help Strategy for Families is currently in development. The concept of 'Early Help' is straightforward. It means that help should be offered to families at the earliest opportunity and as soon as needs are identified. The type of help needed will in many instances be articulated by the family themselves, if we ask them what they need. It refers to help both in the early years of a child's life (including pre natal interventions) and early in the emergence of a problem at any stage in their lives. It incorporates the concept of 'prevention' and the importance of anticipating problems and taking action to prevent these.

Early help must include the concept of building resilience in families so that they are able to meet their own needs in the longer term and are not reliant on services. Help must include reinforcing a family's own skills and strengths and empowering them. It also means harnessing community resources as this will help to break cycles of

dependency and improve outcomes in the long term for families, as well as ultimately reducing costs.

This is an important strategy as it relies upon all partners and rather than being targeted at a single problem or issue it is designed around delivering the best outcome for the family. This model is already being integrated into the new Multi-Agency Problem Solving Model for Safer Communities.

Altogether Greener

The 2013 Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment identifies that 'Dog Fouling' and 'Rubbish and Litter' are two of the top four issues effecting public confidence across County Durham. The top four categories of environmental anti-social behaviour complaints, recorded by Durham County Council, are fly-tipping, dog fouling, stray dogs and litter. In 2012/13 these four issues accounted for over 14,000 recorded environmental anti-social behaviour complaints. Rubbish/Litter is a significant cause of secondary deliberate fires which provides additional concerns in terms of public safety. Such cases of anti-social behaviour are detrimental to health and to the environment.

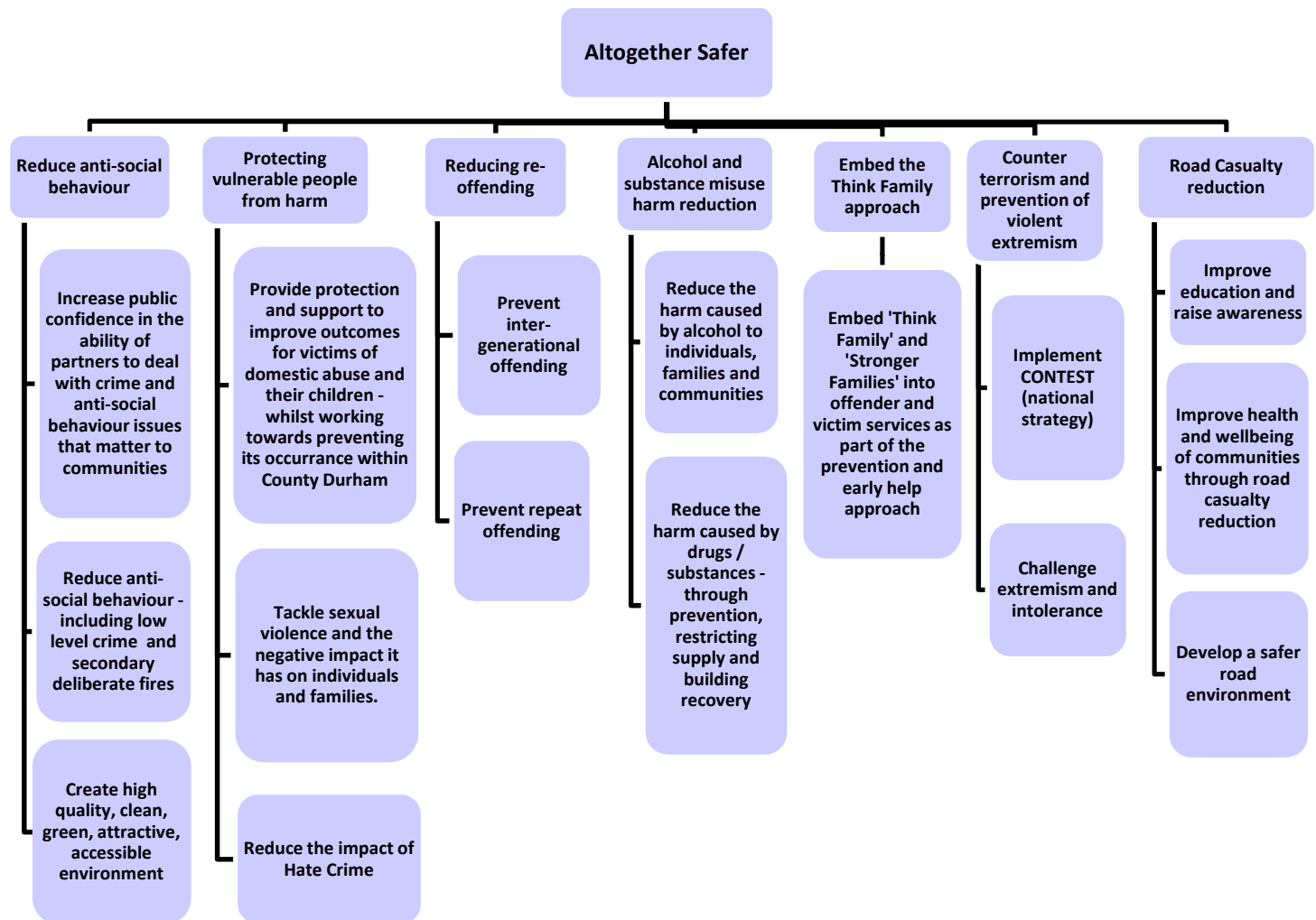
The Altogether Greener Action Plan directly contributes to the Safe Durham Partnership's objective 'Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime and secondary deliberate fires' and has a unique set of contributory measures of success. It also directly contributes to tackling Organised Crime by addressing illegal waste activity. The two plans also share an objective that includes a desire for a cleaner, greener environment. The Safe Durham Partnership Neighbourhood Watch Strategy demonstrates considerable activity designed to enhance the environment and instil pride in the community.

