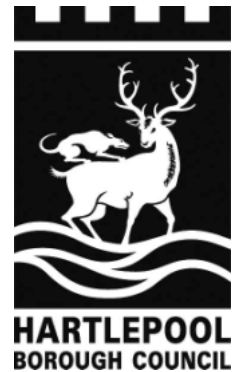


SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE AGENDA



Friday 21st January 2011

at 9.00 am

in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Cook, Cranney, Flintoff, Griffin, James, London, A Marshall, McKenna, Preece, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Thomas and Wells.

Resident Representatives: Evelyn Leck, Linda Shields and Angie Wilcox

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2010 (*to follow*)

4. **RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO REPORTS OF THE SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No Items

5. **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS FROM COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND NON EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

No Items

6. **FORWARD PLAN**

No Items

7. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

- 7.1 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MFTS) 2011/12 to 2014/15 – Potential Further Discussions – *Scrutiny Manager*
- 7.2 Safer Hartlepool Partnership – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

8. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL MONITORING/CORPORATE REPORTS

No Items

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 9.1 Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 – Implementation of Requirements – *Scrutiny Manager*

10. CALL-IN REQUESTS

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

13. EXEMPT ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 13.1 Cabinet Response to The Call-In of the Cabinet's Decision Relating to the Senior Management Review (para 2) - *Cabinet*

i) Date of Next Meeting Friday 28th January 2011, commencing at 2.00 pm in the Chamber

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

10 December 2010

The meeting commenced at 2.30 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Chair: Councillor Marjorie James

Councillors: Allan Barclay, Rob Cook, Bob Flintoff, Ann Marshall, Arthur Preece, Carl Richardson, Jane Shaw, Chris Simmons, Stephen Thomas and Ray Wells.

Resident Representatives

Christine Blakey and John Maxwell

Officers: John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer

Peter Turner, Principal Strategy Development Officer

James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer

Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services

119. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Stephen Akers-Belcher, Sheila Griffin and Resident Representatives Evelyn Leck and Linda Shields.

120. Declarations of interest by Members

None

121. Confirmation of the minutes of the meetings held on 22 January 2010 and 12 November 2010

Confirmed. A Member indicated his intention to raise a question regarding the confidential minutes of the meeting of 22 January 2010 to which the Chair agreed to discuss in a confidential session at the conclusion of the meeting.

122. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Reports of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

None

123. Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports – Hartlepool Partnership and Council Proposed Outcome Framework 2011-15 *(Head of Performance and Partnerships)*

The Principal Strategy Development Officer sought the Committee's consideration of the proposed outcome framework for 2011-15 which would be used as the framework for developing departmental plans, the Corporate Plan and the Hartlepool Partnership Performance Management Framework for 2011/12.

The report included background information to the opportunity to review the outcome framework and develop a more targeted and slimmed down version of what was currently in place together with details of the service planning process.

The proposed outcome framework for 2011-15 together with Outcome Owners was attached as Appendix 1 and contained 24 partnership outcomes which was a reduction of 10 on the previous framework, 3 departmental outcomes for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods and 6 Organisational Development outcomes, a reduction of 5 from 2010/11.

Further work was currently being undertaken to develop the actions that would underpin the outcomes and which would appear in the Service Planning documents. Members were referred to the key steps in agreeing the Departmental and Corporate Plans, as detailed in the report. It was noted that consideration of the Corporate Plan would be presented to this Committee on 25 February 2011.

In relation to the proposed outcomes relating to greater access to employment and skills opportunities and fewer children in Hartlepool to experience the effects of poverty, Members questioned whether these were realistic or achievable given the impact of the current budget reductions on the Council. The Principal Strategy Development Officer advised that whilst achievement of the outcomes would be a challenge, some outcomes were more aspirational than others. Following further discussion, Members requested that further information be provided on the risks of not achieving the proposed outcomes to which the Committee was advised that this information would be included in the report to this Committee and individual Forums in January/February as part of consideration of the Departmental and Corporate Plans.

Recommended

That the proposed outcome framework for 2011-15 be agreed and further information on the risks of not achieving the proposed outcomes be provided to this Committee and respective Scrutiny Forums for further consideration.

124. Forward Plan – December 2010 to March 2011 (*Scrutiny Manager*)

Members noted the contents of the Forward Plan December 2010 to March 2011.

125. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents

None.

126. Consideration of Request for Scrutiny Reviews from Council, Executive Members and Non Executive Members – Referral Business Transformation Programme Board – Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer informed Members of a referral from the Business Transformation Programme Board meeting held on 16 November 2010 to the Overview and Scrutiny Function. Members were referred to a copy of a letter from the Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to the Programme Board, attached at Appendix A, which raised concerns about an agenda item the Board was considering relating to Revenues and Benefits together with a copy of the subsequent response from the Performance Portfolio Holder, as Chair of the Business Transformation Board, attached at Appendix B.

It was noted that the Performance Portfolio Holder had requested the referral into “Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report” be completed for presentation at Cabinet on 24 January 2011.

The Assistant Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer was in attendance at the meeting to respond to any questions from Members.

Further details of discussions were set out in Minute 127 overleaf.

Recommended

That the referral be formally received.

