



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP AGENDA



Friday 13 December 2013

at 9.30 am

**in Committee Room B,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.**

MEMBERS: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Allan Barclay, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Dave Stubbs, Chief Executive, Hartlepool Borough Council
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Hartlepool Borough Council
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager, Community Safety, Hartlepool Borough Council
Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council
Chief Superintendent Gordon Lang, District Commander, Cleveland Police
Barry Coppinger, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Lucia Sager-Burns, Director of Offender Management, Tees Valley Probation Trust
Councillor Carl Richardson, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority Nominated Member
Ian McHugh, Hartlepool District Manager, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority
John Bentley, Voluntary and Community Sector Representative, Chief Executive, Safe in Tees Valley
Andy Powell, Director of Housing Services, Housing Hartlepool
Hartlepool Magistrates Court, Chair of Bench (vacant)

ALSO INVITED:

Karen Hawkins, Representative of Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group
Mark Smith, Head of Youth Services, Hartlepool Borough Council

- 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 1 November 2013.

4. ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 Environmental Crime Campaign - *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

4.2 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment (Executive Summary) -
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION

None.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

FOR INFORMATION:

Date of next meeting – Friday 7 February 2014 at 9.30 am in the Civic Centre,
Hartlepool.



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP DECISION RECORD

1 November 2013

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Christopher Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)
Councillor Allan Barclay, Elected Member, HBC
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager
John Bentley, Safe in Tees Valley
Andy Powell, Housing Hartlepool

In accordance with Council procedure rule 5.2 (ii) Carl Broughton was in attendance as a substitute for Chief Inspector Gordon Lang, Ian Wolstenholme as substitute for Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner, Julie Keay as substitute for Lucia Saiger-Burns, Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust

Also present:

Karen Hawkins, Hartlepool and Stockton Clinical Commissioning Group
Tabitha Falcus, NoMs North East
Les Jones, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority

Officers: Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
Alastair Rae, Public Relations Manager
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

39. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Dave Stubbs, Chief Executive, Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health, Mark Smith, Head of Youth Services, Lucia Saiger-Burns, Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust, Gordon Lang, Chief Superintendent, Cleveland Police, Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston, Cleveland Police, Ian McHugh, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority and Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner.

40. Declarations of Interest

None.

41. Minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2013

Confirmed.

42. Working with Communities Presentation *(Representative from the Fire Service)***Issue(s) for consideration**

A representative from Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority, who was in attendance at the meeting, provided the Partnership with a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to the role of the Fire Service. The presentation included an overview of the methods used to engage with young people, how services were delivered to the community and focussed on the following:-

- Cleveland Fire Brigade Vision
- Why is Prevention Important?
- Incidents by number and by type
- 2002/03 – 9288 incidents
 - 512 accidental dwelling fires
 - 8262 deliberate fires
- 2012/13 - 2609 incidents
 - 161 accidental dwelling fires
 - 1829 deliberate fires
- What contributed to incident reductions in 2012/13
- Economic Cost of Fire
- Community Health and Wellbeing Services
- Vulnerable Persons Process
- Vulnerability of Persons supported April – October 2013
- Stay Safe and Warm Initiative
- Children and Young Persons Services
- Education
- Engagement Strategy/Engagement Programmes
- Use of Volunteers
- Campaigns
- Brigade Communications

In response to a request for clarification as to how the support arrangements were publicised to the community, the Partnership was advised that the service worked with key agencies and the Safeguarding Board to identify vulnerable persons and the service was promoted via

regular media updates.

With regard to the range of activities available to young people in other areas, a query was raised as to why activities of this type were not available in Hartlepool. The representative advised that discussions were ongoing with the Neighbourhood Manager in relation to piloting the Troubled Families Initiative in Stockton and indicated that this issue could also be explored. Members welcomed the use of volunteers and were keen to extend this initiative in Hartlepool. It was suggested that a link to the Hartlepool Borough Council website be added outlining how to become a volunteer.

The Chair thanked the representative for his attendance at the Partnership.

Decision

- (i) The contents of the presentation and comments of Members be noted.
- (ii) That the potential to extend activities available to young people in other areas of Hartlepool be explored.
- (iii) That the Fire Service volunteering information be added to Hartlepool Borough Council's website.

43. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Domestic Violence Update *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Purpose of report

To update the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on progress made on the Domestic Violence Strategy 2012-2015 and associated action plan.

To consider a recommendation to reconvene the Domestic Violence Strategic Group to oversee implementation of the strategy.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods presented the report which provided background information in relation to the strategy. Attached as an appendix to the report was the Domestic Violence Action Plan which provided an overview of progress made over the last 18 months and described some of the partnership activity that had been undertaken to address domestic violence and abuse in Hartlepool. Details of performance against domestic violence and abuse indicators as well as support service indicators were set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

Members were advised that work undertaken against the plan was progressing well and the results outlined in terms of the reduction in

domestic violence and abuse incidents together with take up of services suggested that the Partnership's Strategy for breaking the cycle of domestic violence and abuse in Hartlepool was achieving what it set out to do. However, domestic related crime in Hartlepool continued to be a problem with Hartlepool continuing to experience higher than average domestic related crime rates across the Cleveland area. It was reported that in view of the future challenges ahead, as detailed in the report, the need to refresh the current strategy for 2015-18 and the need to review commissioning arrangements, there was an identified need to reconvene the Domestic Violence Strategic Group.

Following the conclusion of presentation of the report, Members discussed the contents of the report and issues highlighted including the need to consider all cohorts who may be subject to domestic violence, the impact of welfare reform and the importance of inter agency working to ensure the correct measures were in place to protect vulnerable individuals. With regard to the recommendation to reconvene the Strategic Domestic Violence Group, it was highlighted that the current membership should be reviewed and should include representatives from the Police, specifically their Vulnerability Unit, Child and Adult Services, an Equality and Diversity Officer as well as the Voluntary and Community Sector. Emphasis was placed upon the need for established links in relation to operational and strategic issues. It was suggested that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Partnership to include clarification on the proposed membership of the Strategic Domestic Violence Group.

Decision

- (i) That the contents of the report and progress made in delivering the Domestic Violence Strategy Action Plan be noted.
- (ii) The Partnership agreed the proposals to reconvene the strategic Domestic Violence Group to lead on the refresh of the 2015-2018 strategy, develop the action plan for 2014-15 and oversee the commissioning process.
- (iii) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Partnership to include clarification on the proposed membership of the Strategic Domestic Violence Group

44. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Communications Strategy *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Purpose of report

1. To agree a draft revised Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) Communications Strategy.
2. To consider options for strengthening implementation of the Communications Strategy.

Issue(s) for consideration

The report provided background information in relation to the Communications Strategy and detailed the responsibility of the Public Confidence and Cohesion Group for delivery of the Strategy on behalf of the Partnership. The success of the Group in leading the way on the Communications Strategy had been limited with many of the channels of communication not being fully utilised. The workload was not currently being shared equally among the various partner organisations with Hartlepool Borough Council's Press/Public Relations team being the only one to be represented regularly at meetings.

The importance and need for a higher profile in relation to the SHP brand was growing, the reasons for which were set out in the report. Approval was sought in relation to the proposed draft Communications Strategy, attached as an appendix to the report. The Partnership were also asked to consider the following options, details of which were included in the report, in terms of how the Communications Strategy should be taken forward in the future:-

Option 1 – Continue with current arrangement

Option 2 – A renewed commitment from partners to play an equal part

Option 3 – Appoint a Press/PR Team

A lengthy discussion ensued in relation to how the Communications Strategy should be taken forward. A Member raised concerns that the ringmaster facility was not been adequately utilised and highlighted the importance of promoting this service.

Whilst noting the resource implications of appointing a Press/PR Team, the Chair was keen for the Partnership to further explore the benefits of this option together with the funding options and cost implications given the weaknesses identified in relation to communication. The Neighbourhood Manager, on behalf of the Public Confidence and Cohesion Group had considered this issue and were of the view that Option 2 may be an appropriate way forward. The need for discussions with key partners in relation to funding was also highlighted.

Decision

- i) That the revised Communications Strategy be agreed on the basis that an action plan would be developed to support delivery of the strategy.
- ii) That option 3 be pursued in relation to future implementation of the strategy.
- iii) That a further report be provided in relation to the benefits of Option 3 to include financial and funding considerations.

45. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance

(Neighbourhood Manager (Community Safety))

Purpose of report

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 2 – July 2013 to September 2013 inclusive.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Neighbourhood Manager provided the Partnership with an overview of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 2, as set out in an appendix to the report. Information as a comparator with performance in the previous year was also provided.

Whilst noting an overall increase in anti-social behaviour and the reporting figures of anti-social behaviour incidents, the Partnership debated the potential reasons for this trend, whether there had been an increase in the use of the 101 number and queried whether the calls were monitored. The representative of the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed to further explore this issue and provide clarification of the reasons for this increase as well as details of incidents reported by type, for discussion at the next meeting of the Partnership.

Decision

That Quarter 2 performance of the Partnership be noted and further information in relation to monitoring be awaited.

46. Public Confidence and Cohesion Group Update

(District Commander, Fire Service and Neighbourhoods Manager, Community Safety)

Purpose of report

To provide the Partnership with an update on the work currently being undertaken by the Public Confidence and Cohesion Task Group.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Neighbourhood Manager presented the report which provided background information together with an update on the work currently being undertaken by the Group. The Task Group had developed an annual action plan, attached at Appendix A, which was monitored at its bi-monthly

meetings alongside the Partnerships Community Cohesion Framework Action Plan.

In general, progress against the Task Group Action Plan was positive. The increase in reported incidents of hate crime suggested that the work being undertaken to raise awareness of hate crime and the promotion of third party reporting centres was having a positive impact. The action that the group had been unable to make progress on to date was the Group's desire to explore opportunities to make better use of the Ringmaster system. Cleveland Police were currently developing a new communications tool and it was anticipated that this particular action would be rolled forward into 2014-15 once the new system was in place.

Given the limited progress that had been made on the expansion of the Ringmaster system, the Chair requested further details in this regard for consideration at the next meeting.

In relation to the emphasis placed upon communication, Members welcomed the opportunity to pursue the feasibility of a student placement with Teesside University to be placed within the Press and Public Relations Team and the Neighbourhood Manager responsible for Community Safety agreed to explore this.

Decision

- (i) That progress made by the Public Confidence and Cohesion Task Group be noted.
- (ii) That further details of the Ringmaster system be provided for consideration at the next meeting.
- (iii) That the opportunity to pursue the feasibility of a student placement with Teesside University to be placed within the Press and Public Relations Team be explored.

47. Community Cohesion Framework (2012-2015) Update (*Neighbourhood Manager (Community Safety)*)

Purpose of report

To update the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on the current position of the Community Cohesion Framework (2012-2015) and associated action plan for 2013/14.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Neighbourhood Manager reported on the background to the development of the framework together with details of progress made to date on the Community Cohesion Framework action plan. It was

highlighted that a large proportion of the actions outlined were on track for completion within the specified timescales.

Decision

That the contents of the report and progress made on the Community Cohesion Framework (2012-2015) and associated action plan (2013/14) be noted.

48. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Funding 2014/15 *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Purpose of report

To update the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on Community Safety funding 2014/15.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods advised that over the last three years Community Safety grant funding had significantly reduced with many funding streams previously available to the Partnership coming to an end. In 2014/15 the following funding currently available to the Partnership would also cease:-

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| ▪ Police and Crime Commissioner | £ 78,916 |
| ▪ Youth Crime Action Plan (EIG) | £169,700 |
| ▪ Police Funding | £ 38,110 |

The Council's savings programme would also result in significant reductions, details of which were set out in the report. It was noted that the combined loss of funding (£723,009) would result in a restructuring of the Neighbourhood Management Service. The report included details of other services currently in receipt of Partnership funding.

Concerns were expressed regarding the impact of the loss of funding streams and the Partnership debated what areas were likely to suffer the most significant impact as a result. The Chair indicated the need to tackle the prevention agenda in a different way, explore all options and potential outputs and emphasised the importance of maintaining front line services and staff where possible as opposed to investing in retaining buildings.

Decision

That the contents of the report and comments of Members be noted .

49. Feedback from Domestic Homicide Review – Verbal Update *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods provided feedback from a recent Domestic Homicide Review. The Home Office had requested clarification on some issues which the Independent Chair was currently examining.

Given the timescale for submission of the information and the requirement for the Partnership to endorse the submission, the Partnership's views were sought in terms of the preferred approach for approving the information prior to submission to the Home Office. The option to call an additional meeting or delegate authority to the Chair of this Committee and the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods to finalise the submission on behalf of the Partnership was highlighted. Members agreed that the most appropriate way forward was to delegate responsibility to the Chair and Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods to finalise the submission on behalf of the Partnership.

Decision

- (i) That the information given be noted.
- (ii) That the Chair and Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods be authorised to finalise the submission to the Home Office on behalf of the Partnership.

50. Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was reported that the next meeting was scheduled for 13 December 2013 at 9.30 am.

