



Report of Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service Strategy

Purpose of Briefing Note

1. To provide members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a summary update on key issues discussed at the September Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Board meeting.

Organised Crime

2. Cllr David Boyes presented the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities (SSC) Overview and Scrutiny Committee review report on Organised Crime to the Safe Durham Partnership Board.
3. Superintendent Kerrin Smith, Durham Constabulary updated the Partnership that work to complete the Organised Crime Local Profiles was underway and that information from the Profiles will inform the SDP Strategic Assessment. Consultation will take place with key stakeholders including SSC Overview and Scrutiny on the SDP Plan which is informed by the Strategic Assessment.
4. The Board supported the Committee's recommendations in relation to increasing the reporting of community intelligence that further work could be undertaken with the Area Action Partnerships. This will be taken forward by the Principal Area Action Partnership Co-ordinator with thematic responsibility for Community Safety.

County Durham Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience 2015 – 2020

5. The Department of Health and NHS England have published the 'Future in Mind promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing' which makes a number of proposals the government wishes to see by 2020.
6. These include: tackling stigma and improving attitudes to mental illness; introducing more access and waiting time standards for services; establishing 'one stop shop' support services in the community and improving access for children and young people who are particularly vulnerable.
7. The County Durham Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience will incorporate the requirements of Future in Mind to achieve these aspirations and clearly articulate the local offer.
8. Nationally, an additional £1.25bn investment is attached to Future in Mind plans which need to be submitted to NHS England on 16th October 2015 in order to

secure funding. Upon agreement of County Durham Transformation Plan funding will be released to Clinical Commissioning Groups in early November 2015.

9. The Safe Durham Partnership has been asked to provide feedback on the plan as part of the consultation process. The current plan will be strengthened in relation to targeted vulnerable young people such as young people who offend, young victims of crime and children and young people who are witness or victims of domestic abuse.
10. The Transformation Plan will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board for agreement on 3rd November 2015.

Area Action Partnerships

11. The Safe Durham Partnership receives a 6 monthly update on the work of Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) with regards to community safety.
12. Five AAPs have agreed Crime and Community Safety as a priority, and will have key actions which will impact directly on local community safety issues. It is anticipated that the remaining AAPs will resource community safety projects aimed at vulnerable groups especially those who identified Older People, Children and Young People as a priority within their action plan.
13. Since April 2015, 16 community safety projects have been funded through Elected Members Neighbourhood Budgets. It is anticipated that the number of community safety projects will significantly increase once the AAPs have formalised their Action Plans and allocate Area Budget resources to community safety projects. £227,002 has been allocated to community safety projects.

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-2020

14. The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-20 has been agreed by the Safe Durham Partnership Board.
15. The Strategy has been through extensive consultation since the end of March 2015. Amendments have been made to incorporate feedback from stakeholders, including the Safer, Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and have been included in the final document.
16. In 2014 the County Durham Partnership identified alcohol as a cross cutting theme. The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy has been reconfigured around all five of the Altogether themes and underpinned by six key objectives relating to these themes.
17. The draft vision of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy remains largely unchanged:

“To change the drinking culture in County Durham to reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, families and communities while ensuring that adults who choose to drink alcohol are able to enjoy it responsibly.”

Fire Fatality Protocol

18. County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) presented an updated Fire Fatality Protocol for partners to sign up to.
19. The Fire Fatality Protocol was launched in 2011 by the Safe Durham Partnership as a result of the outcomes from a task group involving CDDFRS and partner agencies. The aim of the task group was to identify the causal factors relating to accidental fire fatalities and to determine what the Partnership could do differently to drive down risk for the most vulnerable members of our communities.
20. The main aim of the protocol was to ensure that staff within the organisations that deal with vulnerable people on a daily basis could identify those in the community who were at risk from fire and take the appropriate action. This could be having the knowledge to take immediate prevention action themselves if appropriate, but importantly it provided them with access to a referral process ensuring appropriate longer term support could be provided.
21. CDDFRS have dealt with 2,207 referrals from partner agencies as a result of the introduction of the protocol. In addition CDDFRS have trained approximately 2,500 staff from Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council, housing associations, health workers, police, charities and volunteer organisations.
22. As a result of the referrals CDDFRS have been able to gain access into the homes of some of the most vulnerable members of our community, providing them with home fire safety advice and fitment of smoke alarms.
23. CDDFRS staff have also received training from other members of the partnership in a number of areas such as smoking cessation, alcohol harm reduction, dementia friends etc. which has resulted in the fire service now referring vulnerable people to health providers and other agencies enabling them to increase their prevention activities.