Other Strategies and Plans

'Gypsy, Roma, Travellers in County Durham: a Strategy for the Future 2014/17' is a strategy that cuts across all the 'Altogether' themes. Tackling Hate Crime against Gypsy, Roma Travellers is an important element of the Safe Durham Partnership's objective to protect vulnerable people from harm. Hate crime is significantly under reported and this strategy will contribute to addressing this.

Summary of Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

The Safe Durham Partnership Board has agreed the priority objectives it believes will deliver an Altogether Safer County Durham. These objectives and outcomes are designed to help focus on the key issues facing County Durham and be problem oriented in structure (i.e. focusing on how offending can be reduced, victims made less vulnerable and how places can be made safer).



Measuring success

The Safe Durham Partnership has put in place an agreed set of performance indicators under each of the Altogether Safer objectives described on pages 20 to 30.

Selected indicators from the Performance Framework are reported to the Durham County Council Cabinet, Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the County Durham Partnership to help monitor performance against the Sustainable Community Strategy and Council Plan. These are described below:

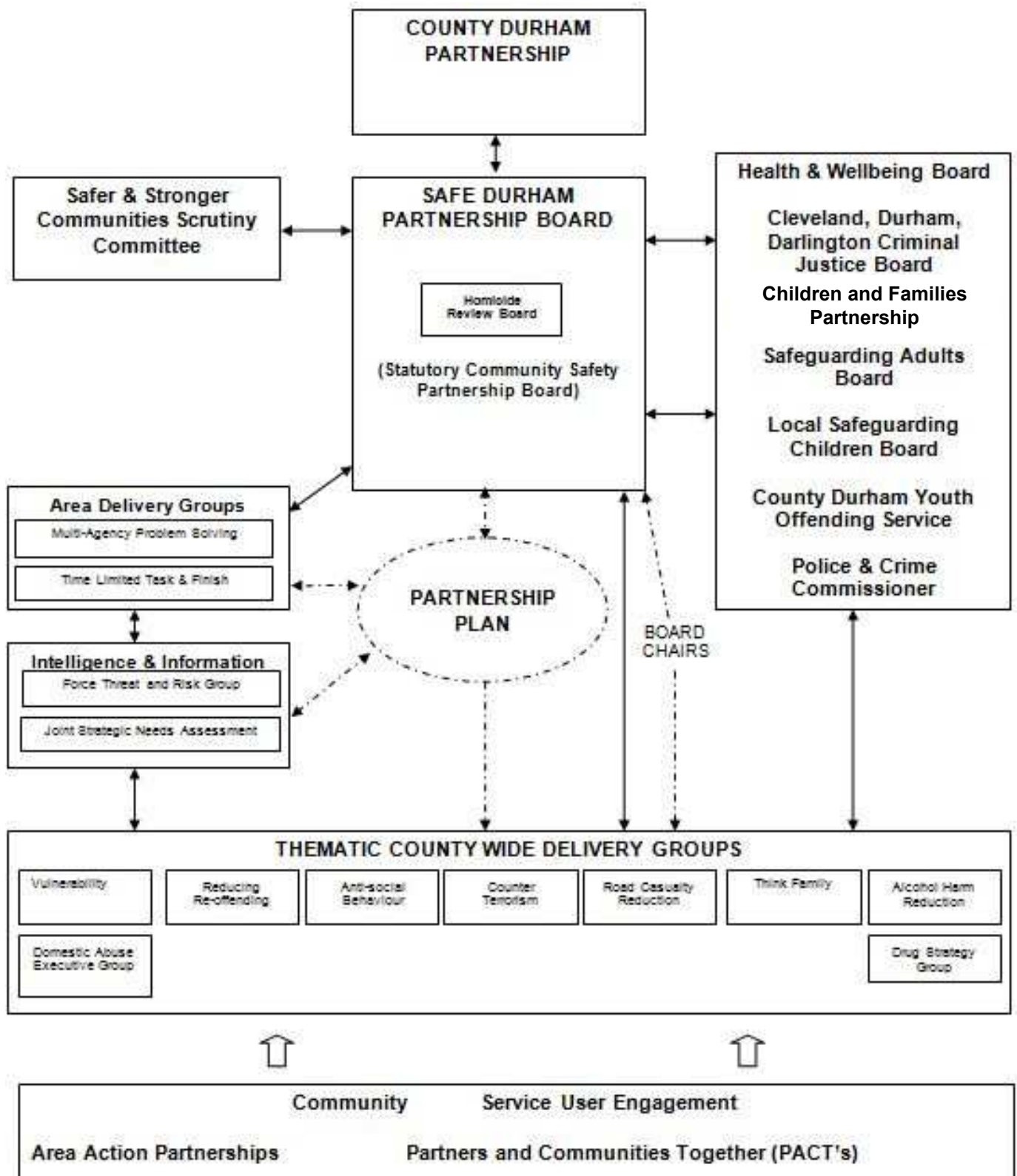
- Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Perception that the police and local council are dealing with concerns of anti-social behaviour and crime
- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour
- Repeat incidents of domestic violence
- Percentage of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment
- Percentage of alcohol related anti-social behaviour incidents
- Percentage of alcohol related violent crime
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – opiates
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – non opiates
- Percentage of adult safeguarding investigations completed within 28 days following strategy meeting
- Percentage change in detected crimes for offenders in the ‘Integrated Offender Management’ cohort over the last 12 months
- Proportion of all offenders who re-offend in a 12 month period
- First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System
- Building resilience to terrorism
- People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- Percentage of families where a successful intervention for crime / anti-social behaviour is achieved
