

Altogether  
**safer**

Safe Durham Partnership

## Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015 - 2018



## Contents

<b>1. Foreword</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. National Policy</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. The Safe Durham Partnership</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5. Progress and Achievements</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7. Cross-Cutting Themes</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>8. Summary of Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes</b>	<b>25</b>
Reduce anti-social behaviour	25
Protect vulnerable people from harm	27
Reduce re-offending	29
Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction	31
Embed the 'Think Family' approach	33
Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism	35
Road casualty reduction	37
<b>10. Monitoring Success of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>11. Abbreviations / Glossary of Terms</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>12. Contact details</b>	<b>40</b>

## 1. Foreword

### Welcome to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2015-18.

**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 previous Partnership Plan in 2014, we explained how our commitment to working in partnership had ensured real and tangible improvements to the quality of life of our communities.

Since 2009 and the formation of the Safe Durham Partnership, recorded crime has reduced by 20.4% (Qtr 1 to Qtr 3). Despite a forecast for a small increase in 2014/15 we continue to have one of the lowest crime rates in the country and during the last three years we have built upon our previous success and experienced further reductions in anti-social behaviour, fewer young people in the criminal justice system and reduced rates of re-offending. We continue to strengthen the support for victims of domestic abuse and provide more opportunities for offenders to recover from drug and alcohol misuse.

Working in partnership is crucial if we are to meet existing and emerging challenges and work towards achieving our vision in this time of significant change in the public sector. The Safe Durham Partnership Plan for 2015-18 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 and charities in our Partnership working and respond to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in this Plan in order to deliver an 'Altogether Safer' and 'Altogether Better' Durham.



**Rachael Shimmin** Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council



**Councillor Lucy Hovvels** Vice Chair of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and Portfolio Holder for Safer and Healthier Communities, Durham County Council

## 2. Introduction

The Safe Durham Partnership has a statutory 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 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 provides 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.

The purpose of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan is to build on the significant achievements of the last five years since the Partnership was formed as part of Local Government Review. It will continue to demonstrate new and innovative approaches as we 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.

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.

The Plan also identifies how the partnership will respond to the impact of national policy changes and new and emerging risks, such as the impact of Welfare Reforms and austerity measures.

An annual refresh of the Plan will take place to ensure that any new and emerging policies, risks and consultation feedback 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.



Safe Durham Partnership

## 3. National Policy

Since 2010 the Safe Durham Partnership has operated in a time of significant change in the public sector. Key statutory partners who make up the Safe Durham Partnership Board have faced reductions in expenditure and resources. Home Office grants to the Safe Durham Partnership have also significantly reduced.

In 2011 some legislation and performance requirements relating to the Safe Durham Partnership were repealed, however, many of the statutory requirements placed on the responsible authorities remain. The Partnership no longer operates in the context of a National Community Safety Strategy but there are key thematic policy drivers which influence our strategic direction.

### Key Policy Drivers

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014**

The Act introduced new powers to tackle anti-social behaviour that provide better protection for victims and communities. The new Community Trigger and Community Remedy will empower victims and communities, giving them a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour and in out-of-court sanctions for offenders. The Safe Durham Partnership has worked with the Police and Crime Commissioner to implement the new measures contained within the Act which commenced in October 2014.

#### **Transforming Rehabilitation: A Strategy for Reform**

The Transforming Rehabilitation Programme sets out the Government's plans to transform the way in which offenders are managed in the community, in order to bring down re-offending rates. The programme of reform laid out in 'Transforming Rehabilitation' continues at speed with tight and challenging deadlines in place.

The key aspects of the reforms are:

- The creation of a new public sector National Probation Service to manage high risk offenders, (which took place in June 2014)
- The creation of twenty one regional private sector Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) managing all other offenders, (share sale due in March 2015)
- Every offender released from custody will receive statutory supervision and rehabilitation in the community
- A nationwide 'through the prison gate' resettlement service will be put in place, meaning most offenders are given continuous support by one provider from custody into the community. Offenders are held in a prison designated to their area for at least three months before release
- New payment by results incentives for CRCs to focus on reforming offenders

#### **Police and Crime Commissioners**

In November 2012 the first Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham and Darlington was elected, replacing Police Authorities who were a responsible authority on the Safe Durham Partnership. A range of funding streams were transferred from the Safe Durham Partnership to the Police and Crime Commissioner in April 2013. The Safe Durham Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner work collaboratively on shared strategic objectives within the Police and Crime Plan including domestic abuse, hate crime, anti-social behaviour, tackling the harm caused to individuals by alcohol and drugs, improving road safety, reducing re-offending and increasing public confidence.

### 3. National Policy

#### **New Domestic Abuse Measures**

In March 2014 the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (known as Clare's Law) was extended to police forces across England and Wales. It follows a successful 14-month pilot in four police force areas, which provided more than 100 people with potentially life-saving information. It is a scheme allowing police to disclose to individuals details of their partners' abusive past.

Further protection has been provided through the introduction of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs); a new power introduced by the Crime and Security Act 2010. It enables the police to put in place protection for the victim in the immediate aftermath of a domestic violence incident. Under DVPOs, the perpetrator can be prevented from returning to a residence and from having contact with the victim for up to 28 days, allowing the victim a level of breathing space to consider their options, with the help of a support agency. This provides the victim with immediate protection.

#### **Counter Terrorism and Security Bill 2014**

The threat to the UK from the terrorist organisation 'Islamic State' has resulted in the threat level to the UK being raised to 'Severe'. This means that an attack is highly likely.

The Government has responded to this threat by introducing the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill.

The Bill places a duty on certain bodies to have '*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*'.

The Bill puts 'Channel' on a statutory footing. Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It forms a key part of the Government's *Prevent* strategy which aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting any form of terrorism. Channel seeks to:

- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity;
- Ensure that individuals and communities have the ability to resist all forms of terrorism and violent extremist activity likely to lead to terrorism.

The Channel process identifies those most at risk of radicalisation, and refers them, via the police, for assessment by a multi-agency panel. The panel considers how best to safeguard them by ensuring they have access to support from mainstream services, such as health and education, through to specialist mentoring or faith guidance and wider diversionary activities. Each support package is monitored closely and reviewed regularly by the multi-agency panel.

Specified authorities (Local Authorities, Police, Education, Probation, Prisons and Health) will all have a duty, while in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

