

# AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA



Thursday 19 February 2015

At 10.00 am

In Committee Room B,  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

**MEMBERS:** AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillors Ainslie, S Akers-Belcher, Cook, Martin-Wells, Thompson, Sirs and Springer.

Standards Co-opted Members; Mr Norman Rollo and Ms Clare Wilson.

Parish Council Representatives: Parish Councillor J Cambridge (Headland) and Parish Councillor B Walker (Greatham).

Local Police Representative: Chief Superintendent Gordon Lang.

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 11 December, 2014.
4. **AUDIT ITEMS**

No items
5. **STANDARDS ITEMS**

No items



## 6. STATUTORY SCRUTINY ITEMS

### Hate Crime Investigation:-

- 6.1 Hate Crime Investigation - Second Evidence Gathering Session - Covering Report - *Scrutiny Manager* (to follow)
- (a) Outcome of the Hate Crime Questionnaire (to follow);
  - (b) Written evidence from Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner;
  - (c) Police Response to Hate Crime Incidents - Presentation by Chief Inspector Lang and Inspector Maddison;
  - (d) Prosecuting Hate Crime - Presentation John Dilworth, Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor for CPS North East; and
  - (e) Housing Providers response to Hate Crime – Presentation.

### Safer Hartlepool Partnership:-

- 7.1 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance - Quarter 2 - *Neighbourhood Manager (Community Safety)*
- 7.2 Safer Hartlepool Partnership - Strategic Assessment 2014 - *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 7.3 Community Safety Plan 2014-17 (Year 2) - *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

## 8. MINUTES FROM RECENT MEETING OF SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

- 8.1 To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and 21 November 2014 (to follow)

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT



## **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

11 DECEMBER 2014

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor Ray Martin-Wells (In the Chair)

Councillors: Jim Ainslie, Rob Cook and George Springer.

Also Present: Co-opted Members Mr N Rollo and Ms C Wilson.

Parish Council Representatives:

Councillor John Cambridge, Headland Parish Council

Councillor Brian Walker, Greatham Parish Council

Mark Kirkham and Catherine Andrew, Mazars

Officers: Peter Devlin, Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer  
Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer  
Noel Adamson, Head of Audit and Governance  
Laura Stones, Scrutiny Support Officer  
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

### **104. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Stephen Akers-Belcher and Kaylee Sirs.  
Chief Superintendent G Lang.

### **105. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Ainslie declared a personal interest in Minute No. 109.

### **106. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 October, 2014**

Confirmed.

### **107. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November, 2014**

Confirmed subject to the addition of Mr N Rollo, Ms C Wilson and Parish Councillor J Cambridge to the attendance for the meeting.

**108. Mazars Report- Annual Audit Letter 2013/14** (*Chief Finance Officer*)

Mark Kirkham, Director at Mazar's introduced Catherine Andrew, the new Senior Manager who would be responsible for the Council's future audit work.

The Mazar's representatives presented their Annual Audit Letter for 2013/14. The letter highlighted the summary of the main findings from the audit and Mazar's Value for Money conclusion in line with the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice for Local Government bodies and the Commission's guidance on value for money conclusions. Mazar's indicated that they were satisfied that against the challenges the Council faced it had maintained proper arrangements for securing value for money in the use of its resources.

The Annual Audit letter also included reference to the final fees for the 2013/14 audit which were reduced from the 2012/13 fee at £158,449.

**Recommended**

That the Annual Audit Letter for 2013/14 be noted.

**109. Internal Audit Plan 2014/15 Update** (*Head of Audit and Governance*)

The Head of Audit and Governance updated the Committee on the progress made to date completing the internal audit plan for 2014/15. The report updated Members on the completed school audits, the completed internal audits and those currently ongoing. The Head of Audit and Governance highlighted the two audits where only limited assurance had been given. These related to the audit of IT Network Controls and Internet Controls. The risks related to ensuring Council policies in respect of network access and monitoring internet usage were adhered to. Actions had been agreed that mitigated the risks identified and were in the process of being implemented, which would lead to reasonable assurance being placed on these areas.

Members questioned the school audits and who was responsible for the implementation of any recommendations and why would some recommendations not be agreed. The Head of Audit and Governance indicated that the Head was the responsible person in each instance. The reference to recommendations not being agreed in relation to Jesmond Gardens Primary School was around income recording. The Head believed that the level of income did not warrant specific systems being implemented. Some controls had been agreed with the school that mitigated the risk around income recording. In response to further questions, the Head of Audit and Governance commented that there were powers to impose changes if it was considered necessary in exceptional cases.

The auditing of academy schools was questioned. The Head of Audit and Governance stated that schools with academy status were responsible for arranging their own audit arrangements. There were three primary schools in the town with academy status that had 'bought-back' the Council service but the others had their own arrangements.

Councillor Ainslie had declared a personal interest at the commencement of the meeting as a school governor at St Joseph's Primary. He questioned the recommendations that had been raised from the audit which were in relation mainly to expenditure. The Head of Audit and Governance commented that the audit was generally a good audit with only five recommendations. Schools were only audited every three years and between audits people sometimes forgot why certain processes were done or the processes broke down; these were the reasons most often for audit recommendations. Most schools failed on using orders for goods and services which meant they could not be tracked through their financial management systems. The Head of Audit and Governance recommended that benchmarking data was reported to governors on a regular basis. New legislation would require that appropriate information governance was in place.

#### **Recommended**

That the report be noted.

### **110. Treasury Management Strategy** (*Chief Finance Officer*)

The Chief Finance Officer gave a presentation to the Committee setting out the key elements of the council's Treasury Management Strategy. The detailed report submitted to the Committee covered the strategy in detail. The presentation highlighted -

- The purpose of the strategy and its legislative framework
- The role of the Audit and Governance Committee
- The economic background and interest rate forecasts
- The 2015/16 Borrowing Strategy
- The 2015/16 Investment Strategy

As part of the 2015/16 investment strategy it was proposed to include an additional bank, Svenska Handelsbanken to the counterparty list with a counterparty limit of £1m and time limit of 3 months.

Members expressed their contentment with the arrangements proposed by the Chief Finance Officer and approved the addition of Svenska Handelsbanken. In response to Member questions, the Chief Finance Officer indicated that Svenska Handelsbanken were a well established bank with one of the highest ratings for any European bank. There were a number of banks the Council utilised for investment purposes and this would add to the investment institutions used. The recommendations set out below were agreed unanimously by the Committee.

### **Recommended**

The following recommendations were approved: -

Treasury Management Outturn Position 2013/14: -

- (i) That the 2013/14 Treasury Management Outturn detailed in section 4 and Appendix A of the report be noted.

Treasury Management Strategy 2014/15 Mid-Year Review: -

- (ii) That the 2014/15 Treasury Management Mid-year Position detailed in section 5 of the report be noted.

Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16 (Prudential Indicators): -

- (iii) That the Committee notes that detailed prudential indicators will be reported to full Council in February 2015.

Borrowing Strategy 2015/16: -

- (iv) That in relation to the core borrowing requirement the adoption of Option 1 to delay long term borrowing until there is a significant increase in the base rate be approved;
- (v) That the Committee notes that in the event of a change in forecast interest rates the Chief Finance Officer may implement Option 2 to fund the borrowing requirement at fixed long term interest rates at an affordable level to protect the Authorities long term financial position;
- (vi) That in relation to the borrowing required for business cases the adoption of Option 2 to fixed interest rates for individual business cases be approved.

Investment Strategy 2015/16: -

- (vii) That the addition of Svenska Handelsbanken to the counterparty list with a counterparty limit of £1m and time limit of 3 months be approved.
- (viii) That the addition of three Money Market Funds to the counterparty list, with a counterparty limit of £1m per fund, be approved, noting that funds would be liquid (i.e. instant access) therefore a time limit was not applicable.
- (ix) That for existing counterparties, the time limits for investments be extended to a maximum of 1 year.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement: -

- (x) That the MRP statement outlined in paragraph 9.2 of the report be approved.

## **111. Standards Complaints Process and Procedure** (*Chief Solicitor*)

The Chief Solicitor reported that at the meeting on 21st August, 2014, the Committee received two reports detailing the outcome of investigations, following complaints, under the Council's Code of Conduct and in line with

arrangements made through the Localism Act, 2011. After consideration of the investigation reports, Members also recommended that the “time scales” in completing an investigation should be reviewed and that any member who makes a complaint so publicly (prior to submission to the Monitoring Officer) should “waive their right to an investigation report being considered as confidential” by the Audit and Governance Committee.

The Chief Solicitor outlined the background to the current arrangements for complaints under the Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. There was currently no definition of a specific time period for dealing with complaints. The new framework differed significantly from the past system which involved sanctions. There was also previously a specific time frame for investigating complaints at 6 months, though this could be extended where necessary. While not retaining a set time frame, the new code of conduct suggested that investigations should be completed expeditiously.

The Chief Solicitor highlighted that within the current council procedure there was reference to that the Monitoring Officer would acknowledge receipt of the complaint within 5 working days of receipt and would keep the complainant informed as to the progress. The Monitoring Officer in unison with the Independent Person(s), would assess the complaint against the criteria and would take a decision within 20 working days of receipt of the complaint as to whether there should be a formal investigation or not. Independent Persons act in a purely advisory capacity in the “new” system and the Monitoring Officer was statutorily obliged to liaise with an Independent Person before any decision is taken, following the outcome of an investigation.

Members had asked for additional issues to be included in the processing of complaints against members at past meetings of the Committee. One of these related to the time taken to investigate and report upon complaints. The Chief Solicitor commented that he would not wish to be restricted to a perceived time limit and suggested that complaints should be completed as expeditiously as possible. Members had also expressed the view that if a Member made public via the press or other means that they had made a complaint against another Member, or indeed that a complaint had been made against them, then that Member’s rights to any confidentiality in relation to the complaint should be waived. While acknowledging the merits of the suggestion, the Chief Solicitor advised that there may still be issues within the investigation or others involved that may require an element of confidentiality to be maintained. With this in mind, the Chief Solicitor recommended a suggested amendment to the procedure that would maintain confidentiality but would take account of any disclosure by the complainant and/or the Member subject of the complaint when preparing an appropriate investigation report. The report also proposed an addition to the procedure to clarify the definition of what could be considered as when a Member was acting in an ‘official capacity’.

Members were also concerned at the issue of vexatious complaints and

taking into account Members' views the Chief Solicitor proposed a lengthy addition to the procedure that would define much more specifically what would be considered a vexatious complaint and how they should be addressed.

Members welcomed the clarification of vexatious complaints but were still concerned that without some guidance on the time for investigation to be concluded there was the potential for them to become open ended. In relation to the maintenance of anonymity Members expressed the view that a Member who was the subject of a complaint should have the right to know who had made the complaint against them. Not doing so placed the Member subject to the complaint at a significant disadvantage. There were, however, counter views to this and the example of whistle-blowing was highlighted as one such instance when the identity of the complainant may need to be kept confidential.

The meeting discussed the issue of the imposition of timescales for investigations. The Chief Solicitor maintained his view that too tight a timescale could be counterproductive. Members did feel, however, that reintroducing the past six month timeframe should not set any unattainable target and that the Chief Solicitor would under normal circumstances complete investigations as expeditiously as possible. This was supported unanimously by the Committee.