127. Referral into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report – Scoping Report *(Scrutiny Support Office)*

Members were referred to the scoping report which included background to the referral into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report. The report included the following:-

The aim of the investigation

To gain an understanding of the proposals contained in the 'Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report' and assess those proposals against Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into Child Poverty / Financial Inclusion.

Terms of Reference

- (a) To gain an understanding of the rationale and level of savings required for this service area as part of the business transformation process;
- (b) To explore and express a view on the proposals for savings identified within the 'Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report';
- (c) To consider if there are any additional / alternative potential savings not currently identified in the 'Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report'; and
- (d) To analyse the impact of the 'Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report' in relation to the Committee's investigation into Child Poverty / Financial Inclusion.

Details of the potential areas of enquiry/sources of evidence together with the proposed timetable were outlined as set out in the report.

The Chair stated that in order to meet the required timescales for completion of the referral, a copy of the report which had been considered by the Business Transformation Programme Board was required in advance of the next meeting scheduled for Friday 17 December at 1.00 pm. A provisional meeting had also been scheduled for Friday 7 January at 2.00 pm should this be necessary in order to complete any outstanding business to complete the referral.

The Chair advised that the report considered at Business Transformation Board was a confidential report and advice was sought as to how this information would be considered at the next meeting. In the event that the report would remain confidential and the matter considered in closed

session, Resident Representatives would be notified in advance of the meeting.

Concerns were expressed regarding the issue of vacant posts, the potential gaps in savings targets as a result, how the savings targets within the business transformation programme were being achieved and that areas that could deliver larger savings without any impact on front line services were not being effectively explored.

In response to concerns regarding the use of agency staff, Members were advised that agency staff had not been employed by the authority since August 2010.

Recommended

- (i) That the proposed remit of the referral, be agreed.
- (ii) That this item be deferred pending receipt of further information for consideration at the next meeting.

128. Call-In Requests

None.

129. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute No. 130 "Matters arising from the Minutes - Call-in of Decision: Senior Management Review 2008" paragraph 2, namely information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

130. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 22 January 2010

Details of the Committee's deliberations were set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Recommended

Details of the Committee's recommendations were set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

The meeting stood adjourned at 4.10 pm to be reconvened on Friday 17 December at 1.00 pm.

**Upon being reconvened on Friday 17 December 2010
at 2.08 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

Present:

Councillor: Marjorie James (in the Chair)

Councillors: Rob Cook, Bob Flintoff, Sheila Griffin, Ann Marshall, Arthur Preece, Chris Simmons, Stephen Thomas and Ray Wells.

Also in attendance:

Councillor Jonathan Brash, Portfolio Holder for Performance

Officers: Joanne Machers, Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

131. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Stephen Akers-Belcher.

132. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

**133. Local Government (Access to Information)
(Variation) Order 2006**

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute No. 134 – Referral into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report paragraphs 1 and 2, namely information relating to any individual or information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

**134. Referral Into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery
Option Report** (*Assistant Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer*) This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, namely information relating to any individual (para 1) and information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual (para 2).

The report sought the Committee's views on the Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report in relation to the referral from the Business

Transformation Programme Board. A number of queries were raised by Members and it was suggested that answers to these queries be provided at a further meeting of this Committee. Further details can be found in the confidential section of the minutes.

Recommended

Details of the Committee's recommendations can be found in the confidential section of the minutes.

The meeting stood adjourned at 4.10 pm to be reconvened on Friday 7 January 2011 at 2.00 pm.

Upon being reconvened on Friday 7 January 2011 at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Marjorie James (in the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Bob Flintoff, Sheila Griffin, Ann Marshall, Chris Simmons, Stephen Thomas and Ray Wells.

Also in attendance:

Councillor Jonathan Brash, Portfolio Holder for Performance

Officers: Joanne Machers, Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer
John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer
Julie Pullman, Awards and Benefits Security Manager
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

135. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher and Rob Cook.

136. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

137. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on

the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute No. 138 – Referral into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report paragraphs 1 and 2, namely information relating to any individual or information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

138. Referral Into Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery

Option Report (*Assistant Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer*) This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, namely information relating to any individual (para 1) and information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual (para 2).

The report sought the Committee's views on the Revenues and Benefits Service Delivery Option Report in relation to the referral from the Business Transformation Programme Board. At the previous meeting held on 17 December 2010 a number of queries were raised by Members and officers were in attendance to provide clarification on the queries raised. Further details can be found in the confidential section of the minutes.

Recommended

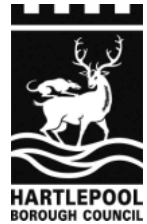
Details of the Committee's recommendations can be found in the confidential section of the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 3.16pm.

CHAIR

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

21 January 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY
(MTFS) 2011/12 TO 2014/15 – POTENTIAL
FURTHER DISCUSSIONS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To make provision for potential further discussions, should they be required, as part of the consultation process in relation to the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MtfS) 2011/12 to 2014/15.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will be aware that a meeting Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is to be held on the 14 January 2011 as part of the second stage of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MtfS) 2011/12 to 2014/15 consultation process.
- 2.2 With the timescale for approval of this year's budget has been even tighter than ever, every effort has been made by Scrutiny to complete the formalisation of its response for consideration by Cabinet on the 24 January 2011. As part of the final stage of this process, a detailed report is to be considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 14 January 2011, along with evidence from the Cabinet, Chief Executive and Directors.
- 2.3 Given the scale of the budgetary challenge facing the Local Authority, and possible depth / duration of debate, it was recognised that discussions could potentially not be completed on the 14 January 2011. On this basis, an item has been added to today's agenda to accommodate the potential for further discussions.
- 2.4 As the meeting on the 14 January has not been held at the time of production of today's agenda it was not known if this additional opportunity for discussion would be needed. In order to meet Access to Information requirements, this 'holding' report has been included with today's agenda papers to provide the potential for further discussions, should it be required.

