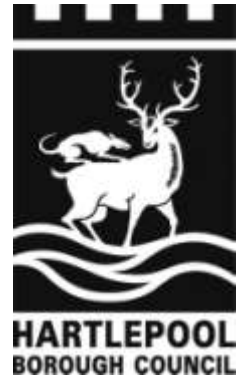




SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP AGENDA



Friday 13 April 2018

at 10.00 a.m.

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

MEMBERS: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Steve Thomas, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Gill Alexander, Chief Executive, Hartlepool Borough Council
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Hartlepool Borough Council
Clare Clark, Head of Community Safety and Engagement, Hartlepool Borough Council
Paul Edmondson-Jones, Interim Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council
Chief Superintendent Alastair Simpson, Neighbourhood Partnership and Policing Command, Cleveland Police
Barry Coppinger, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Ann Powell, Head of Area, Cleveland National Probation Service
John Graham, Director of Operations, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
Steve Johnson, District Manager, Cleveland Fire Authority
John Bentley, Voluntary and Community Sector Representative, Chief Executive, Safe in Tees Valley
Chris Joynes, Director of Customer Support, Thirteen Group
Jean Golightly, Representative of Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group
Sally Robinson, Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, Hartlepool Borough Council

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2018**



4. PRESENTATIONS

- 4.1 Local Criminal Justice Board Plan – *Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner*

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 5.1 Strategic Assessment January 2017 - December 2017 - *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

FOR INFORMATION:

Date of next meeting – TO BE CONFIRMED



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

9 February 2018

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

Present:

Councillor: Christopher Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)
Councillor Steve Thomas
Clare Clark, Head of Community Safety and Engagement
Chief Superintendent Alastair Simpson, Cleveland Police
Barry Coppinger, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell, Chair of Youth Offending Board
John Graham, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
John Bentley, Safe in Tees Valley
Steve Johnson, Cleveland Fire Authority
Chris Joynes, Thirteen Group
Jean Golightly, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG

Esther Mireku, Acting Consultant in Public Health was in attendance as substitute for Paul Edmondson-Jones

Also present: Councillors Jim Lindridge, Katie Trueman and Alan Clark
Sarah Wilson, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Officers: Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader
Phil Hepburn, Environmental Enforcement Team Leader
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

48. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Hartlepool Borough Council and Paul Edmondson-Jones, Interim Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council.

49. Declarations of Interest

None.

50. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2017

Confirmed.

51. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 41 – Operation Endurance

With regard to the request of the Partnership that the age profile of individuals committing off road vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour offences be explored, the Chief Superintendent advised that the age profile was predominantly 13 to 19 year old white males.

52. Drugs and Alcohol Harm Reduction Update *(Interim Director of Public Health)***Purpose of report**

To provide the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) with:-

- Activity of the Substance Misuse Sub-Group in 2017;
- Suggest that the SHP agree to a change in name of the Sub-Group to 'Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Partnership'; and
- Request that the SHP agree to and support the implementation of the Drugs and Alcohol Harm Reduction delivery framework 2018 – 2025).

Issue(s) for consideration

The report included background information in relation to the implementation of the Hartlepool Substance Misuse Strategy and Plan and included the key focus of work for the year. Members were provided with an update on progress to date including a summary of actions undertaken to implement the current strategy.

In terms of the challenges ahead, it was reported that drug misuse deaths were increasing in England, with the North East region having the highest drug misuse related mortality rate in England and Hartlepool having the highest rate in the region. An increasing number of children and young people were identified with need to access specialist services for drug or alcohol misuse. Approximately three out of every four children and young people accessing services was below 16 years. The youngest service user was 12 years old.

In order to address such challenges, a number of actions had been taken, as detailed in the report, which included securing a grant to recruit an embedded researcher, review of the governance arrangements, a health equality audit would be undertaken in 2018, actions would continue to

reduce supply and underage sales through training, education and enforcement actions, intensified action on prevention and early identification, improve access to services and continue to work with Balance North East, NHS England (NHSE) and Public Health England on the national and regional agenda.

Disappointment was expressed regarding the increasing number of children and young people under 16 accessing the service as well as the level of drug misuse mortality rates in Hartlepool. Given that the statistics revealed no significant signs of improvement, concerns were raised in terms of the impact on young people and the level of support was questioned. Clarification was sought in terms of the accuracy of the statistics presented given that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was 7 years out of date. In relation to the actions undertaken to implement the current strategy, emphasis was placed upon the need to widen community prevention programmes to include youth centres in addition to schools and colleges. The Acting Consultant in Public Health indicated that the trends in Hartlepool were in line with the national picture. The Partnership was advised of the ongoing and proposed work of the Sub-Groups of which updates to the JSNA figures formed part.

The Chair commented that the Finance and Policy Committee had requested a detailed report in relation to what work was being done as a local authority as well as across partner organisations to address the problems associated with drug and alcohol misuse. Emphasis was placed upon the need for the report to include service provision information, how services would be delivered in future and how all partner agencies were working together. The need to focus upon the wider issues around support and prevention and the importance of a more integrated approach across partner agencies was debated. The Partnership welcomed the Chair's suggested approach and supported a referral to the Finance and Policy Committee to progress this issue.

The Chief Superintendent was pleased to note the high percentage of take up rates of services and was keen to receive reasons for drop-out rates which the Acting Consultant in Public Health agreed to circulate following the meeting.

The Acting Consultant in Public Health responded to further queries raised in relation to the report. Clarification was provided regarding the monitoring arrangements in place to measure improvement levels. In response to comments made regarding the benefits of sharing good practice with other local authorities, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland reported that successes in Cardiff had been achieved as a direct result of sharing public health information across partner agencies. Partnership Members shared information on their understanding of the Cardiff model and the reliance on good quality and reliable data being collated by Accident and Emergency departments was highlighted. The Chair was keen to receive further information on the Cardiff model to enable the benefits to be explored for Hartlepool.

Decision

- (i) That the contents of the report, be noted.
- (ii) That the change of name for the Sub-Group from 'Substance Mis-use Sub-Group' to 'Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Partnership' be agreed.
- (iii) That the comments of the Partnership, as set out above, be referred to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration as part of a wider report to be received by the Committee in relation to drug and alcohol preventative services.
- (iv) That an invite be extended to all Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership during consideration of the report in relation to drug and alcohol prevention.

53. Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2018-2025) (Interim
Director of Public Health)**Purpose of report**

To present the Partnership with the final draft of the joint Hartlepool Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2018-2025) (JHWS) for comment.

Issue(s) for consideration

The draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy had been approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 4 December 2017 for referral to Full Council and the Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body (CCG) for formal approval. As part of the final stage of the process of the review of the Strategy, it was noted that the Safer Hartlepool Partnership had been identified as the lead body in the delivery of a number of actions within the Strategy's Implementation Plan. The views of the Partnership were sought to enable any feedback to the fed in prior to its formal approval by the CCG and Full Council.

A presentation was provided in support of the report which focussed on the following issues:-

- Priorities and what was hoped to be achieved
- Ways of working as partners
- Targeted Delivery Plan
- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Implementation Plan

Decision

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and associated Implementation Plan, attached at Appendix 1, was agreed for submission to the Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG Governing Body and Full Council for formal approval.