## 3. National Policy

### Cyber Crime

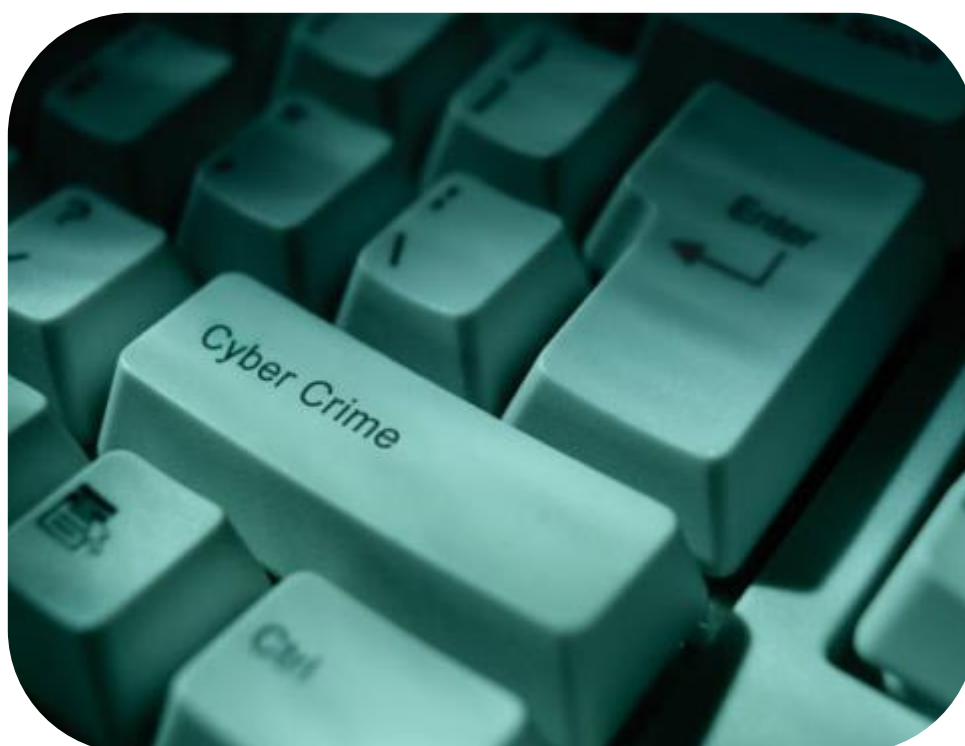
In November 2013 the Government published a progress update on its National Cyber Security Strategy

The first year saw activity across a wide range of areas and with many partners, generating increasing momentum across the National Cyber Security Programme. Key enabling structures and capabilities were introduced or enhanced, and groundwork laid. Over the past year the Government has built on this groundwork to deliver real progress. This year will be about cementing that progress and filling gaps where work to date has shown there is more to do.

The Governments forward plan will focus on the core goals of:

- Further deepening our national sovereign capability to detect and defeat high-end threats
- Ensuring law enforcement has the skills and capabilities needed to tackle cyber-crime and maintain the confidence needed to do business on the Internet
- Ensuring critical UK systems and networks are robust and resilient
- Improving cyber awareness and risk management amongst UK business
- Ensuring members of the public know what they can do to protect themselves, and are demanding good cyber security in the products and services they consume
- Bolstering cyber security research and education, so we have the skilled people and know-how we need to keep pace with this fast-moving issue into the medium-term
- Working with international partners to bear down on havens for cybercrime and build capacity, and to help shape international dialogue to promote an open, secure and vibrant cyberspace.

Additional information is to be included



## 4. 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 and Rescue Authority
- National Probation Service
- ARRC (Achieving Real Results in Communities) – the Community Rehabilitation Company for Durham and Tees Valley area
- North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group

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 through our strategic and operational structures, as well as representation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

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 2014-17 Partnership Plan
- Identify key crime and disorder risks and threats to the community

As part of the strategic assessment process we consult with stakeholders and communities on community safety issues that matter to them. Community priorities have been fed into this Plan through the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings, public confidence surveys and through consultation with bodies such as the Area Action Partnerships and the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(CRC logo to be included when received)

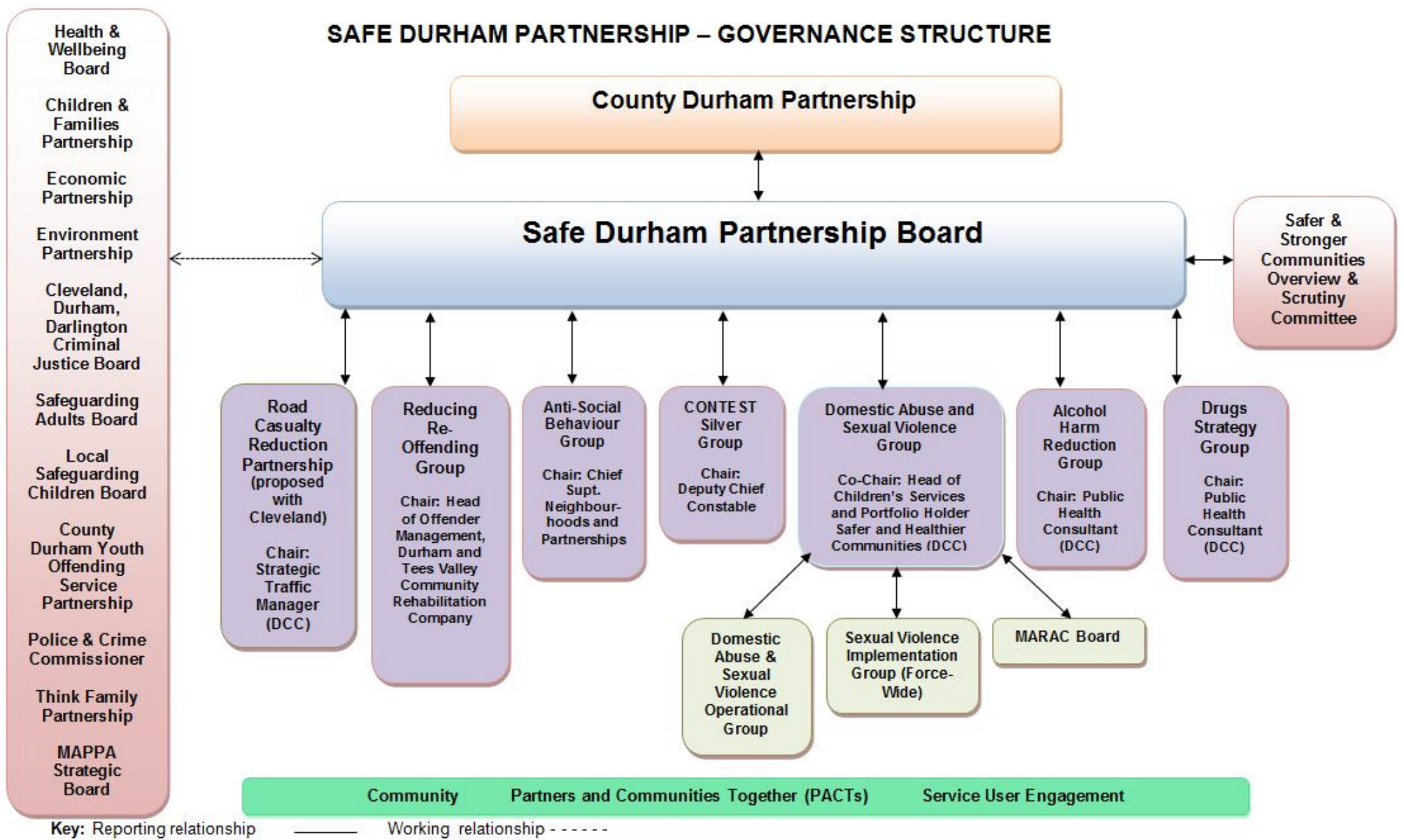




## 4. The Safe Durham Partnership

The Community Safety landscape has changed over recent years along with NHS and Probation reforms which have changed the statutory membership of the Safe Durham Partnership Board.

This presented an opportunity to review the Safe Durham Partnership governance arrangements which is represented within the Safe Durham Partnership Governance Structure.



## 5. Progress and Achievements

### Reduced levels of crime

Since the Safe Durham Partnership was formed in 2009 there has been a reduction in overall crime. At the end of December 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership reported that the number of crimes was 19,585, a reduction of 20% compared to 2009-10. However, the period 2013-14 showed a 9.4% rise compared to the previous year and in 2014-15 crime is forecasted to rise by 4.4%. This is in the context of a rise nationally and rates per 1,000 population remain lower than other areas of the region and nationally.

