



**Together we will reduce crime and drugs misuse
to build a safer, healthier Hartlepool**

Safer Hartlepool Partnership

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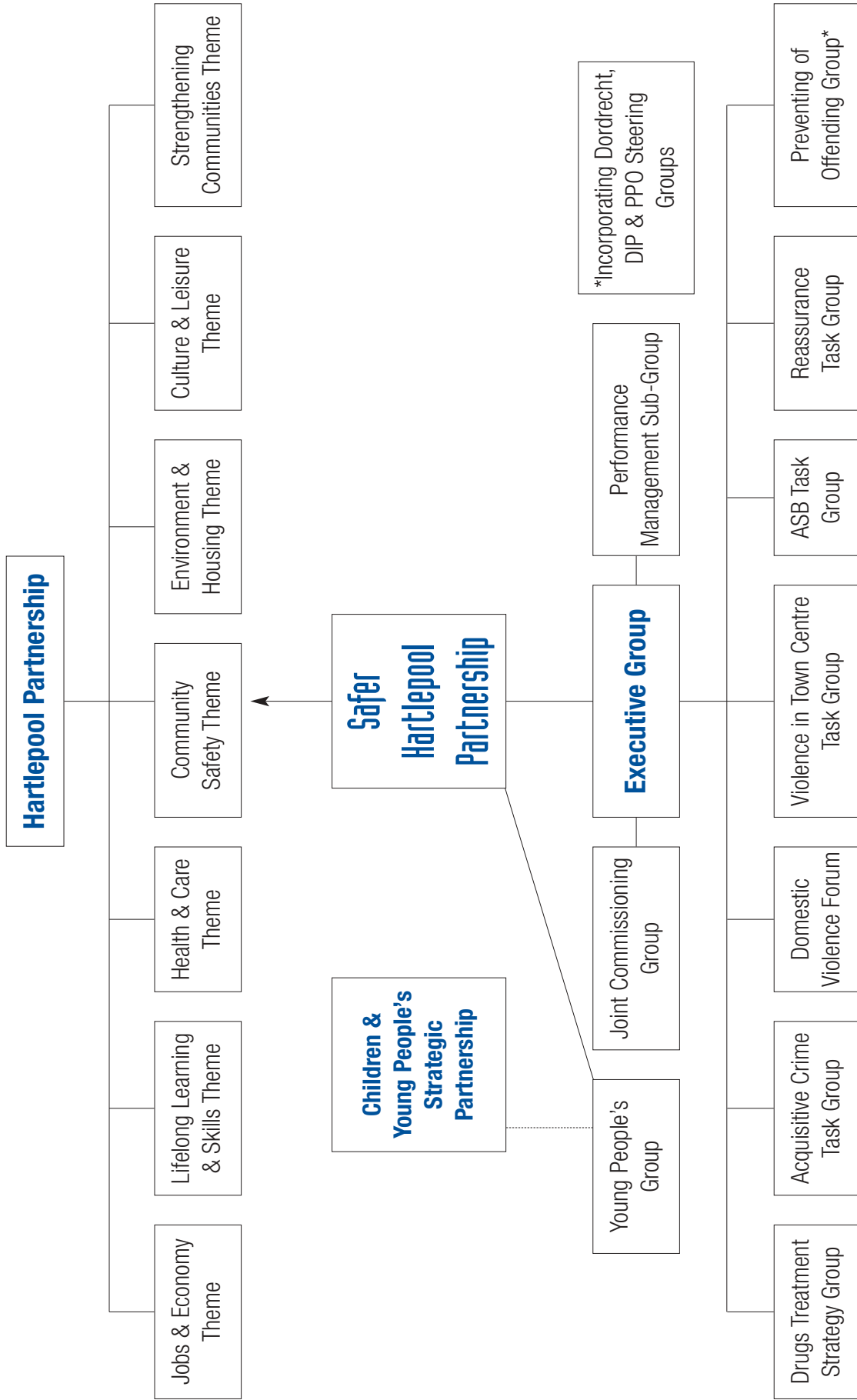
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LINKS TO HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP AND OTHER THEMED PARTNERSHIPS



Safer Hartlepool Partnership

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

This is the last year of our three year Strategy 2002-2005. I am pleased to report that most categories of crime have fallen significantly in 2004/05, the exception being violent crime. However the reduction in domestic burglary alone means that there have been over 400 less victims of burglary in 2004/05 than there were in 2003/04. This is very good news for residents.