- Overall crime rate
- Number of reported crimes categorised as stealing
- Recorded level of victim based crime
- Number of serious or major crimes
- Suicide rate per 100,000 population

Building the platform to execute objectives and monitor outcomes

Building the platform to execute our objectives and monitor the outcomes demonstrates the Safe Durham Partnerships understanding of current and emerging risks and trends and the potential needs of victims, offenders and communities. It demonstrates how the Safe Durham Partnership Board anticipates and responds to national policy, considers new collaboration models with different interested parties and private partners and takes decisions based on well thought visions.

The strategic framework and governance structure are detailed below:

Safe Durham Partnership Framework



5. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

Reduce anti-social behaviour

Despite year-on-year reductions, anti-social behaviour remains a priority. The Safe Durham Partnership, and before it the Countywide Partnership, has reported a reduction in anti-social behaviour in each year since 2006/07. Durham Constabulary recorded 25,476 incidents of anti-social behaviour in 2012/13; a reduction of two thirds since 2006/07. However, the Safe Durham Partnership recognises that there should be no complacency in terms of delivering a continued focus on this issue as it has the potential to reduce people's confidence and create a perception that crime and disorder is worse than is recorded. Anti-social behaviour is still the issue that the people of County Durham most want the police and partners to tackle.

Our key challenges

Evidence from the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment shows a significant number of incidents are reported to the council. It shows that despite reductions in levels of reported anti-social behaviour to the police, the public still perceive anti-social behaviour to be a problem. Specific issues which the public have raised include dog fouling, speeding traffic and rubbish lying around. 'Underage drinking' and 'using and dealing drugs' are two issues that have also been identified as issues the public would most like the police to tackle. Therefore, our key focus over the next three years will be to tackle those issues of greatest concern to the public, reduce public perception of anti-social behaviour and increase confidence in the police and partners to deal with anti-social behaviour.