- 2.5 It will not be until after the meeting on the 14 January that the need for additional discussions at today's meeting will be known. As such, should you require clarification of the outcome of the meeting on the 14 January, or details of the issues to be discussed at today's meeting, please contact the Scrutiny Manager (for contact details please see below),

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the report be noted.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in production of this report.

5. CONTACT OFFICER

Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

21st January 2011



Report of: Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

Subject: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee about the development of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's draft strategy, as part of the Authority's Budget and Policy Framework.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established a statutory duty for the Local Authority and Police to form a partnership and produce a 3 year strategy, based on a review of crime and disorder which occurred in the previous 3 years. The Police Reform Act 2002 extended this duty to include the Primary Care Trust, Police Authority and Fire Authority. The Policing and Crime Act 2009 also extended this duty to include the local Probation Trust from 1st April 2010. Collectively these 6 bodies are known as Responsible Authorities for the purposes of the partnership provisions in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 2.2 Following a review of the partnership provisions in the 1998 Act, the Police and Justice Act 2006 amended the Act, so that new regulations could be introduced, which would extend the statutory duty placed collectively on the Responsible Authorities.
- 2.3 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 came into force on 1st August 2007 and set out minimum standards on how the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) should function in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle crime, disorder and substance misuse in Hartlepool. This duty was extended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009, to cover reducing re-offending.
- 2.4 One requirement of the Regulations is that the SHP must produce an annual strategic assessment, instead of reviewing crime and disorder which occurred in the previous 3 years.

2.5 The purpose of the strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety problems that will inform and enable the partners to:

- Understand the patterns, trends and shifts relating to crime and disorder and substance misuse;
- Set clear and robust priorities of their partnership;
- Develop activity that is driven by reliable intelligence and meets the needs of the local community;
- Deploy resources effectively and present value for money;
- Undertake annual reviews and plan activity based on a clear understanding of the issues and priorities.

2.6 A summary of the Partnership Plan must be published by 1st April 2011.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2011 PARTNERSHIP PLAN IN HARTLEPOOL

3.1 The SHP considered its fourth annual strategic assessment in December 2010. A summary of the findings from the strategic assessment is included in the draft strategy for 2011-2014, which is attached at **Appendix A**.

3.2 The SHP has reviewed its four strategic objectives contained in the strategy for 2008-2011 and adjusted their focus slightly for 2011 – 2014:

Current Objective 2008-2011	New Objective 2011-2014
1. Reduce crime	1. Reduce crime and repeat victimisation
2. Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol	2. Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
3. Improve neighbourhood safety and increase public confidence, leading to a reduced fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	3. Create confident, cohesive and safe communities
4. Reduce offending and re-offending	4. Reduce offending and re-offending

3.3 The annual priorities for 2011/12, which have been established from the strategic assessment conducted in December 2010 have been agreed as:

- Acquisitive crime – specifically domestic burglary and theft
- Violent crime – including domestic violence and abuse
- Alcohol treatment, delivery of alcohol strategy and drug dealing and supply
- Anti-social behaviour – including links to private rented properties and alcohol related youth ASB

- Criminal damage – specifically damage to dwellings
- Confidence and cohesion
- Prevent and reduce offending, re-offending and the risk of offending

An action plan for 2011/12 will now be established covering each priority.

- 3.4 In addition, the SHP has agreed that it must continue to provide drug treatment – which has a planning process previously prescribed by Government for both adults and young people. The National Treatment Agency (NTA), which is a special health authority, and will become part of Public Health England in future, has encouraged Partnerships to continue to use its planning process, although this is not essential now.
- 3.5 The Assistant Director for Community Safety and Protection will make a presentation to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the reasons for selecting the strategic objectives and annual priorities outlined above at paragraph 3.2 and invite comments on how the Council and the community can assist with the delivery of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's 3 year strategy and annual action plans.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.
- a) considers the contents of the report and the draft strategy attached at Appendix A and question the Assistant Director for Community Safety and Protection accordingly;
 - b) formulates any comments and observations on this Budget and Policy Framework item to be fed back to Cabinet.

5. CONTACT OFFICER

Alison Mawson, Assistant Direction Community Safety & Protection
Regeneration & Neighbourhoods
Hartlepool Borough Council
Civic Centre, Level 3
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY.