The meeting concluded at 11.00 am.

CHAIR



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

13th December 2013



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME CAMPAIGN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider a proposal to take forward an Environmental Enforcement Campaign in Hartlepool
- 1.2 To seek agreement from SHP Partners to sign up to the Environmental Enforcement campaign.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 During 2012/13 Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee undertook an investigation into the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) with reference to the Marmot principles being used to ensure full account was taken of the wider determinants of health in relation to the general needs of the population, and current provision of local services.
- 2.2 Within this context environmental services were considered by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum under the principle of 'creating and developing healthy and sustainable places and communities'. The Scrutiny Forum were content that the town was generally clean and well cared for but recommended that the potential to increase greater collaboration between partners such as the Police on environmental enforcement activity be explored to address the priorities of local communities.
- 2.3 A number of Council Officers, together with representatives from other agencies such as the Police and Fire Service, have met to discuss the potential for greater collaborative working in the future. This has resulted in a proposed Environmental Enforcement Campaign to be delivered across Hartlepool which was approved by the Councils Neighbourhood Services Committee in November. (Full report attached at **Appendix 1**)

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Environmental crime is a global issue, but within the context of neighbourhoods, it is generally classed as anti-social behaviour that affects the quality of life of local communities and predominantly includes, offences occurring within the public realm such as littering, abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, dog fouling and graffiti, extending to deliberate fire setting, criminal damage, noise nuisance and nuisance behaviour.
- 3.2 Often termed 'signal crimes', if environmental crimes are not addressed at the earliest opportunity, there is a risk that more incidents, disorder, or serious crime may occur. A delayed and uncoordinated response to this type of crime can also signal to communities that no-one cares about them, leading to a downward spiral in community cohesion, an increase in anxiety and fear, and changes in behaviour to protect themselves and their property.
- 3.3 The proposed Environmental Crime Campaign and the proposed branding of 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' aims to improve collaborative working and consists of the following three elements:
- Neighbourhood Action Days – one per month
 - Creating a bank of Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteers
 - Making use of new technologies to improve reporting and feedback to communities

4. SECTION 17 CONSIDERATIONS OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' Initiative will assist the Safer Hartlepool Partnership to address its priority objective of creating confident, cohesive and safe communities. Environmental crime has a significant impact on communities feelings of safety and if these issues are not addressed at the earliest opportunity, there is a risk that more incidents, disorder, or serious crime may occur.
- 4.2 A delayed and uncoordinated response to this type of crime can also signal to communities that no-one cares about them, leading to a downward spiral in community cohesion, an increase in anxiety and fear, and changes in behaviour to protect themselves.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership considers the proposed 'Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign', and action plan.
- 5.2 That members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership agree to their own agencies participating in the scheme underpinned by a partnership Compact.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The need for greater collaboration and enforcement in tackling environmental crime and community priorities was identified by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum as an area for improvement within the context of the JSNA investigation topic during 2012.
- 6.2 Environmental crime and clean streets continue to be a priority for local residents when considering quality of life issues.
- 6.3 A failure to tackle environmental crime in a co-ordinated way could lead to greater, and more serious incidents of crime and disorder, increase the fear of crime, and impact adversely on cohesion within neighbourhoods.
- 6.4 The proposed 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' Campaign will be intelligence/evidence led with responses being proportionate to the problems identified. This will ensure the efficient targeting of agency resources in a climate where all services are under increasing pressure due to cuts in public expenditure.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Neighbourhood Services Committee Report - Environmental Crime Campaign

8. CONTACT OFFICER

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NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

11th November 2012



Report of: Director Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME CAMPAIGN

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key Decision (test (i)/(ii)) Forward Plan Reference No.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To consider a number of measures that aim to reduce environmental crime in Hartlepool.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 During 2012/13 Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee undertook an investigation into the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) with reference to the Marmot principles being used to ensure full account was taken of the wider determinants of health in relation to the general needs of the population, and current provision of local services.

3.2 Within this context environmental services were considered by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum under the principle of 'creating and developing healthy and sustainable places and communities'. The Scrutiny Forum were content that the town was generally clean and well cared for but recommended that the potential to increase greater collaboration between partners such as the Police on environmental enforcement activity be explored to address the priorities of local communities.

3.3 A number of Council Officers, together with representatives from other agencies such as the Police and Fire Service, have met to discuss the potential for greater collaborative working in the future. This has resulted in a proposed Environmental Enforcement Campaign to be delivered across Hartlepool.

4. WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME?

- 4.1 Environmental crime is a global issue, but within the context of neighbourhoods, it is generally classed as anti-social behaviour that affects the quality of life of local communities and predominantly includes, offences occurring within the public realm such as littering, abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, dog fouling and graffiti, extending to deliberate fire setting, criminal damage, noise nuisance and nuisance behaviour.
- 4.2 The tools and powers to tackle environmental crime are contained within, but are not limited to the Environmental Protection Act 1980, Noise Act 1996, Control of Pollution Act 1974, Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005, and the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003.
- 4.3 Public satisfaction with street cleanliness has improved over the last ten years, but local surveys continue to highlight environmental issues at the top of residents' concerns. Many residents also base their view of a Local Authority's overall effectiveness on how they perceive its success in tackling environmental crime, particularly the cleanliness of its streets.
- 4.4 Often termed 'signal crimes', if environmental crimes are not addressed at the earliest opportunity, there is a risk that more incidents, disorder, or serious crime may occur. A delayed and uncoordinated response to this type of crime can also signal to communities that no-one cares about them, leading to a downward spiral in community cohesion, an increase in anxiety and fear, and changes in behaviour to protect themselves and their property.

5. WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL?

- 5.1 Evidence presented to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum in 2012 described the types of environmental crime in Hartlepool and the services available to tackle environmental issues.
- 5.2 Environmental crime forms part of the core business of many local agencies such as the Council, Police, and Fire Service with each agency having their own monitoring arrangements to determine the level and type of environmental crime, together with where it is occurring to enable resources to be appropriately targeted.
- 5.3 Data collated from Hartlepool Borough Councils Contact Centre, Cleveland Police, and Cleveland Fire Brigade for the twelve month period 1st July 2012 – 30th June 2013 provides an insight into the levels and predominant types of environmental crime in Hartlepool, and demonstrates how types of environmental crime can vary from one locality to another within the Borough. A summary of environmental incidents recorded across agencies broken down on a ward level basis for the period 1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013 is attached at **Appendix A**.

Appendix 1

- 5.4 Analysis of the Councils Contact Centre data reveals that during the twelve month period a combined total of 1,383 incidents of dog fouling and fly-tipping complaints were recorded. These issues occur across all wards but as evidenced in the analysis are more prevalent in the Manor House, Burn Valley and Victoria wards where hotspot locations are identified.
- 5.5 Analysis of Police recorded 'anti-social behaviour incidents' of which 'environmental anti-social incidents' accounted for 3.3% of the total number of anti-social behaviour incidents in Hartlepool recorded by the Police, the misuse of open green spaces by off road motorcycles in the Rural West ward is apparent. Whereas locations affected by disproportionate levels of criminal damage offences are situated within the Burn Valley and Victoria wards.
- 5.6 During the reporting period more than half (58%) of fires attended by Cleveland Fire Brigade in Hartlepool were deliberately started, with the ignition of refuse being a predominant factor particularly in the Headland & Harbour ward.
- 5.7 Results from the Hartlepool Household Survey 2013 indicate that when residents were asked about problems in their local area (Question 36), dog/dog mess and litter/rubbish were a problem for 56% and 38% of residents respectively. The reduction in those who feel able to influence local services, together with a reduction in those who say they feel that their neighbourhood is one where people from different backgrounds get along, also suggests that greater efforts should be made to connect with our communities on key neighbourhood level issues that matter to them, both as a means of ensuring they can influence services on a day to day basis, and as a means of involving communities in tackling environmental problems.
- 5.8 To ensure that agency responses are proportionate, and that resources are effectively targeted the proposed environmental crime campaign will be underpinned by a sound evidence base.

6. PROPOSAL

- 6.1 As evidenced in the information presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, a range of preventative, educational, and enforcement measures are already undertaken by partners to tackle the problem of environmental crime in Hartlepool. However, following the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Forum, further discussions with partners have highlighted a number of possible measures that could be taken forward to tackle environmental crime as follows:
- Neighbourhood Action Days – one per month
 - Creating a bank of Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteers
 - Making use of new technologies to improve reporting and feedback to communities

Subject to Neighbourhood Services Committee approval, work will begin to further develop these measures as part of a broader environmental crime campaign which would be branded 'Respect Your Neighbourhood'.

Details of each strand of the campaign are as follows:

(i) Neighbourhood Action Days

The 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' monthly 'day of action' will be enforcement orientated, but will also include measures to improve neighbourhood safety and create safer streets such as addressing poor lighting by repairing broken street lights, cutting back bushes that both obscure the pedestrian highway and provide convenient hiding places for would be criminals, and tackling street drinking.

The campaign would be underpinned by a problem solving approach through the analysis of community concerns, visual audits, and partnership data (as outlined in para 5 above). It would operate on one day per month, and all eleven wards within Hartlepool would benefit from the initiative on a rotational basis. Depending upon what the issues are in any particular area on the basis of the evidence collated, Neighbourhood Action Days could potentially include:

- Litter, dog fouling, dogs off lead enforcement
- Planning enforcement activity such as section 215
- Highways enforcement such as overhanging trees
- Illegal Parking enforcement
- Housing standards enforcement
- Proactive anti-social behaviour patrols
- Trading standards and environmental health activity – illegal waste carrying, noise nuisance and pest control
- Tethered horses
- Arson reduction activity
- Community and/or school litter picking
- Off road bikes
- Scrap metal theft
- Community Pay Back completing reparation work – such as street furniture repairs / refreshing painting

The agencies involved in the Neighbourhood Action Days will vary according to the presenting issues in the ward but will generally include the Police, Fire Service, Housing Hartlepool, and the Councils Neighbourhood, Regeneration, and Public Health Service Teams.

The 'Respect Your Neighbourhood Initiative' will also be accompanied by a co-ordinated media campaign. An official launch of the initiative with partners will take place, and a before and after story following each Neighbourhood Action Day will be provided. However, consideration will

need to be given to the enforcement nature of Neighbourhood Action Day operations where it would not be productive to give advance warning to prolific offenders. It is therefore proposed that the Neighbourhood Action days will not be heavily publicised prior to the 'day of action' but there will be a high level of publicity on the actual day including posters on lampposts and in shops to raise awareness of the Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign. Attached at **Appendix B** are examples of the publicity materials that will be used to accompany 'Neighbourhood Action Days.'

Responsibility for co-ordination of the Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign will rest with the Councils Neighbourhood Management Team who will identify and agree an annual programme of Neighbourhood Action Days across the eleven wards within the Borough and co-ordinate the development, implementation, and evaluation of 'neighbourhood action day' plans.

However as one of the main aims of the initiatives is to promote collaborative working, all agencies will be expected to play their part in developing the Neighbourhood Action Day Plans, leading on activities within their own expertise on the day, and feeding back on the results achieved on the day to enable the success of the initiative to be monitored. As such it is proposed that the initiative will be underpinned by a 'Compact' between those agencies involved outlining their commitment to the 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' campaign.

Co-ordination of multi-agency involvement will be undertaken through the towns multi-agency Joint Action Groups who will determine the activity that will be undertaken on Neighbourhood Action Days on the basis of the information received from the Councils Neighbourhood Development Officers in relation to community concerns; information from environmental audits undertaken in conjunction with local agencies, residents and ward members, and information provided by Safer Hartlepool Analysts who will collate and analyse data from the Councils Contact Centre and Household Survey, Anti-Social Behaviour unit, Police, and Fire Service.

Environmental Audits will be undertaken two weeks in advance of JAG meetings to enable the information to be collated alongside other data ready for presentation to the JAG. The action plan will contain input, and output and data to measure the success of the initiative which in turn will enable a 'You Said, We Did' approach' to be adopted that would form the basis of the publicity after the event including the key outputs achieved on the day.

(ii) Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteer Scheme

The aim of the Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteer (NIV) Scheme would be to identify, encourage and support residents who are interested in playing an active role in keeping their communities clean and safe. Working alongside the Local Authority and its partners NIV's would be community champions who proactively monitor the cleanliness of their local area, rapidly

report environmental or community safety issues, organise and participate in community events e.g. litter picks, and environmental audits in conjunction with “*Respect Your Neighbourhood*” activity days. This will also include using volunteers to complete NI 195 during environmental audits undertaken as part of the proposed ‘Neighbourhood Action Days.’

Supported by the Local Authority, a scheme of this nature would bring services (environmental enforcement team, police, fire brigade) and communities closer. It would empower communities to take ownership of their local environment and assist in developing long term strategies to improve their local environmental quality. Initial conversations with the Fire Service, has indicated that a bank of volunteers operating from the Hartlepool base could be put to task on street audits.