Maintaining such low levels of reporting will present a significant challenge, particularly within a climate of uncertainty. The Strategic Assessment identified specific areas of County Durham suffering most from anti-social behaviour and other related issues.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Increase public confidence in the ability of partners to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter to communities

- Develop awareness of, and increase community involvement in, the Police/Partners and Community Together (PACT) meetings;
- Deliver awareness raising campaigns through positive messages about how Police/Partners are working with the community on issues of concern to them;
- Raise public awareness of opportunities, and benefits from, getting involved in improving their area through initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch;
- Reassure the public about issues of underage drinking and drug use and dealing by informing them of action taken and outcomes of those actions; and,
- Examine anti-social behaviour and crime issues compounded by deprivation, worklessness and other issues within targeted areas of the county.

Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime – including secondary deliberate fires

- Utilise intelligence and analysis to target measured reductions in anti-social behaviour low level crime and secondary deliberate fires;
- Target increases in the number of families referred to, and turned around by, the 'Stronger Families' program; and,
- Deliver a partnership approach to reducing the number of secondary deliberate fires during targeted periods such as bonfire night.

Create a high quality clean, green, attractive and accessible environment

- Deliver a range of campaigns targeting issues that are of most concern to the public; namely 'dog fouling', 'fly-tipping' and 'rubbish/litter lying around'; and,
- Work with the Road Casualty Reduction Forum to tackle public concern about those who drive at inappropriate speeds.

How we will know we have achieved success

- Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour;
- Number of council reported incidents / service requests of anti-social behaviour;
- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour;
- Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues dealt with by the local council;
- Percentage of people satisfied with action taken, treatment received and updates given, when they suffered from Personal anti-social behaviour within the last 12 months;
- Total number of Criminal Damage and Arson offences; and,
- Total number of secondary fires.

Protect vulnerable people from harm

Why this is a priority objective

Vulnerability has been identified as a priority as it covers a range of important issues that require a response that protects who are most vulnerable.

'Violence against Women and Girls' is a key national priority. The Government has highlighted that it is determined to support victims to report crimes of this type and bring perpetrators to justice. The Government has also identified the need to do more to prevent violence against women and girls.

The Government has set a clear strategic direction for hate crime. Victims of hate crime must be encouraged to report hate crime so that we can target our work more effectively and provide protection and support.

Our key challenges

Protecting vulnerable people from harm presents some complex challenges. Domestic abuse remains under-reported. It will be important that victims have the confidence to report domestic abuse so that they can benefit from effective support.

The Government has identified that more needs to be done to prevent violence against women and girls. Our focus will need to be on men as well as women through 'Provision, Prevention and Protection'; in line with national plans.

The Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment concluded that under-reporting of Hate Crime is significant. In order to meet this challenge the Safe Durham Partnership will need to support the Hate Crime Action Plan and target increases in hate crime reporting. Addressing the under-reporting of Hate Crime will remain at the heart of our approach. However, the long term goal is to see evidence of a reduction in the actual incidence of hate crime in County Durham.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Provide protection and support to improve outcomes for victims of domestic abuse and their children - whilst working towards preventing its occurrence within County Durham

- Prevent abuse from happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early to prevent it;
- Take action to reduce the risk to people who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice; and,
- Provide adequate support where abuse does occur and work in partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families.

Tackle sexual violence and the negative impact it has on individuals and families

- Prevent sexual violence and sexual exploitation and reduce the associated harm;
- Ensure that all victims of sexual violence have the access to the right help and support throughout the criminal justice process and that services are available to address their needs; and,
- Improve the criminal justice response to tackling sexual violence and sexual exploitation.

Reduce the impact of Hate Crime

- Improve confidence to report;
- Provide support for victims of hate crime and incidents; and,
- Raise awareness of the issue across organisations and the general public.

How we will know we have achieved success

- Repeat incidents of domestic violence;
- Percentage of investigations completed within 28 days following strategy meeting;
- Proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure; and.
- The number of adult safeguarding referrals fully or partially substantiated
- Number of Hate Incidents reported.

Reduce re-offending

Why this is a priority objective

The Government objective for reducing crime and reducing the number of victims shows a continued focus on re-offending, particularly for persistent re-offenders.