In relation to the retention of anonymity in complaints the Chair suggested that the current arrangement be retained at the present with the Chief Solicitor and Independent Member considering the issue when commencing an investigation. Should either the complainant or the subject of the complaint wish to seek that anonymity lifted, then the matter should be reported to this Committee for consideration as an exempt item. This was supported unanimously by the Committee.

The Chair also then put the remaining recommendations to the Committee as set out in the report and these were also accepted unanimously.

### **Recommended**

That the proposed amendments to the assessment criteria and procedural arrangements for dealing with standards allegations as outlined within the report and as set out below be approved: -

- (i) That reference be included in both Assessment Criteria and the Procedural document relating to Standards Allegations under the Localism Act 2011 that investigations should be conducted and completed "*as expeditiously as possible*" and that, in any event, a report should be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee within six months of the complaint being lodged.
- (ii) That the procedural document include the following in relation to the maintenance of anonymity –



*“The Monitoring Officer will request both the complainant and the subject member do not make public the complaint until the Monitoring Officer (in unison with the Independent Person) has decided how the matter should be dealt with and until any investigation is formally completed. Should the complainant and/ or the subject member disclose details of the complaint or any part of the investigation prior to its conclusion, then this would be a material consideration as to the confidentiality behind that item when it is formally reported to the relevant Council Committee, following the completion of that investigation. Any consideration as to whether that disclosure of information was in the public interest will be determined by the Monitoring Officer at that time, and included as a reference within that report. Any request from the subject of the complaint for the disclosure for details of an anonymous complaint should be reported to the relevant Council Committee for determination.”*

- (iii) That the procedural document include the following in relation to vexatious complainants –

*A complaint is unlikely to be referred for investigation where the complaint is either habitual/repeated or is vexatious in nature, or is otherwise the unreasonable pursuit of a complaint. The Council shall keep under review those complaints that have been determined to be either habitual, repeated or vexatious and for the avoidance of doubt, will not disregard any new issues which are so significantly different from the original complaint that they need to be addressed as a separate complaint. However, it will be unlikely that a matter would proceed for investigation in the following circumstances: -*

- A persistence in pursuing a complaint where the local assessment and determination process has been fully and properly implemented and exhausted.*
- Where the complainant has persistently changed the substance of a complaint or raises identical or similar issues or otherwise seeks to prolong unreasonably the matters of complaint through further concerns or questions whilst the original complaint is being addressed.*
- The complaint is unreasonable or disproportionate in the amount of time expended and those matters of complaint are considered to be unreasonable as to impose a significant burden in terms of time and cost to be expended by the Council, if such matters were pursued.*
- Is a matter of complaint which can fairly be characterised as being obsessive or manifestly unreasonable through, for example, repetitive allegations.*

*The matter of complaint is politically motivated and where press and other publicity has been attracted to the matter of complaint before the same have been reported to the Council’s Monitoring Officer and which the Monitoring Officer in unison with the Independent Person*

*reasonably believes is not in the public interest to warrant an investigation. It will be also be a consideration as to whether independent evidence is likely to be obtained and the nature of seriousness of complaint which may not warrant any further action being taken.*

- (iv) That the procedural document include the following in relation to the definition of what was considered to be a Member's 'official capacity' –

*“The Council’s Code of Conduct will have application when a Member acts in their official capacity, namely where they are conducting the business of the Borough Council or otherwise acting, claiming to act, or giving the impression that they are acting as a representative of the Borough Council. Further, that at the time of the alleged misconduct, they were an elected or co-opted member of the Borough Council.”*

## **112. Statutory Health Scrutiny – Operational Changes** (Scrutiny Manager)

The Chief Solicitor referred to the meeting of Extraordinary Council held on 24 November, 2014 to discuss the future of the University Hospital of Hartlepool. At that meeting, one of a series of resolutions passed was ‘that Council returns the Health Scrutiny powers and responsibilities delegated to the Audit and Governance Committee to Full Council so that future discussions and decisions are taken by the entire body of elected councillors.’ The report submitted set out the consequences of this decision and their affect on the roles and remit of the Audit and Governance Committee.

In accordance with the wishes of Council on the 24 November, all statutory health scrutiny powers transferred to Full Council with immediate effect. However, the remaining statutory scrutiny powers in relation to ‘crime and disorder’ will remain within the remit of the Audit and Governance Committee. The current situation in relation to the Committee’s ongoing investigations into Cardio Vascular Disease and Dementia and those items that came under the ‘health banner’ on an annual and ad hoc basis were set out in detail in an appendix to the report. The Scrutiny Support Officer also reported to the meeting that an additional item from the Care Quality Commission on their regulation of Primary Care Dental Services, NHS and Independent Ambulance Services and the Independent Healthcare Acute Sector had recently been received and would now be forwarded to Council.

The Scrutiny Support Officer outlined the proposed way forward which suggested that the current investigations be completed outside formal meetings with the final reports being presented to full Council for consideration. The remaining issues were to be set out in a report to be considered by Council on 18 December, 2014.

### **Recommended**

That the report be noted.

**113. Minutes of the recent meeting of the Health And Wellbeing Board**

The minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 20 October, 2014 were referred to Council for information under the new arrangements for Statutory Health Scrutiny.

**114. Minutes of the recent meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee Relating to Public Health** (*Scrutiny Manager*)

No items.

**115. Minutes of recent meeting of Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee**

No items.

**116. Minutes of recent meeting of Safer Hartlepool Partnership**

No items.

**117. Regional Health Scrutiny Update** (*Scrutiny Manager*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer indicated that future updates of the Regional Health Scrutiny Committee would be submitted to Council for information. Copies of the minutes of the most recent meeting held on 24 November, 2014 were available at the meeting for Members information.

**Recommended**

That the report be noted.

**118. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

As the next meeting date of 8 January, 2015 had been scheduled to receive only matters relating to health scrutiny, the Chair advised Members that the meeting would be cancelled. Therefore, the next meeting date of the Committee would be 19 February, 2015 at 9.30 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

The meeting concluded at 11.10 am

CHAIR



## Hate Crime

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Ensuring a better deal for victims and witnesses is a key priority for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), and work to tackle hate crime forms a significant part of the work undertaken by the PCC Office.
- 1.2 The PCC has visited community groups covering all strands of diversity across Cleveland to discuss their concerns around hate crime and community safety issues in general. This forms part of his 'Your Force Your Voice' initiative.
- 1.3 The PCC Office have chaired a multi agency group which has established Cleveland wide standards for Third Party Reporting Centres for hate crime together with a cross Cleveland leaflet for all venues and training for venue staff. Venues are listed on the PCC website and a team of volunteers are currently mystery shopping the venues to quality check them before a cross Cleveland publicity campaign is launched to raise awareness of venues within communities.

### 2. Disability Hate

- 2.1 The PCC hosted a multi agency seminar in June 2013 focusing on disability hate. This involved over 50 representatives from public, private and voluntary sector organisations who have a role in providing services to disabled people. The key areas of focus emerging from the summit were around education of service providers to identify hate incidents and deal with appropriately together with education within the community to ensure victims and their carers recognise when they are being targeted and report incidents.
- 2.2 The PCC commissioned a Disability Hate Awareness DVD which has been shown to all frontline police officers and staff. The DVD uses a series of incidents based on real life scenarios to highlight the effects that incidents can have on victims, and to encourage officers and staff to consider how they would deal with such incidents and how they would identify vulnerable people within the communities where they work. The DVD has also been shown to staff from various partnership agencies including Council staff, Education and Social Care. Discussions are underway to produce a similar DVD for use within schools, focusing on primary school children and raising awareness of the issues.

- 2.3 The PCC has facilitated engagement between local special needs groups and bus companies due to reports of disability hate incidents on public transport. Bus companies have engaged positively, and were directly involved in the filming of the disability hate awareness DVD which included a bus scenario. The DVD has been shown to all Arriva bus drivers, all of whom also receive hate crime awareness training.
- 2.4 The Teeswide Safe Place scheme has been launched across Cleveland, utilising community venues such as shops and libraries as safe havens for vulnerable people. Venues who commit to being part of the scheme are signposted with window stickers, and the list of venues is available on the PCC website. The scheme is essentially an extension of good customer service with venues committing to offer assistance to people who are feeling vulnerable, whether this is someone who is being targeted due to a protected characteristic, or simply someone who has lost their bus money and needs a carer to be contacted. Typically the venues are aimed at supporting those with learning disabilities to allow them to lead more independent lives, but they are accessible to all people. Inclusion North are supporting the scheme and are currently working on establishing sets of volunteer service users within each local Authority area to mystery shop venues.
- 2.5 Cleveland wide poster campaigns have been launched by the PCC covering disability hate and also so called 'mate crime'.

### **3. Homophobic and Transphobic Hate**

- 3.1 The PCC hosted a multi agency seminar in March 2014 focusing on improving agency response to homophobic and transphobic hate crime. The event was organised by the Safer Future Communities Network and involved representatives from public, private and voluntary sector organisations. Following the seminar a multi agency steering group was formed focusing on two key workstreams – improving confidence within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGB&T) community to report incidents and improving hate prosecutions through the criminal justice process.
- 3.2 As part of the Improving Confidence workstream the PCC has commissioned Gay Advice Darlington and Durham to produce recommendations to address the key barriers to reporting homophobic and transphobic hate incidents and a communications plan to disseminate information regarding the proposed work to LGB&T communities.
- 3.3 The Improving Hate Prosecutions workstream is a multi agency group across Cleveland and Durham with involvement from the Durham PCC Office, the Local Criminal Justice Board, the Crown Prosecution Service and Victim Support. Work commenced initially on transphobic hate incidents, with dip samples of incidents reported across Cleveland and Durham to ascertain areas for improvement and areas of best practice. Victims were contacted by Victim Support to discuss their victim journey and what, if any, actions could have been taken to improve this. Work is now progressing to cover all strands of diversity.

#### **4. Race and Religious Hate**

- 4.1 The PCC has commissioned Show Racism the Red Card to undertake a series of intensive education sessions within identified schools across Cleveland focusing on racist and religious hate. The work will also involve a teacher training session for teachers from across all areas of Cleveland to allow them to deliver educational training sessions to pupils within their own schools.

#### **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 The PCC remains committed to ensuring that Cleveland is a tolerant place for those who live and work here, and to ensuring that hate crimes and incidents are dealt with robustly and that communities feel confident to report issues to the Police and partnership agencies.

# AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

19 February 2015



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP  
PERFORMANCE – QUARTER TWO

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 2 – July 2014 to September 2014 (inclusive).

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Community Safety Plan 2014-17 published in 2014 outlined the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objectives, annual priorities and key performance indicators 2014/15.
- 2.2 The report attached (**Appendix A**) provides an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 2, comparing current performance to the same time period in the previous year, where appropriate.

## 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Audit and Governance Committee note and comment on partnership performance in Quarter 2.