(iii) Interactive Smart Phone and other Technologies

This will involve using web and smart phone technology to make it easier for the public to report incidents of fly-tipping, littering and graffiti as they come across them. By submitting photographs and information, the Council could more easily locate the individual incident and provide feedback about what action is/has been taken, including before and after pictures. The interactive nature facility has been used in the London Borough of Lewisham and has reportedly increased community intelligence. Through the feedback facility the public also feel that they are influencing their local area.

The use of such a facility has been explored with partners in Stockton Borough Council, who are developing a web-based application that can be used by local residents to report anti-social behaviour issues and track progress of on-going investigations. Directly linked to Authority Public Protection (APP) System the on-line facility allows residents to include photographic and/or video evidence of the problems that they are experiencing. This is also accompanied by the use of Quick Response (QR) codes located in key community locations, enabling residents with smart phone technology to report anti-social behaviour and community issues while they are out and about in their neighbourhood, providing the Authority with a location marker of the incident and assisting with the identification of hotspot locations.

It is envisaged that this new approach will build confidence between residents and services, and enable officer and partners to investigate and address issues more effectively and efficiently. A reporting facility of this nature could also be extended to report environmental health, trading standards and anti-social behaviour issues, and would provide an additional benefit by opening up traditional routes and freeing capacity for the elderly and the vulnerable.

Social media has also been used successfully by Hartlepool Councils dog warden service since 2010, with the number of people following this

Appendix 1

Facebook page now reaching over 3,200. The original purpose of the site was primarily to re-unite lost dogs with their owners and re-home unclaimed strays. This remit has now grown and the site has become a 'community portal' where information can be shared on a plethora of animal related subjects. The benefits of engaging in social media mean that the service now reaches a wider community, simply and effectively. Through followers 'sharing' posts, the dog warden service currently has a 'reach' of around 17,000 people, which far exceeds the coverage by any other media, and it is also free.

A 'Neighbourhood Action' facebook page could potentially enable the public to report particular issues in their area, post photographs and stimulate debate, but it could also enable the promotion of actions being undertaken by the council and its partner organizations in response to these issues. These can be updated minute by minute and this will hopefully inspire confidence and promote engagement in this initiative.

- 6.2 Timescales in relation to implementation of the different elements of the above scheme will vary with Neighbourhood Action Days being relatively straightforward to arrange and the possibility of the first Neighbourhood Action Day taking place early Spring.
- 6.3 Other elements of the 'Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign' such as building the capacity of neighbourhood improvement volunteers, and use of new technologies will require further development before they can be taken forward and implemented. An action plan outlining the proposed timeline in relation to each element of the Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign is attached at **Appendix C**.

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Neighbourhood Action Days will be delivered from within existing resources/budgets and will impact on the ability of participating agencies to deliver routine services. Due to continued resource pressures being placed on participating agencies, and in order to mitigate the risk of disruption to these routine services, it is proposed that only one Neighbourhood Action Day per month is staged in a targeted area of the town.
- 7.2 Whilst the Environmental Crime Campaign will generally be delivered in line with existing resources, some elements of the initiative such as the use of improved technologies and links with the Councils current ICT system, resourcing staffing outside of normal hours, and promotional materials, will have additional financial implications.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 As outlined in paragraph 7 of the report, there would be a need for financial support to take forward some elements of this initiative, including marketing and promotional materials, an additional resource to enhance the Councils current ICT system, and an increase in staff resources on Neighbourhood Action Days where the evidence presented suggests that it would be appropriate for staff to work outside of normal working hours.

9. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 Any enforcement activity undertaken as part of the initiative will be done so within the bounds of existing legal powers of the relevant agency involved.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 Due to the nature of the enforcement activity there may be a need to extend Neighbourhood Action Days beyond the standard 9-5 working day. This will enable trends in environmental crime to be addressed such as dog fouling, and street drinking that go beyond normal working hours.
- 10.2 Following consultation with the Unions staff participation in out of hours work will be on a voluntary basis. The Single Status Agreement will apply.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 There are no equality or diversity implications

12. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 The 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' Initiative will assist the Council in addressing its section 17 obligations. Environmental crime has a significant impact on communities feelings of safety and if these issues are not addressed at the earliest opportunity, there is a risk that more incidents, disorder, or serious crime may occur.

A delayed and uncoordinated response to this type of crime can also signal to communities that no-one cares about them, leading to a downward spiral in community cohesion, an increase in anxiety and fear, and changes in behaviour to protect themselves.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 That the Neighbourhood Services Committee considers the proposed 'Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign', and action plan.
- 13.2 That the Neighbourhood Services Committee considers and expresses their views on the merits of each of the 3 separate elements of the 'Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign'
- Neighbourhood Action Days – one per month
 - Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteer Scheme
 - Improved technologies to tackle environmental crime
- 13.3 That the Neighbourhood Services Committee considers the above elements of the campaign in light of the potential financial implications associated with the initiative.
- 13.4 That the Neighbourhood Services Committee approves those elements of the Scheme it considers appropriate.

14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 The need for greater collaboration and enforcement in tackling environmental crime and community priorities was identified by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum as an area for improvement within the context of the JSNA investigation topic during 2012.
- 14.2 Environmental crime and clean streets continue to be a priority for local residents when considering quality of life issues.
- 14.3 A failure to tackle environmental crime in a co-ordinated way could lead to greater, and more serious incidents of crime and disorder, increase the fear of crime, and impact adversely on cohesion within neighbourhoods.
- 14.4 The proposed 'Respect Your Neighbourhood' Campaign will be intelligence/evidence led with responses being proportionate to the problems identified. This will ensure the efficient targeting of agency resources in a climate where all services are under increasing pressure due to cuts in public expenditure.

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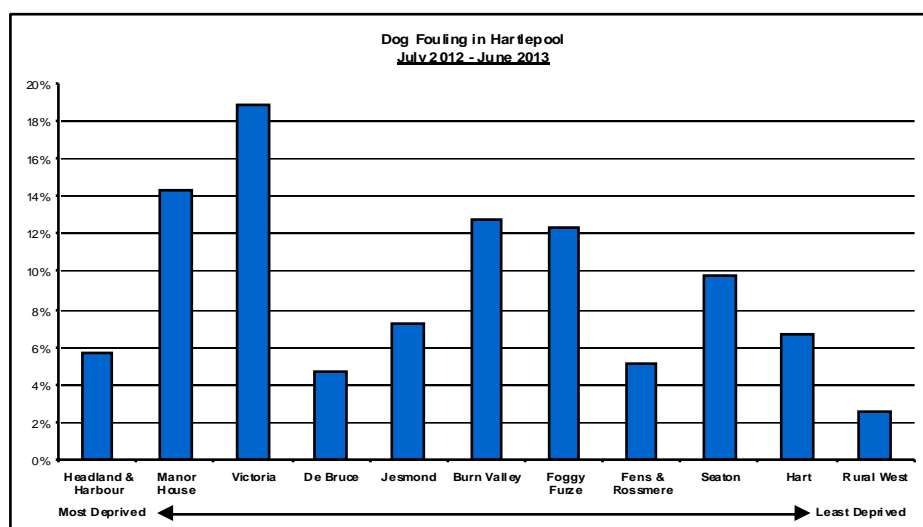
E-mail: clare.clark@hartlepool.gov.uk

What is the extent of environmental crime in Hartlepool?

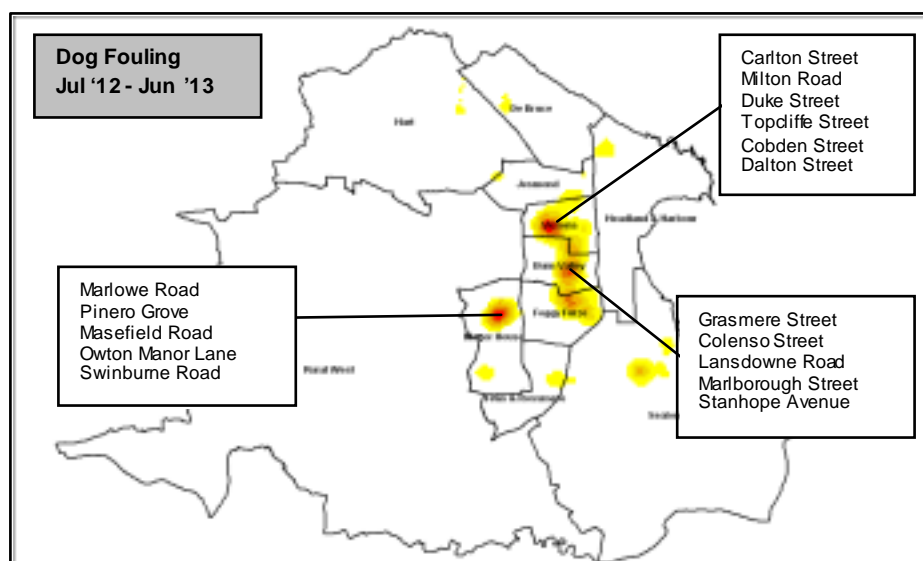
Data obtained from Hartlepool Borough Council Contact Centre, Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire Brigade for the twelve month period 1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013 provides a snap shot of environmental crime in Hartlepool.

Dog Fouling in Hartlepool

During the twelve month reporting period 197 reports of dog fouling were recorded by the Contact Centre. The Victoria and Manor House wards accounted for the largest proportion of reports, 19% and 14% respectively.

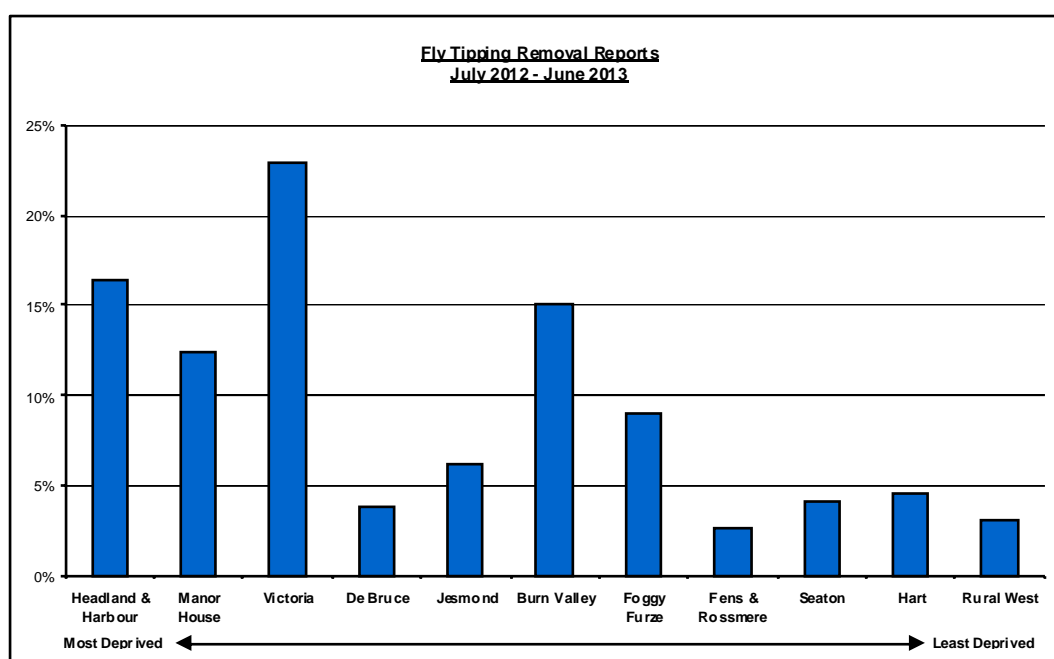
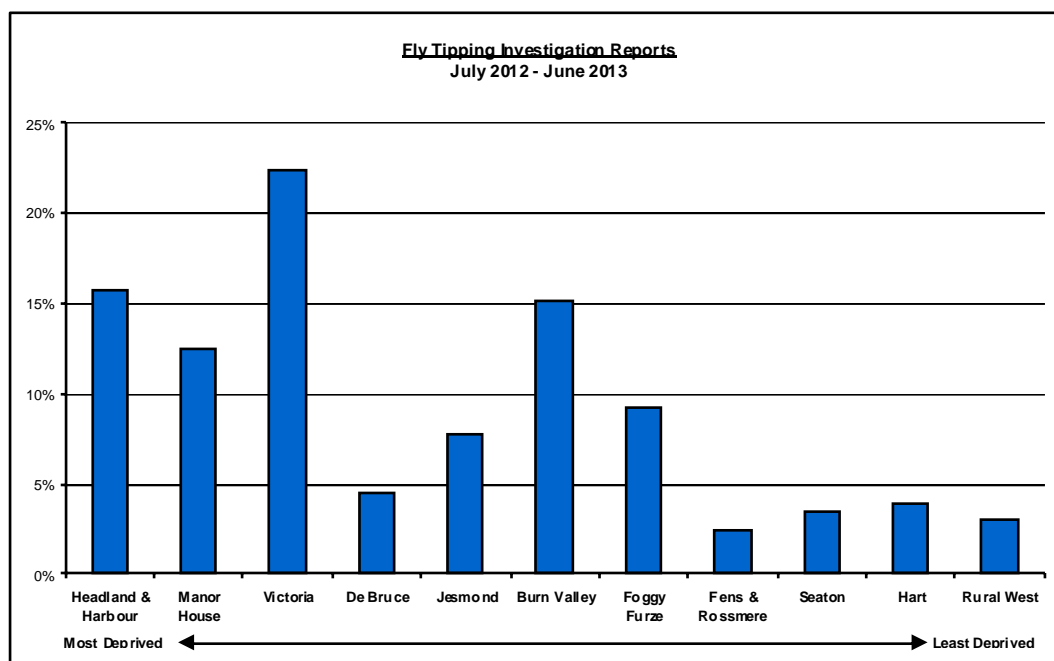


Hotspot locations for dog fouling reports are evident in residential areas located within the Victoria, Burn Valley and Manor House wards. Conversely, analysis of historic Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) data indicates that the majority of dog fouling fines are issued for offences which have occurred in public open spaces, eg. Seaton beach.