### Fewer complaints of anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Durham Constabulary reduced from 24,276 in 2013-14 to a forecasted outturn of 23,207 in 2014-15. This represents a forecasted reduction of 4.4% reduction.

### Significant 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. Since 2007-08 we have achieved an 81% reduction from 1,129 young people in 2007-08. There have been 159 first time entrants in April -December 2014-15.

### Reduced re-offending by young people

Data from the Ministry of Justice shows we have reduced re-offending by young people by 30% (frequency rate) in 2014-15 compared to the same period the previous year. This includes all offences and all young people offending (pre and post court).

### Reduced the number of young people offending and offences committed

We have achieved a xx% reduction in the number of offences committed by young people (from 2,464 offences in 2010-11 to xxxx in 2014-15) and a xx% reduction in the number of young people offending (from 1,270 in 2010-11 to xxx in 2014-15).

### Low rates of re-offending

County Durham has the lowest rate across the region for the national reducing re-offending measure, however, it remains fractionally higher than the national average. The proportion of all offenders (adults & juveniles) re-offending in a 12-month period in County Durham was 26.7% (Jan 12 - Dec 12). That is 0.7% higher than the national figure of 26% (Jan 12 - Dec 12).

### Low rates of repeat victimisation for victims of domestic abuse

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. 14.6% of domestic abuse victims (April – December) at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference were repeat victims of domestic abuse against a national target of 25%.

### Reduction in road casualties in County Durham

In 2013 the number of casualties on County Durham roads reduced by 11% and in 2014 reduced by a further xx%. This means that from the baseline average of 1,368 casualties, the total number of road casualties has reduced by xx%. The number of children aged 0-15 reduced at an even greater rate; by xx%.

### Alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour has reduced

Alcohol related crime is showing a reduction of 1.0% (Apr – Dec) against last year.

### County Durham is in the top 20% 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. In October 2014 County Durham was currently ranked 19th highest, of 152 Troubled Families programmes nationally, based on the total number of families 'turned around' at 932.

## 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

The Safe Durham Partnership has demonstrated an approach aimed at maintaining strong performance. Key improvement areas include an early intervention approach to tackling problem families and locations, tackling the harm caused by alcohol 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 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 has 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.

Between 2011 and 2015 the Safe Durham Partnership delivered an extensive programme of initiatives, including:

### **Tackling Domestic Abuse**

In September 2013 Durham County Council commissioned Harbour to deliver a countywide domestic abuse service. In support of this Partnership priority, the domestic abuse service will be widened from April 2015 to provide a holistic service focussed on early intervention, including the development of a pilot perpetrator programme. Durham University have been commissioned to evaluate the pilot.

A domestic abuse referral pathway has been agreed and was launched in December 2014 as part of the multi-agency 'Sorry's Not Enough' campaign. The campaign includes a dedicated website for the public highlighting how to get help and a separate login page for professionals to access documents like training and policy materials, as well as the domestic abuse referral pathway document and other materials rebranded for professionals – [www.sorrystnotenough.co.uk](http://www.sorrystnotenough.co.uk)

As a result of recommendations in a number of Domestic Homicide Review reports, a multi-agency training programme for professionals has been agreed.

CAADA have reviewed our approach to MARAC and a number of improvement actions have been put in place, including MARAC training to increase the number of referrals from agencies in addition to those from the police. In the period October 2013-2014 the number of cases referred to MARAC was 732, compared to 558 during October 2012-October 2013.

Plans are in place to build on the current Central Referral Unit with the implementation of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in Spring 2015.

### **Restorative approaches**

In 2012 the Safe Durham Partnership Board proposed a framework for the introduction of partnership integrated restorative practice, with the aim of creating a culture of restorative approaches throughout our communities and within partner agencies and services.

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.



### 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

The willingness of partners to adopt restorative approaches into working practices was clear; however there was a need to co-ordinate practice into an overarching strategy. The Partnership convened a task and finish group to bring about whole systems change, connect existing work, align working practice and terminology, use efficiencies and best practice to expand the reach and scope of restorative approaches and to do this within existing funding and resources.

Today, some of 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 has expanded restorative justice across all orders within existing resources. Restorative approaches now underpins everything the Youth Offending Service does.

A comprehensive training programme 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.

In July 2014 the Safe Durham Partnership was awarded 'Runners Up' in the Restorative Justice category of the national Howard League Community Programme Awards. Representatives of the Partnership were presented with an award by HRH Princess Royal at the national conference.

'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. 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.

#### Reducing re-offending

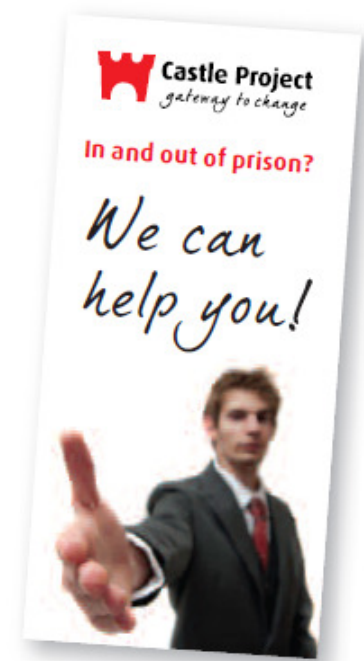
The Integrated Offender Management programme (known as the Castle Project) for adult offenders provides all agencies engaged in local criminal justice with a single coherent structure for the management of repeat adult offenders. Development and refinement of the programme is continuous and the Safe Durham Partnership consistently explores new ways to manage offenders.

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

#### Checkpoint

Whilst the concept of managing adult offenders through partnership is embedded within our Integrated Offender Management units, the aim of 'Checkpoint' is to extend our integrated offender principles to a wider lower level adult cohort by transforming the way we deal with offenders through police custody suites. Currently, cautions, arrest, attendance at court etc. do not provide the adult offender with access to support functions to address their offending behaviour. Most are leaving the Criminal Justice System with little or no consideration of the causes of their offending or its management. Checkpoint will provide a credible alternative to police custody by identifying and supporting the critical pathways of need with the result that low level adult offenders are diverted away from the Criminal Justice System, (or exit the Criminal Justice System at an earlier stage), while also addressing the underlying cause of their offending behaviour.

Our approach will mean fewer victims, fewer crimes, reduced service demand and increased resilience of those people vulnerable to offending.



### 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

#### **Fully integrated pre-court/out of court system for young people who offend**

County Durham continues to be lower than the North East region and its statistical neighbours for first time entrants to the youth justice system. 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/out of court system provides early assessment of need and intervention to prevent re-offending. The Pre-Caution Disposal provides an alternative to a formal sanction. It improves young people's life chances by ensuring that their needs are identified and met and that they avoid being criminalised.

We have reduced first time entrants by 81.4% (from 1129 young people in 2007/08 to 210 in 2013/14) and reduced re-offending – resulting in a 47.7% reduction in the number of offences committed and a 50.5% reduction in the number of young people offending (2010/11 to 2013/14).

#### **Speech, Language and Communication Needs of young people who offend**

National research suggests that 60-90% of young people in the youth justice system have speech, language and communication needs (SLCN). County Durham Youth Offending Service has implemented a comprehensive, innovative Speech, Language and Communication Needs Strategy to address this.