Tel: 01429 284342

Email: alison.mawson@hartlepool.co.uk

Background Papers

Report to Safer Hartlepool Partnership on 8th October 2010
Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment 2010

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

Draft Strategy 2011-2014 to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse and reducing re-offending in Hartlepool

REVIEW OF PAST PERFORMANCE

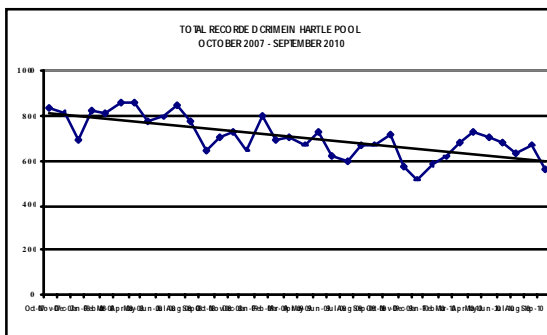
Hartlepool is a safer place than it was 3 years ago.

Between March and May 2010, the Council’ citizen panel (Viewpoint) survey revealed that almost 50% of respondents were not worried about having their homes broken into or things stolen from their car.

This is very encouraging when compared to the October 2007 results of 36% and 38% respectively.

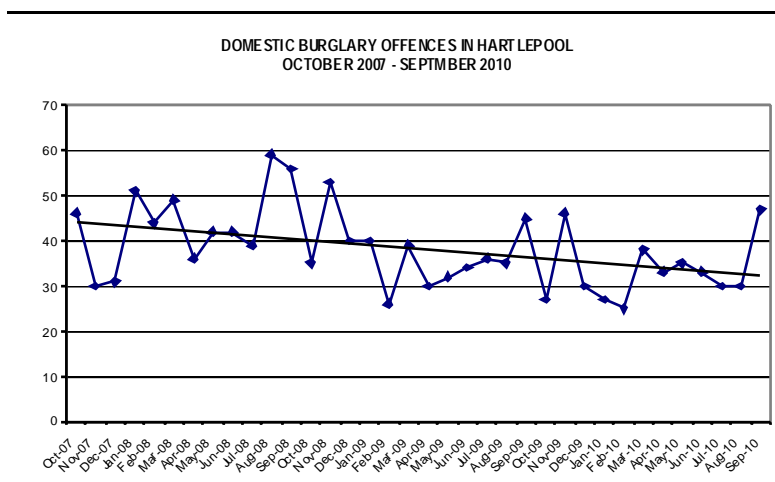
At the Partnership “face the people” event held in July 2010, the majority of attendees said more should be done to help/support victims.

Recorded crime has reduced by 5% compared to the previous 12 months.



Violence and criminal damage account for more than 40% of all recorded crime. Acquisitive crime offences such as burglary, vehicle crime and theft also continue to be a prominent feature.

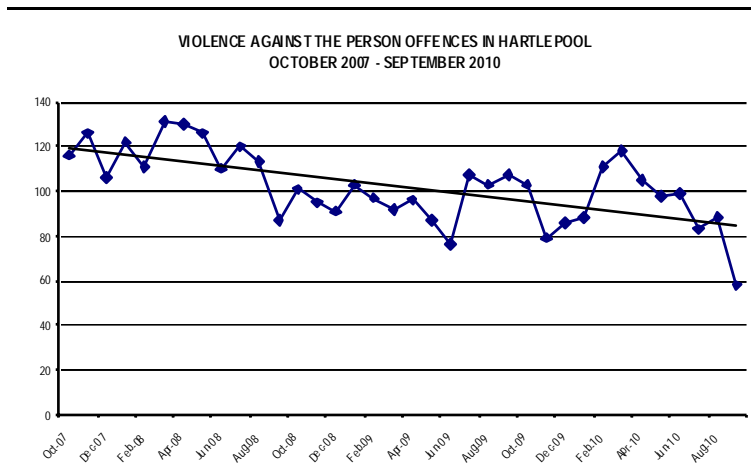
Domestic burglary offences (406) have reduced by 10% compared to the previous 12 months and 36% since 2006/07 (634).



Valuable metal theft has increased by 15% and shop-theft has increased by 5%.

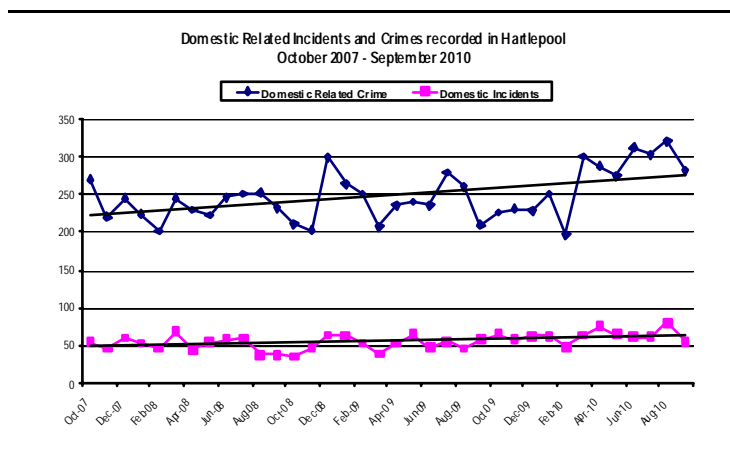
Lead theft from properties and cable theft from railways mainly account for the valuable metal. Offences of shop theft at 20 stores in the town accounted for 62% of offences, with each store reporting 10 offences or more.

Over the last 3 years non domestic violence against the person offences have been decreasing.