54. Integrated Working – Task and Finish Group Update
*(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)***Purpose of report**

To inform the Partnership of current progress in relation to integrated working in Hartlepool between Community Safety Services and how these services will work together in the future.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Head of Community Safety and Engagement presented the report which provided background information to the development of a 'place based integrated service delivery model' between community safety partners in Hartlepool and to address concerns and increasing demands on services and information sharing. The report outlined the detail of the integrated model and how the integrated team would work with services in Hartlepool to improve safety and public confidence. To improve information sharing and ensure a joined up approach for the communities of Hartlepool, the 'Hartlepool Community Safety Team', consisting of a number of teams, including neighbourhood policing, crime and anti-social behaviour prevention, victim services and crime prevention, community resolution and mediation, fire service advocacy and interventions were now co-located at Avenue Road Police Station.

The Hartlepool Community Safety Team would have a specialist team of officers who were able to intervene where problems in relation to individuals and families, or communities had escalated and were presenting a concerning level of risk. The Partnership was referred to the Hartlepool Community Safety Team operational delivery model, attached at Appendix 1. Details of the benefits of the proposed model for communities, organisations as well as officers and staff were provided, as set out in the report.

In the discussion that followed Partnership Members welcomed the report and spoke in support of the initiative. The various benefits of an Integrated Community Safety Team to the local community were emphasised. The Chair and Vice-Chair paid tribute to everyone involved in development of this initiative and particular thanks were expressed to Clare Clark, the

Council's Head of Community Safety and Engagement, who had been the driving force behind this initiative supported by Mal Suggitt from the Police.

Decision

- (i) That the contents of the report and comments of Members be noted.
- (ii) That an update on implementation of the model be provided to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in the autumn of 2018.

55. Prevent - Update (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

Purpose of report

To give an overview of the Home Office Pilot – Operation Dovetail and how the Channel Process is likely to be managed post 2018.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Head of Community Safety and Engagement reported on the background to the Prevent Strategy and statutory duty and responsibilities upon local councils for embedding and co-ordinating Prevent activity in their local area. The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism had identified nine pilot areas and funding had been provided for 12 months for Local Authority Channel co-ordinators (LACC) to lead on managing the Channel process. The pilot was evaluated in late 2017 and the roll out of Operational Dovetail was likely to reach the North East region late 2018/early 2019.

As in the pilot, the assessment and administration of referrals, including support to the Channel Panel would be the responsibility of the LACC. The Home Office intended to fund a number of LACC's nationally, but the Local Authority would continue to chair panels and have an oversight of Channel cases drawing on LACCs who would work with a number of different Panels as determined by demand. The location of the resource within each region had yet to be confirmed but would reflect referral and case activity. Nationally a rise in Channel referrals was experienced between April and July 2017. During the same period there were 81 referrals to the Channel process in Cleveland. Of the 5 referrals in Hartlepool, 4 were not linked to any particular ideology or theme, with the fifth linked to extreme right wing ideology. None of the Hartlepool referrals required a Channel Panel to be convened having being dealt with through other processes.

Decision

- (i) The Partnership noted the proposed roll out of Operational Dovetail by early 2019.

- (ii) That the Partnership be provided with a further update once the resources in the form of the Local Authority Channel Co-ordinators had been determined.

56. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Purpose of report

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 3 – October 2017 to December 2017 (inclusive).

Issue(s) for consideration

The report provided an overview of the Partnership's performance during Quarter 3, 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 Community Safety Team Leader highlighted salient positive and negative data and responded to queries in relation to crime figures by type.

Partnership Members discussed issues arising from the report. The potential reasons why crime figures had increased in the last year were debated. A lengthy discussion ensued in relation to the potential cause of crime and the impact of welfare reform on crime figures generally. The need to closely monitor trends to establish the extent in which universal credit was impacting on acquisitive crime was highlighted. The Chair commented on the benefits of exploring real life case studies to enable the Partnership to have a greater understanding of the impact of universal credit on crime figures and requested that information of this type be presented to the Partnership. It was suggested that a Task and Finish Group be established to explore this issue to which the Head of Community Safety and Engagement agreed to co-ordinate. Reference was made to the issue of re-offending and the financial difficulties facing individuals following release from prison and the importance of post-release support was emphasised.

In relation to the increase in thefts from motor vehicles, sheds and garages, it was suggested that a community safety page in the March edition of Hartbeat be utilised to publicise crime prevention information to raise public awareness. It was suggested that information relating to Cleveland Connect, an e-mail based system, which currently had 12,000 members, be included within the Hartbeat publication. Partnership Members commented on the need to focus on repeat offending in Hartlepool and the links to acquisitive crime and substance misuse problems.

Decision

- (i) That the Quarter 3 performance figures be noted and comments of Members be noted and actioned as appropriate.
- (ii) That a Task and Finish Group be established to examine the impact of universal credit on crime and the findings be reported to a future meeting of the Partnership to include information on real life case studies.
- (iii) That crime prevention information including information relating to Cleveland Connect be publicised in the March edition of Hartbeat.

57. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Chair reported that the next meeting would be held on Friday 13 April 2018 at 10.00 am. Members were also reminded of the Face the Public Event on Monday 26 February at 4.00 pm with registration to commence at 3.30 pm.

The meeting concluded at 11.20 am.

CHAIR



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

13th April 2018



Report of: Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner

Subject: LOCAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLAN 2018-2020

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the Local Criminal Justice Plan 2018-2020.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Following a review of the Local Criminal Justice Board in 2016 it was agreed that the Cleveland and Durham Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner would work together to pursue a vision for end to end justice that discourages silo working and deliver positive outcomes for victims as well as preventing offending and reoffending.

2.2 The review resulted in the development of a Local Criminal Justice Partnership which brings together organisations with responsibility for dealing with Criminal Justice Services across the Cleveland and Durham areas who have subsequently developed the attached Local Criminal Justice Plan (2018-2020) (**Appendix A**) setting out how the Partnership will aim to achieve the following vision:

‘County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland are areas where people have confidence in a local criminal justice system which supports victims, rehabilitates offenders, and reduces offending and delivers value for money.

We will achieve this by taking a whole system approach so that by 2021 we have an end to end local criminal justice system which operates effectively across organisational boundaries and supports an independent judiciary to seamless services, and positive outcomes for victims, witnesses and people who offend alongside the effective and efficient delivery of justice. The local criminal justice system will play a key role in keeping communities safe supporting positive social outcomes, preventing harm, and reducing demand on services and growing the local economy.’

- 2.3 A presentation will be delivered to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership outlining the key priorities and actions within the Criminal Justice Plan to assist in achieving the Local Criminal Justice Partnership's vision.

3. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no risk implications associated with this report.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal considerations associated with this report.

6. CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 Criminal Justice Partners have been consulted in the development of the Local Criminal Justice Plan.

7. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 7.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations related to this report.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations associated with this report.

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

- 9.1 The Local Criminal Justice Plan will contribute towards reducing crime and disorder in Hartlepool.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 There are no staff considerations associated with this report.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 There are no asset management considerations associated with this report.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership are asked to consider and discuss the contents of the Criminal Justice Plan.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 Delivery of the Criminal Justice Plan will contribute towards the SHPs key strategic objectives of reducing crime, disorder, and reoffending.