Phase 1 (March – Sept 2014) has focussed on improving how we communicate with young people who offend - upskilling our staff to better recognise and meet young people's SLCN; the implementation of a screening tool and pathway to specialist Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Services; and the development of a new range of communication friendly resources.

Phase 2 (Oct 14 – March 15) is focussing on the communication needs of young victims of youth crime to help them to better understand and engage in restorative processes.

Phase 3 (2015/16) will ensure dedicated SLT provision in CDYOS to assess and deliver therapy directly to young people with whom we work and support staff to implement strategies to best engage them. The aim of the SLCN strategy is to further reduce re-offending.

#### **Alcohol seizure project**

In 2011 the Safe Durham Partnership 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' (who provide 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.



## 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

### 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 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 have had similar experiences. It offers a secondary programme after graduation to help with education, employment, training and ongoing recovery support. Since opening in December 2011, **xx** individuals have successfully graduated from the academy and have been involved in shaping the new County Durham Drug Strategy.

In recognition of the developing and thriving 'recovery community' Durham is to be the host city of the National Recovery Walk in September 2015.

### 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. The last audit of Neighbourhood Watch schemes was carried out in September 2014. It confirms that County Durham has a higher percentage of households in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme than anywhere else in the country. A range of initiatives have been put in place by Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, achieving demonstrable success including its continued support for 'Safer Homes'.



### Safer Homes

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 over 4,000 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 efficiencies 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.

The Safer Homes Scheme was established in 2013. Funded and supported by Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary, it is delivered by volunteer Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. 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.

Over 4,500 homes have received support from the two initiatives and our success has been rewarded with £500,000 of Transformation Challenge Award funding to extend the scope and scale of 'Safer Homes'.



## 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

### 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 2014/15. A total of 14,206 accessed courses in driver, pedestrian and cycle training along with education in schools, colleges, children's centres and nurseries.

### Stronger Families

In April 2012, the Government launched the Troubled Families Programme, known locally as the Stronger Families Programme, to incentivise local authorities and their partners to turn around the lives of over 120,000 families by May 2015. Phase 1 of this programme aimed to work with families where children are not attending school, young people are committing crime, families are involved in anti-social behaviour and adults are out of work.

The County Durham Stronger Families Programme is currently on track to turn around its targeted number of 1320 families by May 2015. Families have received help and support delivered with a 'Think Family' multi-agency approach coordinated by a Lead Professional and a Team around the Family utilising a single multi-agency care plan in order to reduce duplication and maximise impact.

In June 2014, the Government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme for a further five years from 2015/16 and to reach an additional 400,000 families across England, for Durham this means an additional 4000 families will be targeted. Due to County Durham's success in turning around the lives of families on the Stronger Families Programme it has been asked to enter the expanded programme early.

The expanded programme will continue to focus on families with multiple high cost problems and continue to include families affected by poor school attendance, youth crime, anti-social behaviour and unemployment. However, it will also reach out to families with a broad range of problems, including those affected by domestic violence and abuse, with younger children who need help, where crime and anti-social behaviour problems may become intergenerational and those with a range of physical and mental health problems.

The programme will continue to prioritise getting adults into work, with the Department for Work and Pensions providing 300 specialist troubled families employment advisers who will also work with young people at risk of becoming unemployed.

### Building resilience to terrorism and extremism

County Durham is one of the safest places to live in England, and continues to benefit from resources and expertise used to build our local resilience against the threat of terrorism.

Since 2008 partner organisations have been working together to prevent people from becoming a terrorist 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 the national strategy CONTEST and understand how their work connects with regional, national and international efforts.

Our local plans reflect the national strategy which requires us to deliver a



### 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

response proportionate to the risks we face and to only engage in activity which is necessary to address those risks. Our most recent self-assessment scores the Partnership as 4 out of 5 for building resilience to terrorism.

#### **Organised crime**

Organised crime is serious crime planned, co-ordinated and conducted by people working together on a continuing basis. Their motivation is often, but not always, financial gain.

In 2012 the Safe Durham Partnership began work to build upon the achievements of Durham Constabulary which included establishing an Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel. This work resulted in the involvement of a range of services, making available new resources and legal powers. The scope of the panel increased and it now provides interventions, such as raising community awareness of issues such as loan sharks through our Area Action Partnerships.

The publication of the new national Serious and Organised Crime Strategy demonstrates how County Durham is at an advanced stage of development, with Durham Constabulary already providing advice to other areas of the country in terms of 'lessons learnt'.

Education and awareness continues to be a key part of the work of the Safe Durham Partnership; helping people recognise serious and organised crime and encouraging them to report it. Staff and service awareness programmes have been put in place and specialist training provided to Fire Officers in terms of the dangers presented by the cultivation of cannabis in dwelling houses.

#### **Area Multi-Agency Problem-Solving Groups (MAPS)**

In 2013 we changed our approach to local problem-solving, at a geographical level, and rationalised our meetings structure from 11 Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving Groups to three groups across County Durham.

The groups operate a Tasking and Coordinating approach. This involves reviewing recent intelligence and performance, examining key issues raised by partners and multi-agency problem solving. Our approach is driven by intelligence from partner agencies, the community and 'Police and Community Together' meetings. Our Area Action Partnerships also have an opportunity to feed information in to the three groups.

The Safe Durham Partnership will work closely with Elected Members to ensure that community intelligence is fed into the multi-agency problem solving approach and to provide local leadership involvement in any neighbourhood problem-solving activity.

#### **Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS)**

The Safe Durham Partnership has developed a new and innovative Multi-Agency Intervention Service. The full implementation of the new model will take place across the county using a phased approach and will be completed in 2015.

The purpose of the service is to enhance partnership working and problem solving through an efficient and consistent approach that ensures crime and disorder interventions occur at an early stage. This involves improving the capture and sharing of information so that issues can be prevented from turning into a crisis. It includes improved analysis, a new model of case management and alignment with the 'First Contact Service' model which makes it easier for people to report issues of concern and ensures





### 6. Safe Durham Partnership Initiatives

more children will be helped at an early stage.

A centrally based multi-agency team will respond to individuals and households who have been identified as being in need of a partnership response due to being victims or perpetrators of a range of crime and disorder issues. In addition, staff from any agency will be able to refer individuals and families who require a multi-agency approach into the team so that an assessment can be made in terms of implementing a case management approach or referring to a specialist service.

This service also provides another example of the way in which the Safe Durham Partnership is embedding the 'Think Family' approach. Think Family is an approach that requires all agencies to consider the needs of the whole family when working with individual members of it. It encourages a broader view of need than that normally adopted. So, for example, the employment and housing needs of parents may be the key to unlocking improvements in mental health or parenting capacity. Social workers, health professionals, employment advisors and housing services will need to co-ordinate their efforts in order to secure long term improvements.