Almost two-thirds of non domestic violence offences in the town centre are linked to alcohol and almost a quarter to drugs. 75% of offences in the town centre occurred between 0000-0400 hours.

During the 12 month assessment period (i.e. Oct 09 to Sept 10) domestic related incidents have increased by 11% and domestic related crimes recorded by 21 %



16% of domestic related incidents are linked to alcohol. Just over 50% of domestic related incidents occur in Stranton, Brus, Owton, Dyke House and Burn Valley wards. Victim analysis shows that more than a third (34%) of crimes involved a child under 10 years (535 children) and a third of these children actually witnessed the crime.

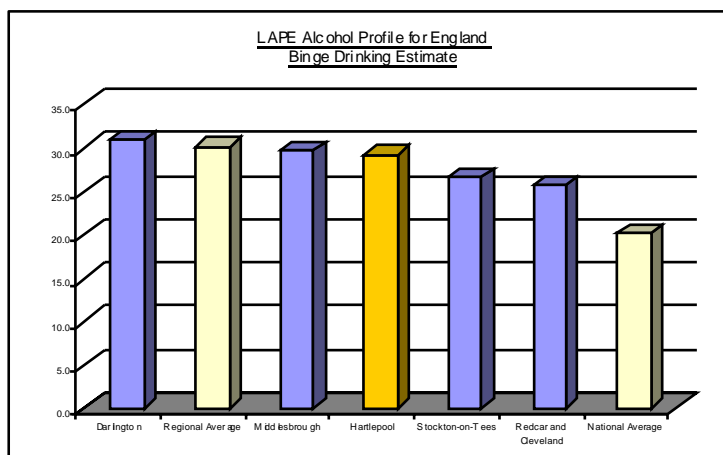
Since the introduction of the Specialist domestic violence court in Hartlepool in April 2010, more than half of the cases (59%) have resulted in a successful prosecution.

The majority of victims of domestic violence are female, with male victims presenting relatively low numbers. Offender data shows the opposite gender balance.

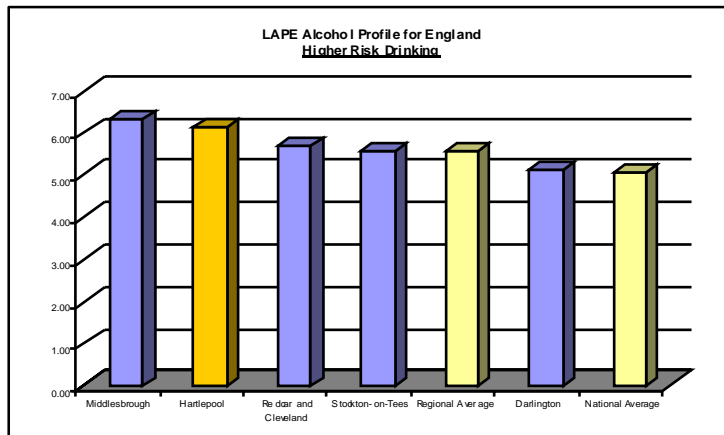
Alcohol continues to be a contributory factor in the occurrence of crime and disorder, specifically violence and anti-social behaviour.

Alcohol related anti-social behaviour incidents account for almost half (49%) of all alcohol related incidents recorded by Cleveland Police. Peak times recorded for alcohol related crimes and incidents correspond with the concerns of the Police and Hartlepool Borough Council's Licensing Committee that, longer opening hours have not had the desired effect of dispersing people away from the town centre across a longer time frame, but have merely shifted the time when most incidents are likely to occur from 0200 hrs to 0400hrs.

Hartlepool has the third highest estimate of binge drinking in the Tees Valley and one of the highest in the country (ranked 314 out of 324).



Levels of harmful (higher risk) drinking, defined as men drinking over 50 units per week and women over 35 units, are also high nationally (ranked 296 out of 324).

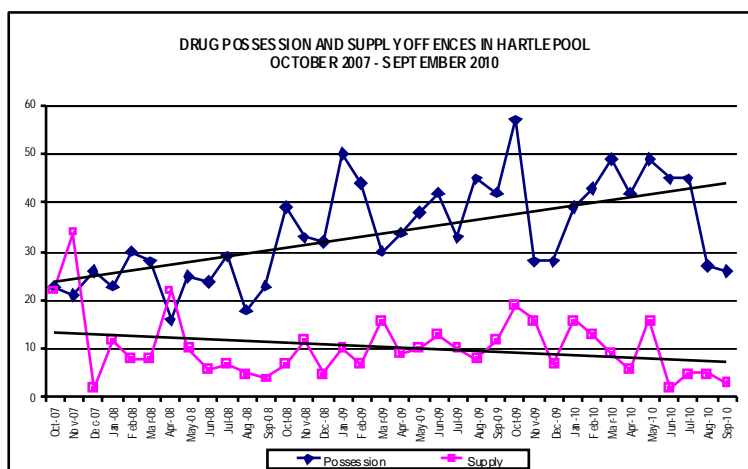


Rates of hospital admissions linked to alcohol have increased by 17% between 2009/10 and 2008/09. Hartlepool’s hospital admission rate at 2186 per 100,000 population is slightly lower than the regional average (2420), but higher than national average (1743).