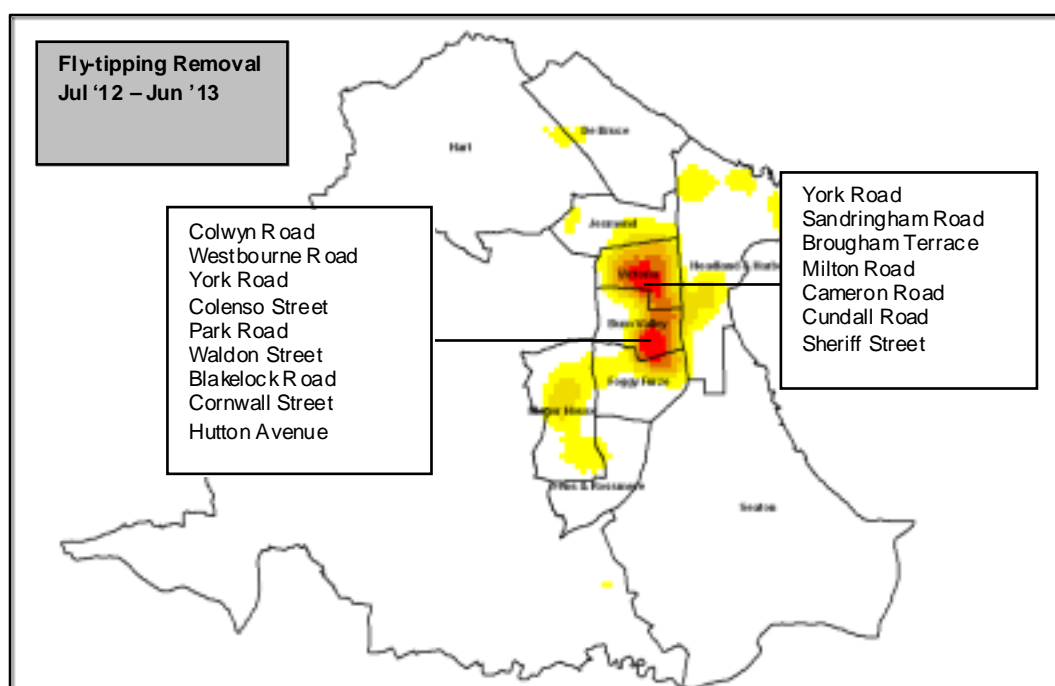
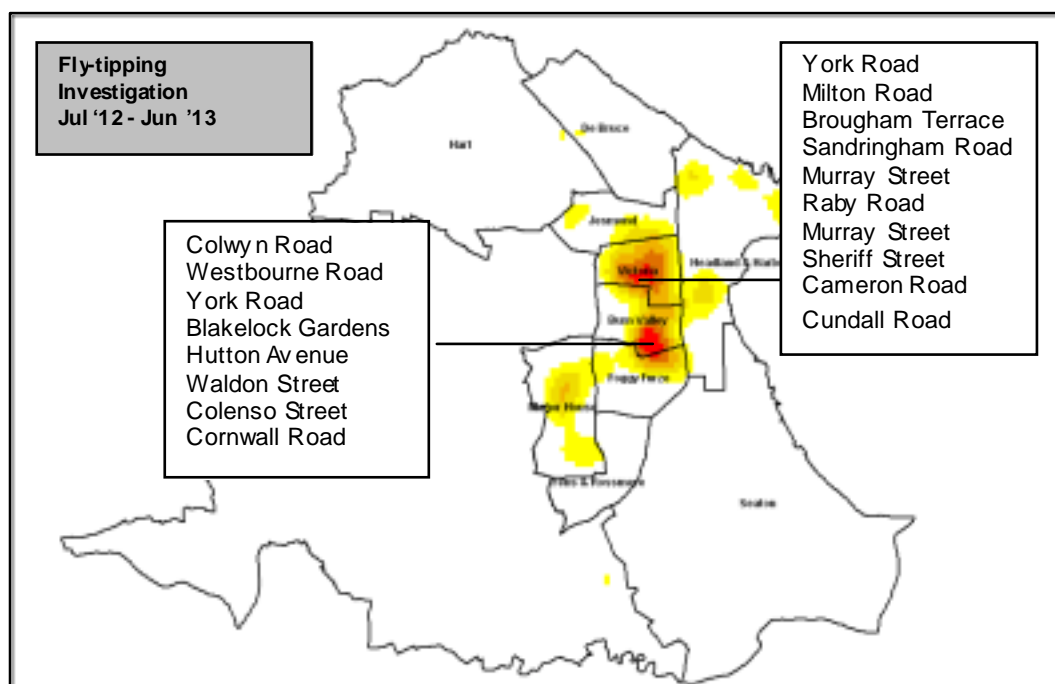


Fly-tipping in Hartlepool

Over the twelve month reporting period there has been 652 fly-tipping investigation reports and 534 fly-tipping removal reports recorded in Hartlepool. Collectively the Victoria and Headland & Harbour wards account for over one third of fly-tipping reports recorded by the Contact Centre.



Hotspot locations for both fly-tipping investigation and removal reports are evident in the Victoria and Burn Valley wards. Household waste continues to be the main type of waste discarded in back lanes/alleys.



Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool

During the twelve month reporting period 7,134 anti-social behaviour incidents were recorded by Cleveland Police in Hartlepool, of this total 239 (3.3%) incidents were categorised as environmental anti-social behaviour which is defined as:

‘Environmental’ deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents

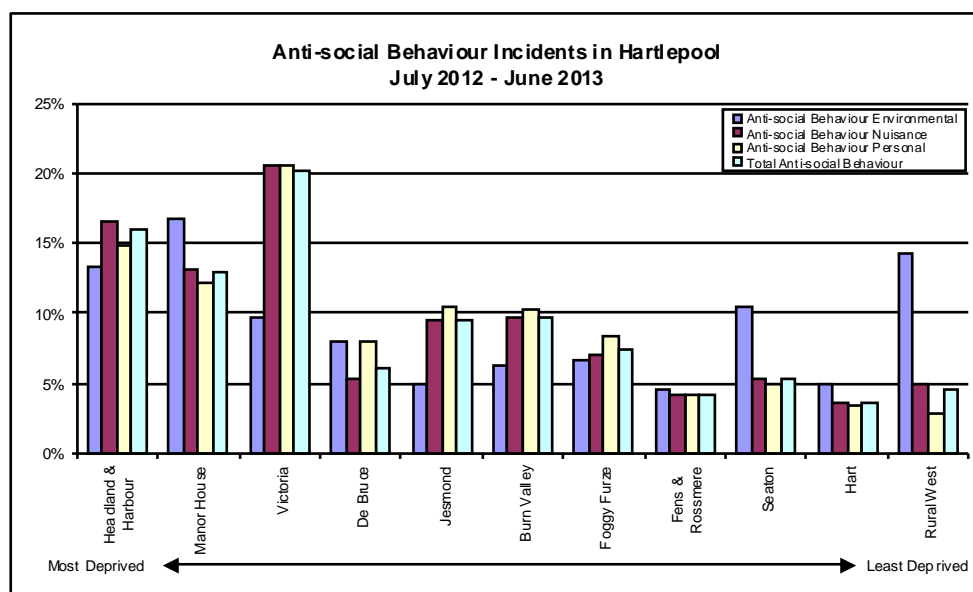
where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments.

This category is about encouraging reasonable behaviour whilst managing and protecting the various environments so that people can enjoy their own private spaces as well as shared or public spaces.

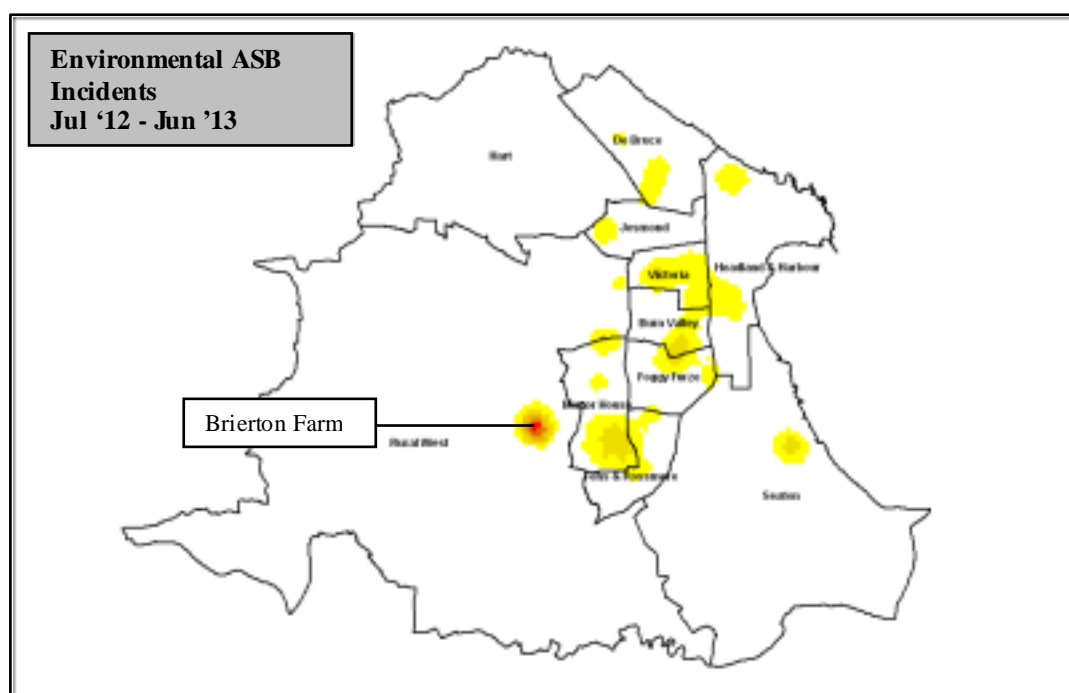
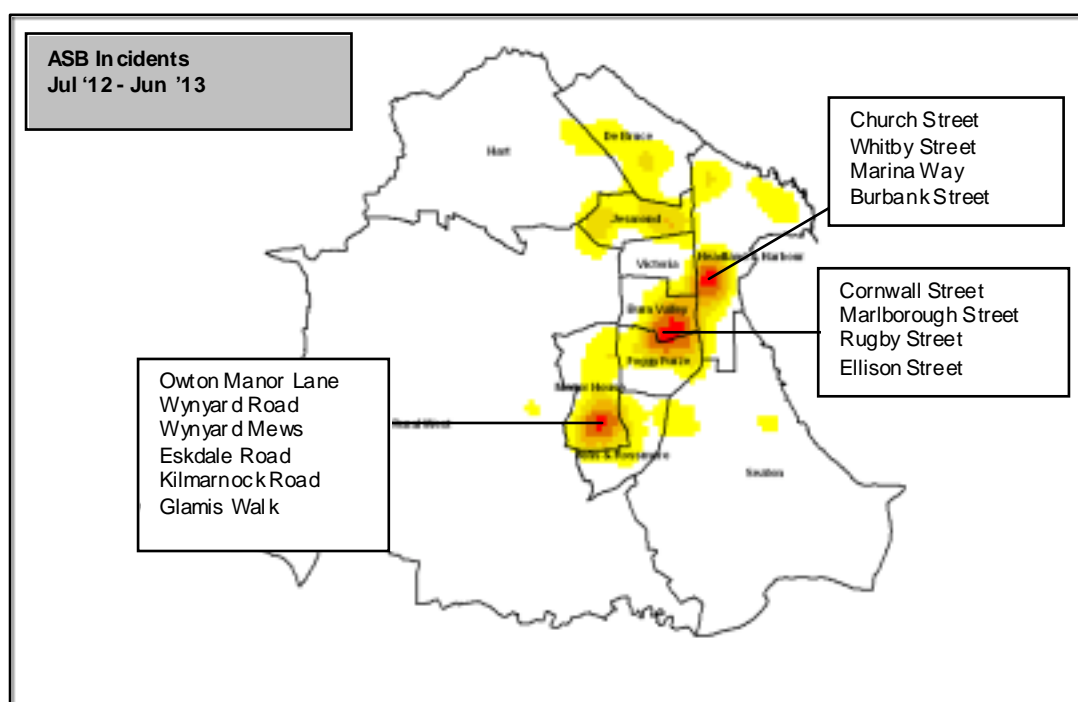
People’s physical settings and surroundings are known to impact positively or negatively on mood and sense of well-being and a perception that nobody cares about the quality of a particular environment can cause those effected by that environment to feel undervalued or ignored.