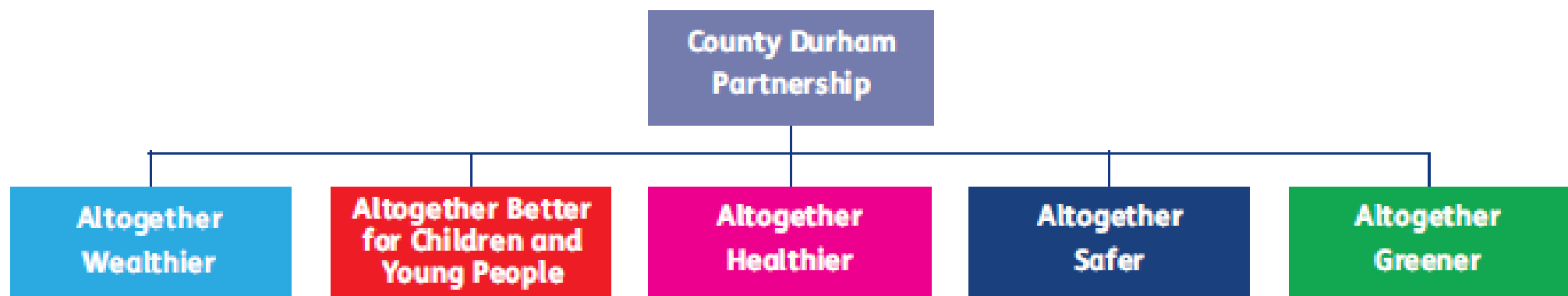
(To be further updated when the pilot has been completed).

#### **Hoarding**

Following a Coroner's report highlighting several issues relating to a hoarding related fire death the coroner wrote to Registered Social Landlords requesting action to eliminate or reduce the risk of death created by such circumstances.

As a result, work has been undertaken by Local Housing Forum, Housing Solutions the Safe Durham Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Adults Board to develop a multi-agency approach to hoarding and hoarding behaviours within local communities. Throughout 2014 we have worked with local housing providers and other agencies to create a multi-agency Hoarding toolkit; identify key points of contact; and establish clear roles and responsibilities. A one day conference was delivered in August 2014 to raise awareness of hoarding and hoarding behaviours whilst sharing local case studies and practical solutions. The multi-agency Hoarding toolkit is available on the County Durham Safeguarding Adults website (<http://www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info/Pages/HomePage.aspx>).

## 7. Cross-Cutting Themes



### 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 thematic 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 County Durham Partnership has identified six key cross-cutting areas for all the 'Altogether' thematic partnerships and the Area Action Partnerships to jointly focus on to shape and deliver cross-cutting issues. These cross-cutting issues already feature in thematic plans but partners recognise that a more collective approach will have a bigger impact, bring about lasting change that could not otherwise be achieved. We believe that this work will bring added value in the longer term.

These are:

- Job creation
- Volunteering
- Mental wellbeing
- Stronger Families
- Alcohol
- Reducing inequalities

This section describes some of the key cross-cutting issues and how the Safe Durham Partnership will contribute to these six themes and shared priorities of the other Thematic Partnerships.

### 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 Partnership's collective effort, responsibilities and key activities to deliver a step change toward its long term vision.

#### Increased employment

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 job creation is a cross-cutting issue for the County Durham Partnership. 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.

### 7. Cross Cutting Themes

Not being in education, employment or training is a future predictor of later unemployment, involvement in crime and poor mental health for young people. Our Youth Offending Service's Intensive Employability Programme has exceeded its targets to get young people who offend (some with extensive offending histories) into training and employment, and helped to reduce their re-offending. The success of the programme was recognised by a national award – winning the Youth Justice Award, Children and Young People Now Awards 2013.

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 young people with the tools to deliver the regeneration work and help them in their pursuit of employment in the building trade.



#### Altogether Healthier

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places a duty on local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups to develop a Joint Health and 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.'

One of the objectives in the strategy is 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. County Durham Youth Offending Service has achieved a 47.2% reduction in the number of alcohol related offences committed and a 45.1% reduction in the number of young people committing them (2010-11 to 2014-15 Qtr 1 & Qtr 2).

#### Illicit Tobacco

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. The work of the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention Panel to raise awareness of illicit tobacco will support the 'Smoke Free County Durham Tobacco Alliance'.

#### 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 2015-17 and the County Durham Drug Strategy 2014-17 have been jointly developed between the Healthier and Safer agendas. Alcohol is a key cross-cutting theme for the County Durham Partnership.

## 7. Cross Cutting Themes

### Mental Health

The 'No Health without Mental Health' Implementation Plan brings together all the strands of mental health and wellbeing to better support people who need it. This includes the following:

- The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat that provides joined up service responses to people who are suffering from mental health crisis. The Concordat is a commitment from organisations to prevent crises through prevention and early intervention. National organisations who have signed the concordat include NHS England, the Association of Directors of Adults Social Services, the Association of Directors of Children's Social Services, the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and the Home Office. Locally, this work is being taken forward through the Health and Wellbeing Board governance structures. The local declaration has been signed up to with a local action plan developed by 2015. This work is supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 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.
- Autism is a condition which is characterised by impaired social and communication skill. The County Durham Adult Autism Strategy: Action Plan aims to ensure adults with autism are dealt with appropriately and effectively in the local criminal justice service.

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. The Police and Crime Commissioner has also recognised improving services to victims and offenders in relation to mental health as a key strategic priority.

Vulnerable people suffering from mental health and/or alcohol issues with hoarding behaviours pose a specific fire death risk and a multi-agency approach is becoming increasingly important in tackling such issues within local communities. A multi-agency 'Hoarding Toolkit' has been developed to identify key points of contact and establish clear roles and responsibilities in relation to accidental fire prevention.

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, young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe and feel safe at all times. Both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safe Durham Partnership work in alignment and have a joint strategic objective to Protect Vulnerable People from Harm. The Safeguarding Framework outlines the joint working arrangements between the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) with the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Families Partnership and the Safe Durham Partnership. This framework ensures that robust arrangements are in place across the partnership boards who have a priority to protect children and adults from abuse and harm.



### Suicide Prevention

The development of effective strategies across partnerships to reduce the incidence of self-harm and suicide in the general population is a priority in County Durham. The Health and Wellbeing Board oversees the progress of suicide prevention and the Safe Durham Partnership monitors this work through the Performance Management Framework.

## 7. Cross Cutting Themes

### **Altogether Better for Children and Young People**

The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015-18 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.

The Early Help Strategy for Families demonstrates the importance of offering help to families at the earliest opportunity and as soon as needs are identified. It refers to help both in the early years of a child's life (including prenatal 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 them.

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 for the Safe Durham Partnership 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 being integrated into the new Multi- Agency Intervention Service for Safer Communities.



### **Altogether Greener**

The 2014 Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment identifies that 'Dog fouling' and 'Rubbish and litter' remain high on the list of public concern and affecting 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 2014-15 these four issues accounted for 77% (13,148 Quarter 1 to 3) of all recorded anti-social behaviour complaints received by Durham County Council. 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 to 'Reduce anti-social behaviour, low level crime and secondary deliberate fires.' 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.

### **Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Communities**

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities are one of the biggest ethnic minority groups in County Durham. Durham County Council's vision is to provide a co-ordinated approach to the provision of services to Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities and to tackle inequalities and ensure good community relations for all residents across County Durham.

### 7. Cross Cutting Themes

The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Strategic Action Plan 2014-17 has been developed across a range of services within Durham County Council in co-operation with key partners such as Durham Constabulary, with the aim of embedding a cohesive, partnership approach. The GRT Strategic Action Plan outcomes align with 5 of the County Durham Partnership's Thematic Partnerships: Altogether Wealthier; Altogether Healthier; Altogether Better for Children and Young People; Altogether Greener and Altogether Safer.