## 4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has within its responsibility to act as the Councils Crime and Disorder Committee and doing so scrutinise the performance management of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

**5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 5.1 The following backgrounds papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Community Safety Plan 2014-17

**6. CONTACT OFFICERS**

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**7.1 APPENDIX A****Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance Indicators  
2014-15****Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimisation**

Indicator Name	Baseline 2013/14	Local Directional Target 2014-15	Current Position Jul 14 – Sep 14	Actual Difference	% Difference
All Recorded Crime	6,193	Reduce	1648	+23	1.4
Domestic Burglary	226	Reduce	88	+13	17.3
Vehicle Crime	447	Reduce	154	+50	48.1
Shoplifting	844	Reduce	275	+63	29.7
Local Violence	1,081	Reduce	275	-40	-12.7
Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence – MARAC	33%	Reduce	31%	+6	22

**Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol**

Indicator Name	Baseline 2013/14	Local Directional Target 2014-15	Current Position Jul 14 – Sep 14	Actual Difference	% Difference
Number of substance misusers going into effective treatment – Opiate	694	3% Increase	695 (Aug 14)	18	2.66%
Proportion of substance misusers that successfully complete treatment - Opiate	5%	12%	25% (Aug 14)	-	-14%
Proportion of substance misusers who successfully complete treatment and represent back into treatment within 6 months of leaving treatment	28%	10%	5.44% (Aug 14)	-	-7.43%
Reduction in the rate of alcohol related harm hospital admissions	M:2378 F:1106 (2012/13)	Reduce	M:2378 F:1106 (2012/13) (latest figures available)		
Number of young people found in possession of alcohol	109	Reduce	17	-24	-59%

**7.1 APPENDIX A**Strategic Objective: Create Confident, Cohesive and Safe Communities

Indicator Name	Baseline 2013/14	Local Directional Target 2014-15	Current Position Jul 14 – Sep 14	Actual Difference	% Difference
Anti-social Behaviour Incidents reported to the Police	7,482	Reduce	2,287	+52	2.3
Deliberate Fires	273	Reduce	93	+40	75
Criminal Damage to Dwellings	449	Reduce	101	-15	-13
Hate Incidents	108	Increase	32	11	52

Strategic Objective: Reduce Offending & Re-Offending

Indicator Name	Baseline 2013/14	Local Directional Target 2014-15	Current Position Jul 14 – Sep 14	Actual Difference	% Difference
Re-offending rate of young offenders	N/A*	Reduce	Given the changes, need advice on how we will report on this indicator	-	-
First-Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System	50	Reduce	8	-9	-53
Re-offending rate of Prolific & Priority Offenders	2.8 (115 convictions)	Reduce	Data unavailable		
Re-offending rate of High Crime Causers	6.3 (197 convictions)	Reduce	Data unavailable		
Number of Troubled Families engaged with	242	290	290		
Number of Troubled Families where results have been claimed	156	-	156		

\*The reporting has changed for Reoffending. A new cohort starts every 3 months, and is tracked for 12 months (which means you have 4 cohorts at any one time)

## 7.1 APPENDIX A

**Recorded Crime in Hartlepool  
July – September 2014**

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime)				
Crime Category/Type	Jul 13 - Sep 13	Jul 14 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
<b>Violence against the person</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>
Homicide	1	0	-1	-100.0%
Violence with injury	184	160	-24	-13.0%
Violence without injury	130	115	-15	-11.5%
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>42.3%</b>
Rape	10	11	1	10.0%
Other Sexual Offences	16	26	10	62.5%
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50.0%</b>
Business Robbery	3	3	0	0.0%
Personal Robbery	3	6	3	100.0%
<b>Acquisitive Crime</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
Domestic Burglary	75	88	13	17.3%
Other Burglary	75	103	28	37.3%
Bicycle Theft	59	48	-11	-18.6%
Theft from the Person	6	7	1	16.7%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	104	154	50	48.1%
Shoplifting	212	275	63	29.7%
Other Theft	249	222	-27	-10.8%
<b>Criminal Damage &amp; Arson</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1424</b>	<b>1495</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Police Generated Offences (Non -Victim Based Crime)				
Crime Category/Type	Jul 13 - Sep 13	Jul 14 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
<b>Public Disorder</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>Drug Offences</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>-44</b>	<b>-38.3%</b>
Trafficking of drugs	17	21	4	23.5%
Possession/Use of drugs	98	50	-48	-49.0%
<b>Possession of Weapons</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Misc. Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-40.0%</b>
<b>Total Police Generated Crime</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>-48</b>	<b>-23.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL</b>	<b>1625</b>	<b>1648</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

## 7.1 APPENDIX A

**Recorded Crime in Cleveland****July – September 2014**

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime) Jul 14 - Sep 14										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000	Crime	Per	Crime	Per	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
<b>Violence against the person</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1655</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Homicide	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0		
Violence with injury	160	1.8	184	1.4	345	2.5	303	1.6	992	1.8
Violence without injury	115	1.3	110	0.8	248	1.8	189	1.0	662	1.2
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Rape	11	0.1	14	0.1	17	0.1	14	0.1	56	0.1
Other Sexual Offences	26	0.3	24	0.2	47	0.3	47	0.3	144	0.3
<b>Theft</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>1254</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>5037</b>	<b>9.2</b>
Domestic Burglary	88	2.2	89	1.5	266	4.7	91	1.1	534	2.3
Other Burglary	103	1.1	207	1.5	165	1.2	128	0.7	603	1.1
Bicycle Theft	48	0.5	60	0.4	121	0.9	92	0.5	321	0.6
Theft from the Person	7	0.1	9	0.1	63	0.5	10	0.1	89	0.2
Robbery – Personal	6	0.1	10	0.1	29	0.2	13	0.1	58	0.1
Robbery - Business	3	0.0	4	0.0	2	0.0	4	0.0	13	0.0
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	154	1.7	211	1.6	213	1.6	168	0.9	746	1.4
Shoplifting	275	3.0	251	1.9	525	3.9	345	1.8	1396	2.5
Other Theft	222	2.4	285	2.1	367	2.7	403	2.1	1277	2.3
<b>Criminal Damage &amp; Arson</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1842</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1495</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>1928</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>3015</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>2296</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>8734</b>	<b>15.9</b>
Police Generated Offences (Non -Victim Based Crime) Jul 14- Sep 14										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000	Crime	Per	Crime	Per	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
<b>Public Disorder</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Drug Offences</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Trafficking of drugs	21	0.2	10	0.1	20	0.1	18	0.1	69	0.1
Possession/Use of drugs	50	0.5	54	0.4	131	1.0	93	0.5	328	0.6
<b>Possession of Weapons</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Misc. Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Total Police Generated Crime</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>TOTAL RECORDED CRIME</b>	<b>1648</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>2090</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>3382</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>2543</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>9663</b>	<b>17.6</b>

## 7.1 APPENDIX A

### Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool July – September 2014

Incident Category	Jul 13 - Sep 13	Jul 14 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
AS21 - Personal	521	581	60	11.5%
AS22 - Nuisance	1618	1664	46	2.8%
AS23 - Environmental	96	42	-54	-56.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2235</b>	<b>2287</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

### Anti-social Behaviour in Cleveland July – September 2014

Incident Category	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop
AS21 - Personal	521	5.7	831	6.2	1125	8.2	1046	5.6	3523	6.4
AS22 - Nuisance	1618	17.8	1978	14.8	2562	18.7	2357	12.5	8515	15.5
AS23 - Environmental	96	1.1	78	0.6	61	0.4	67	0.4	302	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2235</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>2887</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>3748</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>3470</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>12340</b>	<b>22.5</b>
<b>Quarterly Year on Year Comparison</b>	<b>Increased by 2%</b>		<b>Increased by 5%</b>		<b>Increased by 4%</b>		<b>Reduced by -6%</b>		<b>Increased by 1%</b>	

# AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

19 February 2015



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2014

## 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.2 To consider and discuss the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment 2014.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Introduced by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have a statutory responsibility to develop and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in their local area.
- 2.2 CSP's are made up of representatives from the six 'responsible authorities'. These include the Local Authority, Police, Fire Brigade, Community Rehabilitation Company; National Probation Service; and Clinical Commissioning Group. CSP's have a number of statutory duties which includes:
- Producing an annual **partnership strategic assessment** to help identify and better understand local priorities;
  - Produce a **partnership plan** that details how the CSP will tackle the crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending priorities in its local area;
  - **Consulting** with local residents and organisations on community safety priorities.
- 2.3 An Executive Summary of the 2014 Strategic Assessment is attached at **Appendix A**. The Assessment draws on a wide range of data sources including Police, Fire, Council and NHS data, alongside consultations with the local community to identify emerging trends and priorities.

- 2.4 The Strategic Assessment 2014 will assist the Partnership in setting strategic priorities for Year 2 of the Community Safety Plan 2014 – 2017.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Audit and Governance Committee considers and discusses the Strategic Assessment 2014 and proposed annual priorities 2015-16.

### **4. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has within its responsibility to act as the Councils Crime and Disorder Committee and doing so scrutinise the performance management of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

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## **Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment 2014**

### **Executive Summary**



## **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. To address these issues, 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. This executive summary provides an overview of the key findings from the strategic assessment and proposed priority to inform the annual Community Safety Plan for 2015 – 2016.

The strategic assessment has been 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
- Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Cleveland Police
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust
- Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner
- Balance
- Victim Support
- Harbour

## 1. Strategic Objectives & Priorities

As agreed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in December 2013 and detailed in the Community Safety Plan 2014 – 2017 (Year 1), the Partnership's current strategic objectives and priorities are:

Strategic Objectives 2014-17	Annual Priorities 2014 - 2015
<b>Reduce crime and repeat victimisation</b>	<b>Acquisitive Crime</b> - Reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity <b>Domestic violence and abuse</b> –reduce the risk of serious harm and provide the right response to safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse
<b>Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse</b>	<b>Substance misuse</b> – reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse
<b>Create confident, cohesive and safe communities</b>	<b>Anti-social behaviour</b> – ensure effective resolution of anti-social behaviour, divert perpetrators and identify and support vulnerable individuals and communities <b>Reduce hate crime</b> - 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
<b>Reduce offending and re-offending</b>	<b>Reduce re-offending</b> - through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity

## 2. Performance Overview

The following tables provide an overview of key partnership performance indicators for the strategic period:

**Table 1 - All Crime**

	Previous	Current	Change	% Change
<b>Total Recorded Crime in Hartlepool</b>	6425	6144	-281	-4.40%

**Table 2 - Victim based crime<sup>1</sup>**

Crime Category / Type	Oct 12 - Sep 13	Oct 13 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
<b>Violence against the person</b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>1084</b>	<b>-83</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>
Homicide	1	2	1	100.0%
Violence with Injury	660	623	-37	-5.6%
Violence without Injury	506	459	-47	-9.3%
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
Rape	34	32	-2	-5.9%
Other Sexual Offences	39	63	24	61.5%
<b>Acquisitive Crime</b>	<b>3102</b>	<b>3063</b>	<b>-39</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>
Domestic Burglary	300	239	-61	-20.3%
Other Burglary	396	343	-53	-13.4%
Bicycle Theft	162	146	-16	-9.9%
Theft from the Person	39	16	-23	-59.0%
Robbery - Personal	23	25	2	8.7%
Robbery - Business	9	11	2	22.2%
Vehicle Crime	421	552	131	31.1%
Shoplifting	873	854	-19	-2.2%
Other Acquisitive	879	877	-2	-0.2%
<b>Criminal Damage and Arson</b>	<b>1326</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>-119</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5678</b>	<b>5449</b>	<b>-229</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>

**Table 3 - Non-victim based crime<sup>2</sup>**

Crime Category / Type	Oct 12 - Sep 13	Oct 13 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
<b>Public Disorder</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
<b>Drug Offences</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>-37</b>	<b>-8.9%</b>
Trafficking of Drugs	78	87	9	11.5%
Possession / Use of Drugs	340	294	-46	-13.5%
<b>Possession of Weapons</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>
<b>Misc. Crimes against Society</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>-20.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>

**Table 4&5 - Anti Social Behaviour**

Police Anti Social Behaviour Incidents	Oct 12 - Sep 13	Oct 13 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
Personal	1979	1935	-44	-2.2
Nuisance	5208	5477	269	5.2
Environmental	289	171	-118	-40.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7476</b>	<b>7583</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1.4</b>

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with HMIC guidance – victim based crime includes all police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim.