Public spaces change over time as a result of physical effects caused, for example, by building but the environment can also change as a result of the people using or misusing that space’

Overall the Victoria and Headland & Harbour wards account for the highest proportion of anti-social behaviour incidents in Hartlepool, 20% and 16% respectively. However the Manor House and Rural West wards account for the highest proportion of environmental anti-social behaviour incidents, where the majority of incidents related to the misuse of open green spaces by off road motorcyclists.

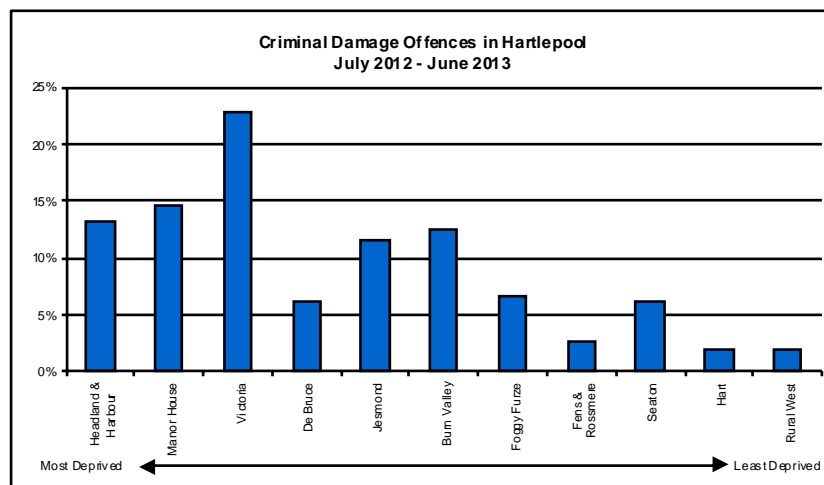


Hotspot locations for all anti-social behaviour incidents are evident in the Headland & Harbour, Bum Valley and Manor House wards. The hotspot location within Headland & Harbour is located within the town centre area incorporating the main night-time economy locations of Church Street and Marina Way, extending eastwards to the residential area of Burbank Street. Interestingly, the anti-social behaviour hotspot location identified in the Bum Valley ward correlates to the dog fouling, fly tipping and criminal damage hotspot locations. In contrast the hotspot location for environmental anti-social behaviour incidents is located in Rural West, centered around Brierton Farm who have reported problems with off road motorcycles.

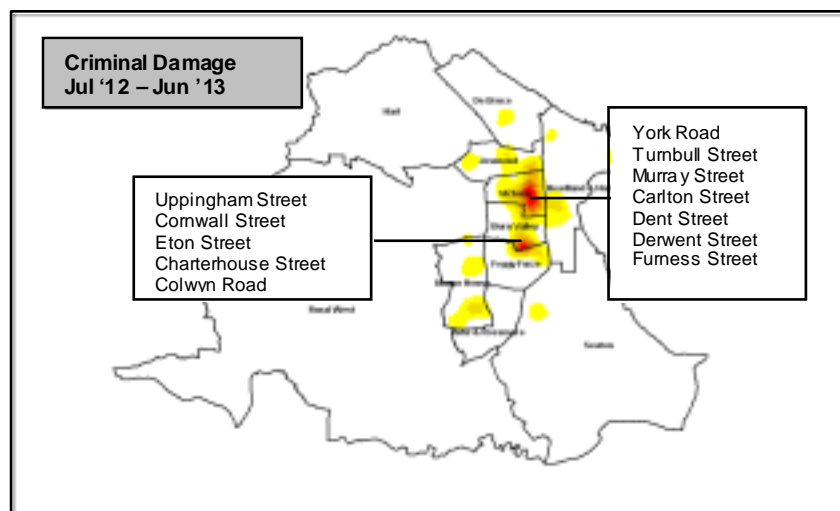


Criminal Damage in Hartlepool (excluding vehicles)

During the reporting period there has been 805 criminal damage offences recorded in Hartlepool. Over one half of these offences occurred in the Victoria, Manor House and Headland & Harbour wards.

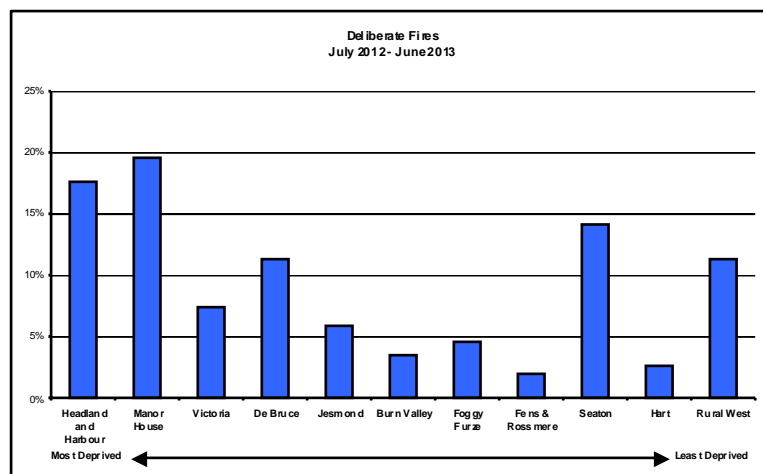


Hotspot locations for criminal damage offences in Hartlepool have been identified in the Victoria and Burn Valley wards, where damage is predominantly caused to the windows of residential and commercial properties.

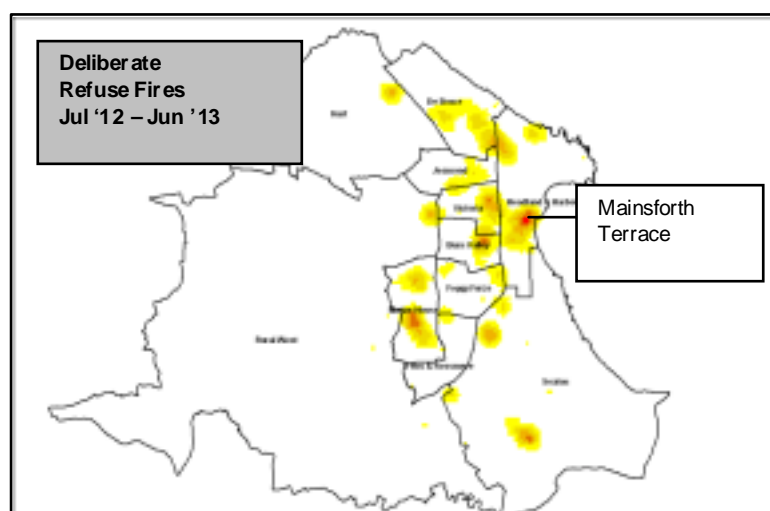
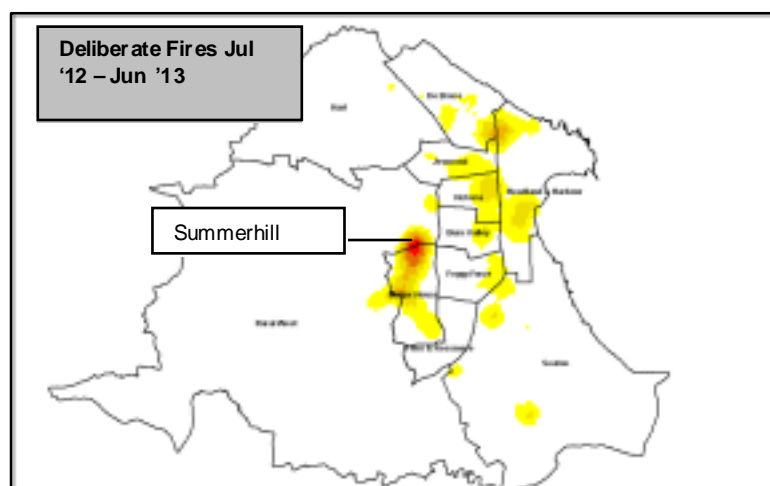


Deliberate Fire Setting in Hartlepool

During the reporting period 256 deliberate fires have been recorded by Cleveland Fire Brigade in Hartlepool, of this total more than 100 (40%) fires involved the ignition of refuse. More than one third of deliberate fires occurred in the Manor House and Headland & Harbour wards.



A hotspot location for deliberate fire setting is evident in the Manor House and Rural West wards, centering around Summerhill where there has been a recent spate of grassland fires. In contrast the hotspot location for deliberate refuse fires is located within the Headland & Harbour ward.





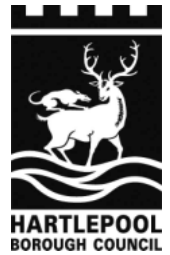
Environmental Crime Campaign Delivery Action Plan 2013/14

| Action | Lead Officer | Support Requirements (what and by who) | Date to be completed | Milestones |
|--|--------------|---|---|---|
| 1) Develop and Implement annual programme of Neighbourhood Action Days | CC/DF | Joint Action Groups HBC Press Office/Neighbourhood/Environmental Services Team HBC /Partners HBC Press Office, Partners Joint Action Groups | December 2013 December 2013 December 2013 January/February 2014 February 2014 | Environmental Audit and Monitoring template agreed Campaign branding and marketing materials in place Compact signed Publicity / launch of campaign First Neighbourhood Action Day to take place February 2013 and days of action to take place monthly thereafter. |
| 2) Create Bank of Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteers | AW | Neighbourhood Development Officers/Environmental Officers, Fire Service | December 2013 | Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteer engagement and recruitment plan completed in October 2013. Recruitment campaign delivered targeting existing networks (including Residents Associations, 'Friends of' groups and community and voluntary groups) and utilising Volunteer Centre in November / December 2013. |
| 3) Use of Smart Phone and other technologies – | CC | ICT / Community Safety Team Environmental Team/ICT | November 2013 February / March 2014 December 2013 | Agree specification with ICT Contract in place/implementation of smart phone technology / QR code Environmental Services section to investigate the potential of community environmental facebook page. |



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

13 December 2013



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment
(Executive Summary)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Safer Hartlepool Partnerships annual Strategic Assessment 2012/13.
- 1.2. To consider and agree the Partnerships strategic objectives 2014 – 2017.
- 1.3 To consider and agree the Partnerships annual priorities 2014/15

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory responsibility to undertake an annual strategic assessment to identify and address the community safety issues that really matter to the local community.
- 2.2 The strategic assessment contains information to aid understanding of the priority community safety issues identified for the communities of Hartlepool, including what has changed over the last year, what work we are doing, how we are measuring effectiveness and future challenges. In addition to this information the executive summary **attached at appendix A** provides a description of the current local and national delivery landscape and a reminder of the objectives and priorities that we set last year.
- 2.3 As the Partnership nears the end of its three year plan 2011-14, the Strategic Assessment 2013 will assist the Partnership in setting strategic objectives to inform the new Safer Hartlepool Partnership Plan 2014-17.
- 2.4 The Strategic Assessment for 2013 also informs the Hartlepool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), the alcohol and drugs needs assessment, Community Strategy, and the Police and Crime Plan produced by the Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is asked to consider the Strategic Assessment 2012/13; consider and agree the strategic objectives outlined for the Partnership over the next three years (2014-15); and consider and agree the SHP annual priorities 2014/15.

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**Safer Hartlepool Partnership
Strategic Assessment 2013**

Executive Summary

November 2013

Acknowledgements

Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment prepared by the Community Safety Research Team, Hartlepool Borough Council.

We would like to thank the following agencies, partners and organisations who have provided data, material and / or comment on this assessment's content:

- Hartlepool Borough Council Hartlepool Borough Council
 - Community Safety Team
 - Youth Offending Service
 - Public Health
 - Child & Adult Services
- Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Cleveland Police
- Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust
- Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner
- Housing Hartlepool
- Balance
- Victim Support
- Harbour
- Hart Gables

Introduction

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory requirement to undertake an annual strategic assessment to identify and address the community safety issues that impact upon and really matter to the local community. It is important to understand not only what is happening where, but what may be causing the problems and the best way to tackle them. All the work of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is intelligence led provided by analysis contained within the Strategic Assessment and other detailed analytical reports.

The strategic assessment contains information to aid understanding of the priority community safety issues identified for the communities of Hartlepool, including what has changed over the last year, what work we are doing, how we are measuring effectiveness and future challenges. The executive summary provides a description of the current local and national delivery landscape and a reminder of the objectives and priorities that we set last year.

As the Partnership nears the end of its three year plan 2011-2014, the Strategic Assessment 2013 will assist the Partnership in setting strategic objectives to inform the new Safer Hartlepool Partnership Plan 2014 – 2017.

The Strategic Assessment for 2013 also informs the Hartlepool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), the Alcohol and Drugs Needs Assessments, Community Strategy and the Police and Crime Plan produced by the Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.