14. CONTACT OFFICER

Jeanne Trotter
Criminal Justice Programme Lead
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Cleveland); Officer of the
Police, Crime, and Victim Commissioner (Durham)
Jeanne.trotter@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk
Tel: 0191 3752153/01642 301786

LCJP | Cleveland & Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership

PLAN 2018 - 2021

National
Probation
Service



Durham
Tees Valley
Community Rehabilitation Company



Legal Aid
Agency



Tees & Wear
Reform Prisons



HM Prison &
Probation Service



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL



HM Courts &
Tribunals Service



Foreword from Ron Hogg and Barry Copping

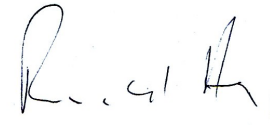
The Local Criminal Justice Partnership for Cleveland and Durham brings together agencies with responsibility for delivering criminal justice services across our areas. The criminal justice landscape is complex and multi-faceted - and no single agency is responsible for the system as a whole. It is vital that criminal justice agencies are unified in their ambition and work together in the most efficient and effective way possible, to improve outcomes both for victims of crime and people who offend.

Here in Cleveland and Durham there is a real willingness for partnership working. Following a review of the Criminal Justice Board, it was agreed that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner would work together to pursue a vision for an end to end criminal justice system that discourages silo working and delivers positive outcomes for victims as well as preventing offending and reoffending.

As part of this review, a small, joint collaborative criminal justice team has been formed to work across both Cleveland and Durham. The team will work in support of the Partnership as a whole and undertake in-depth analysis to better understand how to improve services collectively as well as harnessing opportunities to develop local innovation.

Partnership working is crucial if there is to be real lasting change. We are collectively committed to making this Partnership visible, accountable and

influential locally and nationally. Our Criminal Justice Partnership values the relationships we have developed, acknowledges the need for greater connectivity and joint working, and will be accountable through a collective performance framework. We know that this plan will help us to achieve this exciting and ambitious vision.



Police, Crime and
Victims' Commissioner
Ron Hogg



Police and Crime
Commissioner Barry
Copping



The vision statement

“County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland are areas where people have confidence in a local criminal justice system which supports victims, rehabilitates offenders and reduces reoffending, and delivers value for money.

We will achieve this by taking a whole-system approach so that by 2021 we have an end-to-end local criminal justice system, which operates effectively across organisational boundaries and supports an independent judiciary, to deliver seamless services and positive outcomes for victims, witnesses and people who offend, alongside the effective and efficient delivery of justice.

The local criminal justice system will play a key role in keeping communities safe, supporting positive social outcomes, preventing harm and reducing demand on services, and growing the local economy.”

Commitment to working in partnership

Whilst recognising the different roles which we all play in the system, the constraints we face, and our operational independence, we are committed to working together in partnership in pursuit of our shared objectives, and collaborating for the good of the system as a whole, so that we can best deliver for our local communities:

- We will seek to harness opportunities from national changes in legislation and policy, and will not be restricted by our organisational boundaries;
- We recognise that we are providing services for local communities and that

they are best served by a local system which operates as a whole;

- We will share the wealth of information which we collect and hold so that we can quickly identify issues and work together to solve them;
- We will seek support from other partners who can help achieve our objectives, including local authorities and the health service;
- And, given that we share the same aims and objectives, we will wherever possible look to work in partnership to commission services which support those aims.

The Partnership Board has lead representation from all the statutory criminal justice agencies, and is chaired by the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for Durham and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland.

How we will work together

The partnership has agreed its priority outcomes as reduced reoffending and intergenerational offending, providing positive outcomes for victims and witnesses through the criminal justice process, and ensuring high public confidence in the system. These will be achieved through efficient and integrated end to end services for supporting victims, witnesses and those who have committed offences in the local area.

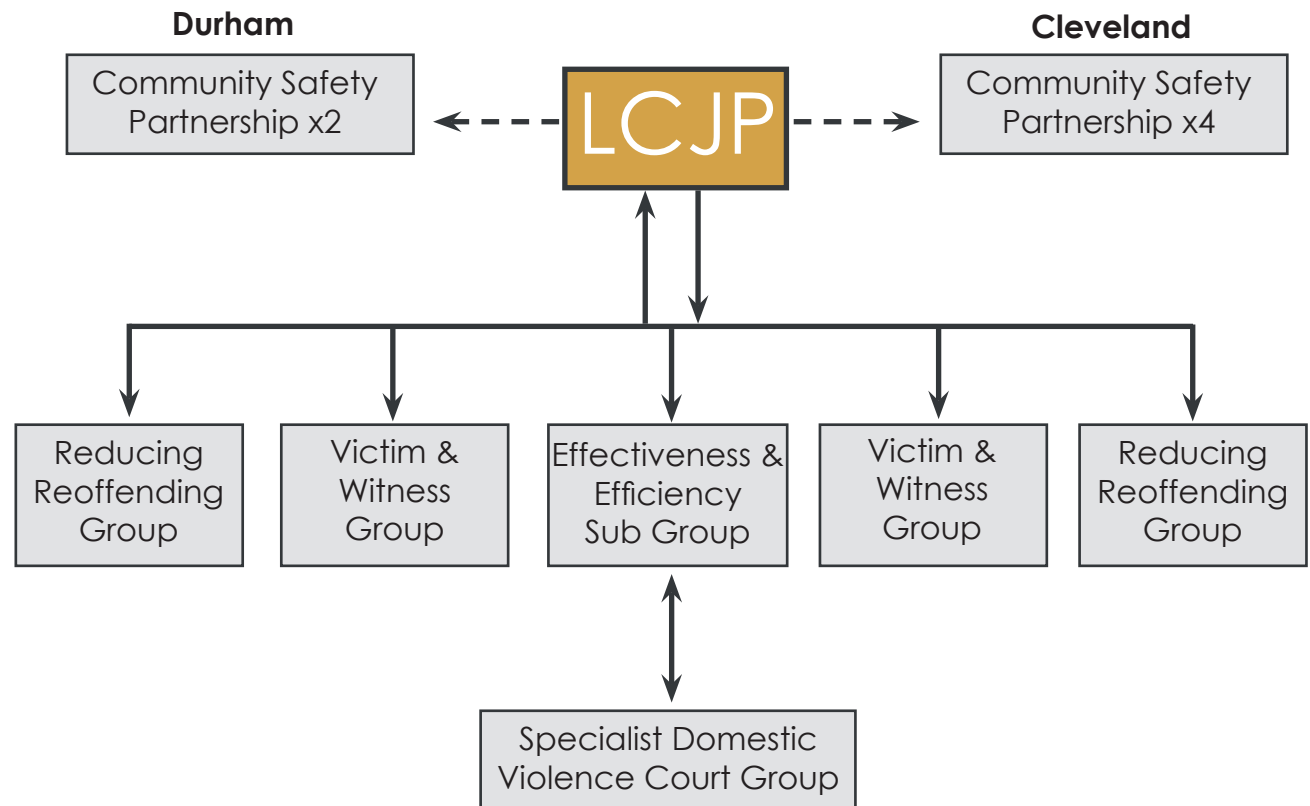
By fulfilling the commitment set out above we will be able to:

- Recognise and harness new opportunities;
- Communicate with each other and the local communities in order to promote success and increase public confidence;
- Develop a joint performance framework which will allow us to better understand where there are opportunities to make improvements in service delivery.

The partnership will have service representation from agencies which form part of, or support the Local Criminal Justice System and will identify priorities in line with nationally set targets. However we will apply specific understanding of how these translate to the local area and link to local practices and issues, as well as highlighting opportunities and risks to business through any developing

national initiatives.

The partnership will support the independence of the judiciary whilst establishing the means to engage in meaningful conversation with them.