It is necessary to continue our approach to prioritise the effective management of the most difficult, chaotic and persistent offenders and to reduce the number of children and young people entering the criminal justice system.

There is still more to be done to address the needs of offenders before they become prolific and fixed in their attitudes and behaviours. With reducing resources and ongoing reforms, more emphasis must be placed on joining up service delivery to provide more robust support.

Our key challenges

The 2013 Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment has identified that adult offender health assessments show mental health has become the issue of greatest need, while a recent assessment of young people who offend has identified a range of health needs and in particular that of Speech, Language and Communication.

The Strategic Assessment described how nationally identified risks associated to women offenders are reflected locally. These include abuse, anxiety and depression, substance misuse, safe accommodation, vulnerability from male offenders and leaving behind dependent children when entering prison.

The Strategic Assessment also raised a concern about the potential impact of welfare reform on offending.

Although County Durham has the lowest rate across the region for the national 'all proven offending' measure it remains higher than the national average. The task to provide an offender profile is challenging. Most offenders in this cohort are not managed by any formal offender management.

The Ministry of Justice 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme sets out proposals for reforming the delivery of offender services. The Partnership will need to provide strategic level co-ordination, overseeing the transitional arrangements of offender management services for County Durham.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Prevent intergenerational offending

- Maintain and develop pre-court assessments and interventions for young people;
- Reduce First Time Entrants to the youth justice system;
- Reduce alcohol related offending by young people;
- Improve exit strategies after statutory supervision and pathways into mainstream services, particularly for young people aged 16 to 18 years;

- Develop pathways and access for identified health needs of young people who offend (with a focus on Speech, Language and Communication needs); and,
- Continue to improve and develop our 'Think Family' approach for identified offenders and their families.

Prevent repeat offending

- Manage offence related needs (critical pathways*) of prolific offenders in order to stop their offending;
- Maintain and develop support for women offenders and women vulnerable to offending;
- Conduct further mental health research to enhance our understanding and ability to respond to offender needs and links to health support services;
- Ensure offenders are retained in effective drug treatment, drug recovery and abstinence;
- Develop and promote victim involvement within restorative practices;
- Reduce the impact of offending behaviour on public confidence;
- Improve partnership performance of the single re-offending measure;
- Develop local transitional arrangements for the Governments Transforming Rehabilitation program to improve the management of offenders;
- Implement Association of North East Councils and National Offender Management Service recommendations on 'Reducing Reoffending in the North East: Improving joint working between local authorities and prisons'; and,
- Analyse the impact of Welfare Reform; monitor this in the Force Threat and Risk Group and assess against regional neighbours and most similar Forces.

* The critical pathways are: Accommodation; Drug and Alcohol Misuse; Financial Management and Income; Education, Training and Employability; Children and Families; Health; Attitudes; and Thinking and Behaviour.

How we will know we have achieved success

- Percentage change in detected crimes for offenders in the Integrated Offender Management cohort over the last 12 months; and,
- First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System.

Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction

Why this is a priority objective

The cost of dealing with alcohol harm in County Durham is estimated at £211.72m each year. Alcohol and substance misuse contribute to a significant proportion of crime and anti-social behaviour, especially violent crime, and cross-cuts every other thematic priority outlined within this Plan. Alcohol is a contributory factor in many incidents of domestic abuse and sexual violence and has strong links to child sexual exploitation in the county. It is also a significant factor in child neglect and child protection. Alcohol consumption plays a substantial part in homicides and domestic homicides in County Durham. Alcohol misuse causes harm to people's health, mental health and can impact on the ability of individuals to access or sustain employment.

Drug misuse is a serious issue not only to the health and wellbeing of the individual that is affected by it, but that of their families and the wider community. Tackling drug misuse requires a coordinated approach involving a whole range of partners. It is not just the responsibility of organisations however; individuals and the wider community all have a role to play in reducing and preventing drug misuse.

People in County Durham have told us that underage drinking and drug use/abuse are two of the top three issues they want the police and partners to tackle.

Our key challenges

County Durham is well below the national rate in terms of alcohol related crime. The challenge is to ensure alcohol related crime is recorded effectively as this will be an important part of delivering our outcomes. Alcohol related crime and disorder is now less focused around our town and city centres and is more dispersed in its nature, this has significant implications for how we control and prevent alcohol related harm.