Strategic Objectives & Priorities

As agreed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in February 2013 and detailed in the Community Safety Plan 2013/14, the Partnerships current strategic objectives and priorities are:

| Strategic Objectives 2011-14 | Annual Priorities 2013-14 |
|---|--|
| Reduce crime and repeat victimisation | <p>Acquisitive crime – domestic burglary and theft</p> <p>Domestic violence and abuse</p> <p>Support victims and reduce the risk of repeat victimisation</p> |
| Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse | <p>Address substance misuse through a combination of prevention, control and treatment services</p> |
| Create confident, cohesive and safe communities | <p>Protect and support vulnerable victims and communities including victims of hate crime.</p> <p>Improve public reassurance and fear of crime by actively communicating, engaging and working with local communities.</p> <p>Continue to address anti-social behaviour at a neighbourhood level through effective multi agency working.</p> |
| Reduce offending and re-offending | <p>Tackle offending and re-offending behaviour through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity underpinned by a strong multi agency approach.</p> |

The Delivery Landscape

There are many factors that will impact on the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in the coming years:

- A challenging economic climate, including the impact of welfare reform.
- Changes to commissioning arrangements following the transition of Public Health into Hartlepool Borough Council and the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Significant changes to and development of Government policy in key areas, including re-offending, anti-social behaviour, alcohol and serious organised crime.
- Widespread restructuring and change across local public sector agencies due to the significant loss of funding.
- More integrated working across agencies, placing increased reliance on strong effective partnerships, effectiveness and value for money.

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is well placed to meet these challenges. We have a long established evidence-led service planning and delivery process, ensuring that resources are targeted where they are most needed.

We recognise that community safety priorities impact upon each other, and those of partner organisations, and with limited resources and budgets, there is opportunity to maximise collaborative working and joint commissioning at a local level.

Community engagement and increasing public confidence at a neighbourhood level underpins all partnership work, and involving communities in developing local solutions will become increasingly important. This extends to understanding how we can work more effectively with the community and voluntary sector, and local businesses – not just in terms of delivering against our priorities but also involving these wider partners in identifying the issues for Hartlepool, and their involvement in the prioritisation and planning process.

As a partnership we need to develop new ways to engage with our communities including the increased use of technology and in particular social media, whilst continuing to build good quality relationships with communities to increase social connectedness, confidence, and safety across the neighbourhoods of Hartlepool.

Local Context

Hartlepool is the smallest unitary authority in the North East region and the third smallest in the country comprising of some of the most disadvantaged areas in England. Issues around community safety can be understood by a number of contextual factors:

Population

- Hartlepool has a stable population rate, maintained by low levels of migration.
- Hartlepool has become more diverse in recent years, although a very small proportion of the population are from the Black Minority Ethnic (BME) community.
- 46% of the population in Hartlepool live in five of the most deprived wards in the country, where crime and anti-social behaviour rates are high.

Unemployment

- Unemployment rates in Hartlepool are above the regional average and more than double the national average.
- 14.5% of young people aged 18-24 years are unemployed.
- Hartlepool has high rates of people incapable of work due to disability and ill health.

Housing

- Strong links exist between the occurrence of anti-social behaviour and the location of private rented housing.
- The percentage of long term empty properties in Hartlepool is higher than the regional average.

Deprivation

- Hartlepool has pockets of high deprivation where communities experience multiple issues: higher unemployment, lower incomes, child poverty, ill health, low qualification, poorer housing conditions and higher crime rates.
- Residents living in more deprived, and densely populated areas have high perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour and feel less safe.

Health & Wellbeing

- The health of people in Hartlepool is generally worse than the England average.
- There is a higher prevalence of long term health problems, including mental health.
- The number of alcohol related hospital admissions and hospital stays for self-harm in Hartlepool are significantly worse than the England average.
- The number of Class A drug users in Hartlepool is more than double the national average.

Geography

- Community safety problems are not evenly spread and tend to be concentrated in geographic hotspots, particularly in the most deprived wards in Hartlepool.

Performance – October 2012 to September 2013

| Crime & Incidents | Incidence 2012/13 | Actual change since 2011/12 | % change since 2011/12 |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| All Crime | 6,426 | - 185 | - 2.8% |
| Victim Based Crime¹ | 5,679 | - 43 | - 0.8% |
| Non-Victim Based Crime² | 747 | - 142 | - 16.0% |
| <u>Victim Based Crime Summary</u> | | | |
| Violence against the Person | 1,167 | - 185 | - 13.7% |
| Violence with Injury | 659 | - 159 | -19.4% |
| Violence without Injury | 508 | - 26 | - 4.9% |
| Sexual Offences | 84 | -4 | - 4.5% |
| Rape | 34 | -7 | - 17.1% |
| Other Sexual Offences | 50 | 3 | 6.4% |
| Acquisitive Crime | 3,102 | 285 | 10.1% |
| Domestic Burglary | 302 | - 19 | - 5.9% |
| Other Burglary | 395 | 90 | 29.5% |
| Robbery – Personal | 22 | 4 | 22.2% |
| Robbery – Business | 10 | 3 | 42.9% |
| Vehicle Crime | 421 | 31 | 7.9% |
| Shoplifting | 873 | 169 | 24.0% |
| Other Acquisitive | 1079 | 7 | 0.7% |
| Criminal Damage & Arson | 1,326 | -139 | -9.5 |
| <u>Non-Victim Based Crime Summary</u> | | | |
| Public Disorder | 184 | - 52 | - 22.0% |
| Drug Offences | 418 | - 29 | - 6.5% |
| Trafficking of drugs | 78 | - 18 | - 18.8% |
| Possession/Use of drugs | 340 | - 11 | - 3.1% |
| Crime Prevented/Disrupted | 89 | - 30 | - 25.2% |
| Other State based/Non Victim | 31 | 7 | 29.2% |
| Fraud & Forgery | 25 | - 38 | -60.3% |
| <u>Anti-social Behaviour</u> | | | |
| Police – Anti-social Behaviour Incidents | 7460 | 21 | 0.3% |
| HBC – Anti-social Behaviour Cases | 330 | -69 | - 17.3% |
| Housing Hartlepool – TRET Cases | 729 | -14 | - 1.9% |
| HBC – Noise Nuisance Complaints | 589 | 91 | 18.3% |
| <u>Deliberate Fire Setting</u> | | | |
| Deliberate Primary Fires | 37 | - 13 | - 26.0% |
| Deliberate Secondary Fires | 223 | 29 | 14.9% |

¹ In accordance with HMC guidance – victim based crime includes all police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim.

² In accordance with HMC guidance – non-victim based crime includes a police-recorded crime where there is no direct individual victim. The rates for some crime types within this category are indicative of proactive police activity, for example searching suspects and finding them in possession of weapons or drugs.

| Community Perceptions | 2008 | 2013 |
|--|------|------|
| % of people w ho feel unsafe during the day | 5% | 5% |
| % of people w ho feel unsafe after dark | 32% | 28% |
| % of people w ho think rubbish or litter lying around is a problem in their local area | 44% | 38% |
| % of people w ho think speeding and volume of traffic is a problem in their local area | - | 34% |
| % of people w ho think people using drug or dealing drugs is a problem in their local area | 30% | 29% |
| % of people w ho think groups hanging around the streets is a problem in their local area | 43% | 25% |
| % of people w ho think people being drunk or row dy in a public place is a problem in their local area | 28% | 19% |
| % of people w ho think run dow n boarded up properties is a problem in their local area | - | 18% |
| % of people w ho think vandalism, graffiti and damage is a problem in their local area | 27% | 17% |
| % of people w ho think house burglary is a problem in their local area | - | 14% |
| % of people w ho think vehicle crime is a problem in their local area | - | 13% |
| % of people w ho think noisy neighbours or loud parties are a problem in their local area | 14% | 12% |
| % of people w ho think people being harassed or attacked in their local area is a problem | - | 9% |
| % of people w ho think property being set on fire is a problem in their local area | - | 5% |
| % of people w ho think racial harassment is a problem in their local area | - | 3% |
| % of people w ho think abandoned or burnt out cars are a problem in their local area | 5% | 2% |
| % of people w ho think people from different ethnic backgrounds get on w ell together | 72% | 42% |
| % of people w ho feel they belong to their local area | 60% | 71% |
| % of people w ho feel part of their local community | 52% | 47% |
| % of people w ho feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area | 33% | 12% |
| % of people w ho are satisfied w ith the quality of service provided by the Police | 62% | 59% |

Strategic Summary

Performance

Overall Hartlepool is a high crime area when compared to similar areas elsewhere in the country.

Despite significant challenges over the last few years Hartlepool continues to experience year on year reductions in overall crime rates, albeit that reductions are smaller than those experienced previously.

It is notable that non-victim based crimes, which are indicative of proactive policing and enforcement activity, have reduced at a greater level (-16%) than victim-based crime offences which have reduced by 0.8%.

Some crimes, particularly those falling within the acquisitive crime category are on the increase with projections indicating an increasing trend for the following twelve months. Whilst current socio-economic factors can affect this crime type, locally it is recognised that substance misuse and re-offending are key drivers in the prevalence of acquisitive offences.

Whilst performance is strong in regard to violence against the person offences, it continues to account for 18.1% of total recorded crime in Hartlepool, with recorded levels being higher than the most similar group average.

Unlike the previous reporting year anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the Police have increased by 0.3%, with year end³ projections indicating an increase of more than 20%.

Anti-social behaviour continues to follow a strong seasonal trend with police incidents, Anti-social Behaviour Unit cases, Tenancy Relations & Enforcement Team (TRET) cases and Noise Nuisance complaints reaching their peak during the summer months.

Hartlepool continues to have the second highest anti-social behaviour rate in Cleveland.

Community perception results from the recent Household Survey indicate that from a town wide perspective the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour related issues have generally improved, however it is noted that these results do vary across wards with perceptions in our most disadvantaged communities remaining high.

Anti-social behaviour and drug dealing related activity continues to be a primary concern to the community, with all 11 wards in Hartlepool citing this as a Neighbourhood Policing ward priority. However despite this prioritisation, it is notable that proactive policing crimes related to these issues, specifically public order and drug offences, have decreased in comparison to the previous assessment period.

³ March 2014

QUICK FACTS - RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL

Figures refer to the 12 month period ending 30th September 2013

| Level of Crime | 6,426 recorded crimes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|------|---------------------------------|----------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------------|------|--------|------|-----------------|------|------------|------|------|------|
| Annual change | Reduced by 2.8% (185 crimes) compared with 2012/13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crime rate per 1,000 population | 69.8 crimes per 1,000 population | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Comparison | Hartlepool has the second highest crime rate in the Cleveland area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middlesbrough – 101.3 per 1,000 population Stockton – 61.8 per 1,000 population Redcar & Cleveland – 59.9 per 1,000 population Cleveland – 72.5 per 1,000 population | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Comparison | The crime rate in Hartlepool is above the national average of 66.0 ⁴ crimes per 1,000 population and the Most Similar Group ⁵ average of 65.6 per 1,000 population | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General trend | <p>Crimes – 12 month rolling total</p> <p>— Crime Hartlepool - - - 12 Month Projection</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Breakdown of crime types | <p>■ Acquisitive Crime ■ Criminal Damage & Arson ■ Violence against the Person ■ Drug Offences ■ Public Disorder ■ Other ■ Sexual Offences</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crime rates by ward | <p>Crime Rate per 1,000 population</p> <p>Hartlepool 69.8</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ward</th> <th>Crime Rate per 1,000 population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Victoria</td><td>168.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Headland & Harbour</td><td>128.4</td></tr> <tr><td>Burn Valley</td><td>80.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Manor House</td><td>71.9</td></tr> <tr><td>Ingram</td><td>66.9</td></tr> <tr><td>De Bruce</td><td>59.9</td></tr> <tr><td>Foggar Force</td><td>59.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Seaton</td><td>58.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Fens & Rossmore</td><td>41.6</td></tr> <tr><td>Rural West</td><td>25.0</td></tr> <tr><td>Hart</td><td>19.4</td></tr> </tbody> </table> | Ward | Crime Rate per 1,000 population | Victoria | 168.8 | Headland & Harbour | 128.4 | Burn Valley | 80.8 | Manor House | 71.9 | Ingram | 66.9 | De Bruce | 59.9 | Foggar Force | 59.8 | Seaton | 58.8 | Fens & Rossmore | 41.6 | Rural West | 25.0 | Hart | 19.4 |
| Ward | Crime Rate per 1,000 population | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Victoria | 168.8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Headland & Harbour | 128.4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burn Valley | 80.8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manor House | 71.9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ingram | 66.9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| De Bruce | 59.9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Foggar Force | 59.8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seaton | 58.8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fens & Rossmore | 41.6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rural West | 25.0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hart | 19.4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

⁴ Crime in England & Wales 2012/13

⁵ Most Similar Group (MSG) Community Safety Partnerships – I-Quanta: Gateshead, South Tyneside, Neath & Port Talbot, Sunderland, Walsall, Stockton-on-Tees, Merthyr Tydfil, Bamsley, Corby, Rochdale, Doncaster, Halton, North East Lincolnshire, Middlesbrough.