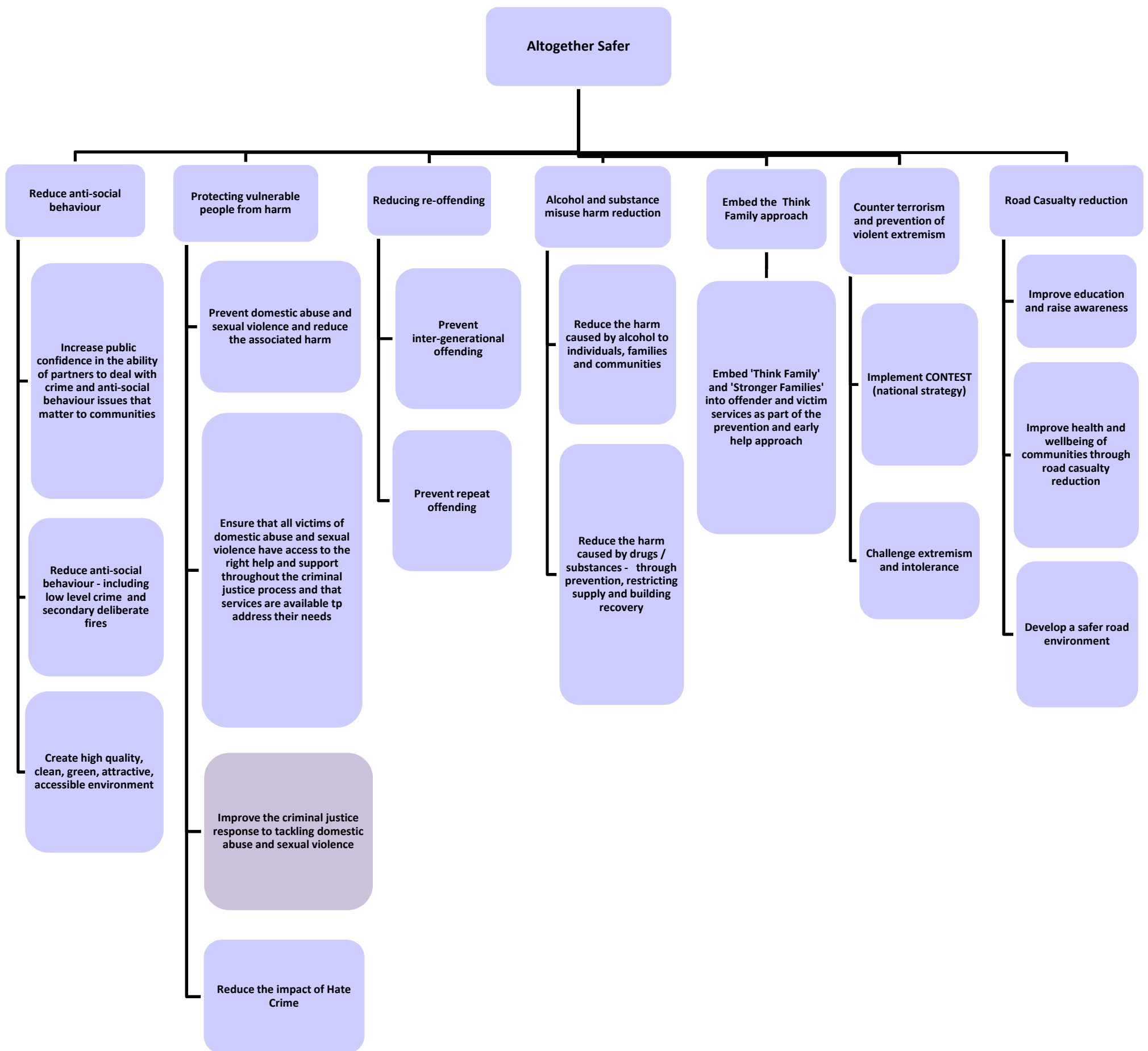
The work undertaken against the Altogether Safer Priority Theme - Creating a safer and more cohesive County - is supported by the Safe Durham Partnership as follows:

- Improve community cohesion by increasing awareness and understanding between Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities and residents of County Durham
- Tackling Hate Crime against Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities
- Breaking down cultural barriers in order to improve access to services such as police and community safety services.
- Ensure the effective management of Unauthorised Encampments and events, including the increase of Temporary Stop Over Areas.
- Ensure the effective management of Gypsy, Roma, Traveller events in County Durham

By working in partnership we will continue to celebrate the diversity and richness of all communities and support a co-ordinated approach to deliver a high level of service to the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities.

## 8. Summary of Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

The Safe Durham Partnership Board has agreed the priority objectives that 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).



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Reduce anti-social behaviour

#### Why this is a priority objective

Since forming in 2009, the Safe Durham Partnership has reported a reduction in reported anti-social behaviour incidents each year. However, anti-social behaviour is a key issue in terms of public confidence.

#### Our key challenges

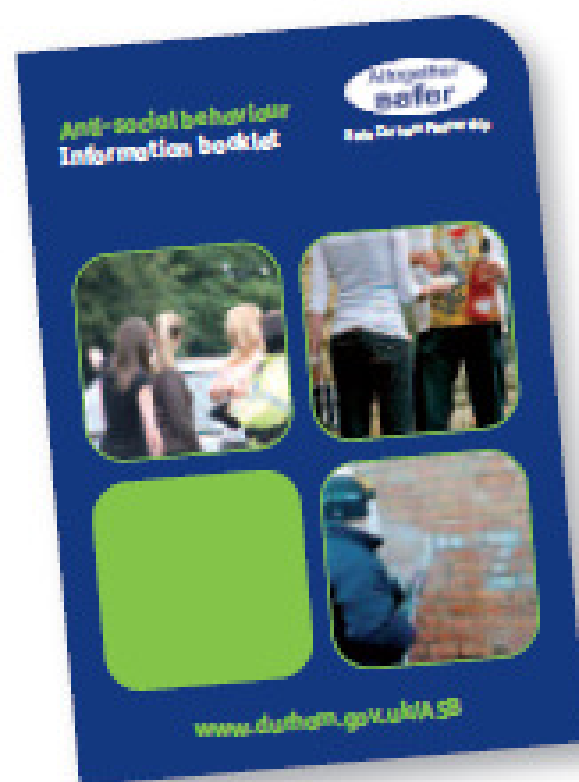
Criminal damage offences have reduced in recent years but this region has higher rates than in other parts of the country. It is a high volume crime that is visible to the community and can impact on confidence.

Evidence from the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment shows a significant number of incidents are reported to the council.

Despite reductions in levels of reported anti-social behaviour to the police, the public still perceive anti-social behaviour to be a problem. Latest figures (Q2 2014-15) show that 32.7% of people perceive anti-social behaviour as a problem in their area.

Specific issues which the public have raised include dog fouling, speeding traffic and rubbish lying around. Dog fouling was the third highest category of anti-social behaviour recorded by Durham County Council. Fly-tipping accounts for about a third of all incidents; street litter is also problematic with over 1,600 complaints to the council in Quarter 1 to 3 2014-15.

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.





## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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, drug use and drug dealing by informing them of action taken and outcomes of those actions
- Work with the Road Casualty Reduction Forum to tackle public concern about those who drive at inappropriate speeds



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

- Utilise intelligence and analysis to target measured reductions in anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and secondary deliberate fires
- Target increases in the number of families referred to, and turned around by, the 'Stronger Families' programme
- 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'

#### How we will measure success

- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (Police confidence survey)
- Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police
- Total number of secondary fires (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Total number of deliberate and 'not known' secondary fires (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Total number of criminal damage and arson offences
- Number of police reported incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Number of council reported incidents of anti-social behaviour

## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Protecting vulnerable people from harm

#### Why this is a priority objective

Protecting vulnerable people from harm has been identified as a priority as it covers a range of important issues in relation to protecting vulnerable people from harm, including domestic abuse, sexual violence and hate crime. Other cross-cutting issues such as suicide prevention and hoarding and the risk of accidental dwelling fires are covered by this priority objective.

‘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. Regionally, the Police and Crime Commissioners have developed a strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls, which the Partnership supports and delivers actions against.

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, provide protection and support and prevent incidents of hate crime for occurring. The national Hate Crime Action Plan identifies under-reporting by Gypsy, Roma Traveller communities and the Safe Durham Partnership will support the Gypsy, Roma Traveller Action Plan in tackling this issue.

#### Our key challenges

The detection rate for serious sexual offences was 33.1% in 2013-14; this decreased to 28.7% to Quarter 3 in 2014-15.

Accidental dwelling fires in County Durham, resulting in death or injury was 19 in 2013-14 – there have been 7 injuries and no deaths in Quarter 1 & 2 2014/15. During 2013/14 practitioners made 302 referrals to the Fire Service which resulted in a visit, in line with the Fire Death Protocol. In 2014/15 this figure decreased to 279 for Quarter 1 to 3.

Levels of domestic abuse related incidents reported to the police have seen a continuous but small increase since 2009-10.

Protecting vulnerable people from harm presents some complex challenges. Domestic abuse remains under-reported and the Safe Durham Partnership works towards increasing the number of victims who contact both the police and outreach support services. 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.

Under-reporting of hate crime is significant. In order to meet this challenge the Safe Durham Partnership will support the Police and Crime Commissioner’s 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.



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Our outcomes and how we will deliver them

#### Prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence and reduce the associated harm

- Children and young people have an understanding that healthy relationships are based on respect, with sexual activity being consensual and reinforcing which attitudes are acceptable and which are not
- To raise public awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence, across services, organisations and the general public
- To ensure early identification and co-ordinated intervention by front line professionals to protect victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Prevent abuse from happening through early intervention and by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster abuse

#### Ensure that all victims of domestic abuse and 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

- Produce a three year multi-agency training strategy and action plan around domestic abuse and sexual abuse and exploitation
- To ensure that all survivors of sexual violence have access to forensic medical provision which provides the full range of health care and after care to ensure that mental and sexual health needs are addressed
- To develop an accurate picture of the scale and nature of all aspects of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Commissioning countywide specialist services for domestic abuse

#### To improve the criminal justice response to tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence

- To reduce the attrition rate and maintain the high conviction rate in cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- To ensure that victims are provided with an enhanced level of support throughout the end to end criminal justice process
- To ensure that all criminal justice agencies address the underlying problems in reporting and prosecuting rape

#### Reduce the impact of hate crime

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

#### How we will measure success

##### Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

- Percentage of domestic abuse victims at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference who are repeat victims
- Detection rate for serious sexual offences

##### Vulnerability

- Number of deaths in accidental dwelling fires identified as being within a vulnerable area (awaiting feedback from Fire)
- Proportion of people who use adult social care services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure
- Number of hate motivated incidents reported
- Suicide rate per 100,000 population



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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.

For adult offenders it is necessary to continue our approach to prioritise the effective management of the most difficult, chaotic and persistent offenders. We will expand our integrated offender management principles to a wider cohort and for those young people who offend we will continue 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

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, with the recent increase in theft offences a possible early indication of this. Shoplifting has become problematic and will be a focus of the forthcoming year. This crime type will be included in the 'Checkpoint' initiative.

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 impact on this measure is challenging as most offenders in this cohort have not been managed by any formal offender management arrangements previously. Changes nationally, brought about by 'Transforming Rehabilitation' and more locally with the introduction of 'Checkpoint', will begin address some of these issues.

The Safe Durham Partnership will continue to provide strategic level co-ordination of partnership issues relating to the Ministry of Justice 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme during the transition of probation services across County Durham. A Task and Finish group has worked through 2014-15 to mitigate risks and issues that include the speed of change for planned reforms, reduced funding, offender access in resettlement prisons, management of the Community Rehabilitation Company (ARCC) contract post award and the working arrangements for statutory and non-statutory partnership responsibilities.



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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)
- Continue to improve and develop our 'Think Family' approach for identified offenders (both adults and young people who offend) and their families

#### Prevent repeat offending

- Manage offence related needs (critical pathways\*) of prolific adult offenders in order to stop their offending
- Expand our integrated offender management approach to lower level offending using alternatives to custody
- Maintain and develop support for women offenders and women vulnerable to offending
- Ensure adult 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
- Develop and implement a local proxy measure for the national single re-offending measure
- Continue to provide strategic level co-ordination for Safe Durham Partnership issues relating to Governments Transforming Rehabilitation programme to improve the management of offenders

\*The critical pathways for adults are: Accommodation; Drug and Alcohol Misuse; Financial Management and Income; Education, Training and Employability; Children and Families; Health; Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour, Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Violence.

#### How we will measure success

- Proven re-offending of adult and juvenile offenders (proportion of all offenders who re-offend in a 12-month period)
- Proven re-offending of juvenile offenders (proportion of all juvenile offenders who re-offend in a 12-month period)
- Percentage change in detected crimes for offenders in the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort over the last 12 months
- First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System
- Percentage of successful completions of Checkpoint (indicator to be agreed by the Reducing Re-Offending Group).

## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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 is a cross-cutting theme in the Sustainable Community Strategy. 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 co-ordinated 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.

#### Our key challenges

County Durham experiences significantly higher alcohol specific admission rates than England for men and women.

County Durham is well below the national rate in terms of alcohol related crime with 31.4% of violent crime and 13.0% of anti-social behaviour being alcohol-related to Quarter 3 in 2014-15. 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.

A new Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy is being developed. 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 have developed a Drugs 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 plan, will be a key focus for the two partnerships over the life time of this Plan.

The emerging challenge of 'legal highs' has also been identified as an area for the Safe Durham Partnership to address.



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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.
- Carry out 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.
- Co-ordinated 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.
- 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 misuse across the population
- Have fewer people taking up drug use and 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 misuse
- Involve and support families and carers living with drug related issues

#### How we will measure success

- 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 successful completions of those in alcohol treatment
- Keith Forster to contact Gillian Porter to ask if drug-related crime indicator is available

## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Embed the 'Think Family' approach

#### Why this is a priority objective

This is a joint priority objective with the Children and Families Partnership.

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 agencies in response to a range of needs. Think Family focuses specifically on the needs of these families.

Think Family is an approach that requires all agencies to consider the needs of the whole family when working with individual members of it. It encourages a broader view of need than that normally adopted. To 'Think Family' is to understand that children's problems do not sit in isolation from their parents, and that parents' problems impact on their children. This approach ensures that all family members are able to get the support they need, at the right time, to help their children achieve good outcomes. All agencies are encouraged to 'Think Family' and to coordinate their efforts. This means making sure that families receive co-ordinated, multi-agency, solution focused support.

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.