Locally, 2 in 5 young people stopped by the police for anti-social behaviour have an association with alcohol, with the vast majority (87%) stopped on Friday and Saturday nights.

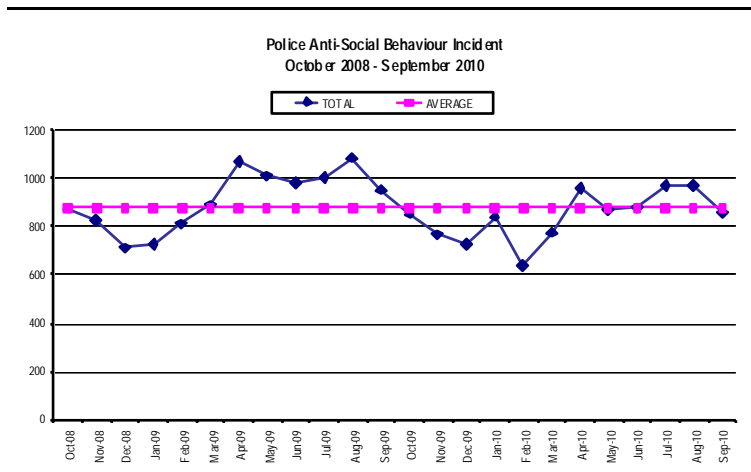
Similar to the previous 12 months, there have been over 550 drug offences recorded in Hartlepool.

Drug possession offences continue to follow a steep increasing trend, whereas supply offences are following decreasing trend. Class B drug types continue to account for the majority (79%) of drug offences, with offences recording an 11% increase year on year. Offences are predominantly in relation to cannabis, with 86% of Class B drug supply offences relating to the production/cultivation of cannabis.



Total Police recorded anti-social behaviour incidents in Hartlepool have reduced by 8% when compared with the previous assessment period.

Despite this reduction, anti-social behaviour incidents remain above average during the spring and summer months, where over the last two consecutive reporting years incidents have peaked during the month of August.

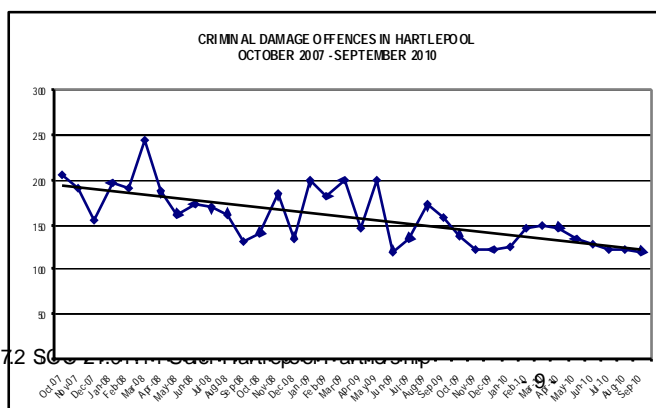


Alcohol, youths and off-road motorbikes have a significant impact on anti-social behaviour. All eleven test purchase visits to licensed premises by under-age persons were unsuccessful (i.e. no sale made). But Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs (HMRC) have seized 400 litres of spirits and 200 litres of wine during the 12 month period, with the greatest volume in TS24 postcode areas.

There have been 50 racially or religiously motivated crimes recorded in Hartlepool, which represents a slight increase compared to the previous year.

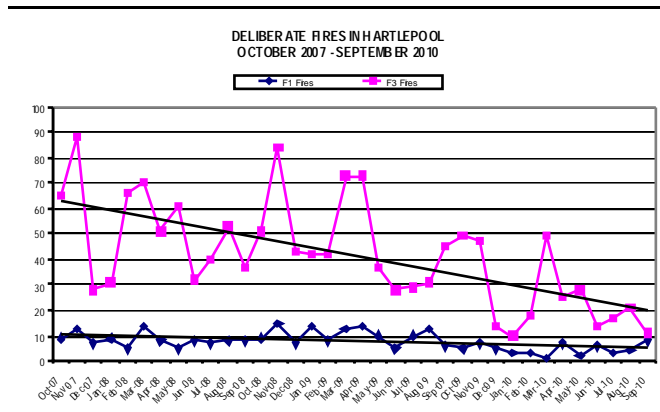
In addition, the Police have also recorded 20 racially motivated incidents, 16 homophobic incidents, 2 disablist, 1 faith and 2 transphobic incidents, with the majority involving inappropriate comments/verbal abuse. Partner agencies also record hate incidents (i.e. Housing Hartlepool, ASB Unit, Schools).

Total criminal damage offences in Hartlepool have reduced by 18.5%, yet still account for 20% of total crime.



Criminal damage to dwellings (40%) and vehicles (35%) continue to be the most prominent offence types in this crime category, with alcohol being a contributory factor.

Incidents of deliberate fire setting in Hartlepool have reduced by 49% when compared to the previous reporting period with secondary fires (F3) and deliberate property fires (F1) experiencing a reduction in incident of 48% and 56% respectively.