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with HMIC 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.

## 7.2 APPENDIX A

Other Anti Social Behaviour	Oct 12 - Sep 13	Oct 13 - Sep 14	Change	% Change
HBC ASB Cases	330	395	65	19.7%
Housing Hartlepool TRET Cases	729	769	40	5.5%
HBC Noise Nuisance Complaints	589	518	-71	-12.1%

**Table 6 - Deliberate Fires**

Deliberate Fires	Oct 12 - Sept 13	Oct 13 - Sept 14	Change	% Change
	<b>260</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11%</b>
Primary Fires (F1)	37	35	-2	-5%
Secondary Fires (F3)	223	253	30	13%

**Table 7 - Community Perceptions**

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

### **3. Strategic Summary**

Overall Hartlepool is a high crime area 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.

Some types of acquisitive crimes are on the increase with projections indicating an increasing trend for the following 12 months. Whilst current socio-economic factors can affect this crime type, locally it recognised that substance misuse and re-offending are key drivers in the prevalence of this crime.

Whilst violence against the person offences have reduced, these continue to account for 18% of total recorded crime in Hartlepool, with the rate per 1000 population being the second highest in the Cleveland area.

Anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the Police have increased by 1.4%, with year end projections indicating an increase of more than 13%.

Anti-social behaviour continues to follow a strong seasonal trend with police incidents, Anti-social Behaviour Unit cases and Noise Nuisance complaints reaching their peak during the summer months.

Hartlepool continues to have the second highest anti-social behaviour rate across the Cleveland Police Force area.

Community perceptions 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 results from Cleveland Police's Local Public Confidence survey (September 2014) indicating that people's perception in relation to these issues has increased.

#### **3.1 Crime**

It is estimated that the total cost of crime in Hartlepool during the last 12 months amounts to more than £65 million.

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.

It is anticipated that acquisitive crime rates will increase over the forthcoming twelve months. 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 7.1%, crime rates still remain above the local and national average. Most notably the rate of emergency hospital admissions for violence in Hartlepool, 133.8 per 100,000 population, is higher than the regional average and more than double the national average of 67.7.

Domestic violence continues to be a key factor in the occurrence of violence offences, with more than one third of offences being domestic related. Domestic violence has a devastating impact on individual, families and communities and requires a significant amount of resources to tackle 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 issue that may continue into adulthood.

Under reporting continues to be factor in domestic related violence, especially in regards to BME and LGBT communities.

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

### **3. 2 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 in Hartlepool is higher than in some of our neighbouring local authorities 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 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, and pathways for victims of anti-social behaviour have improved during the reporting period.

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 incident suffered.

### **3.3 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 with 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 and Manor House wards.

Public perceptions of anti-social behaviour commonly highlight young people as "being a problem", however despite this only 36% 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 and throwing missiles such as stones and eggs.

### **3.4 Hate Crime**

Reported hate crimes and incidents recorded by the police have reduced by 14.4% in comparison to the previous reporting period.

Hate crime is different to other forms of crime as it targets people because of their identity. Research has shown that hate crime cause 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 on 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, disabilist and transphobic discrimination where incidents 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 research indicates that two thirds of those who experienced a hate crime or incident did not report it.

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

### **3. 5 Community Perceptions**

As reported in the previous strategic period results from the current 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 with the Police Local Public Confidence Survey in 2013 where anti-social behaviour and drug dealing related activity is perceived to be an issue by 8.5% and 15.8% of respondents respectively.

The retention of Neighbourhood Policing in Hartlepool is a community priority, where residents have raised their concerns re policing levels with the Police & Crime Commissioner at Your Force, Your Voice meetings and at the annual "Face the Public" event held in October 2014.

In relation to community cohesion, only four out of ten people agreed that their local area is a place where people from different background 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.

Effective community engagement and increasing public confidence underpins all partnership work. General satisfaction with an area as a place to live, the physical appearance of an area, actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and the ability to influence local decisions, therefore it is recommended that improving confidence and creating cohesive communities should remain as a Partnership priority.

### **3. 6 Neighbourhoods**

Our most disadvantaged and vulnerable neighbourhoods; Headland & Harbour, Victoria, De Bruce, Manor House and Jesmond wards, continue to suffer from disproportionate levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. Offences and incidents in these wards account for two thirds of recorded crime and anti-social behaviour.



Partnership working is essential to successfully tackle these community safety issues at a neighbourhood level to ensure the local area is safer, more attractive and economically productive.

### **3. 7 Alcohol**

It is estimated that cost associated with alcohol misuse in Hartlepool are in excess of £40 million. 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 almost half of assault related presentations at the Minor Injury Unit in Hartlepool 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.

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

### **3.8 Drugs**

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 0.9%, however in Hartlepool numbers have increased by 1.1%

In Hartlepool number of people who are dependent on drugs is twice the national average, standing at 17 per 1,000 population, with more than two thirds of these users accessing treatment services. More than 80% of the treatment population are opiate users. Treatment completions have increased slightly, however, comparable to the national rate (30.4%) almost one third of clients have been retained in treatment for 6 years or more.

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

### **3.9 Re-offending**

Repeat offending in Hartlepool accounts for more than two thirds of crime<sup>3</sup> in Hartlepool, with re-offending rates remaining amongst the highest in the country

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

Drugs and alcohol continue to have a significant impact upon re-offending activity, with Class A substance misuse being a key driver in the occurrence of acquisitive crime.

Adult repeat offending continues to be a significant factor, with 92% of all 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 breaking 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 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.

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

Approved by the Partnership during the reporting period, the Hartlepool Reducing Re-offending Strategy will ensure that local services are coordinated in a manner that meets the needs of offenders, whilst at the same time ensuring local communities remain safe.

## **4. Proposed Priorities 2015 - 2016**

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to publish its annual Community Safety Plan for 2015 - 2016 by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

Linked to the existing strategic objectives for 2014 – 2017 and based upon the analysis and key findings contained in this document, the following priorities are suggested for consideration by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

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<sup>3</sup> Detected crime

Strategic Objectives 2014 - 2017	Proposed Annual Priorities 2015 - 16
<b>Reduce crime and repeat victimisation</b>	<p><b>Acquisitive Crime</b> - reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on domestic burglary</p> <p><b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b> - safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse and reduce repeat victimisation of those identified as 'high risk'</p>
<b>Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse</b>	<b>Substance Misuse</b> - Reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.
<b>Create confident, cohesive and safe communities</b>	<p><b>Vulnerable Victims</b> - work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><b>Anti-social behaviour</b> – reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational, and enforcement action and increase restorative interventions.</p>
<b>Reduce offending and re-offending</b>	<b>Re-offending</b> - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity

## Safer Hartlepool Partnership



# AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

19 February 2015



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2014-17 (YEAR 2)

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.2 To consider and comment on the Community Safety Plan 2014-17 (Year 2)

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established a statutory duty for the Local Authorities, Police, Fire Brigades, Clinical Commissioning Groups, and Probation to work together to address local crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending issues. Collectively these five bodies are known as Responsible Authorities and make up the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to produce a three year Community Safety Plan setting out how it intends to tackle crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool.
- 2.3 The current Community Safety Plan published in 2014 outlines the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's strategic objectives for a three year period, with a requirement to refresh the plan on an annual basis following completion of the annual strategic assessment.
- 2.4 The Community Safety Plan (Year 2) which is attached at **Appendix A** will be considered by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership at their meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

## 3. 2015-16 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN /PROPOSED ANNUAL PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The Community Safety Plan Year 2 provides an overview of progress made by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership during 2014-15 with an update on end of year performance. It describes some of the Partnership activity undertaken to reduce crime and improve safety during the last 12 months, and incorporates

the proposed 2015-16 annual priorities as recommended in the annual Partnership strategic assessment as follows:

Strategic Objectives 2014 - 2017	Proposed Annual Priorities 2015 - 16
<b>Reduce crime and repeat victimisation</b>	<p><b>Acquisitive Crime</b> - reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on domestic burglar</p> <p><b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b> – safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse and implement programmes to tackle those identified as ‘high risk’</p>
<b>Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse</b>	<p><b>Substance Misuse</b> - reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.</p>
<b>Create confident, cohesive and safe communities</b>	<p><b>Anti-social behaviour</b> - reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational, and enforcement action and increase restorative interventions.</p> <p><b>Vulnerable Victims</b> - work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behavior.</p>
<b>Reduce offending and re-offending</b>	<p><b>Re-offending</b> - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity</p>

#### 4. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 4.1 Progress made against the Community Safety Plan will be managed and monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, through quarterly performance reports and a review of Partnership Task Group/Sub Group Action Plans. The Community Safety Plan incorporates performance indicators for 2015-16, along with a proposed delivery structure to progress the priorities 2015-16 priorities.

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 In accordance with their crime and disorder scrutiny function the Audit and Governance Committee are asked to consider and comment upon the draft Community Safety Plan (Year 2).

## 6. CONTACT OFFICER

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# Safer Hartlepool Partnership Plan 2014 – 2017

## Year 2





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## Foreword

I am pleased to introduce the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Annual Plan which is based on the findings of the Partnership's Annual Strategic Assessment and consultation with the public at the annual "Face the Public" event. The Plan outlines the Partnership's strategic objectives and priorities for 2015-16 and will be refreshed next year to incorporate new objectives and priorities as they emerge.

Since becoming Chair of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in May 2013, I have been impressed by the strength of partnership working and the dedication and continued support of those organisations that are responsible for the Partnership; the Council, Police, Fire Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group, Probation and the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.



Despite the ongoing cuts to public services and significant reductions in funding, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has continued to strive to make Hartlepool a safer place to live, work and socialise.

Since the beginning of the previous Annual Plan in April 2014, recorded crime has reduced by 4.4%; and this includes a reduction in domestic related crimes.

During 2014-15 the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has successfully supported and delivered numerous partnership initiatives and some of these successes are outlined in this plan.