In the past three years the Partnership has been responsible for securing more investment in physical security improvements such as street lighting, alleygates and CCTV cameras. It has also initiated innovative projects such as the Dordrecht scheme for prolific burglars and the COOL project, which provides after school outdoor leisure activities on school playing fields. The Dordrecht scheme has been nationally acclaimed as best practice. Police Community Support Officers have been introduced and the Community Warden Scheme has been extended. A treatment service has been introduced for young drug users and a new treatment centre provided for adults. The range of support services for drug users has been extended and more people are entering treatment for the first time. This is a positive achievement as local research conducted in 2003/04 into drug misuse estimated that drug misusing offenders on average spend £16,300 each year on acquiring drugs in Hartlepool. This is funded mainly by committing acquisitive crimes such as burglary and theft.

During 2004 we undertook an audit and consultation of Crime, Disorder and Drugs in Hartlepool and have developed a new strategy contained in this document. The strategy will run from 2005 to 2008.

We will seek to build on our successes over the last three years but we recognise that we still have high crime levels, being in the highest 25% of Crime Reduction Partnerships in England and Wales. However we are seen by the Home Office as one of the best performing Partnerships in the country.

We will be focussing efforts on reducing all crime levels even further and a high priority will be placed on stopping anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. We have also "joined ourselves up" in this last year and are now the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and include Youth Offending and Drugs in our remit.




The Safer Hartlepool Partnership works because of the valuable contribution made by all members and agencies and I would like to thank you for your commitment and hard work. The shared vision of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is "together we will reduce crime and drugs misuse to build a safer, healthier Hartlepool". I would encourage all the people of Hartlepool to join with us and play your part in combating crime and disorder and making Hartlepool a place we can be proud to call home.

Councillor Stuart Drummond

Chairman

Safer Hartlepool Partnership




1 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2002-2005

Strategic Objective	Strategy Target for 2004/05	Actual 2003/04	2004/05 (April-December)	Likelihood of achieving target using traffic light system
<p>1. Reduce domestic burglary by 25% <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 100 sets of alleygates installed • Over 500 victims of burglary received free security improvements to their homes • More than 50% of participants on Dordrecht scheme for prolific burglars had not been reconvicted 6 months after completing scheme 	1216	1276	633	
<p>2. Reduce vehicle crime by 30% <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 secure car park awards • Direction sign erected to 'secure' town centre car parks • Nearly 1000 abandoned and untaxed vehicles removed from the streets 	1780	2341	975	
<p>3. Reduce shop theft to no more than twice national average <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail Crime Net initiative established with 16 members 	No more than twice national average for 2003/04	1433	770	Not available yet
<p>4. Reduce commercial burglary by 10% <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Business Watch Schemes established • 9 hairdressers and 6 mini-markets received security improvements 	1060	1195	686	

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REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2002-2005