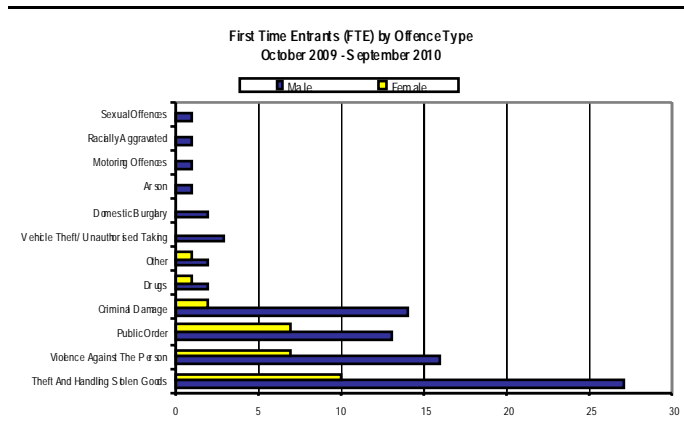


During the assessment period, the cohort of individuals identified as Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO's) consisted of 36 males aged between 19 and 38 years, with the cohort of High Crime Causers (HCC's) being 31 individuals aged between 21 and 44 years, 7 of whom were female.

It is evident that substance misuse continues to be a contributory factor in the offending behaviour of PPOs and HCCs where during this reporting period, PPOs have accounted for 13% of positive drugs tests and HCCs accounted for a further 12%.

In relation to all Probation clients 49% of females stated that they were a victim of domestic violence. Almost 40% of male clients stated that they were perpetrators of domestic violence.

During this assessment period there have been 111(83 male and 28 female) young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time, a 34% reduction when compared to the same period last year.



During this assessment period the Youth Offending Team has dealt with total of 302 young people, (237 male and 64 female). These individuals have been involved in 631 instances of crime within Hartlepool. Repeat offending is highly apparent with 27 young people being responsible for a third of these instances. Repeat offenders are predominantly male, aged between 16 and 17 years.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Locally, the vision of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership was revised in 2010 to:

“working together to create a Safer Hartlepool”.

Whereas the Sustainable Community Strategy for the town has a slightly different aim in relation to community safety:

“make Hartlepool a safer place by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and tackling drugs and alcohol”.

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership provides the lead role for development and delivery of the community safety theme within the Sustainable Community strategy.

During Autumn 2010, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has reviewed its strategic objectives from 2008 and refocused them slightly:

Current Objective 2008 - 2011	New Objective 2011 - 2014
1. Reduce crime	1. Reduce crime and repeat victimisation
2. Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol	2. Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
3. Improve neighbourhood safety and increase public confidence, leading to a reduced fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	3. Create confident, cohesive and safe communities
4. Reduce offending and re-offending	4. Reduce offending and re-offending

Each year since 2007, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has conducted an annual assessment during December, to enable it to establish annual priorities for action in the following financial year. The annual priorities for 2011/12 will be:

- Acquisitive crime – specifically domestic burglary and theft
- Violent crime – including domestic violence and abuse
- Alcohol treatment, delivery of alcohol strategy and drug dealing and supply
- Anti-social behaviour – including links to private rented properties and alcohol related youth ASB
- Criminal damage – specifically damage to dwellings
- Confidence and cohesion
- Prevent and reduce offending, re-offending and the risk of offending

These priorities will be reviewed and updated each year.

This overall community safety strategy, is complemented by other Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategies covering alcohol harm, domestic violence and anti-social behaviour, together with detailed annual plans for substance misuse (both for adults and young people) as required by the National Treatment Agency, and the Youth Offending Service Strategic Plan.

MEASURING THE SUCCESS OF THE STRATEGY

In the 2008-2011 strategy, Government prescribed improvement indicators, with agreed targets, to be included within the Local Area Agreement for all themes from the Sustainable Community Strategy.

In 2010, the new coalition government has determined that it will not set indicators and outcomes for partnerships. These must be agreed locally, as the National Indicator (NI) suite has been abandoned. At a recent meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's Business group, which conducts quarterly monitoring of both performance and finance on behalf of the Partnership, an amended suite of indicators was formulated. These are set out in Appendix 1 (to be developed).

The most important measure of success is the feedback received from the community in Hartlepool. The strategic assessment makes reference to the need to improve community engagement. Currently we utilise a range of mechanisms to provide information and advice to the community, for example:

- Partnership newspaper – 2 editions per annum
- Safer Hartlepool website
- Ringmaster (Neighbourhood Watch System)
- Press release and newspaper articles
- Police and community safety forums
- Attendance at resident/community group meetings
- Annual partnership 'face the people' event.

We will also continue to utilise survey mechanisms such as the Council's viewpoint Citizen panel, Police Authority user satisfaction survey and locally commissioned doorstep surveys.

SMART Action Plans covering each priority will be developed by 1st April 2011 and the 3 year Partnership Plan for 2011-2014 will be published before this date.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

21 January 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: CRIME AND DISORDER (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) REGULATIONS 2009 – IMPLEMENTATION OF REQUIREMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Members on the views expressed by Scrutiny Chairs on the suggestions put forward by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) for the implementation of the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 13 November 2009, received a report outlining the requirement within the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 for each local authority to have a Crime and Disorder Committee to:

- i) Review or scrutinise the decisions and actions of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP) and Community Safety Partnership; and
- ii) Make reports or recommendations, regarding the functioning of the responsible authorities who comprise a CDRP or Community Safety Partnership.