Local Criminal Justice Partnership objectives:

1 An end-to-end service for supporting Victims and Witnesses, so that they:

- Receive the support they need to cope and recover from the impact of the crime
- Are supported to provide their evidence before and at court so that justice is delivered both fairly and effectively: this will include support with advocacy and navigation through the court process as well as making full use of technology;
- Where appropriate, feel involved in the ongoing sentencing and rehabilitation of those people who offend so that they can continue to recover from their experience;
- Are not passed from one agency to another without good cause;
- Receive tailored support based on individually assessed need.

2 An end-to-end system for rehabilitating offenders and reducing reoffending so that those who offend:

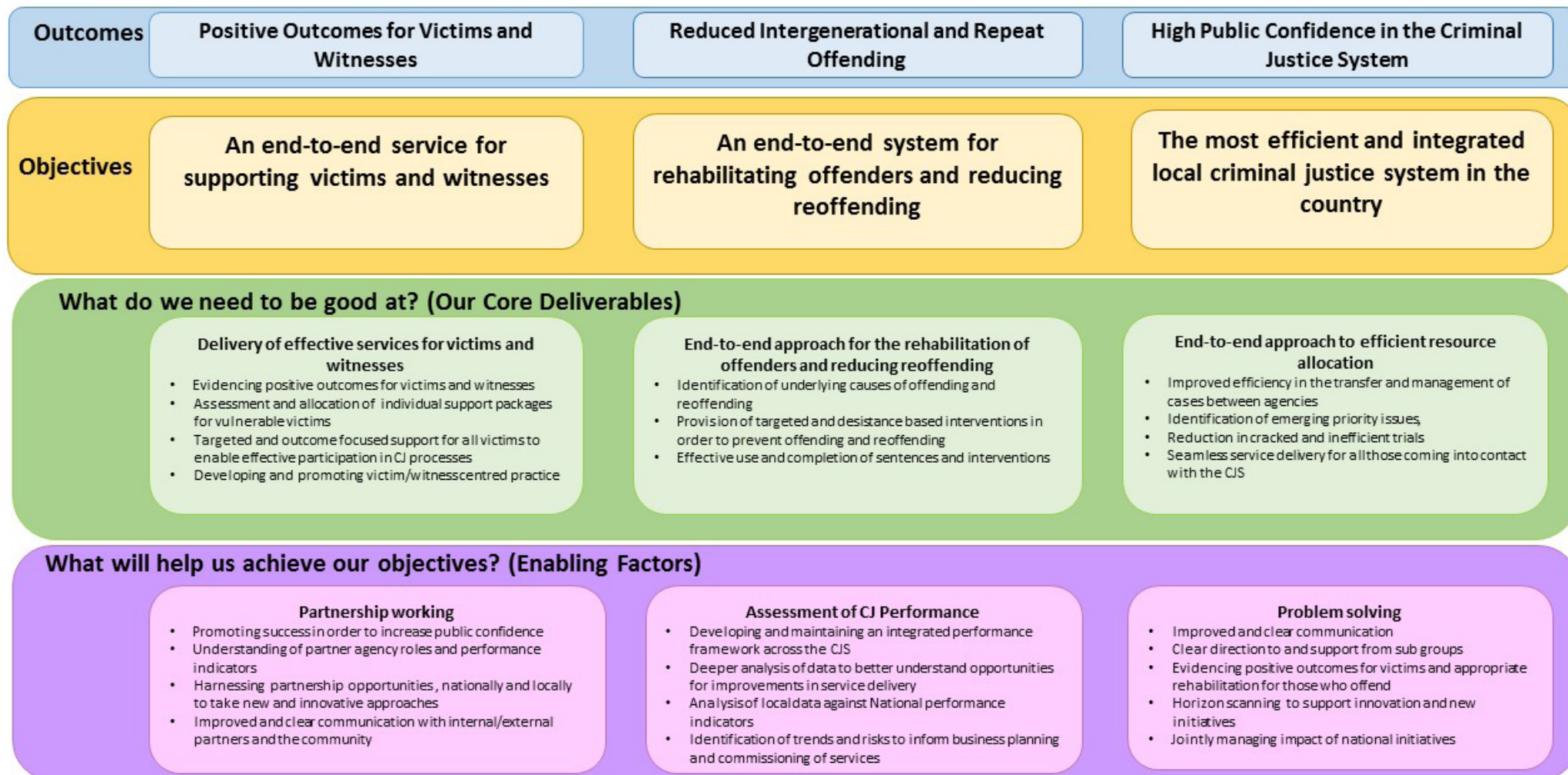
- Are challenged to accept responsibility and change their offending behaviour;
- Have any underlying causes of their offending identified, and are provided with access to specialist services to help to resolve those issues – including drugs, alcohol, relationship and emotional support, and mental health - as early as possible in the system and throughout;
- Gain opportunities to improve their skills and employability, and have access to work upon completion (or as part) of their sentence, so that their offending stops and they contribute to the local economy and community;
- Are provided with access to settled and safe accommodation, particularly vulnerable people who offend;
- Receive integrated support from agencies so that the public are kept safe;
- Are offered effective rehabilitation as part of any punishment.

3 The most efficient and integrated local criminal justice system in the country so that agencies:

- Provide good value for money to taxpayers and local communities and work to eradicate waste;
- Work together to monitor their own performance and resolutely resolve issues;
- Recognise the impact that one service has on another and see solving problems as a shared responsibility;
- Harness the opportunities of reforms and freedoms, nationally and locally, to take new and innovative approaches in pursuit of our overall objectives.

County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland Local Criminal Justice Partnership - Strategy on a Page (2017-2021)

Vision: County Durham, Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees are areas where people have confidence in a local criminal justice system which supports victims, rehabilitates offenders and reduces reoffending, and delivers value for money



Effectiveness and efficiency

‘Efficiency in the CJS’¹ recognised that inefficiencies are created where individuals and organisations do not get things right first time, and problems are compounded because mistakes often occur early in the life of a case and are not corrected. In order to achieve the vision of having the most efficient and integrated local criminal justice system in the country, the effectiveness and efficiency work stream will ensure that there is end to end coordination across all statutory CJ agencies in relation to:

- Case file quality and preparation, focusing on a continued reduction in the number of cracked and ineffective trials;
- The transfer and management of cases between agencies;
- Development and implementation of simplified and secure digital processes from charge through to sentence; harnessing the opportunities which this brings for efficiency and enhancing the victim and witness experience of the criminal justice process;
- The development and promotion of victim/witness centred practice including access to justice for vulnerable groups.