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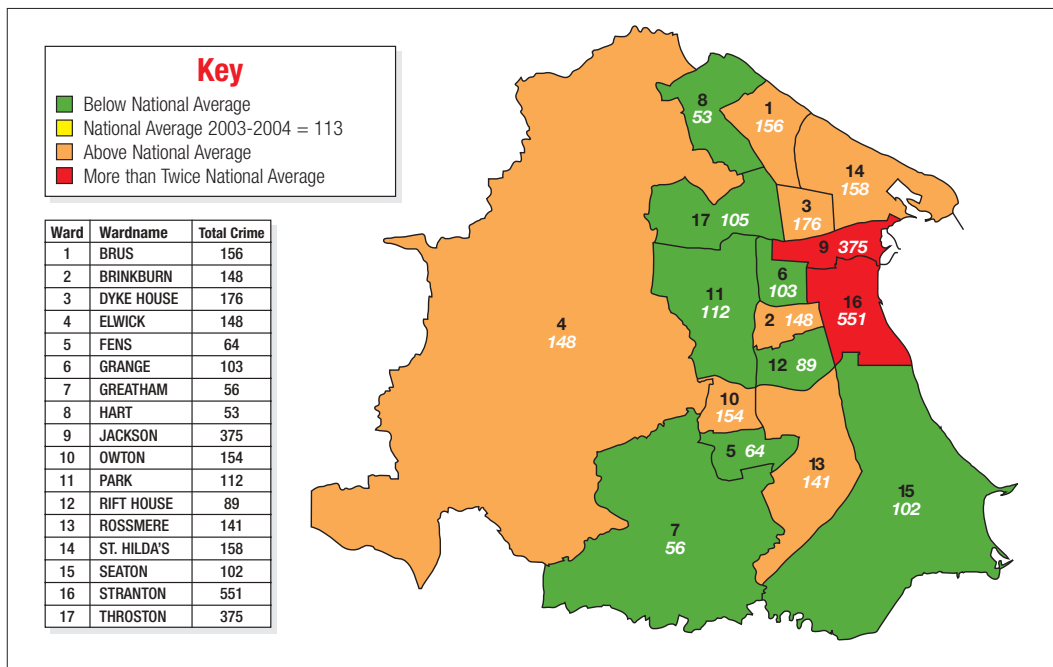
Strategic Objective	Strategy Target for 2004/05	Actual 2003/04	2004/05 (April-December)	Likelihood of achieving target using traffic light system
<p>5. Reduce anti-social behaviour by 15% <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COOL project established at 6 sites • More than 400 landlords signed up to voluntary registration scheme • 8 ASBOs granted 	8400	9716	7458	
<p>6. Promote reassurance and increase by 10% the number of residents who feel 'fairly safe or very safe' outside after dark <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 Community Wardens and 16 Police Community Support Officers patrolling streets • Personal safety video for young people produced • 8 editions of Partnership's quarterly newspaper produced 	44%	37%	39%	
<p>7. Drugs <i>Achievements 2002-2005</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into number of problem drugs misusers completed in 2003/04 • New adult drugs treatment centre opened at Whitby Street • Team to provide drugs treatment for young people established 	700 (numbers on treatment)	590	440 (April-September 2004)	

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2 MAIN FINDINGS FROM 2004 AUDIT

- Total crime in Hartlepool has risen over the past three years.
- The peak age of offending is 18-25 years, accounting for 40% of all arrests.
- The domestic burglary rate has reduced, but is still above the national average.
- Levels of burglary at non-domestic premises (burglary other) have remained fairly static.
- Theft from motor vehicles has risen and overall vehicle crime remains above the national average.
- Town centre violence is increasing and up to 70% is alcohol related.
- Robbery has increased slightly and is now above the national average.
- Shop theft has reduced by nearly 12% and most offences are committed by 17-34 year olds, in order to fund drug misuse.
- Anti-social behaviour remains a problem.
- Heroin is the main drug used with crack cocaine use increasing. Drug misuse is largely funded through crime; particularly shop theft.
- People feel less safe in Hartlepool than they do nationally.

Total Crime per 1000 population 2003-2004



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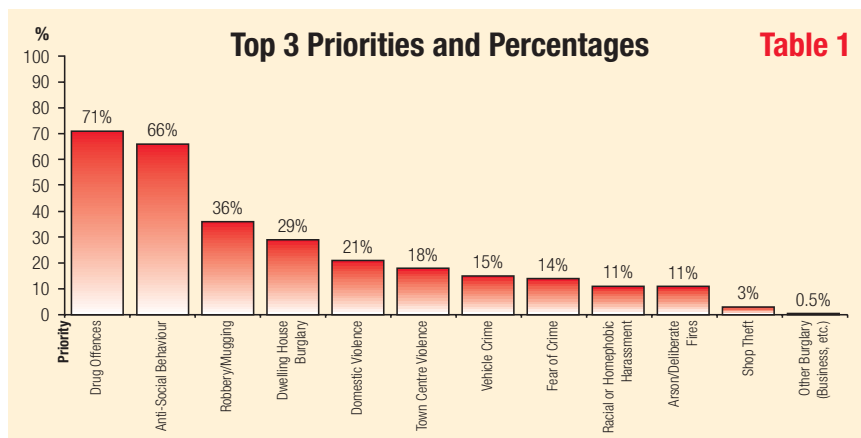
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CONSULTATION RESULTS