Alcohol related crime and disorder is problematic and our ability to make a significant impact is compounded by national factors such as welfare reform, changes in commissioning structures and limited resources. Increasing opposition from the alcohol industry to any form of initiative to control the availability and affordability of alcohol, such as 'Early Morning Restriction Orders', and the failure to secure a minimum unit price for alcohol are two additional barriers to achieving our outcomes.

The Safe Durham Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board are in the process of developing a drug strategy aimed at preventing harm, restricting supply and sustaining a future for individuals to live a drug free and healthy life, whilst minimising the impact on communities and families. The development and implementation of the strategy, and its action plans, will be a key focus for the two partnerships over the life time of this Plan.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities

- Raise public awareness of alcohol related harm in County Durham;
- Training and education to support individuals, professionals and the community;
- Engage with children and young people to develop information, activities, services and education;
- Increase intelligence to reduce the number of alcohol related incidents and offending;
- Engage with licensees and ensure licensed premises are managed responsibly;
- Coordinated approach to policy development, planning and adoption of legislation;
- Commission and deliver effective treatment and recovery services and undertake work to identify the needs of particular groups; and,
- Involve and support young people, families and carers living with alcohol related issues to break the cycle of alcohol misuse.

Reduce the harm caused by drugs/substances - through prevention, restricting supply and building recovery

- Increase awareness and understanding of drugs in order to reduce drug use across the population
- Have fewer people taking up drug use (2 & 3 to merge)
- Break the inter-generational path to drug use and dependency
- Reduce the supply of drugs and number of drug related incidents impacting upon communities and families.
- Ensure recovery is understood and visible in the community
- Support people to successfully recover from their dependency, addressing both their health and social needs arising from their drug use
- Involve and support families and carers living with drug related issues

How we will know we have achieved success

- Rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 for alcohol related harm;
- Percentage of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment;
- Perception of people drinking and causing a nuisance in public spaces;
- Perception of underage drinking and sale of alcohol to youths;
- Percentage of alcohol related violent crime;
- Percentage of alcohol related domestic violence;
- Percentage of alcohol related anti-social behaviour incidents;
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – opiates;
- Percentage of successful completions of those in drug treatment – non opiates; and,
- Perception of drug use / drug dealing.

Embed the Think Family approach

Why this is a priority objective

A small number of families require a disproportionate amount of support. In the case of families facing multiple challenges, they often receive services from several separate services in response to a range of needs. Think Family focuses specifically on the needs of these families.

‘Think Family’ means taking a broader view by ensuring that both parents and children are able to get the support they need, at the right time, to help their children achieve good outcomes. It means making sure that families receive integrated, coordinated, multi-agency, solution focused support. By identifying problems early, all services can work closely together to help prevent a family’s needs escalating and requiring more intensive intervention. For many families their complex needs can result in offending behaviour or victimisation and so it is important that Think Family is embedded and integrated into the service models used by the Safe Durham Partnership. Equally, this approach can have a significant impact on crime and disorder outcomes and presents an opportunity to improve performance.

Our Stronger Families programme was put in place in response to the national Troubled Families programme. The intention is to work with over 1,320 families who

are not in school, are not in work are involved in crime and anti-social behaviour and result in high cost services, by March 2015. We are doing this by ensuring all agencies working with these families work effectively together using a 'Think Family' multi-agency approach to meet the needs of whole families, rather than focussing only on the child or adult's needs in isolation.

Our key challenges

It will be important to ensure offender management service staff utilise Think Family as part of their mainstream role.

The process of integrating Think Family into Multi Agency Problem Solving comes at a time when Multi Agency Problem Solving is undergoing significant transformation.

It will be important to ensure that national targets for nominations into the Stronger Families programme are met and that referrals are increased.

Our outcome and how we will deliver it

Embed Think Family into offender and victim services as part of the prevention and 'early help' approach

- Integrated Think Family into Multi-Agency Problem Solving;
- Build and develop the 'Stronger Families' programme into the anti-social behaviour interventions protocol;
- Continue to improve and develop our 'Think Family' approach to identified offenders and their families;
- Increase the whole family approach to the delivery of drug recovery services; and,
- Integrate Think Family into Domestic Abuse services in order that existing services providing intensive family support draw upon additional support networks.

How we will know we have achieved success

Percentage of families where a successful intervention for crime/anti-social behaviour is achieved (of those allocated a Lead Professional).