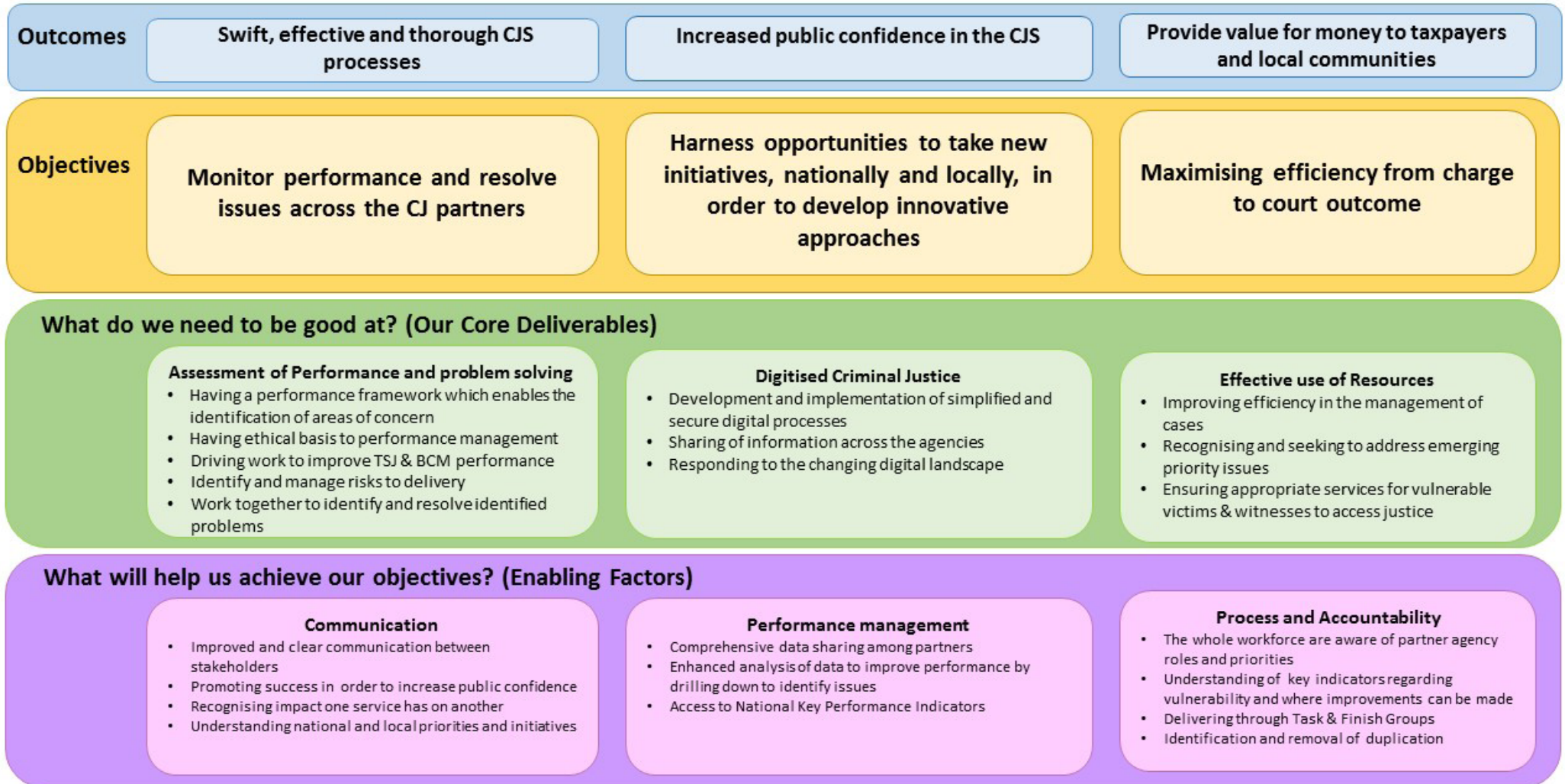
The development of a local performance framework, which is supported and contributed to by all partners, will be key to delivering improved outcomes. It will highlight areas of good practice and concern as well as opportunities for further research, in order to improve our understanding of specific issues. With the help of available national data the group will seek to learn from those areas that have been able to implement positive changes and will seek help from the other sub groups to support CJS processes.



¹ Efficiency in the Criminal Justice System: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office, March 2016.
<https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Efficiency-in-the-criminal-justice-system.pdf>

County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland Effectiveness and Efficiency Strategy on a Page (2017- 2021)

Vision: *"The most efficient and integrated local criminal justice system in the country"*



Victims and witnesses



To ensure that victims and witnesses receive end to end, coordinated care, this work stream will review, and where appropriate develop, the support pathways. We will also collect data which enables the measurement of victim and witness experience through the Criminal Justice process.

Identified outcomes for the group are to ensure that victims and witnesses are able to cope and recover from their experience and that they are able to engage with the CJS in a positive way.

The group has three objectives in the delivery of these outcomes, namely:

- Provision of coordinated end to end care and support;
- Delivery of positive outcomes for victims, based upon an individual assessment of need;

- Enabling the voice of the victim to be heard through the CJ process.

We will seek to develop victim and witness support services which are tailored to local and individual need, whilst ensuring the right services are involved at the appropriate time and the promotion of victim and witness centred practice. This will include a review of available support provision for vulnerable victims to engage with CJS processes, as well as promoting the use of restorative justice where appropriate.

Through a greater understanding of partnership roles the work stream will identify gaps and look to fill these in the provision of services across the CJS and the related pathways of support in line with the Victims' Code of Practice and the witness charter.

The development of a performance management framework for victim and witnesses across the CJS will support the work, enabling monitoring of services, comprehensive data sharing and enhanced analysis to improve performance.

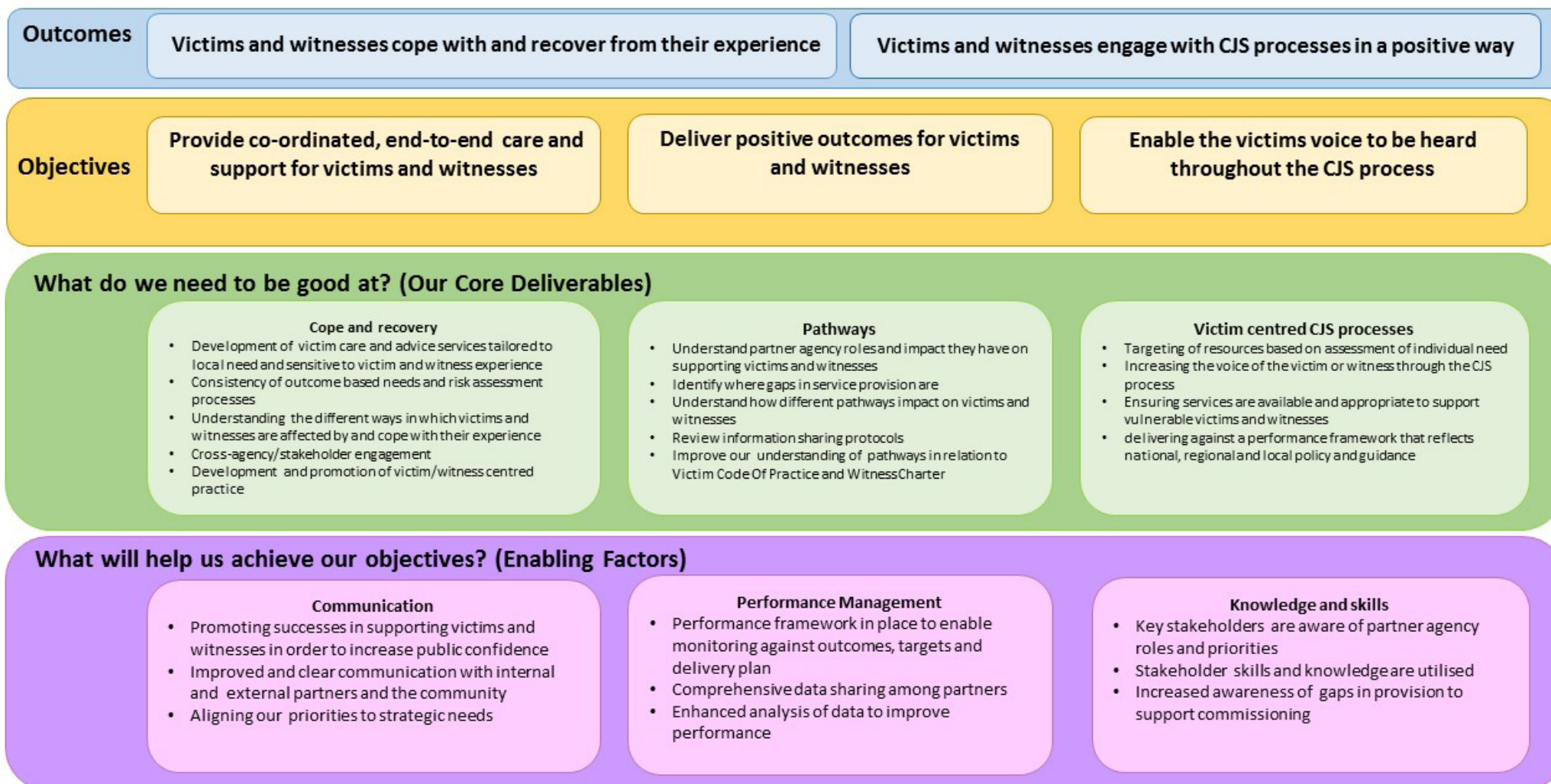
The victim and witness work stream is chaired by the offices of the PCC/PCVC who jointly commission the current referral service for victims.