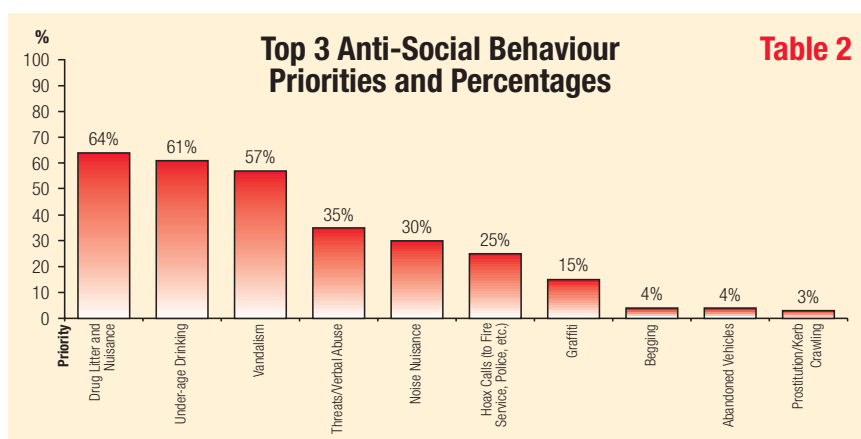
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The Partnership used a variety of mechanisms to publicise the results of the 2004 Audit, including a radio campaign in collaboration with Cleveland Police Authority and the other four Tees Valley Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) covering Darlington, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Redcar & Cleveland. The radio campaign referred to our Partnership website www.saferhartlepool.co.uk, where visitors to the site could complete the audit questionnaire online. A summary of the Audit evidence document was delivered to every household in Hartlepool, but the response was poor, with only 193 questionnaires returned.

Respondents to the questionnaire were asked to select the top three priorities for the Partnership. The results are shown in **Table 1** below:



Respondents were also asked to select their top three anti-social behaviour priorities. The results are shown in **Table 2** below:

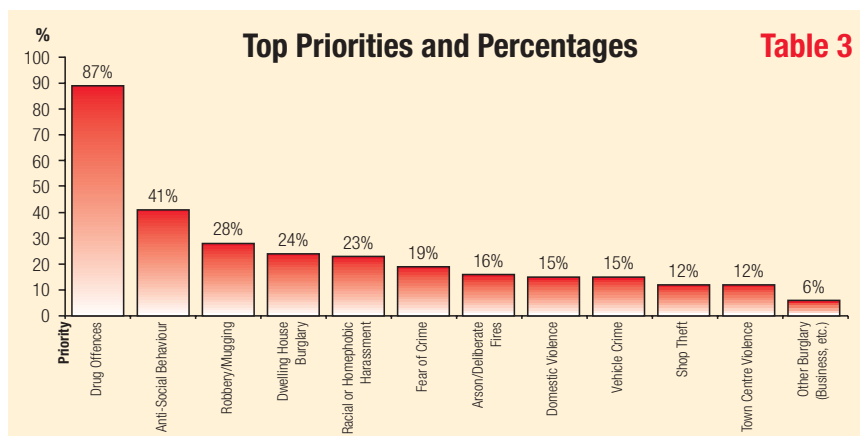


We also worked with a local voluntary organisation to engage 'hard to reach' groups. A focus groups approach was used to consult groups including women, young people and minority ethnic males who were all given a presentation on the audit 2004 and then asked to complete the audit questionnaire using an electronic voting system.

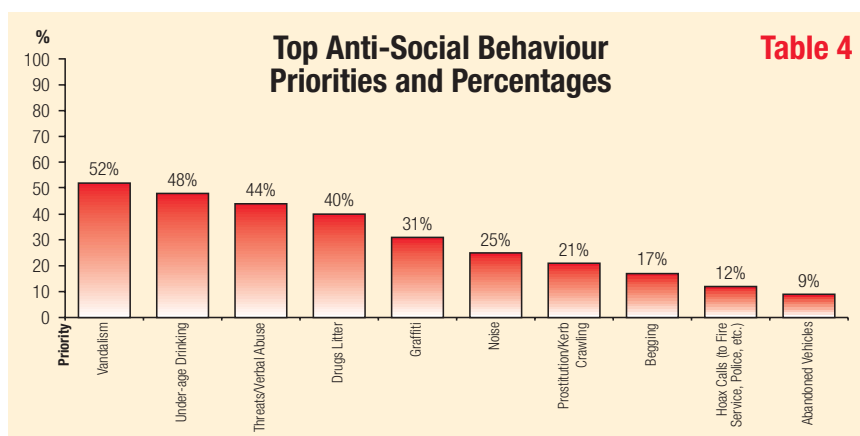
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3 CONSULTATION RESULTS

The top priorities for the Partnership from the Focus group consultation are shown in **Table 3** below:



The top anti-social behaviour priorities are shown in **Table 4** below:



Presentations were also given to the three area based Neighbourhood Forums, the Local Strategic Partnership and the Economic Forum (Theme Partnership for Jobs and the Economy).

