

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

27 March 2018



Safe Durham Partnership Update

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Corporate Director of Transformation & Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a summary update on key issues discussed at the March 2018 Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Board meeting and related issues.

New Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service Provider

- 2 In November 2017 Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community (DISC) and partners Spectrum Healthcare CIC and the Basement Recovery Project were successfully commissioned as the new providers of the County Durham Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service.
- 3 Based in Newton Aycliffe, DISC has worked to reduce deprivation and exclusion and improve people's wellbeing for over 30 years. This includes working in partnership to provide services across the North of England for substance misuse, employment, training and education, housing support, young people and family services.
- 4 Spectrum Healthcare are a not-for-profit social enterprise, providing healthcare services on behalf of the NHS and Public Health. They will be providing the clinical services and support for local GPs as part of the new contract.
- 5 The Basement Recovery Project is an independent self-help, not-for-profit organisation which will enhance the offer of visible recovery support for all drug and alcohol clients and their families, including community and connection needs and opportunities to grow - helping people to 'stop and stay stopped'.
- 6 The new service launched on 1st February 2018 and processes have been managed to ensure a smooth transition and 'business as usual' for partners and service users in the short term.
- 7 Going forward, the service aims to provide an integrated model that places the resolution of vulnerability in adults, young people, families and carers at the heart of the recovery process, irrespective of the presenting substance of choice. It will work to break the intergenerational cycle of substance misuse

by utilising a holistic approach to family support, regardless of the entry point into health and social care services.

8 Key priorities for the new service are:

- Integration – working in partnership with others to achieve a common goal.
- Family focus - placing families at the heart of the service regardless of their entry point into the system.
- Outreach support – staff taking services out to clients in their own communities.
- Reinvigoration of the prevention agenda - across a range of partners for drugs and alcohol to include wider health and wellbeing interventions.

9 A robust communications plan for external stakeholders is being developed.

Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism

10 The Safe Durham Partnership recognises the particular importance of early joint working between partners and ensuring key systems and service provision are in place.

11 All specified authorities across County Durham have now implemented the Counter Terrorism and Security Act and each has its own internal action plans which demonstrate its continued implementation.

12 The Prevent Duty aims to safeguard vulnerable people from being radicalised to supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists themselves. The level of Prevent awareness raising continues to grow across all agencies with over 30 Prevent Trainers engaged in Prevent training. Over 2,000 people from the Voluntary, Private and Independent sector have received both e-learning and in depth Prevent training jointly delivered by partners.

13 The Community Cohesion Toolkit which hosts the Tension Monitoring process is being refreshed, supported by Area Action Partnerships, and the toolkit will be relaunched this year. A cohesive community is one where there is a common vision and sense of belonging for all communities, diversity is appreciated and positively valued, and relationships between people from different backgrounds are strong. The Contest Silver Group see the Tension Monitoring process as a valuable source of information; particularly in relation to the extreme right wing, and it is hoped that the relaunch will increase the number of agencies who report issues in our communities.

County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) Update

14 County Durham Skill Mill is a not for profit organisation which engages young people who have offended in meaningful employment and training. This helps them to access long term employment and makes them less likely to reoffend.

- 15 The young people are employed at national minimum wage for 4 full days environmental work in our communities per week and they attend college one day per week. The type of tasks they undertake include: clearing rivers/streams, culverts/drains, removing rubbish, maintaining gardens, flood prevention, planting and general land management and habitat maintenance.
- 16 Feedback from customers who have commissioned the Skill Mill team has been excellent. Many of the young people graduated from the cohort have been successful in securing general employment and none of them have so far reoffended. The programme is being evaluated as a model for reducing reoffending and partners are looking to expand the programme to include more young people in future cohorts.
- 17 CDYOS Parenting Support Group (PSG) is a 10 week accredited parenting programme for parents and carers who have been victims of their child's offending, providing the opportunity for peer support. The need for extra support for parents was highlighted by various victim support groups.
- 18 Objectives of the group are:
- To improve and develop parenting skills, abilities and strategies
 - To build confidence and self-esteem
 - To reduce feelings of isolation
 - To increase participation in Restorative Approaches
 - To reduce young people's involvement in further offending or anti-social behaviour
 - To contribute towards achieving positive outcomes for families
- 19 The programme aims to reduce reoffending and avoid family breakdown by improving relationships, and so far nearly 90% of participants have experienced positive outcomes including better anger management strategies and enhanced communication with their children.

Water Safety Conference

- 20 On 26th March Durham will host a Water Safety conference alongside representatives from York, Bath and Somerset Local Authorities to discuss shared experiences and learning from water related incidents in the county.
- 21 Representatives from the Durham City Safety and Open Water Safety sub groups of the Safe Durham Partnership intend for the conference to initiate a wider network for water safety across the country.

Recommendations and reasons

- 22 The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
- (a) Note the contents of the report.

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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