Representation from the statutory CJS services is at a senior level but there is wider membership from those organisations providing specific services to victim and witnesses. These include local authorities, Victim Care and Advice Service, Witness Service, Witness Care, as well as representation from the voluntary sector.



County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland Victim and Witness Strategy on a Page (2017-2021)

Vision: Victims and witnesses receive end to end, co-ordinated care and support that enables them to cope and recover from their experience and participate in Criminal Justice Processes



Reducing offending and reoffending



To reduce offending and reoffending by ensuring that adults and young people who offend are challenged and supported to desist from crime, this work stream will develop and to end support which includes prevention, early intervention and targeted intervention.

The work stream will focus on:

- developing effective pathways to support desistance, including thinking and behaviour, accommodation, employment, finance, family and relationships, emotional and physical health, and substance misuse;
- the need to have and use a full range of diversion and sentencing powers;
- ensuring that all partners understand the different roles and priorities they each have whilst exploring opportunities to be

innovative and work together;

- encouraging the whole family approach in relation to prevention and intervention;
- the development of a whole system approach to the delivery of services to females who offend;
- development of a performance framework which includes real time information in relation to current offending and reoffending trends, informing future service provision and commissioning priorities, as well as enabling comprehensive data sharing amongst partners.

In order to improve public confidence in the system, we will ensure services are transparent about those things we are doing well and those which require improvement. We will improve communication and visibility with internal and external partners and the local community.

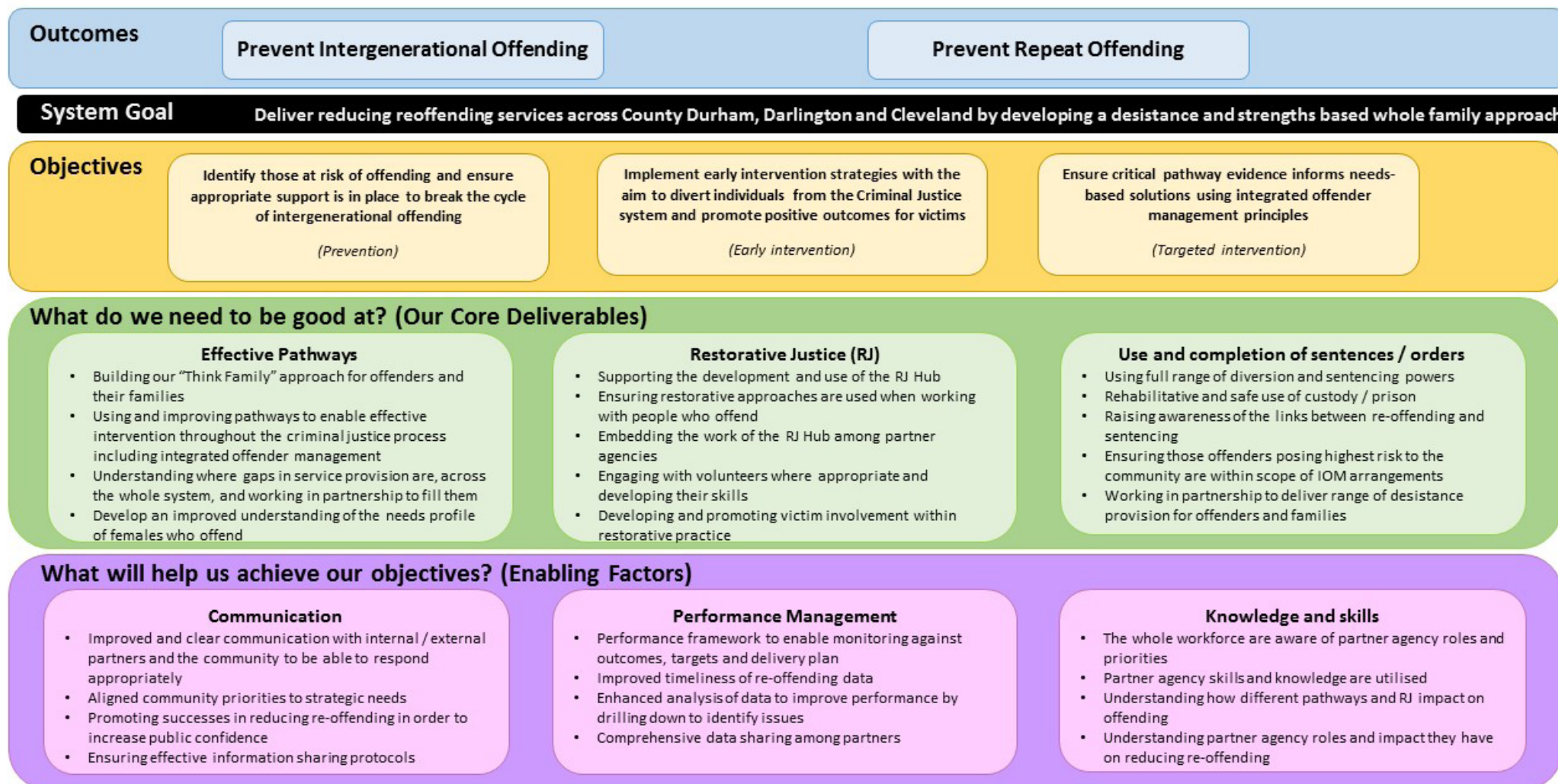
Each of our local authority Community Safety Partnerships already have reducing offending within their own priorities, and also recognises the impact which early intervention can have in diverting individuals away from offending.

The reducing reoffending work stream will be supported by senior representatives from the local CJS agencies.

However, many of the services which can help to reduce offending and reoffending are not provided by the core criminal justice services, and therefore we will have wider representation from local authority children's services, alcohol and drug service commissioners, employment and training providers, anti-social behaviour teams, accommodation providers, and health – including liaison and diversion.

County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland Reducing Reoffending Strategy on a Page (2017-2021)

Vision: Partners implement the most effective and efficient measures to ensure that adults and young people who offend are challenged and supported to desist from crime in order to improve life chances and keep communities safe.



Performance Management

Measuring whether the criminal justice system is achieving its many objectives is not straightforward. The incentive in one part of the Criminal Justice System can limit the achievement of the aims in another.