As can be seen in **Tables 1** and **3** above, the first four priorities for the Partnership from returned questionnaires and focus group consultation are exactly the same – drugs, anti-social behaviour, robbery and domestic burglary.

Although the anti-social behaviour priorities are not in exactly the same order, again the first four correlate exactly – drug litter and nuisance, under-age drinking, vandalism and threats/verbal abuse.

This gave a definite direction to the Partnership, when it was considering the strategic priorities.

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SELECTION OF THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

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The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has decided to concentrate its actions into those aspects of crime, disorder and drugs where it considers the most beneficial effect will be gained from working in partnership, recognising that each partner agency will continue to deliver its mainstream activity. Selection of the strategic priorities involved the Partnership considering a number of factors:

(i) National Requirements for Crime Reduction

The Home Office Strategic Plan for 2004-2008 (Confident communities in a secure Britain) sets four target areas to achieve by 2008:

- To have reduced crime by 15 per cent, and further in high crime areas.
- To reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System without compromising fairness.
- To have improved the delivery of justice by increasing the number of crimes for which an offender is brought to justice to 1.25 million each year.
- To have reduced the harm caused by illegal drugs, including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the Criminal Justice System.

Hartlepool is rated as a high crime area nationally, being in the highest crime quartile in 2003/04 (26th out of 376 CDRP areas in England and Wales). Therefore Hartlepool is required to set its target at 20% reduction in crime by 2008.

Our performance during the lifetime of this strategy will be judged on the following ten British Crime Survey (BCS) crime indicators:

- Theft of motor vehicle
- Theft from motor vehicle
- Vehicle interference
- Domestic burglary
- Theft of or unauthorised taking of pedal cycle
- Theft from a person
- Criminal damage
- Common assault
- Wounding
- Robbery

Government guidance also advises Partnerships to include alcohol issues, domestic violence, anti-social behaviour and prevention of re-offending in the strategy for 2005-2008.

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SELECTION OF THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

(ii) National Requirements for Drugs Misuse

The National Drug Strategy was launched in 1998 and updated in 2002. It aims to reduce the harm that drugs cause to individuals and their families, communities and society. There are four main strands to the strategy:

- Reducing supply
- Young people
- Communities
- Treatment

A Performance Management Framework (PMF) was launched in 2004 and will be used by Government Office North East to measure Partnerships' performance against Drug Strategy targets, key performance indicators and other relevant Government targets.

In 2004, the North East substance misuse statement of priorities was agreed by a number of agencies in the region. This covers both illegal and legal drugs and alcohol, and aims to reduce the harm to communities caused by drugs.

(iii) Local Findings from Audit 2004 and Consultation Results

Results from the audit show that total crime has risen in Hartlepool over the three years 2001/02, 2002/03 and 2003/04, but it is encouraging to note that during 2004/05 crime rates have fallen significantly.

It is widely acknowledged that there is a correlation between drugs misuse and crime and it is therefore very likely that the rising number of people entering drugs treatment is having a positive impact on crime rates. The introduction of the Drugs Interventions Programme in April 2004 for drugs misusing offenders has increased the number of people entering treatment.

The Community Safety Strategy 2002-2005 contained six objectives covering:

- Domestic burglary
- Vehicle crime (theft of and theft from motor vehicles)
- Commercial crime (burglary at non-domestic premises and shop theft)
- Anti-social behaviour
- Reassurance (to reduce fear of crime)
- Drugs

The strategy covering 1999-2002 also included domestic burglary, vehicle crime, anti-social behaviour and drugs. The audit conducted in 2004 and subsequent consultation show these are still a local problem, but recorded levels of violence associated with alcohol, and robbery have increased, and the consultation shows these crimes are a concern amongst the general population.

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The Partnership acknowledges that its performance will be judged using a range of crime and drugs indicators, which, in the main, correspond to local priorities. For each priority, an objective will be established with a range of indicators and targets. A Performance Management sub-group of the strategic Executive group will review performance quarterly using a range of key performance indicators covering crime, disorder, drugs and youth offending.