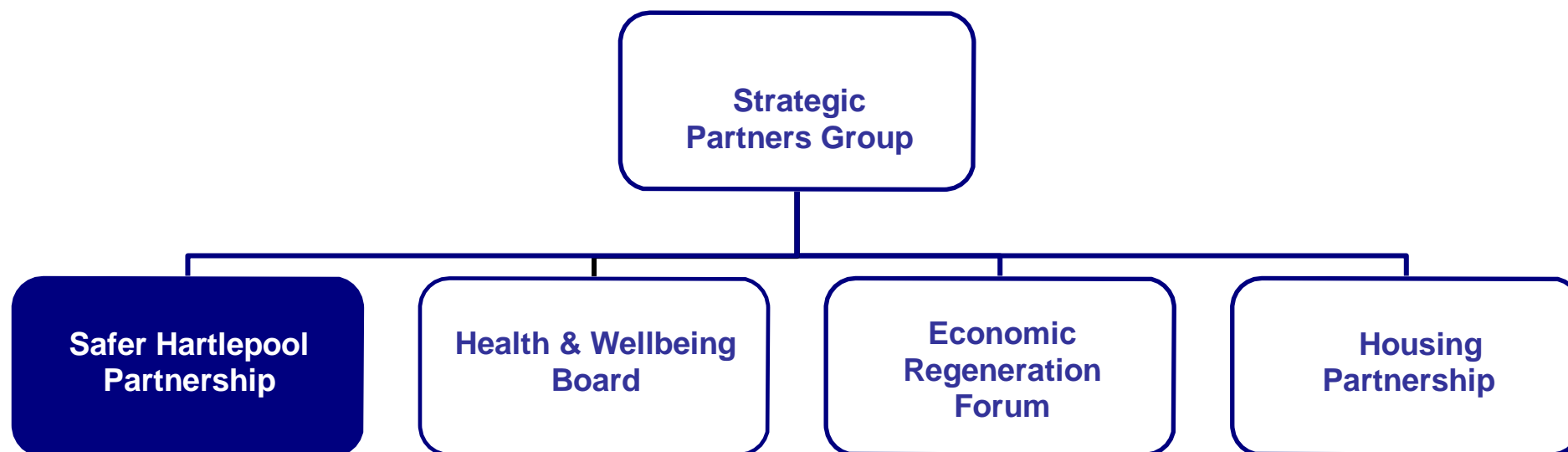
However anti social behaviour has increased during this reporting period, and over the coming year there are a number of factors that will present the Safer Hartlepool Partnership with challenges including; an enduring poor economic climate; Welfare Reform; changes to the way offenders are managed following the introduction of a new National Probation Service, and local Community Rehabilitation Company; the emergence of new types of organised crimes, and the widespread restructuring and change across local public sector agencies.

Despite these challenges I am confident that this Partnership Plan will help us to make Hartlepool a safer place to live, work, and socialise.s

**Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher**  
**Chair of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership**

## The Safer Hartlepool Partnership

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is Hartlepool's statutory Community Safety Partnership and is one of the four<sup>1</sup> themed partnerships of the Hartlepool Strategic Partners Board. The aim of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is to make Hartlepool a safer place to live, work and socialise by addressing crime and anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and to reduce re-offending.



The Partnership is responsible for delivering the following: *Community Safety Plan; annual Youth Justice Plan; Substance Misuse Plan (Drugs and Alcohol); CCTV Strategy; Domestic Violence Strategy; Social Behaviour Plan; Prevent Action Plan; Cohesion Strategy; Troubled Families Programme*. The Partnership is also responsible for the delivery of the community safety outcomes within the *Sustainable Communities Strategy* and the *Hartlepool Plan*. These local strategies and plans will have regard to the Cleveland Police and Crime Plan and appropriate national strategies and plans, to ensure that national policy is followed.

<sup>1</sup> The themed Partnerships are: The Safer Hartlepool Partnership, The Health and Well Being Board, the Housing Partnership and the Economic Regeneration Forum

## 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.

### 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.

### 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 in densely populated areas have high perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour and feel less safe.

### Housing

- The percentage of long term empty properties in Hartlepool is higher than the regional 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.

### Unemployment

- Unemployment rates in Hartlepool are above the regional average and more than double the national average.
- 4.8% of young people aged 18-24 years are unemployed (Sep 14)
- Hartlepool has high rates of people incapable of work due to disability and ill health.

## Partnership Activity 2014– 2015

Over the last year, the Partnership has delivered a number of projects and initiatives against the strategic priorities in the Partnership Plan 2014 - 2015, and developed new services which have been designed to reduce crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending. Examples are listed below:

### Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimization

- **Crime Prevention & Target Hardening** - We have continued to offer crime prevention advice and promote safety measures throughout the year, with seasonal campaigns addressing specific crime types and issues.
- **Dedicated Victims Service** - we have enhanced our services for victims through the provision of a Victim Support Officer who has been trained to provide crime prevention advice, enabling them to provide a holistic response to victims needs. Over the last year we have targeted hardened more than 372 properties in Hartlepool, providing reassurance to victims and reducing their risk of repeat victimisation. Over 82% of victims who have received this service also report increased feelings of safety.
- **Domestic Violence and abuse** – We have commissioned a specialist domestic violence and abuse service; provided training to health providers to raise awareness of the signs of domestic abuse and increase referrals into specialist services, and improved victim engagement with support services through a joint repeat victim scheme.
- **Joint Action Groups (JAG's)** – Using an intelligence led approach the JAG continues to tackle community safety issues at a neighbourhood level. The multi-agency JAG has a localised action plan focusing on areas of greatest vulnerability and need, keeping abreast of any emerging issues or trends. The JAG has supported the delivery of youth diversionary activities, the Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign, and neighbourhood CCTV provision.



## Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by drug & alcohol misuse

- **Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Support** – The Partnership has commissioned a range of community based specialist services to support those who misuse substances. Operating across four sites in Hartlepool, these services have helped more than 900 people on their journey to recovery.
- **Awareness Campaigns** – The Partnership is driving forward campaigns to promote responsible drinking and highlight the dangers of drug misuse - campaigns include Dry January and Substance Misuse Week,
- **Education and awareness**- The Partnership has provided education and awareness in relation to the dangers of alcohol to young people through the work of the Community Alcohol Partnership and healthy life style work in schools.
- **Enforcement** - The Partnership has continued to monitor sales of underage drinking, undertaking test purchasing where required, and delivered mandatory training to licensees around irresponsible drink promotions.



## Strategic Objective: Create confident, cohesive and safe communities:

- We have launched a '**Respect Your Neighbourhood Campaign**' to tackle environmental crime.
- Developed a new **Community Trigger** to give victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime the right to have their case reviewed.
- **Selective Licensing of landlords** - undertaken extensive consultation on a proposal to extend selective licensing of landlords to more areas of the town.
- **Supported a number of Voluntary Sector Groups** such as the Asylum Seeker Group, and Crime Prevention Panel to promote crime prevention messages and cultural diversity, and raise awareness of services available for victims of hate crime and domestic abuse.
- **Restore Project** – continued to develop restorative justice to provide an alternative way of dealing with the harm caused to victims of minor crime and anti-social behaviour to improve victim satisfaction and reduce offending behaviour
- **Anti-social Behaviour Awareness Day (ASBAD)** – More than 1,500 secondary school pupils have taken part in the annual ASBAD event with interactive sessions on topics such as alcohol awareness, making hoax calls, and bullying.
- **Hate Crime** - commenced an investigation into the impact of hate crime through the Councils Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will report in February 2015; developed the Hate Crime Champions Scheme; and delivered training to Third Party Reporting Centres.



## Strategic Objective: Reduce offending and re-offending

Reducing offending and re-offending has been one of the main focuses of the Partnership during 2014/15. In response to high rates of reoffending in Hartlepool the Partnership has introduced a new strategy which aims to break the cycle of re-offending behaviour and improve public safety. The strategy will strengthen the ability of the Partnership to work together to provide local solutions to reoffending set against the broader context of the national Transforming Rehabilitation Strategy. Current activities aimed at reducing offending and reoffending include:

- **Triage Programme** - This scheme diverts young offenders into positive activities and support, instead of charging them and taking them to court. The initiative continues to reduce the numbers of young Hartlepool people entering the criminal justice system in Hartlepool and the success of the scheme is now being replicated across the Cleveland area.
- **Integrated Offender Management (IOM)** – This multi-agency approach to reducing re-offending has benefited from further development work this year with plans for a multi-agency hub comprising of a Police Sergeant, HMP Prison Officers, a Community Rehabilitation Company Officer, Restorative Justice Co-ordinator, and Performance Officer co-located at Holme House Prison due to start in March 2015. The hub will improve 'through the gate services' ensuring a smooth transition for offenders into the community to reduce the risk of further offending behaviour.
- **Troubled Families Programme – Think Family / Think Community** – This government funded initiative is now in its third year. The programme aims to reduce youth offending, reduce anti-social behaviour, increase education attendance and get people into work. Due to the local success of the programme the government has committed funding to enable work to be undertaken with a further 143 families over the forthcoming year.

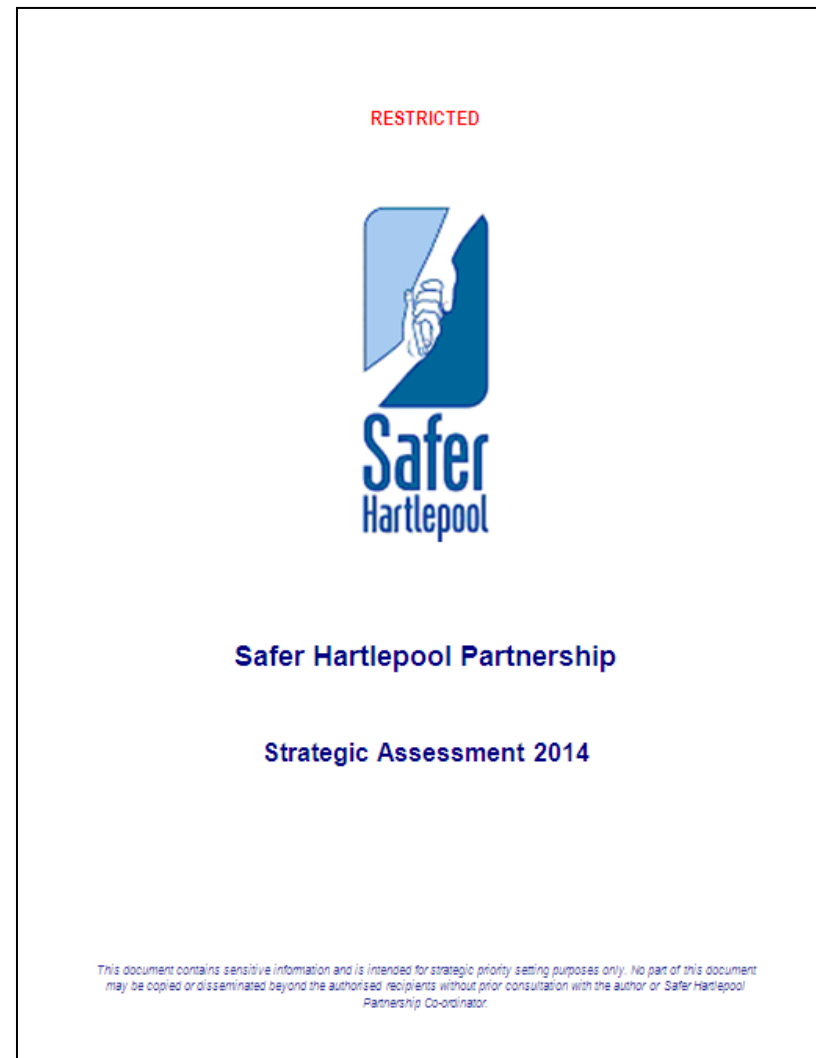


## Strategic Assessment 2013/14

The eighth Safer Hartlepool Strategic Assessment was completed in December 2014 and contains information to aid the Partnership's understanding of the priority community safety issues in Hartlepool. The Assessment forms part of an intelligence-led approach to community safety, which enables a more focused, resource-effective and partnership-orientated delivery of options to help:

- Better understand the patterns and trends relating to crime, disorder and substance misuse issues affecting the Borough;
- Set clear and robust strategic priorities for the Partnership;
- Develop interventions and activities that are driven by reliable intelligence-led evidence.