2.2 The process by which this new function should be implemented / accommodated was left to the discretion of each local authority, along with its partners, with no requirement for local authorities to alter existing scrutiny structures. In identifying a way forward, Members at the meeting on the 13 November 2009 discussed in detail the pro's and con's of the following options:-

- (i) The creation of a dedicated Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Forum;

- (ii) Inclusion of the function within the remit of the main overview and scrutiny body (i.e. Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee); or
- (iii) Inclusion of the function within an appropriate established Standing Scrutiny Forum.

2.3 Following consideration of the information provided, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee agreed the following (minute no. 102 refers):-

- (i) That initial approval be given for the following arrangements to enable the implementation of the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009:-
 - (a) That the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee incorporate the role of the Crime and Disorder Committee and its responsibilities as identified by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009;
 - (b) That, as and when required, additional policy authority representatives be invited to participate in those meeting where the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is fulfilling its role as the authorities Crime and Disorder Committee as 'expert witnesses'; and
 - (c) That, initially, one meeting a year be diaried to enable the requirements of the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 to be fulfilled.
- (ii) That the recommendations agreed today by the Committee as a way forward be fed on to the responsible authorities, with the results of discussions to be fed back to this Committee.

2.4 In accordance with the wishes of the Committee, on the 20 October 2010, the views of partner bodies (Police, Fire Brigade, etc.) were sought through the SHP on the recommendations outlined in section 2.3 above. At this meeting, the SHP members were very supportive of the implementation of the requirements of the regulations and indicated that:-

- i) Given the cross cutting nature and implications of crime and disorder issues, the role and responsibilities of the Crime and Disorder Committee should be retained within the remit of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee;
- ii) In addition to bringing in police authority representatives, as appropriate, to act as 'expert witnesses' where the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is fulfilling its role as the authorities Crime and Disorder Committee, the ability to co-opt an individual should also be utilised. It was suggested that the co-option of an individual with expert knowledge of partnership working within Hartlepool, and on a wider basis, would be exceptionally beneficial to the process; and

- iii) The dairying of one meeting a year, at which baseline information in relation to the current position / activities and performance of the partner authorities could be provided, would be a good way forward in meeting the requirements of the regulations. It was suggested that the most appropriate time for such a meeting would potentially be between January and June, on the basis that:
- Annual performance / activity reports are finalised at the end of December;
 - Presenting this information at a meeting in between January and June could potentially be beneficial in helping Scrutiny identify issues for further discussion as part of its Work Programme process in June / July; and
 - Holding the meeting the first / main meeting at this time would allow the capacity for additional meetings through out the year to respond / react to any crime and disorder issues that may arise during the year through such routes as referrals, CCfA's and petitions, etc.

2.5 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 12 November 2010 received the comments / suggestion put forward by the SHP. Members requested that a view on the permanent co-option of an individual (as detailed in Section 2.4(ii)) be sought from the Scrutiny Chairs before a final decision was made. In accordance with request, the issue was discussed at an Informal Scrutiny Chairs meeting on the 23 November 2010 with no support expressed for the permanent co-option of a representative on to the membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. The Chairs reiterated their support for the original recommendation made by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 November 2009, that

'As and when required, additional policy authority representatives are invited to participate in those meeting where the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is fulfilling its role as the authorities Crime and Disorder Committee as 'expert witnesses'

3. NEXT STAGES

3.1 To assist Members, combining the views expressed by the SHP, Scrutiny Chairs and the initial recommendations made by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 November 2009, the potential process for consideration of crime and disorder issues through Scrutiny would be as follows:-

- (a) That the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee incorporate the role of the Crime and Disorder Committee and its responsibilities as identified by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009;

- (b) That, as and when required, additional policy authority representatives be invited to participate in those meeting where the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is fulfilling its role as the authorities Crime and Disorder Committee as 'expert witnesses'; and*

** This reflects the alternative suggestion put forward by the SHP (See Section 2.5 above)*

- (c) That 'one' meeting a year be diaried (between January and June) to receive detailed baseline information in relation to the current position / activities and performance of the partner authorities, fulfilling the requirements of the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009; and
- (d) That over and above the 'one' meeting fomally diaried, additional meetings be held ,where necessary, to respond / react to any crime and disorder issues that may arise during the year (i.e. through such routes as referrals, CCfA's and petitions, etc).

3.2 Members are asked to consider the amended potential process and make any amendments they feel appropriate. This will enable the necessary additions / changes to be made through the Constitution Committee and Council to formally include the new powers within the Councils Constitution in time for the new Municipal Year.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That Members:-

- (i) Note the views expressed by the SHP and the Scrutiny Chairs and where consider updating / amending the potential process outlined in Section 3.1 above.
- (ii) Approve the finalised process for Scrutiny consideration of crime and disorder issues, in accordance with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009; and
- (iii) Approve the instigation of the process to make the necessary additions / changes to the Constitution through the Constitution Committee and Council.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper was used in preparation of this report:-

- (i) Police and Justice Act 2006 (www.opsi.gov.uk)
- (ii) The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 (www.opsi.gov.uk)
- (iv) Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England (www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/regions)
- (v) Crime And Disorder (Overview And Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 – Implementation Of The Police And Justice Act 2006 (Sections 19 And 20) – Covering Report – SCC Report - 13 November 2010