During 2004/05 the Partnership has supported a Home Office Policing Priority Area (PPA) in the Burbank area of Stranton Ward. Our approach has been to appoint a project officer for the area, who has co-ordinated neighbourhood activity in conjunction with a residents sub-group from the multi-agency Burbank Forum.

Crime and disorder in the area has reduced, residents report feeling safer and residents from all age groups are participating in the development and implementation of activities. An independent evaluation is underway (report due by end March 2005).

The Partnership will promote the introduction of this approach in other areas of Hartlepool, ensuring that the principles of Neighbourhood Action Plans and Neighbourhood Policing are embedded in the approach.

The Partnership has decided to re-focus the delivery of its strategy by concentrating on four 'themes' for activity:

- Reassure and support victims.
- Prevent and deter.
- Catch and convict.
- Rehabilitate and resettle.

The last three of these themes follow those prescribed by the Government scheme introduced in 2004 covering 'Prolific and other priority offenders' (PPOs). Hartlepool, along with other CDRPs, has introduced a PPO scheme to target those offenders causing most damage locally.

The Partnership held a strategy development half-day in November 2004, when the audit findings, consultation results and national priorities were all discussed. The strategic priorities set out in the subsequent paragraphs 5.1 to 5.7 were agreed at that half-day.

An annual action plan for each strategic priority identified in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.7 has been developed, focusing where appropriate, on the four themes outlined above.

Safer Hartlepool Partnership

5 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

5.1 Drugs Treatment

The National Drugs Strategy requires local Partnerships to address four outcomes:

- To reduce the supply of illegal drugs on our streets.
- To reduce the harm that drugs cause to communities.
- To prevent today's young people from becoming tomorrow's problematic drug users
- To provide more, better and fairer treatment.

This priority focuses on the treatment outcome. The other three outcomes are addressed in other priorities as follows:

- Reduce supply in Acquisitive crime.
- Reduce harm to communities in Acquisitive crime and Reassurance.
- Young people in Prevention of offending and the separate annual Youth Justice Plan.

An efficient and effective local treatment service, which provides medical care, support and harm minimisation interventions for drugs users, and support to their carers is vital to the overall performance of the Partnership and delivery of a successful strategy.

Significant funding is received by the Partnership (the DAT pooled budget) to improve and extend existing services for both adults and young people in conjunction with Hartlepool's Primary Care Trust. Grant funding is also received for specific initiatives.

The Partnership is required to produce an Annual Treatment Plan for adults, which is scrutinised by the National Treatment Agency and improvements to service provision negotiated. The Youth Justice Plan, produced annually in June, will include actions in relation to drugs treatment for young people.

There are a number of Criminal Justice interventions to reduce offending behaviour associated with drugs (e.g. Drugs Interventions Programme). These initiatives also require effective treatment as part of the programme's interventions, but are included in the Prevention of Offending priority at paragraph 5.7.

Strategic Objective

To provide more, better and fairer drugs treatment.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Increase the number of problem drug users in treatment by 100% by 2008	366	527
2. Percentage of problem drug users retained in treatment for 12 weeks for more	38% (2004/05)	55%

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5.2 Acquisitive Crime

The Partnership's focus on domestic burglary and vehicle crime, over the past six years, has mainstreamed many activities to reduce these crimes and the funding made available for the Drugs Interventions Programme will maintain Partnership focus on drugs misusing offenders. Therefore some crime types are to be combined in a priority covering acquisitive crime. This will also include activity focusing on reducing drugs supply and harm caused to communities.

Strategic objective

To reduce acquisitive crime in Hartlepool, with particular focus on high crime areas.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Theft of vehicle	815	652
2. Theft from vehicle	1525	1220
3. Vehicle interference	251	226
4. Domestic Burglary	1276	1021
5. Theft/unauthorised taking of cycle	185	148
6. Theft from person	157	126
7. Robbery	211	169
8. Class A drug supply offences brought to justice per 10,000 population	7.22	Police annual target

5.3 Violence in Town Centre associated with alcohol

The audit conducted in 2004 showed that the two wards covering the town centre accounted for nearly 40% of all recorded 'violence against the person' offences in 2003/04. Two thirds of these offences occurred between 7pm and 7am and we estimated that up to 70% were related to alcohol consumption. The Partnership has therefore decided it will establish a new priority for Partnership activity and form a multi-agency group to tackle this issue.