The Think Family programme will also contribute to performance measures across other priority themes.

Counter terrorism and prevention of 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.

There is a clear structure in place that supports the delivery of the CONTEST Strategy which provides oversight of a multi-agency agenda and performance. Gold (Chief Executive), Silver (Strategic Delivery) and Bronze (Operational) multi-agency

groups are in place and are represented by all key sectors* that understand the risk of radicalisation and their obligation to ensure terrorist ideologies, and those that promote them, do not go uncontested. It will be important to maintain such a response in order to align with all elements of the national CONTEST strategy.

Our key challenges

Maintaining a strong understanding of the 'Prevent' objectives, the drivers of terrorism and a strong, tried and tested Safeguarding Referral Programme, called 'Channel', will be the three important elements of stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

It will be important that all key sectors are delivering a range of tools to ensure key members of staff, and others, have a good understanding of how to recognise those vulnerable, or subject, to radicalisation and know how to respond. These challenges have formed part of a wider review to be implemented over the life of this plan.

*Key sectors include: Schools, Further and Higher Education, Prisons, Probation, Health, Youth Offending, Faith Establishments and the Internet.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Implement the 'CONTEST' (national strategy)

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support;
- Work with key sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address;
- Improve Preparedness for the highest risks in the national risk assessment;
- Maintain and develop partnership Counter Terrorism Counter Terrorism Security Groups across County Durham; and
- Deliver Argus events across County Durham to help businesses understand how to prevent, handle and recover from a terrorist attack.

Challenge extremism and intolerance

- Implement a cohesion action plan in cases where a community presents risks from extremist groups.

How we will know we have achieved success

The PREVENT Self-Assessment is the formal mechanism through which the Safe Durham Partnership will manage performance. The self-assessment is a qualitative measure for each of the three PREVENT objectives and enables the partnership to arrive at a score for each criterion that is a fair reflection of where local partners are in terms of delivery on the basis of clear evidence. A self-assessment matrix is used to assess the level of performance of the Safe Durham Partnership against position statements that progress from 1 to 5; where 5 is a high score.

Road Casualty Reduction

Why this is a priority

Although there has been a considerable reduction in the number of road casualties over the last 10 years, the rates of reduction in County Durham are not as high as other areas. However, County Durham has a significant roads network which present risks that many other areas do not have to contend with.

Speeding vehicles has been of particular concern to people in County Durham for many years and opportunities exist to reduce that concern as this issue cuts across both the anti-social behaviour and road casualty objectives.

Our key challenges

The county still has a higher rate of child casualties than most other English local authorities. However, this is offset by higher levels of vehicle traffic. There is a significant increase in all types of child casualties around school opening and closing times during the week. Over 50% of people surveyed had a high perception of speeding vehicles and raising public confidence is an issue.

Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

Improve education and raise awareness of road safety

- Deliver road safety education in schools, colleges, youth centres, children's centres and nurseries;
- Deliver road safety training including child pedestrian training, Bikeability Training and EXCErate young driver training in schools and colleges;
- Produce and deliver a partnership road safety publicity campaign;
- Continue to deliver driver training courses for business drivers, young drivers and older drivers;
- Deliver a rider training programme for motorcycle riders; and,
- Undertake a road safety audit to ensure that children and young people in high prevalence areas are receiving road safety education.

Improve health and wellbeing of communities through casualty reduction

- Deliver road safety initiatives and events linked to road safety themed weeks;
- Investigate developing further resources for schools;
- Develop road safety standards through Road Safety GB and the National Staff Training group;
- School nurses to deliver road safety education as part of their school nursing specification; and,
- Deliver a programme of car seat checking clinics across all major conurbations.

Develop a safer road environment

- Deliver community speed watch and camera enforcement programme;
- Develop road safety action plans in response to PACT priorities;
- Develop a Speed Management Strategy to address both excess and inappropriate speed;
- Implement physical changes to the road environment in response to road casualty data;

- Target the problem of inappropriate speed as part of public confidence plans led by the ASB anti-social behaviour thematic group;
- Target a reduction in Child Road Casualties both on the journey to school and with local communities; and,
- Implement a revised speed management policy.

How we will know we have achieved success

- Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads; and,
- Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads.

6. Contact Details

If you have any questions or comments about this document please contact us:

E-mail: community.safety@durham.gov.uk

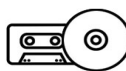
Telephone: 03000 265436

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