Transforming Rehabilitation Task and Finish Group

24. The Safe Durham Partnership Board formally closed down the Transforming Rehabilitation Project. The Project co-ordinated the Partnership's strategic response in relation to the Probation Reforms for managing offenders in the community, which included:
 - The creation of a new public sector National Probation Service (NPS)
 - Commissioning probation services within new regional contract package areas aligned with clustered local authority boundaries
 - Extending statutory supervision and rehabilitation to all those offenders sentenced to less than 12 months in custody
 - Reorganising the prison estate to provide 'resettlement' prisons and a nationwide 'through the gate' resettlement service
 - Opening the majority of probation services to competition at a local as well as national level
 - A new payment by results incentive for market providers to focus on reforming offenders and reducing reoffending rates.

25. Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) has managed transition arrangements well throughout the process, with minimal disruption to staff and services users. The migration and splitting of probation services and systems in June 2014 went smoothly. The CRC continue to transform and introduce rehabilitation services as their operational service delivery model is developed with 'through the gate' provision being the current point of focus. Good relations between CRC, NPS and partners have been beneficial throughout the probation reforms.
26. Durham's approach to the Transforming Rehabilitation through a project management and task and finish approach has been unique in terms of the positive collaboration between partner agencies. The strong relationships in place prior to the new arrangements helped resolve any issues arising during the transitional period.
27. Ongoing governance for issues relating to Transforming Rehabilitation will in future be dealt with by the joint Durham and Darlington Reducing Re-offending Group.

Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2016/19 (refresh)

28. The strategic objectives in the Safe Durham Partnership Plan (SDPP) are the same as the thematic objectives for the Altogether Safer section of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2010-2030. The Safe Durham Partnership Board has re-affirmed the strategic objectives in the SDPP as those which will remain as a priority for 2016-19:
 - Reduce anti-social behaviour
 - Protect Vulnerable People from Harm
 - Reduce Re-offending
 - Alcohol and Substance Misuse Harm Reduction
 - Embed the Think Family Approach
 - Counter Terrorism and prevention of violent extremism
 - Road Casualty Reduction
29. As part of the process for the refresh of the SDPP a number of engagement events have been planned which will inform the refreshed document. These include a 'Community Safety' themed workshop at the Health and Wellbeing 'Big Tent' event on 4th November 2015; consultation with Area Action Partnerships through briefing notes; consultation with the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee; use of existing consultation such as the Police Confidence Survey and online community consultation through agency web-sites and social media.
30. There may therefore be changes to the existing 'outcomes' or additional 'outcomes' added that support these strategic objectives following these engagement activities.
31. Discussions have taken place with representatives from Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The refreshed SDPP 2016-19 will be used as one of the evidence bases to inform the new Police and Crime Plan, following PCC elections in May 2016. The full review of the SDPP will align to the review of the SCS and will take account of the new Police and Crime Plan.
32. Following the completion of the SDP Strategic Assessment, a draft SDP Plan 2016-19 will be presented to the Board in January 2016 with final sign off in March 2016.

The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee will be consulted on a draft document in February 2016.

33. A full review of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan, looking at the strategic objectives as well as the outcomes will take place to align with the review of the Sustainable Community Strategy. This process will be undertaken during 2016-17 for implementation from April 2017.

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Appendix 1 – Implications

Finance – N/A

Staffing – N/A

Risk – N/A

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – N/A

Accommodation – N/A

Crime and Disorder – The Safe Durham Partnership update provides an overview of reports and discussions from the Safe Durham Partnership Board meetings.

Human Rights – N/A

Consultation – N/A

Procurement – N/A

Disability Issues – N/A

Legal Implications – N/A