The Strategic Assessment covers the twelve month period October 2013 to September 2014 and contains analysis of data obtained from both statutory and non-statutory partner agencies including: the Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade, North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, Housing Hartlepool, and Harbour Support Services. Additional information has also been obtained from community consultations and meetings.





## Key findings from the Strategic Assessment period include:

### Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimisation

- Crime in Hartlepool has reduced for the eighth consecutive year.
- Successful reductions have been achieved in most major crime categories including acquisitive crime and violence offences, however most recently domestic burglary has increased.
- Repeat victimisation is evident in most crime categories; however it is even higher in violence offences, particularly domestic related violence.
- In the current economic climate there is potential that the numbers of repeat and vulnerable victims will increase.

### Strategic Objective: Create confident, cohesive and safe communities

- Anti social behaviour is following an increasing trend with current levels being twice the national average.
- Some communities and neighbourhoods suffer from disproportionate levels of anti-social behaviour.
- Perceptions of anti social behaviour in Hartlepool are above the national average.

### Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by drug & alcohol misuse

- Alcohol plays a significant factor in the occurrence of violent crime, including domestic violence and abuse.
- Alcohol specific hospital admissions for adults and under 18's in Hartlepool are significantly higher than the national average.
- The number of people dependant on drugs in Hartlepool is twice the national average.
- There is a clear link between Class A drug misuse and the occurrence of acquisitive crime.
- The number of individuals accessing drug treatment has increased since the previous assessment period.

### Strategic Objective: Reduce offending and re-offending

- Hartlepool has one of the highest proven re-offending rates in the country.
- Re-offenders have greater needs in respect of housing, education, training, employment and substance misuse.
- The number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time has reduced by 21 % in comparison to the previous assessment period.

## Public Consultation

To ensure that the Partnership is focusing on the issues that residents consider to be a priority, findings from local community consultations have been taken into consideration when setting the strategic objectives and priorities.

**Face the Public** – At the Safer Hartlepool Partnership ‘Face the Public’ event held in October 2014 we asked:

**“What can the Safer Hartlepool Partnership do to make Hartlepool safer”**

**Public responses included:**

- Maintain strong multi-agency partnership working
- Improve Neighbourhood Policing
- Tackle anti-social behaviour & provide youth diversionary activities
- Reduce re-offending and divert first time entrants from the criminal justice system
- Provide support for victims of crime
- Tackle drug and alcohol misuse
- Improve communication and promote services
- Empower communities and promote reassurance

## Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation

The Sustainable Community Strategy identifies ‘Safer, Stronger Neighbourhoods’ as one of its key priorities. During consultation in 2013 on the strategy participants were asked:

**“Which one of the Safer Stronger Neighbourhoods improvements is most important to you?”**

From the four choices available, the majority of respondents identified creating confident, strong and safe communities as the area most in need of improvement, as below:

- Create confident, strong and safe communities (37%)
- Reduce crime and victimisation (24%)
- Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse (23%)
- Reduce offending and re-offending (17%)

## Hartlepool Household Survey

The Hartlepool Household Survey was undertaken during May – August 2013. Questionnaires were delivered to 18, 960 households with a 30.6% response rate and over 6,000 completed surveys being returned.

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. But when residents were presented with a list of anti-social behaviour issues, and asked to tell us which they felt were a very or fairly big problem in their local area the following three issues were identified:

**Rubbish or litter lying around**

**Speed and volume of road traffic**

**People using or dealing drugs**

## Partnership Strategic Objectives 2014-2017

Based on the findings in the annual Strategic Assessment and consultation with the local community, the Partnership will retain the following four strategic objectives during the lifetime of the three year plan:

Strategic Objectives 2014 - 2017	
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	Reduce offending and re-offending

## Partnership Priorities 2015-2016

To reflect community priorities evidenced in the community consultation process, during 2015/16 our key focus will be to: “**Create confident, cohesive and safe communities**” by concentrating on the following areas of concern:

Create Annual Priorities 2015 - 2016	
<b>Re-offending</b> - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity	<b>Acquisitive Crime</b> – reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on domestic burglary
<b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b> – safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse and implement programmes to tackle those identified as ‘high risk’.	<b>Anti-social behaviour</b> –. reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational, and enforcement action and increase restorative interventions
<b>Substance misuse</b> – reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.	<b>Vulnerable Victims</b> - work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behavior.

## Key activities over the next 12 months include:

**Partnership Working :** - we will continue to develop multi-agency partnership working in neighbourhoods, particularly those neighbourhoods exhibiting high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. Work will also be undertaken to reassure and empower the local community by strengthening engagement mechanisms; promoting the community champion role; and increasing access to, and the visibility of the Community Payback initiative.

**Support for Victims:** - we will continue to develop support for vulnerable victims of crime and anti-social behaviour including the most serious, vulnerable and targeted. We will also continue to improve reporting and develop responses to hate crime and incidents, raising awareness of 'mate crime' and educating partners and the local community of the signs to look out for that might indicate an individual is vulnerable and exploited.

**Communication:** – we will address the need identified by the local community to improve communication about partnership activity and the promotion of local crime prevention initiatives and victim support services, including the promotion of community safety messages in schools, increasing knowledge of the work of local policing teams, and public confidence in the Police 101 contact number. We will also investigate the further development of electronic information sharing with communities, and the use of a range of other media outlets such as Heartbeat to communicate public safety messages.

**Anti- social behaviour** - we will develop initiatives to tackle Anti-social behaviour including educational, diversionary, and enforcement activities making full use of the new anti-social behaviour tools and powers and the development of restorative justice interventions in conjunction with the PCC . We will continue to work in partnership with landlords and support tenants in the private rented sector to maintain their tenancies and we will tackle alcohol fuelled related anti-social behaviour, encouraging public reporting of such incidents.

**Substance misuse:** we will work to protect public safety through robust enforcement activity in relation to drug dealing and alcohol related violence, and we will educate the local community in relation to the health risks associated with drugs and alcohol, improving education in schools. We will also commission drug and alcohol treatment services to improve access to early and preventative interventions, with treatment being recovery orientated to achieve successful completions and supporting people to achieve sustained recovery.

**Offending / Re-offending :** we will implement the reducing re-offending strategy, improve 'through the gate services' by locating a single integrated offender management hub at Holme House prison, and through the Think Family/Think Community Programme we will continue to invest in families ensuring those with an offending background are given the necessary support skills, and employment opportunities. We will continue to deliver the very successful Youth Triage Scheme to reduce the number of first time entrants into the criminal justice system, and will ensure that there is an additional focus on the transition from youth to adult offending services.

## Measuring Performance

Partnership performance monitoring will be undertaken on a quarterly basis to assess progress against key priorities drawn from the strategic assessment and identify any emerging issues. Performance management reports will be provided to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

The following performance indicators will be monitored over the next 12 months:

Strategic Objective	Performance Indicator
Reduce crime & repeat victimisation	Total recorded crime rate per 1,000 population
	Domestic burglary rate per 1,000 household
	Vehicle crime rate per 1,000 population
	Robbery rate per 1,000 population
	Shoplifting rate per 1,000 population
	Violent crime (including sexual violence) rate per 1,000 population*
	% of violent crime (including sexual violence) that is domestic related
	% of repeat cases of domestic violence (MARAC)
	Violent crime (including sexual violence) hospital admissions for violence per 100,000 population*
Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	Drug offences per 1,000 population
	% of people who think drug use or dealing is a problem
	% of opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment*
	% of non-opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment*
	% of alcohol users that have successfully completed alcohol treatment
	Alcohol related hospital admissions rate per 100,000 population*
	Number of young people known to substance misuse services

\*Indicators link to the Public Health Outcome Framework

Strategic Objective	Performance Indicator
Create confident, cohesive & safe communities	Anti-social behaviour incidents per 1,000 population
	Public order offences per 1,000 population
	Criminal damage rate per 1,000 population
	Deliberate fires rate per 1,000 population
	Number of reported hate crimes & incidents
	% of the population affected by noise - number of complaints about noise
	% of people who feel safe during the day
	% of people who feel safe after dark
	% of people who think rubbish or litter lying around is a problem
	% of people who think groups hanging around the streets is a problem
	% of people who think people being drunk or rowdy in a public place is a problem
	% of people who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property is a problem
	% of people who think noisy neighbours or loud parties is a problem
	% of people who think abandoned or burnt out cars are a problem
	% of people who think that they belong to their local area
	% of people who feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area
	% of people who believe that people from different back grounds get on well together
	% of people who think that people in the area pull together to improve the local area
Reduce offending & re-offending	Rate of first-time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 population*
	Re-offending levels - percentage of offenders who re-offend*
	Re-offending levels - average number of re-offences per offender*
	Re-offending rate of Prolific & Priority Offenders
	Re-offending rate of High Crime Causers
	% of Troubled Families who have reduced their offending behaviour

\*Indicators link to the Public Health Outcome Framework

**Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance 2014/15**

**To be published in April 2015**

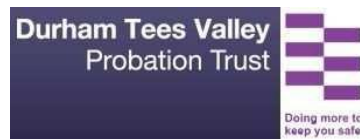
## Delivering the 2015/16 Priorities – Delivery Structure

## Appendix 2

The responsibility for delivery of each of the priorities has been allocated to a dedicated theme group of the Safer Hartlepool Executive Group.







## **SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

12 September 2014

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Elected Member, Hartlepool  
Borough Council (In the Chair)  
Councillor Chris Simmons, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough  
Council  
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods,  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Clare Clark, Head of Community Safety and Engagement,  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston, Chair of Youth Offending Board  
John Bentley, Chief Executive, Safe in Tees Valley

**Also Present:**

In accordance with Council procedure rule 5.2 (ii) Paula Swindale was in attendance as a substitute for Karen Hawkins, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group Karen Clark was in attendance as substitute for Louise Wallace , Director of Public Health, Sarah Wilson was in attendance as substitute for Barry Copping, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and Mark Smith was in attendance as substitute for Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Councillor Allan Clark  
Helen Williams and Dave Turton, Cleveland Fire Brigade  
Alex Sedgwick, Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre

Officers: Dannielle Swainston, Head of Access and Strategic Planning  
Laura Stones, Scrutiny Support Officer  
Linda Igoe, Principal Housing Advice Officer  
Roni Checksfield, Youth Inclusion Custody Co-ordinator  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair announced that the meeting would be filmed and would be utilised to produce a DVD for the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Face the Public Event to be held on 13 October at the Hartlepool College of Further Education.

## 11. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Dave Stubbs, Chief Executive, Hartlepool Borough Council, Chief Superintendent Gordon Lang, Cleveland Police, Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Karen Hawkins, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group, Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council, Steve McCarten, District Manager, Cleveland Fire Authority.

## 12. Declarations of Interest

None.

## 13. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2014

Confirmed.