All agencies are committed to providing the data which will allow us to create an integrated performance framework, and we will look to remove any barriers which could prevent us from achieving this. Creation of a performance framework for each of the work streams is a priority in order to increase transparency and improve outcomes.

Available national data ² identifies regional variations in the performance of the CJS and provide evidence that there is scope for efficiency gains.

The Working in Step report ³ made the following two recommendations to the national board, and we will work to progress these themes whilst also responding to our local needs:

- **“The national Criminal Justice Board should consider what does good look like and regularly review performance at a level sufficient to identify good practice. Unlike many other areas of government, there is granular performance data available for many aspects of the system.**

Identifying and exploring regional variations in performance will highlight innovative practice, as well as giving organisations across the system incentives to improve.”

Locally we will use national data in order to identify a base line for quality which allows us to compare ourselves with other areas in the country and especially with those where improvements or innovations appear to be having a positive impact on CJ performance. However we will also seek to improve services beyond that of the baseline, both in terms of quantitative assessment and quality of delivery.

- **“The National Criminal Justice Board should establish mechanisms to increase transparency and encourage feedback through the system. This is particularly important where one element of the system has a direct but discretionary impact on another.”**

Locally we will report publicly on whether the set targets for performance are being met in line with the objectives set.

² Efficiency in the Criminal Justice System First Report of Session 2016-17, House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts, May 2016
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmpubacc/72/72.pdf>

³ Working in Step? a joint inspection of local criminal justice partnerships by HMIC, HMCPSP & HMI Probation, Oct 2015
<https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/publications/working-in-step-a-joint-inspection-of-local-criminal-justice-partnerships/>

Funding and commissioning

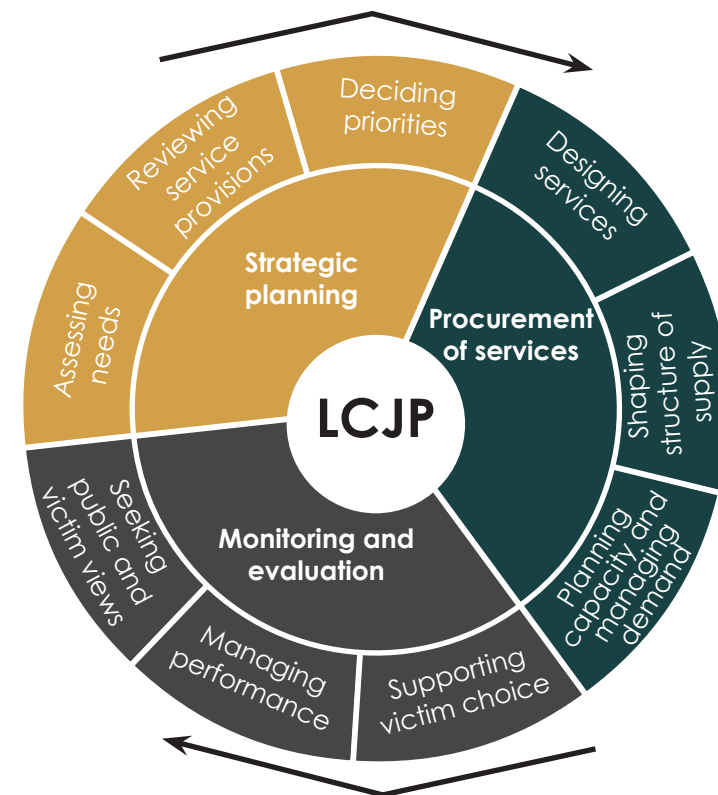
Government provision of statutory CJS services is enhanced by localised commissioning and funding. By working in partnership, local commissioning can empower communities and victims of crime. We can innovate and work together to tackle and prevent crime at its source and applying resources intelligently to secure positive outcomes and value for money.

Our aim therefore when addressing funding issues or commissioning new services will be deciding how to use the total resources available in order to achieve agreed outcomes in the most efficient, effective and sustainable way.

The commissioning process will follow a plan, do, and review cycle and include ⁴

- Understanding the needs of our communities by ensuring that we engage with the full range of partners and stakeholders;
- Consulting potential provider organisations, including those from the third sector and local experts, well in advance of commissioning new services and working with them to set priority outcomes for that service;
- Putting outcomes for users at the heart of the strategic planning process;

- Mapping the fullest practical range of providers with a view to understanding the contribution they could make to deliver those outcomes;
- Ensuring processes are fair and transparent;
- Facilitating long-term contracts and risk sharing, wherever appropriate, as ways of achieving efficiency and effectiveness;
- Seeking feedback from service users, communities and providers in order to review the effectiveness of the commissioning process in meeting local needs.



⁴ Successful Commissioning Toolkit, National Audit Office, 2011
<https://www.nao.org.uk/successful-commissioning/>

Evidence base and the case for working together to improve the system

Effectiveness and efficiency

Transforming Criminal Justice⁵ is a strategy based on the simple premise that all parts of the CJS should be working towards achieving the same set of outcomes:

- A swift, determined response to crime;
- Treatment of victims and witnesses with the care and consideration they deserve;
- Better value for money for the tax payer.

The National Audit office review of “Efficiency in the CJS”¹ reported a number of national issues regarding the efficiency of the CJS which are replicated locally:

- **Delays are getting worse against a backdrop of continuing financial pressure.** Spending has fallen and whilst there are slightly fewer cases entering the system, the complexity of cases has increased.
- **There have been some improvements in the management of cases since 2010-11.** The proportion of effective trials (those that go ahead as planned) in the Magistrates’ court has increased and the proportion of effective trials in the Crown Court is relatively stable. This is reflected locally and shows a willingness to

work together in order to seek solutions. However over a quarter of cases still collapse on the day of the trial (termed ‘cracked’). This is highlighted as one of our main priority areas for improvement, both in terms of efficiency and to enhance the experience of victims and witnesses.

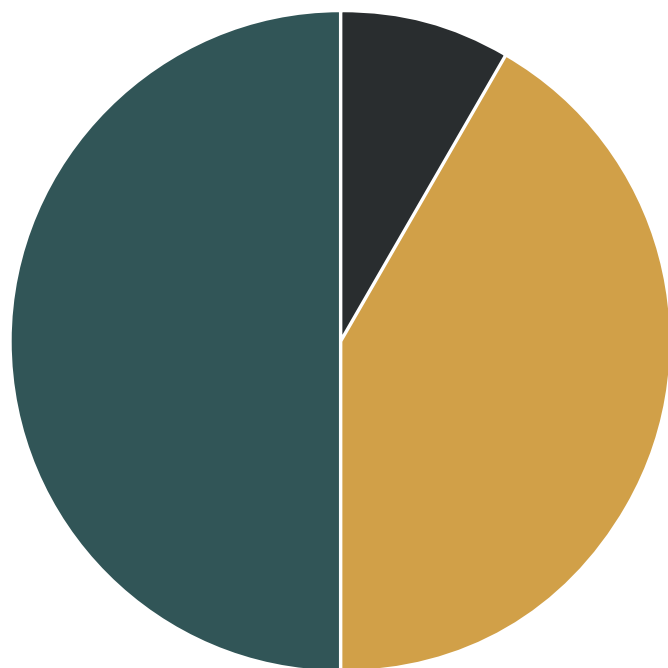
- Local statistics from May 2017 indicate a similar rate of guilty pleas at first hearing in the Magistrates Courts to those achieved nationally, this being 69% in Cleveland and 67.9% in Durham as opposed to 69.3% nationally. However working together to ensure appropriate guilty pleas at the first opportunity continues to be a focus moving forward.
- **Two-thirds of cases still do not progress as planned, creating unnecessary costs** – In 2014-15 the Legal Aid Agency (LAA) funded defence counsel to the tune of £93.3 million and the CPS spent £21.5 million on preparing cases that were not heard in court due in part to non-attendance of prosecution witnesses and incomplete case files. Of 225 trials listed in the Magistrates courts in Durham and Cleveland only 94 were effective and in the Crown Courts only

11 of the 20 listed at Durham and 24 of the 53 listed at Teesside went ahead on the day as planned. Unsuccessful outcomes at court due to witness issues are currently recorded at 28.9% in Cleveland and 35.5% in Durham. Again partnership work in the local area has resulted in a slight improvement against the national picture but it remains a priority area for the future.