Crime

It is estimated that the total cost of crime in Hartlepool during the last 12 months exceeds £60 million⁶.

Crime continues to be concentrated in our most disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, co-existing with high levels of anti-social behaviour, health inequalities, unemployment and poor housing all of which place a significant demand on partner resources. People living in deprived areas experience significantly higher levels of crime and disorder, therefore they are at greater risk of victimisation and for this reason remain vulnerable.

Crime rates in the Victoria, Headland & Harbour, Burn Valley and Manor House wards continue to be much higher than the rest of the town, with the crime rate in the Victoria being twice the national average.

It is anticipated that acquisitive crime rates will increase over the forthcoming twelve months placing residents and businesses at risk in Hartlepool. It is therefore imperative that the partnership works with at risk groups to reduce the risk of victimisation and opportunities for offenders, whilst also ensuring that effective offender management arrangements reduce the risk of re-offending.

Whilst violence against the person offences have reduced by 13.7%, crime rates still remain above the local⁷ and national average. Most notably the rate of emergency hospital admissions for violence in Hartlepool, 133.8 per 100,000 population, is almost double the national average of 67.7.

Domestic violence continues to be a key factor in the occurrence of violence offences, with more than half of offences being domestic related. Domestic violence has a devastating impact on individuals, families and communities. Tackling this issue requires a significant amount of resources from all public sector agencies.

Whilst trends in reported crime show a slight decrease, it is anticipated that there is a risk that levels will increase as victims and their families struggle to cope with added financial and emotional pressures brought about by the current economic situation i.e. higher unemployment and welfare reform.

Females continue to be at the greatest risk of domestic violence, where repeat victimisation is apparent. Often indirect victims, children experiencing domestic abuse are at an increased risk of behavioural, emotional trauma and mental health issues that may continue into adulthood.

Under reporting continues to be factor in domestic related violence, especially in regards to Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) communities.

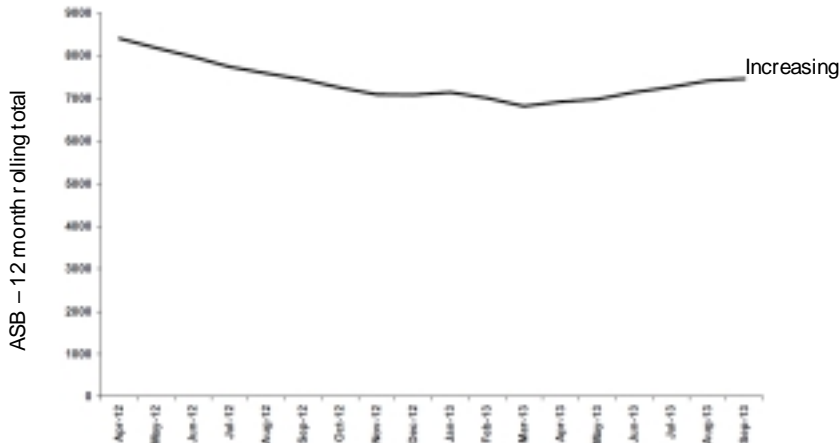
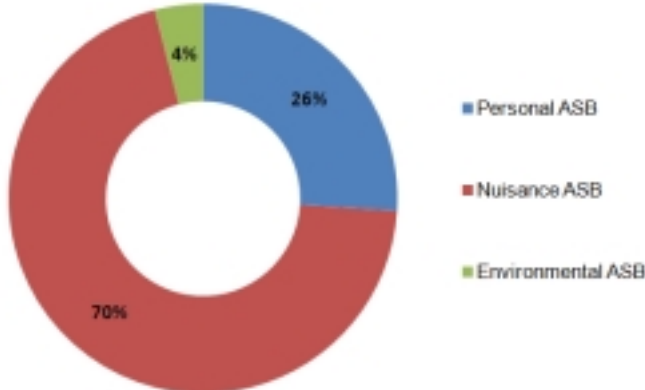
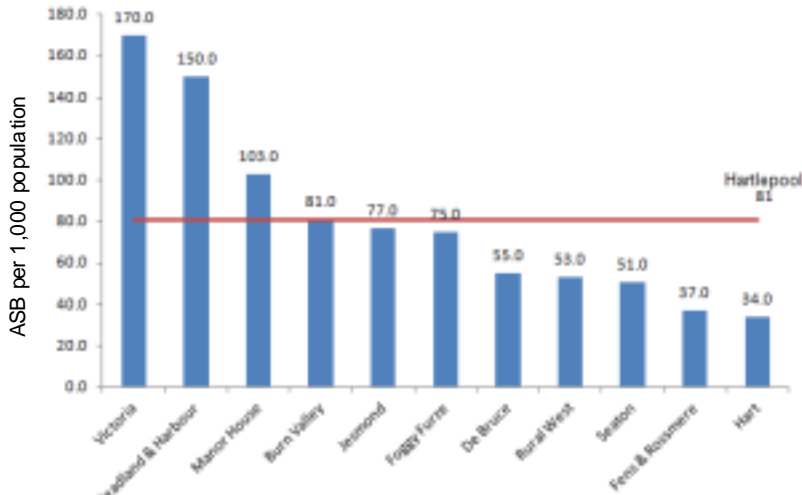
The relatively low level of referrals from Health professionals into domestic violence support services and the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), particularly from the primary care setting continues to be an area of concern.

Overall acquisitive crime and domestic related violence & abuse pose a significant risk to the community, businesses, vulnerable people and families.

⁶ Home Office - Integrated Offender Management Value for Money Toolkit 2011 – Multipliers & Unit Costs of Crime
⁷ Cleveland

QUICK FACTS - ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB) IN HARTLEPOOL

Figures refer to the 12 month period ending 30th September 2013

| | |
|---|--|
| Level of ASB | 7,460 incidents |
| Annual change | Increase by 0.3% (+21 incidents) compared with 2012/13 |
| ASB rate per 1,000 pop | 81 incidents per 1,000 population |
| Local Comparison | <p>Hartlepool has the second highest ASB rate in the Cleveland area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middlesbrough – 86.5 per 1,000 population Stockton – 67.8 per 1,000 population Redcar & Cleveland – 70.2 per 1,000 population Cleveland – 75.2 per 1,000 population |
| National Comparison | The ASB rate in Hartlepool is twice the national average of 40 ⁸ incidents per 1,000 population |
| General trend |  <p>ASB - 12 month rolling total</p> |
| Breakdown of ASB incident categories |  <p> ■ Personal ASB ■ Nuisance ASB ■ Environmental ASB </p> |
| ASB rates by Ward |  <p>ASB per 1,000 population</p> <p>Hartlepool 81</p> |

Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour continues to be the number one priority for the community.

Anti-social behaviour in all its forms, nuisance or rowdy behaviour, misuse of vehicles, littering, dog fouling, is a very visible sign of disorder in our communities and is closely linked to perceptions of safety, satisfaction with the local area as a place to live and confidence in local services. As identified from the Partnership's Vulnerable Victims Group, in its most persistent and serious forms it can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing.

Anti-social behaviour continues to be linked to a wide range of other issues including hate crime, the night-time economy, drug dealing, alcohol misuse and housing tenure.

Reported incidence of anti-social behaviour shows considerable variance, with over half of all anti-social behaviour incidents reported in Victoria, Headland & Harbour, Manor House and Bum Valley wards. The rate of incidents per 1,000 population in these neighbourhoods is double the national average.

Public perceptions of anti-social behaviour commonly highlight young people as "being a problem", however despite this only one third of anti-social behaviour incidents are linked to young people. The type of anti-social behaviour linked to young people predominantly relates to groups of young people congregating in public spaces, underage drinking, being noisy and verbally abusive. Therefore the continued provision of targeted outreach services for young people is an essential diversion tool.

Hate Crime

Hate crime remains high on the Partnership agenda, with the number of reported hate crimes and incidents increasing by 27%.

Hate crime is different to other forms of crime as it targets people because of their identity. Research has shown that hate crime causes greater psychological harm than similar crimes without a motivation or prejudice. Hate crime creates fear in victims, groups and communities and can act as a catalyst to communities to turn against each other.

Local data suggests that victims of racially motivated incidents and crimes are more likely to report such matters, unlike victims of sexual orientation, disability and transphobic discrimination where incident levels remain low.

The reasons for not reporting include anticipation that it will not be taken seriously, a fear of negative response and a belief that there is little that anyone can do. In relation to the LGBT community, national research⁹ indicates that two thirds of those who experienced a hate crime or incident did not report it.

Therefore building confidence in local communities to report hate and discrimination should be a primary focus over the next twelve months, ensuring that victims of hate crime can access third party reporting centres and rapidly receive the support that they need.

The Partnership's Community Intelligence process continues to assist in the identification of individuals who may be vulnerable to hate crime as either a victim or perpetrator, and extends to the disruption of right-wing activity that is a threat to community cohesion.

⁹ Stonewall – British Gay Crime Survey 2013

Victims

Whilst crime rates in Hartlepool have fallen, the likelihood of being a victim of crime still remains a reality, especially in our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

The risk of being a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool is higher than in some of our neighbouring local authorities¹⁰ in the Cleveland area.

It is acknowledged that the likelihood of someone reporting a crime can depend on the nature of the crime they have experienced, this is particularly relevant to domestic related abuse and hate crime.

A variation in repeat victimisation is evident, with those experiencing domestic violence & abuse, particularly females, being more likely to suffer from repeat victimisation than any other type of victim.

Locally there continues to be established pathways into support services for victims of crime and domestic abuse, but pathways for victims of anti-social behaviour need to be improved.

The impact of becoming a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour varies from person to person. A relatively minor offence can have a serious outcome for a vulnerable victim. Therefore it is essential that the Partnership adopts a victim-centred approach; responding to the needs of the individual, rather than the crime type or incidents suffered.

¹⁰ Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton

Community Perceptions

| Community Perceptions 2013 | Hartlepool | <div> <div>Most Deprived</div> <div>Least Deprived</div> </div> | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---|-------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|------|------------|
| | | Headland & Harbour | Manor House | Victoria | De Bruce | Jesmond | Burn Valley | Foggy Furze | Fens & Rossmere | Sutton | Hart | Rural West |
| % of people who think that they do not belong to their local area | 29% | 27% | 31% | 40% | 27% | 35% | 33% | 31% | 24% | 22% | 32% | 24% |
| % of people you feel that they cannot influence decisions that affect their local area? | 56% | 51% | 52% | 57% | 56% | 53% | 59% | 55% | 57% | 57% | 56% | 56% |
| % of people who do not feel part of the local community | 53% | 48% | 56% | 59% | 54% | 60% | 58% | 57% | 52% | 48% | 57% | 42% |
| % of people who believe people from different ethnic backgrounds do not get on well together in their local area | 16% | 19% | 19% | 19% | 19% | 20% | 19% | 17% | 13% | 12% | 15% | 9% |
| % of people who do not think that people in the area pull together to improve the local area | 28% | 28% | 32% | 42% | 37% | 32% | 34% | 29% | 18% | 20% | 30% | 13% |
| % of people who feel unsafe when outside in your local area after dark | 28% | 27% | 37% | 45% | 29% | 37% | 35% | 37% | 20% | 15% | 18% | 16% |
| % of people who feel unsafe when outside in your local area during the day | 5% | 7% | 6% | 12% | 6% | 6% | 7% | 7% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 2% |
| % of people who think noisy neighbours or loud parties are a problem | 12% | 16% | 19% | 23% | 16% | 18% | 17% | 14% | 6% | 5% | 6% | 4% |
| % of people who think rubbish or litter lying around is a problem | 38% | 51% | 45% | 56% | 44% | 44% | 47% | 43% | 21% | 29% | 27% | 21% |
| % of people who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a problem | 17% | 26% | 22% | 31% | 23% | 23% | 22% | 17% | 7% | 9% | 10% | 9% |
| % of people who think drug use or dealing is a problem | 29% | 42% | 40% | 54% | 39% | 29% | 46% | 37% | 12% | 12% | 7% | 11% |
| % of people who think drunk or rowdy in public places is a problem | 19% | 27% | 24% | 40% | 18% | 20% | 34% | 23% | 9% | 9% | 7% | 7% |
| % of people who think groups hanging around the streets is a problem | 25% | 27% | 32% | 37% | 31% | 34% | 29% | 28% | 20% | 18% | 18% | 12% |
| % of people who think abandoned or burnt out cars are a problem | 2% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 6% | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| % of people who think run down or boarded up properties are a problem | 18% | 23% | 9% | 42% | 12% | 23% | 42% | 23% | 4% | 19% | 3% | 8% |
| % of people who think speed and volume of road traffic is a problem | 34% | 29% | 38% | 40% | 37% | 33% | 48% | 38% | 30% | 28% | 25% | 30% |
| % of people who think racial harassment is a problem | 3% | 5% | 3% | 7% | 4% | 6% | 4% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% |
| % of people who think being attacked or harassed is a problem | 9% | 15% | 12% | 20% | 10% | 14% | 13% | 10% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 3% |
| % of people who think household burglary is a problem | 14% | 16% | 15% | 24% | 17% | 17% | 22% | 15% | 7% | 6% | 11% | 8% |
| % of people who think car crime is a problem | 13% | 21% | 21% | 23% | 16% | 18% | 19% | 10% | 6% | 7% | 5% | 5% |
| % of people who think property being set on fire is a problem | 5% | 6% | 6% | 10% | 6% | 7% | 4% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 5% |
| % of people dissatisfied with the quality of the service provided by the police | 13% | 17% | 15% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 15% | 11% | 11% | 10% | 11% |

Community Perceptions and Neighbourhoods

Results from the Household Survey indicate that there has been a general town-wide improvement in perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour when compared to results from 2008.