## 14. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 9 – Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance - the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods reported that, as agreed at the last meeting, a letter had been sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland to convey the Partnership's concerns in relation to the levels of anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool and a meeting had been scheduled to discuss this, feedback from which would be provided to the Partnership in due course.

## 15. Selective Licensing Consultation (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

### **Purpose of report**

To present the Partnership the details of the proposed Selective Licensing designation and request the Partnership's views on the proposal. The response from the Partnership would form part of the ongoing mandatory consultation exercise, as prescribed by government guidance.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report set out the background to the option to introduce a new Selective Licensing Scheme in distinct streets and areas of the town. An extensive data analysis exercise had been undertaken which had provided the evidence to propose a scheme predominantly based in response to problems associated with low housing demand and, to a lesser degree, to tackle anti-social behaviour. There were nine specific areas across the

town that the Council was proposing should be in the Selective Licensing Scheme, details of which were attached at Appendix 1. A list of the streets included in the proposal was also included in the consultation document, attached at Appendix 2.

In accordance with legal requirements the Council had undertaken a comprehensive consultation exercise with all those who were likely to be affected by the introduction of the Scheme, which had commenced on 1 July and would run for a minimum of 10 weeks, details of which were set out in the report.

The Partnership was asked to provide a formal response to the selective licensing consultation giving consideration to any suggested amendment to the new Scheme and areas proposed, whether the new Scheme contributed to the delivery of the Partnership's strategic objectives, would a new Scheme, in the areas proposed, support the work of the Partnership and whether there were any measures or initiatives the Partnership believed the Council should be considering, as an alternative to introducing a new Selective Licensing Scheme, in the areas proposed.

In the discussion that followed the Partnership expressed their unanimous support for the proposal as presented in the report.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the proposed Selective Licensing designation, as set out in the report, be supported and be included in the Partnership's formal response to the selective licensing consultation.

## **16. Youth Diversionary Work Presentation** *(Representatives from Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre and the Cleveland Fire Service)*

Representatives from Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre and Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority, who were in attendance at the meeting, provided the Partnership with a joint detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to Youth Diversionary Work and focussed on the following:-

- Youth Diversionary Programmes delivered by Belle Vue Sports and Youth Centre
- Street Work
- Sorted Programme
- COOL & 5-19 Activity Project
- NCS, xChangers & Action Up Programmes
- Youth Diversionary Programmes delivered by the Fire Service
- Progress Monitoring – Pre/Post course assessment for Life Course
- Feedback from participants of Life Programme – May 2014

Following conclusion of the presentation, representatives responded to issues raised by Members in relation to the benefits of the programme. Members welcomed the work undertaken and were pleased to note the benefits in terms of mitigating future costs. It was noted that issues of anti-social behaviour were less evident in areas where youth diversionary work was undertaken.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their attendance and informative presentation.

### **Decision**

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

## **17. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance** (*Head of Community Safety and Engagement*)

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 1 – April 2014 to June 2014 (inclusive).

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Head of Community Safety and Engagement provided the Partnership with an overview of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 1, as set out in an appendix to the report. Information as a comparator with performance in the previous year was also provided. In presenting the report, the Head of Community Safety and Engagement highlighted salient positive and negative data and responded to a number of queries raised in relation to crime figures by type.

In response to comments made regarding interpretation of the data and concerns that a number of crimes were not reported, the Chair of the Youth Offending Board expressed concern regarding the level of incidents that remained unreported and public perception that the police were failing to address various crimes such as burglary and anti-social behaviour. Assurances were provided that all crimes reported were investigated and the public were actively encouraged to report any incidents of this type. The potential reasons for members of the public failing to report crime were debated. The need to actively encourage and reassure the public that they could safely report issues without any repercussions was emphasised.

With regard to year end projections, the Chair of the Youth Offending Board stated that crime figures had increased in August and an increase in the year end figures was projected. The impact of the continuous reduction

in resources on crime figures and the continuing challenges ahead in terms of future years was highlighted.

### **Decision**

That Quarter 1 performance and comments of Members be noted.

## **18. Victim Services** (*Head of Community Safety and Engagement*)

### **Purpose of report**

To inform and update the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on the European Directive on the rights, support and protection of victims and the work that was currently being undertaken by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in relation to future commissioning of victims services across Cleveland.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report set out the background to the European Directive on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime and the work that was currently being undertaken by the Office of the Police and Crime Commission in relation to future commissioning of victims across Cleveland. Grant funding for the commissioning of services would be provided to PCCs which would enable PCCs to pay such grants to such persons as he considered appropriate. The dedicated funding excluded expenditure for services to victims of anti-social behaviour but PCCs had the option to use other sources of funding to commission services for these victims.

In preparation for the commissioning of victim services across Cleveland a report had been produced which explored current provision across the Cleveland area, the views of stakeholders about the strengths and weaknesses of current provision and advice on how the funding available to the PCC could be best used, a copy of which was attached as an Appendix to the report.

Details of the current victim services in Hartlepool was provided. Whilst the PCC had yet to publish his vision for victim services it was clear that the funds available to support the new victim commissioning process were relatively limited. The PCC was working with the Safer Hartlepool Partnership to explore any current gaps in local service provision and opportunities for the joint commissioning of services in the future to make best use of resources available to support and protect victims of crime and anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool.

In response to a request by the Chair, the representative from the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that the vision would be presented to a

future meeting of the Partnership.

### **Decision**

- (i) The Partnership noted the commissioning responsibilities of the PCC and the work underway to develop local victim service commissioning arrangements.
- (ii) That the vision of the Police and Crime Commissioner for victim services be presented to a future meeting of the Partnership.

## **19. Think Family, Think Communities (TFTC) Progress Update** *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

### **Purpose of report**

To update Members of the Partnership on progress of the Think Family, Think Communities (TFTC) Programme.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Head of Access and Strategic Planning presented the report which set out the aims and objectives of the Troubled Families Programme together with details of the make up of the Think Families Think Communities Team. Information had been collected to understand the needs of families and included the number of families involved in the programme by ward, social care status/family support, worklessness, number of domestic violence incidents by quarter, number of individuals involved with substance misuse treatment services, number of individuals identified as misusing substances by key worker assessment, number of proven offences committed by young people aged 10-18 years by quarter, number of anti-social behaviour incidents by quarter as well as details of the average school attendance in 2013/14.

Since the start of the programme in April 2011 Hartlepool had submitted three payment by results claims, details of which were provided as set out in the report. The Government had, in principle, committed to expanding the programme to cover a further 400,000 families across the country over the next five years. Funding had been allocated for one year of the expanded programme with the need to provide its worth for Government to make decisions about further funding in the next Spending Review. It was envisaged that Hartlepool would be expected to start Phase 2 early. Phase 2 was a slightly different programme, details of which were included in the report.

In the discussion that followed Members debated at length the implications in the event of a change of Government and the potential that funding may

be withdrawn. A view was expressed regarding the importance of the programme and the need to mainstream this initiative. The Partnership was keen to see how Phase 2 of the programme rolled out and concerns were expressed that the programme did not focus upon families without children. The Head of Access and Strategic Planning stated that the expectation from DCLG was only families with children. Emphasis was placed upon the need to also have regard for families without children who may be exhibiting behaviours contrary to normal practice and the impact of such behaviour was discussed. It was suggested that the concerns of the Partnership in relation to the exclusion of families without children from the programme be conveyed to the Director of Child and Adult Services with a view to a future report being presented to the Partnership exploring this issue.

### **Decision**

- (i) That progress to date on the Troubled Families Programme be noted.
- (ii) That the concerns of the Partnership regarding the exclusion of families without children from the programme be conveyed to the Director of Child and Adult Services with a view to a future report being presented to the Partnership exploring this issue.

## **20. Community Engagement and Cohesion Strategy** (Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)

### **Purpose of report**

To inform the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) of the proposed merger of the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy, and the Community Cohesion Strategic Framework to form a Community Engagement and Cohesion Strategy with a revised delivery model.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods reported on the background to the proposals to merge the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy and the Community Cohesion Strategic Framework to form a Community Engagement and Cohesion Strategy. Members were referred to a report, attached at Appendix A, prepared for the Council's Finance and Policy Committee which tracked national and local developments and identified a number of areas of common ground between the local Neighbourhood Management Strategy and the local Community Cohesion Strategy.

Using the Vulnerable Localities Index the report identified a number of



vulnerable localities where a more focused co-ordinated approach would contribute to the future sustainability of these communities and that an appropriate model for doing this would be through existing Ward Profiles and the creation of 'Sustainability Plans.'

Reference was made to the importance of co-ordination of services, using existing resources more effectively and the benefits of agencies working in partnership. In response to a query as to how the merger of the two strategies would be monitored, the Partnership was advised that the monitoring arrangements would include a six monthly sustainability plan, a newsletter to the appropriate neighbourhoods as well as an annual progress report to the Neighbourhood Forums. The Chair indicated that if European monies became available, there was a need to consider how the strategy would be delivered operationally with focus upon delivery to areas of greatest need.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the proposed merger of the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy and the Community Cohesion Strategic Framework, and the revised delivery model be noted.
- (ii) That the comments of Members be noted.

The meeting concluded at 2.35 pm.

CHAIR

## **SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

21 November 2014

The meeting commenced at 12.30 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Christopher Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)  
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health  
Clare Clark, Head of Community Safety and Engagement  
Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston, Chair of Youth Offending Board  
Steve McCarten, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority  
John Bentley, Safe in Tees Valley  
Stewart Tagg, Housing Hartlepool  
Karen Hawkins, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical  
Commissioning Group

In accordance with Council procedure rule 5.2 (ii) Kevin Parry, was in attendance as substitute for Barbara Gill, Durham Tees Valley Rehabilitation Company and Neville Cameron, was in attendance as substitute for Barry Coppinger, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

### **Also present:**

Superintendent Alastair Simpson, Cleveland Police  
Gilly Marshall, Housing Hartlepool

Officers: Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

## **21. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Chris Simmons, Hartlepool Borough Council, Dave Stubbs, Chief Executive, Hartlepool Borough Council, Chief Superintendent Gordon Lang, Cleveland Police, Julie Allen and Rosana Roy, National Probation Service, Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner, Barbara Gill, Durham Tees Valley Rehabilitation Company, Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Children's Services, Hartlepool Borough Council.

**22. Declarations of Interest**

None

**23. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2014**

The minutes were deferred.

**24. Serious and Organised Crime Strategy  
Update/Presentation** *(Director of Regeneration and  
Neighbourhoods/Representative from Cleveland Police)*
**Purpose of report**

To update the Partnership on the implementation of the Organised Crime Strategy.

**Issue(s) for consideration**

The report provided background information in relation to the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy together with the aims and key elements of the Strategy. Details of developments to date locally in terms of tackling organised crime in Cleveland were provided. Two workshops in the region had been held, one to promote the strategy and the second was a North East regional event regarding Human Trafficking and Modern Day slavery hosted by Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.