Strategic objective

To reduce alcohol related social nuisance, disorder and violence linked to the night-time economy in the town centre area.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Common assault	1162	872
2. Wounding	514	411

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5 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

5.4 Domestic Violence

An active Domestic Violence Forum has existed in Hartlepool for many years. The 2004 audit shows that during the past three years there has been a gradual increase in reported incidents and arrests. Repeat victimisation is still a significant problem. The Partnership recognises that the increases in incidents and arrests may well be a positive outcome from the campaigning and awareness raising carried out by the Domestic Violence Forum over the years. However, due to the serious physical and mental health effects this crime can have on victims, their families and children, it must now be given a higher priority.

The Partnership acknowledges that domestic violence can occur between partners or ex-partners of either sex, although women are more likely to be victims than men. The violence may include physical, sexual, emotional or financial abuse.

Strategic objective

To reduce the incidents of repeat victimisation, improve joint working between services and promote good practice responses to domestic violence.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Percentage of domestic violence incidents which involved a victim of domestic violence incident in previous 12 months	Cleveland Force estimated performance 2004/05 is 61%	40% for 2005/06

5.5 Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour is a significant problem for Hartlepool and the 2004 audit shows that Hartlepool residents report more incidents to Cleveland Police than the Force average.

The Partnership will continue to focus on those aspects of anti-social behaviour which cause harassment, alarm or distress to individuals or communities, but will also include criminal damage, and deliberate fire setting in this priority for 2005-2008. Tackling under-age drinking in residential areas will be a specific activity for the Partnership to focus on.

Strategic objective

Reduce the level of anti-social behaviour which causes, or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to individuals or communities throughout Hartlepool.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Reduce criminal damage	2550	1913
2. Reduce number of deliberate fires	1384	10% by 2010
3. Reduce personal, social and community disorder incidents	9716	9716 for 2005/06*

*Locally, Cleveland Police stopped recording incidents as 'anti-social behaviour' in 2003, due to the varying perceptions of what constitutes anti-social behaviour. Incidents are now recorded in a broader 'disorder' category. However a national recording standard is to be introduced for incident classification in April 2006. A target, based on this new recording standard will be set when it is introduced.

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5.6 Reassurance

Fear of crime in Hartlepool is still higher than the national average (as reported in British Crime Survey) and so communication and engagement with residents and the wider community will be improved to deliver a reassurance priority.

The Partnership Strategy for 2002-2005 included actions to tackle physical disorder (e.g. graffiti) within this priority and this focus on small areas of the town, aiming to improve residents' quality of life, will continue in 2005-2008, acknowledging the link to the national safe, clean and green agenda.

Strategic objective

To promote reassurance and improve public confidence in all sections of the community.

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Increase the number of residents who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' outside after dark	37%	41%
2. Percentage of people who think local police do a good job	45% (Force)	48% 2005/06
3. Reduce the perception of local drug use and drug dealing	N/A	To be set after baseline established in 2005/06
4. Reduce people's perception of anti-social behaviour	N/A	To be set after baseline established in 2005/06

5.7 Prevention of Offending

Prevention of offending was recognised in Hartlepool several years ago as one of the critical success factors to reducing crime. Our focus on domestic burglars (Dordrecht scheme) has now been extended to other offenders by the PPO scheme. Young offenders are supervised separately to adults by the Youth Offending Service. It is vital to prevent those young people who are already within the Criminal Justice System becoming the prolific offenders of tomorrow, so prevention of offending will also be a Partnership priority.

Hartlepool is a round 2 intensive Drugs Interventions Programme (DIP) area and on 1st April 2005 the 'Restriction on bail' provisions introduced by Criminal Justice Act 2003 will apply. The Partnership expects this will assist it to achieve the overall target to reduce crime by 20% during 2005 to 2008.

Strategic objective

Key Indicators	Baseline	2007/08 Target
1. Reduce 10 BCS comparator crime indicators by 20%	8646	6756
2. Young people 'at risk' are identified and targeted for support (through YISP/PPO prevent and deter strand)	50	200
3. Proportion of adults arrested and charged with DIP trigger offence, who test positive and undergo an assessment interview	52% in January 2005	50% by March 2006
4. Proportion of DIP clients who are either retained in treatment or achieve a planned completion of the care plan	N/A	95% by March 2006



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