However perceptions regarding crime and anti-social behaviour remain much higher in our most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, where residents continue to identify anti-social behaviour related issues specifically; litter, speeding traffic and drug use/supply as community priorities.

These findings generally correlate to local Neighbourhood Policing ward priorities, where anti-social behaviour and drug dealing related activity feature as priorities for all 11 wards in Hartlepool.

The continuation of Neighbourhood Policing in Hartlepool is also a community priority, with residents raising their concerns about policing levels with the Police & Crime Commissioner at Your Force Your Voice meetings. Neighbourhood Policing has also been raised as a priority through the Partnerships Face the Public Event, and through consultation undertaken on the Community Strategy.

From a community cohesion perspective only four out of ten people participating in the Household Survey agreed that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. This is a marked reduction from responses received in 2008, when 72% of people agreed with this statement. Similarly, percentage rates remain low in relation to community engagement, where only one in ten residents feel that they can influence decisions in their local area.

Our most disadvantaged and vulnerable neighbourhoods; Victoria, Headland & Harbour, Burn Valley and Manor House wards continue to suffer from disproportionate levels of crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

Partnership working is essential to successfully tackle these community safety issues at a neighbourhood level. Proactive neighbourhood management that considers all aspects of the local environment and aims to increase social connectedness both between those living and sharing the same space, and those providing services in neighbourhoods, is a key element in promoting cohesive confident communities, reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and making the local area safer, more attractive and economically productive.

QUICK FACTS – DRUGS & ALCOHOL

Alcohol consumption

In Hartlepool approximately 4,800 people aged over 16 years are drinking at higher risk levels, more than double the recommended safe levels or above.

Alcohol Related Hospital Admissions per 100,000 population

Alcohol related hospital admissions have reduced by 2.3% in Hartlepool.



Number of arrests

33% of arrests in Hartlepool were alcohol related

Number of people dependent on opiates and/or crack

Hartlepool rate: 18.6 per 1,000 population
National rate: 8.7 per 1,000 population

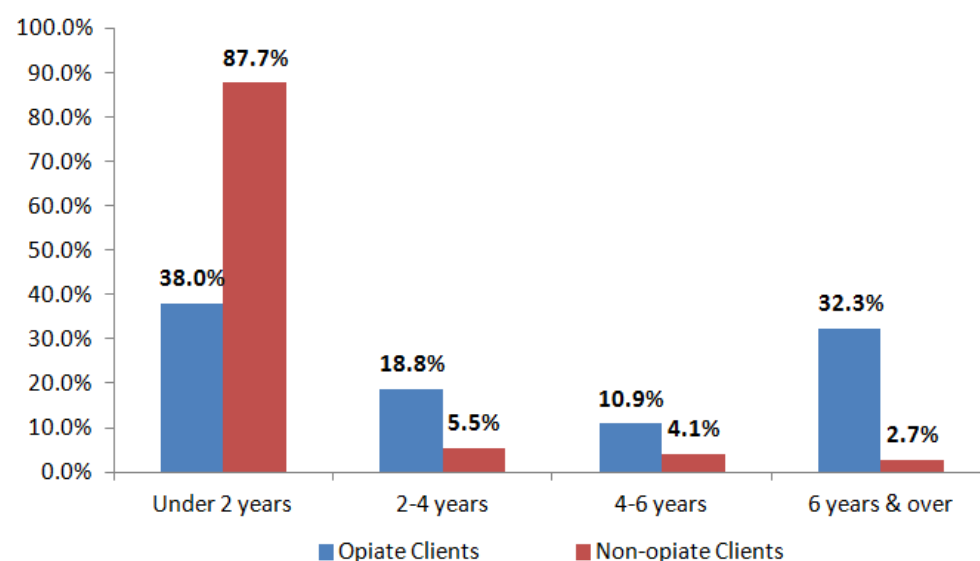
Proportion of dependent drug users in treatment

Hartlepool rate: 63.7%
National rate: 53.4%

Number of people in drug treatment

861 people are in treatment, comprising of 706 opiate users and 155 non-opiate users.

Proportion of clients still in treatment in years



Alcohol

It is estimated that costs associated with alcohol misuse in Hartlepool are in excess of £40 million¹¹. This figure equates to an overall cost per head of population of £459, the second highest of the 12 local authorities in the North East region.

Alcohol cuts across all aspects of partnership service delivery and represents a significant cross cutting theme for other priority areas of criminality. Alcohol is associated with a range of crime and anti-social behaviour but plays a particular factor in violent crime, with more than half of assault related Accident & Emergency (A&E) presentations being linked to alcohol.

Alcohol related violent crime remains at its highest in the Victoria and Headland & Harbour wards and is predominantly linked to the night-time economy, where offences have increased by 13%

Linked to price, availability and social attitudes, alcohol consumption levels in Hartlepool remain above the national and regional average. Despite a reduction the number of alcohol related hospital admissions for adults and young people remain high.

Drugs

Although the number of drug related offences have reduced by 6.5% in Hartlepool, drug use and drug dealing continues to be a community concern particularly in our most deprived neighbourhoods.

Nationally the number of individuals accessing drug treatment has fallen by 1.1%, however in Hartlepool numbers have increased by 5.5%

In Hartlepool the number of people who are dependent on drugs is twice the national average, standing at 18.6 per 1,000 population, with more than half of these users accessing treatment services. More than 80% of the treatment population are opiate users, where successful treatment completions remain below the national average, with almost one third of clients retained in treatment for 6 or more years.

Drug misuse continues to be a contributory factor in adult offending behaviour, specifically in regard to acquisitive crime and high rates of re-offending.

Cannabis misuse continues to be the most prevalent drug used by young people in Hartlepool, where adjunctive use with alcohol is high.

¹¹ Balance – The Cost of Alcohol 2013

QUICK FACTS – RE-OFFENDING

All offenders cautioned, convicted or released from custody in the 12 month period ending September 2011, measured over the following 12 months

Re-offending Rate

- Total cohort of offenders 1,720
- 35.6% of offenders re-offended within 12 months
- 612 re-offenders committed 2,029 re-offences (3.32 offences per offender)

Annual Change

Reduced from 35.7%, minus 0.1 percentage point

Local Comparison

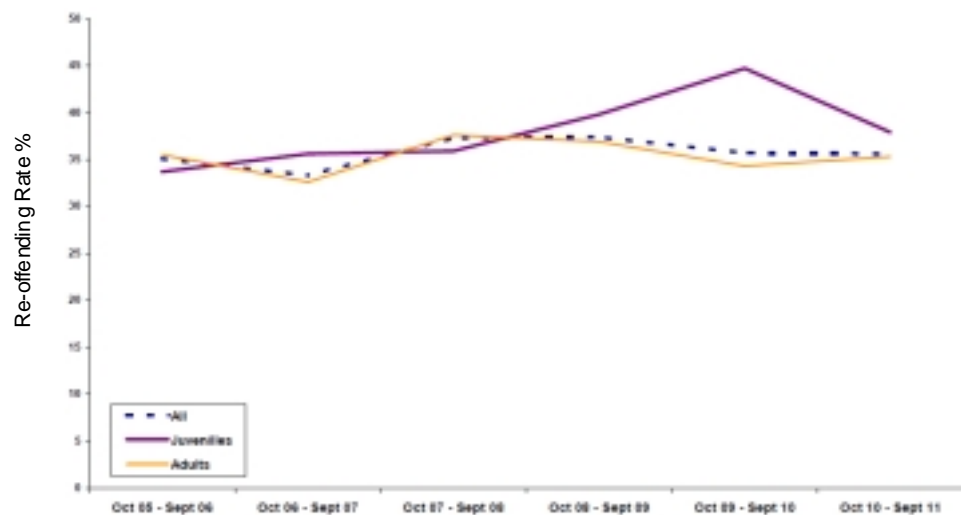
Hartlepool has the highest re-offending rate in Cleveland

- Middlesbrough – 32.8%
- Stockton – 30.2%
- Redcar & Cleveland – 29.1%

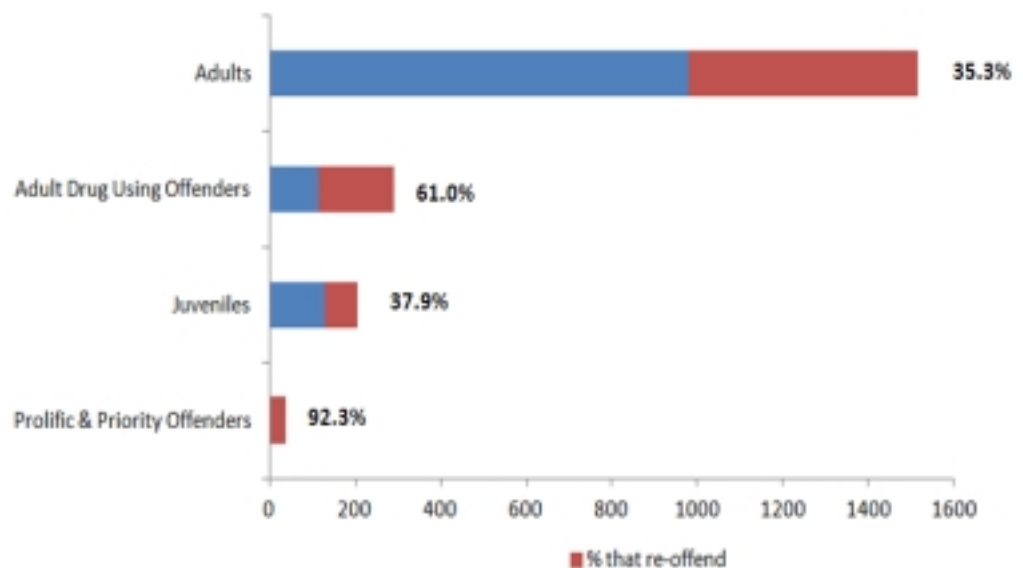
National Comparison

The national re-offending rate stands at 26.9%, Hartlepool has the second highest re-offending rate in the country.

General trend



Re-offending rate of offender cohorts



Re-offending

Repeat offending in Hartlepool accounts for more than two thirds of crime¹², with re-offending rates remaining higher than the national average for both adults and young people.

Acquisitive crime continues to account for the highest proportion of re-offences in Hartlepool, with shoplifting accounting for more than half of these.

Drug and alcohol misuse has a significant impact upon re-offending activity, with opiate misuse being a key driver in the occurrence of acquisitive crime.

Adult repeat offending continues to be a significant factor, with 92% of repeat offenders being aged 18 years and over.

Offenders are often the most socially excluded in society and often have complex and deep rooted health and social problems, such as substance misuse, mental health, housing issues and debt, family and financial problems. Understanding and addressing these underlying issues in a holistic and co-ordinated way is important to provide “pathways out of offending”, reduce crime and break the cycle of offending behaviour across generations.

Both local and national data suggests that offenders who receive short prison sentences are at the greatest risk of re-offending, therefore it is essential that partners work together to identify the offenders that present the most risk to their communities, intervening early to prevent an escalation of offending and providing community-based support to address their needs.

A single Reducing Re-offending Strategy will assist in identifying gaps, learning more about non-statutory offenders and offender health and wellbeing needs (including mental health).

Overall re-offending continues to present a high risk to communities of Hartlepool, with adult repeat offending presenting the highest risk.

¹² Detected crime

Proposed Strategic Objectives and Priorities

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to publish its Community Safety Plan 2014 – 2017 by 1st April 2014.

Based upon the findings from the Strategic Assessment, it is proposed that the Partnership focuses on one key strategic objective during 2014/15 which will be to:

“Create confident, cohesive and safe communities”

It is proposed that this objective is underpinned by the following proposed priorities for 2014 – 2015.

| Create Confident Cohesive and Safe Communities |
|--|
| Re-offending - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity |
| Acquisitive Crime – reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity |
| Domestic violence and abuse –reduce the risk of serious harm and provide the right response to safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse |
| Anti-social behaviour – ensure effective resolution of ASB, divert perpetrators and identify and support vulnerable individuals and communities |
| Substance misuse – reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse |
| Reduce hate crime - work together to better understand the true impact of hate crime in our communities, improve our understanding of issues for vulnerable groups and increase reporting |

Safer Hartlepool Partnership