In support of the report, Superintendent Alastair Simpson, who was in attendance at the meeting, provided the Partnership with a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery in Cleveland. The purpose of the presentation was to raise awareness of the issue. The presentation included an overview of the local picture in terms of human trafficking and domestic servitude and included the following :-

- The National Picture
- In 2008 the UN estimated that 2.5 million people from 127 countries were being trafficked into 137 countries around the world
- Estimate 20,000 slaves in UK
- Internal victims increasing – 47% in 2013 – 1746 victims
- What is Modern Day Slavery – Examples
- Human Trafficking – The Act, Means, Purpose
- National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
- Legislation
- NRM Referrals 2013
- Current (National) Victim Trends

- Cleveland Statistics
- The Wider View
- Is it likely that aspects of modern day slavery are taking place in our area?
- How would a trafficking victim present?
- Where would a trafficking victim present?
- Misconceptions
- First steps – intelligence requirement, raising awareness, use of National Referral Mechanism, increase skills of investigators, Safeguarding Board focus

In the discussion that followed presentation of the report, the representative responded to issues raised by the Partnership. In response to a query regarding the availability of the presentation to share with appropriate staff, the police representative indicated that whilst an e-learning package was available on the PCC website, how this information could be released would need to be clarified.

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods emphasised the importance of engagement with Teesport given that this was one of the busiest container ports in the country and the need for all partners to work together in terms of intelligence gathering. The various mechanisms of intelligence gathering were discussed as well as the most appropriate groups/bodies for sharing such information. The importance of utilising a local group for feeding in this information was highlighted.

The Chair highlighted the importance of raising awareness of this issue and the need for the Partnership to agree the most appropriate methods of disseminating/sharing the information contained within the presentation as widely as possible with key partners and roll out training to relevant staff throughout Partner organisations. It was noted that training of this type may be included within Children's safeguarding training packages. The Chair requested that the feasibility of releasing the e-learning package as well as the most appropriate methods of delivering the training be explored and presented to a future meeting of the Partnership for consideration.

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

### **Decision**

- (i) That developments to date locally in relation to tackling organised crime in Cleveland be noted.
- (ii) That a report be presented to a future meeting of the Partnership exploring the feasibility of releasing the e-learning package and the most appropriate methods of delivering the training to relevant staff.

## **25. Face the Public Event Feedback** (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

### **Purpose of report**

To provide the Partnership with feedback on the Face the Public Event held on 17 October 2014.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

It was reported that 59 people had attended the Safer Hartlepool Partnership annual “Face the Public” Event held on 17 October 2014. The report provided the Partnership with an overview of the key priorities identified in the workshops and a brief evaluation of the event. Feedback from each of the seven workshops was appended to the report. Eighteen evaluation questionnaires had been completed by those attending the event, feedback from which was provided. When asked what would encourage more people to attend the event in the future, the majority said there was a need to increase publicity about the event and some were of the view that it would be useful to provide a report for the public to read prior to the event via Heartbeat and leaflets. It was also noted that tea time was a busy time especially for parents with young children and holding the event at a different time in future should be considered.

A Member of the Partnership commented on the benefits of including a DVD, prior to the discussion workshops and public question time, which demonstrated some of the work the Partnership had undertaken over the last year.

With a view to generating more interest in future events, Members supported the recommendation that feedback from the evaluation questionnaires be utilised to inform next year’s event and requested that a report be issued in advance of the event and the start times be alternated.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the priorities identified at the Face the Public Event be fed into the Safer Hartlepool Partnership’s Annual Strategic Assessment and Community Safety Plan.
- (ii) That the evaluation of the event be used to inform next year’s Face the Public Event.

## **26. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Reducing Re-Offending Strategy 2014-17** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

### **Purpose of report**

To seek approval of the second draft of the Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2014-17 (Appendix A and B refer)

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

Following the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Development Day held in April 2013, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership had agreed that there was a need to develop a local Reducing Re-offending Strategy. In September 2013 the first draft of the Strategy had been approved by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership with a second draft and supporting action plan approved in July 2014 when it was agreed that an 8 week consultation process be undertaken in line with the Voluntary Sector Strategy Undertakings.

The overall aim of the strategy identified in the consultation was to break the cycle of offending by 'ensuring that local services were co-ordinated in a manner that met the needs of offenders, whilst at the same time ensuring local communities remained safe.' This was underpinned by the following three objectives:-

1. Improve pathways out of re-offending
2. All partners working together with the needs of offenders and public safety at the heart of service planning
3. Delivering a local response to local problems through a better understanding of offending behaviour and impact of interventions.

Responses to the consultation evidenced general support for the strategy and its overall aim and objectives, details of which were included in the report.

With regard to amendment to the strategy/action plan following consultation, as the majority of respondents were supportive of the strategy, its overall aim and objectives, it was proposed that these should remain the same as in the second draft of the strategy presented to the Partnership in July. Proposed minor amendments to the strategy were outlined in the report and included reference to the 'Desistance Theory, inclusion of the four strategic objectives within the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's Community Safety Plan in response to those who thought that insufficient focus was being given to victims and keeping the community safe and an additional action had been included in the action plan making reference to the Troubled Families Programme.

With regard to Page 13, 1.4 of the action plan – that the Criminal Justice

Liaison and Diversion Service be developed in Hartlepool, it was agreed that the responsibility/resource should include Public Health as well as the CCG/PCC and Adult Services.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the Reducing Re-offending Strategy 2014-17 be approved.
- (ii) That Page 13 1.4 of the action plan in relation to development of the Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Service in Hartlepool, responsibility/resource element be amended to include reference to Public Health.

## **27. Transforming Rehabilitation – Ministry of Justice Update** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

### **Purpose of report**

To update the Partnership on a recent communication from the Ministry of Justice in relation to the National Transforming Rehabilitation Programme

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods reported on the background to the changes in relation to the transformation of rehabilitation services and the recent establishment of Community Rehabilitation Companies and a new National Probation Service. Preferred bidders were announced on 29 October 2014 with ARCC being successful in their bid and would be delivering offender management services under contract with the Ministry of Justice in the Durham Tees Valley contract package area.

The contract management of the services commissioned by the Transforming Rehabilitation Programme (TRS) would be delivered by a new Rehabilitation Services Contract Management function (RSCM) in the National Offender Management System (NOMS). This would be the responsibility of Ian Poree, Director of Rehabilitation Programme and for the North Region, Amy Rice, one of three Deputy Directors of the Rehabilitation Programme.

Partnership Members were referred to a letter from the Ministry of Justice together with further information appended to the report in relation to progress on the Transformation of Rehabilitation Programme.

With regard to the recommendation that ARCC be invited to a special meeting of the Partnership to present their offender management model and discuss partnership working, the Partnership was advised that it was unlikely that contracts would be finalised with ARCC until February 2015. In view of this it was suggested that the meeting be arranged around these

timescales.

### **Decision**

- (i) It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the new Deputy Director of the Rehabilitation Programme for the North to raise awareness of local priorities and expectations around partnership working and the outcome of that meeting be reported back to the Partnership.
- (ii) It was agreed that ARCC be invited to a special meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership to present their offender management model and discuss how they could work together with the Partnership to reduce the high re-offending rates in Hartlepool and the newly established Reducing Re-offending Strategy.

## **28. Prevent Update** (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

### **Purpose of report**

To update the Partnership on Government plans to place the Channel strand of the PREVENT strategy on a statutory footing.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report set out the background to the Prevent Strategy which was one of the key objectives of Contest, the Government's strategy for countering international terrorism. The Channel Programme was a key element of the Prevent Strategy that used a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk of radicalisation and existing collaborations between Local Authorities and other statutory partners.

It was reported that at a Home Office briefing held in October, Prevent leads from Local Authorities had been informed of plans to place the Channel process on a statutory footing, details of which were set out in the report. It was anticipated that the legislation would receive Royal Assent before Christmas.

Details of the monitoring arrangements and channel responsibilities in Hartlepool were provided as set out in the report. To date, Hartlepool had received only one Channel referral since the programme began. This had been dealt with by the Prevent Silver lead for the Local Authority who had convened a bespoke Panel of relevant partners to produce an action plan which was monitored by the Panel until the risk to that individual had subsided. Whilst recent high profile cases and increased awareness raising may lead to an increase in Channel referrals, it was proposed that the current practice of convening a Panel as and when needed should continue to be the Hartlepool approach.



With regard to a request for clarification in relation to the roll out of the Prevent agenda to staff, the Head of Community Safety and Engagement advised that training would be provided to staff across the authority and participation of Elected Members was also key in terms of taking this issue forward. The Chair was keen to see training of this type extended to Elected Members.

### **Decision**

- (i) That the Government plans to place Channel on a statutory footing be noted.
- (ii) That the current arrangements in Hartlepool in relation to convening a Panel as and when needed should continue.
- (iii) It was agreed that Prevent agenda training be rolled out to Elected Members as well as key staff.

## **29. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance** *(Head of Community Safety and Engagement)*

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Performance for Quarter 2 - July 2014 to September 2014 (inclusive).

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The report provided an overview of the Partnership's performance during 2013/14, comparing the current performance to the previous year. In presenting the report, the Head of Community Safety and Engagement highlighted salient positive and negative data and responded to a number of queries raised in relation to crime figures by type.

In the discussion that followed some concerns were raised regarding the increase in deliberate fires and the impact on the Fire Service as a result.

In response to issues raised regarding the unavailability of data in relation to re-offending rates of prolific and priority offenders and re-offending rates of high crime causers, the representative from Tees Valley Rehabilitation Company agreed to provide this information to feed into future performance reports.

### **Decision**

That Quarter 2 performance and comments of Members be noted.

### **30. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Domestic Violence Action Plan Update** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

#### **Purpose of Report**

To update the Partnership on the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategic Group Action Plan 2014/15.

#### **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 during 2014/15 and described some of the partnership activity that had been undertaken to address domestic violence and abuse in Hartlepool.

Partnership Members were referred to prevention and early intervention work, as detailed in the report, which included work being undertaken to promote healthy relationships and improving information sharing. In recognition of the fact that employers had a key role to play in ensuring victims of domestic violence and abuse received appropriate support and to assist with prevention, the Council's Human Resources Department had drafted a domestic violence and abuse policy and, once the policy was in place, further work would be undertaken to disseminate the policy across the Borough.

It was noted that specialist domestic violence services had been corporately commissioned by the Council since 2012. The service was currently being reviewed using a range of quantitative and qualitative information. However, in the interim the CAADA report, attached at Appendix B, provided data from clients engaging with and/or exiting Harbour services for the period 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Details of steps to improve partnership working as well as justice outcomes and risk reduction was provided.

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods advised the Partnership that a special meeting of the Partnership would need to be convened in January to consider a domestic homicide review to which the attendance of statutory partners was required. The Partnership's availability in relation to proposed dates was sought. It was agreed that the preferred date and time of 12 January at 3.00 pm be explored by Democratic Services.

With regard to the CAADA report in relation to client safety and wellbeing outcomes, attached as an appendix to the report, a Member commented on the difficulties in evaluating data on the effectiveness of domestic

violence support. The need to include baseline data in future reports to assist with examining trends was suggested. The Head of Community Safety and Engagement advised that a presentation had been provided at the Domestic Violence Strategic Group which focussed on best practice and one of the main issues identified was the way in which information was recorded.

**Decision**

- (i) That the contents of the report and progress made in delivering the Domestic Violence Strategy Action Plan be noted.
- (ii) That the feasibility of a Special Meeting of the Partnership of 12 January 2015 at 3.00 pm be explored by Democratic Services.

The meeting concluded at 2.10 p.m.

CHAIR