The 'Think Family' approach is intrinsically linked to our Stronger Families Programme. This programme is known nationally as 'The Troubled Families Programme' and the Government estimates County Durham has around 1320 'Troubled Families' with a range of multiple and complex needs. These are not new families but families who have been known to services, often for many years, and despite numerous interventions their problems persist, and are in many cases intergenerational, leading to cycles of disadvantage for such families.

#### Our key challenges

Last year we recognised that it was important to ensure offender management service staff utilised Think Family as part of their mainstream role. The challenge now will be to align Think Family Services with ARCC; the new Community Rehabilitation Company.

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 the number of referrals increases. Government funding for Stronger Families will continue to be on a payment by results scheme. Local Authorities will be expected to demonstrate *significant and sustained progress* or *continuous employment* measured through a locally defined Outcomes Framework.



**Think Family Worker**  
Supporting the whole family to overcome difficulties together

“ We provide early help to families who are experiencing a range of issues which place outcomes for their children at risk, these include, but are not limited to: worklessness, crime, anti-social behaviour, poor school attendance, domestic abuse and substance misuse. ”



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### 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

- Integrate Think Family into Multi-Agency Problem Solving
- Build and develop the 'Stronger Families' programme into the anti-social behaviour interventions protocol
- Increase the whole family approach to the delivery of drug recovery services
- Work with the Organised Crime Disruption and Intervention panel to support those vulnerable to the influence of organised crime

#### How we will measure success

- Percentage of families where a successful intervention for crime/anti-social behaviour is achieved
- Percentage of successful interventions via the Stronger Families Programme



### Youth Worker

Supporting young people to develop through enjoyment, challenge and learning

“ Youth workers work with young people to enable them to enjoy, achieve and realise their potential by providing opportunities for personal and social development. ”



## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism

#### Why this is a priority objective

The threat to the UK from the terrorist organisation 'Islamic State' has resulted in the threat level to the UK being raised to 'Severe'. This means that an attack is highly likely.

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.

The PREVENT strand of CONTEST is concerned with preventing people being drawn into terrorism. In November 2014 the Government introduced the Counter Terrorism and Security Bill which places PREVENT on a statutory footing.

#### 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)

- Implement the Governments new statutory requirements for preventing people being drawn into terrorism
- 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
- Deliver "Project Griffin" training events to professional security operatives and forward facing security employees within all business sectors in County Durham

#### Challenge extremism and intolerance

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

#### How we will measure success

- Building Resilience to Terrorism Self-Assessment Score (The PREVENT Self-Assessment is the formal mechanism through which the Safe Durham Partnership will manage performance. The

### 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

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.)

## 9. Delivering Altogether Safer Objectives and Outcomes

### Road casualty reduction

#### Why this is a priority objective

Although there has been a considerable reduction in the number of road casualties over the last 10 years, the county still has a higher than average rate of child casualties; 134 in 2013. 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 are peak times in the day for child road casualties and these will be targeted by the Safe Durham Partnership. 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 EXCEerate 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

##### Improve health and wellbeing of communities through casualty reduction

- Deliver road safety initiatives and events linked to road safety themed weeks
- Develop road safety standards through Road Safety GB and the National Staff Training group
- 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 and implement 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 anti-social behaviour thematic group
- Target a reduction in Child Road Casualties

##### How we will measure success

- Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads
- Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on our roads
- Number of road casualties

### 10. Monitoring Success of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan

The Safe Durham Partnership Board has put in place a Performance Management Framework structured around the strategic objectives. In addition to performance measures linked to the strategic objectives, the framework includes key indicators of crime for the Safe Durham Partnership Board to monitor activity trends in this area. This includes:

- The overall crime rate per 1,000 population
- Rate of theft offences per 1,000 population
- The recorded level of victim based crime
- Rate of Violence Against the Person offences per 1,000 population

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.

The Performance Management Framework is refreshed on an annual basis ensuring it is relevant to the objectives and outcomes in the Partnership Plan, thematic strategies and action plans. On a quarterly basis an escalation report is submitted to the Safe Durham Partnership Board highlighting achievements and areas for improvement.

Performance management arrangements of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan will be incorporated into the Safe Durham Partnership Performance Management Framework. This will ensure responsibility and accountability of the strategic actions within the Plan. A supporting delivery plan will be implemented and monitored on a quarterly basis by the Safe Durham Partnership Board.

## 11. Abbreviations / Glossary of Terms

<b>AAPs</b>	<u>Area Action Partnerships</u> Local forums set up to give people in County Durham a greater choice and voice in local affairs.
<b>ASB</b>	<u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u> Behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons of another household.
<b>CCL</b>	Clinical Commissioning Locality
<b>CDYOS</b>	County Durham Youth Offending Service
<b>CONTEST</b>	The United Kingdom's counter-terrorism strategy
<b>CRC</b>	Community Rehabilitation Company
<b>CSE</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation
<b>CSEW</b>	Crime Survey of England and Wales
<b>DCLG</b>	Department for Communities and Local Government
<b>ETE</b>	Education, Training or Employment
<b>HIL</b>	High Impact Locality
<b>HMIC</b>	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies
<b>IOM</b>	Integrated Offender Management
<b>ISIL</b>	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
<b>JSNA</b>	<u>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</u> A document which provides a detailed overview of the current and future health and wellbeing needs of the people of County Durham. Used to inform future service planning.
<b>KSI</b>	Killed or Seriously Injured
<b>LMAP</b>	Local Multi Agency Partnership
<b>MARAC</b>	<u>Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference</u> Regular local meetings where information about high risk domestic abuse victims (those at risk of murder or serious harm) is shared between local agencies.
<b>MFH</b>	Missing From Home
<b>MH</b>	Mental Health
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>NHW</b>	Neighbourhood Watch
<b>NPS</b>	National Probation Service
<b>NSPCC</b>	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
<b>OCG</b>	Organised Crime Groups
<b>PACT</b>	Police/Partnerships and Communities Together
<b>PNC</b>	Police National Computer
<b>S&amp;OC</b>	Serious and Organised Crime
<b>SA</b>	Strategic Assessment
<b>SLCN</b>	Speech, Language and Communication Needs
<b>Think Family</b>	A practice which makes sure that the support provided by children's, adults' and family services is co-ordinated and focused on problems affecting the whole family.



Safe Durham Partnership

# Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015 - 2018

Partnership working across County Durham continues to go from strength to strength. When introducing our previous Partnership Plan in 2014, we explained how our commitment to working in partnership had ensured real and tangible improvements to the quality of life of our communities.

The Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2015-18 will continue to demonstrate new and innovative approaches as we respond to an ever changing and more challenging landscape. Working in partnership is crucial if we are to meet existing and emerging challenges and work towards achieving our vision where every adult and child in county Durham will be, and will feel, safe.

Partners across the community, voluntary sector and statutory agencies are committed to working together and responding to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in this Plan in order to deliver an 'Altogether Safer' and 'Altogether Better' Durham.

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

**E-mail: [community.safety@durham.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@durham.gov.uk)**

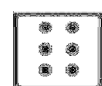
**Telephone: 03000 265 436**

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

العربية (Arabic)	(中文 (繁體字)) (Chinese)	اردو (Urdu)
polski (Polish)	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)	Español (Spanish)
বাংলা (Bengali)	हिन्दी (Hindi)	Deutsch (German)
Français (French)	Türkçe (Turkish)	Melayu (Malay)

[community.safety@durham.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@durham.gov.uk)

03000 265 436



Braille



Audio



Large Print