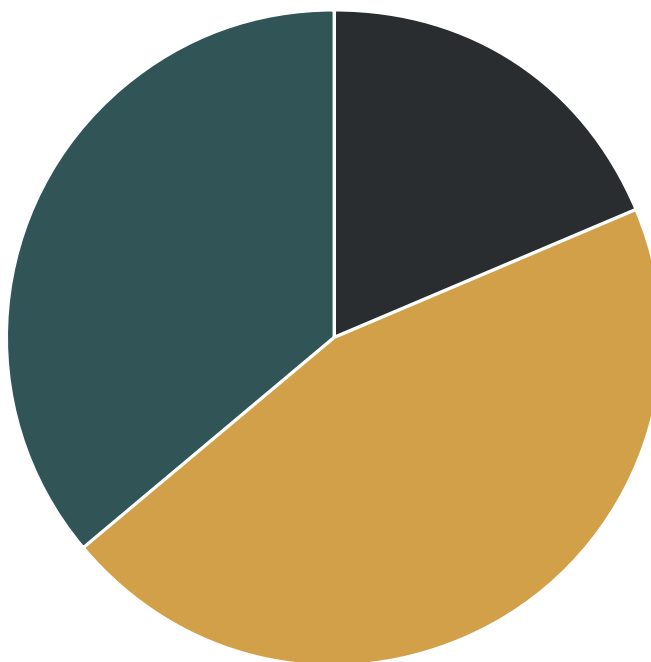
- **Delays and collapsed trials damage the public’s confidence in the system which exacerbates the problem** - Only 55% of people who have been a witness or victim in court would be prepared to do so again.

⁵Transforming the Criminal Justice System: A Strategy and Action Plan to Reform the Criminal Justice System, Ministry of Justice, June 2013
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209659/transforming-cjs-2013.pdf

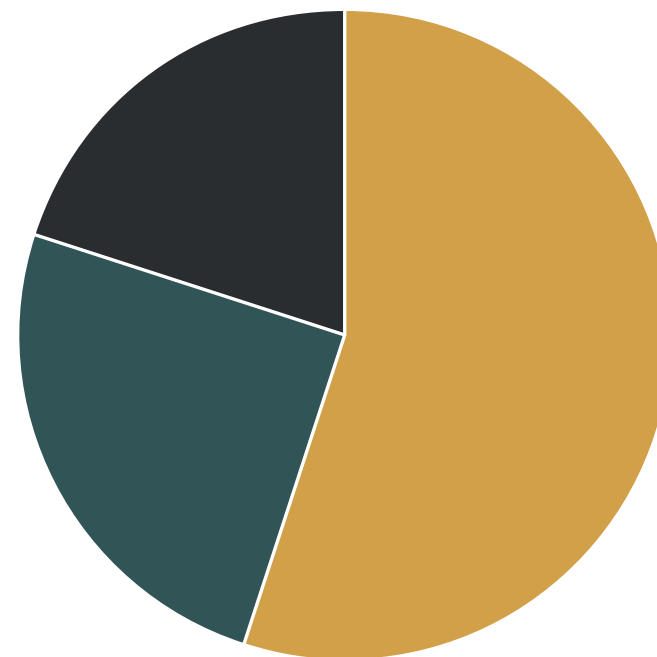
Proportion of trials in Durham and Cleveland that were effective, cracked or ineffective in May 2017



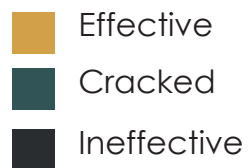
Magistrates Courts (Durham and Cleveland)



Teesside Crown Court



Durham Crown Court



Evidence base and the case for working together to improve the system

Supporting victims and witnesses

The National Victims' Commissioner's report "What Works in Supporting Victims of Crime"⁶ acknowledged that significant progress has been made in the development and co-ordination of support services for victims of crime. However, the report also points out that services tend to reflect the historical context in which they have emerged. Subsequently, while there remains no one single agency with overall responsibility for victims, the responsibilities that Police and Crime Commissioners have to provide support services creates an opportunity to develop and co-ordinate a range of support to meet the needs of all victims in their area. The report highlights four areas in particular where there is scope to further develop support for victims and witnesses:

- **Information and communication:** Insufficient timely and accurate information and effective methods of communication with victims can aggravate the impact of a crime;
- **Procedural justice:** The quality of service that victims get from criminal justice professionals and associated agencies is

often a more important factor in victim satisfaction than the final outcome of their case;

- **Multi-agency working:** Partnership working across statutory and voluntary sectors can provide effective support for victims in terms of information sharing and encourage victims to remain engaged with the CJS;
- **Professionalism of victims' services and a single point of contact.**

The allocation of some MoJ funding to PCCs for the commissioning of victim services has allowed for the development of greater coordination of those services and local delivery.

Following a review of national provision and a consultation process which included victims of crime, a new local referral service (Victim Care and Advice Service- VCAS) has been commissioned.

This new service works closely with police staff to ensure victims have an increased awareness of the independent offer of support and reports from the first year of delivery across

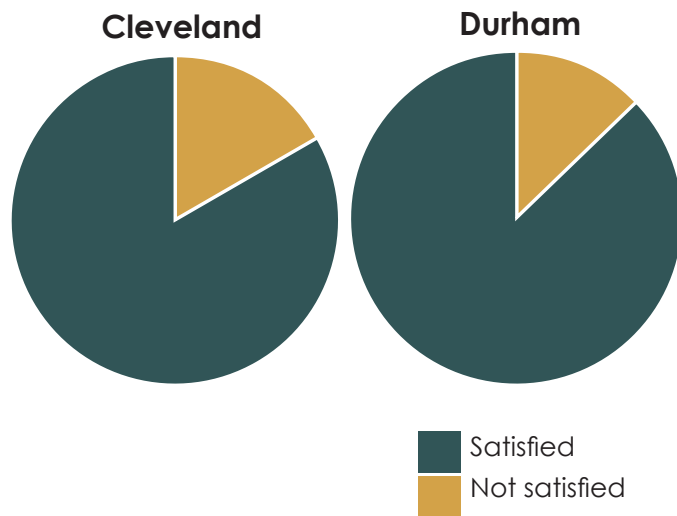
Cleveland and Durham show that 3,924 needs assessments have been completed.

Of those receiving ongoing support there were significant improvements in the assessment of need at the commencement and end of the support period. During 2016/17 police victim satisfaction levels were 87% in Durham and 83% in Cleveland. Whilst these figures are positive there is limited available data across the CJS which can evidence the victim's ability to cope and recover from the crime or the quality of service which a victim receives across all criminal justice agencies.

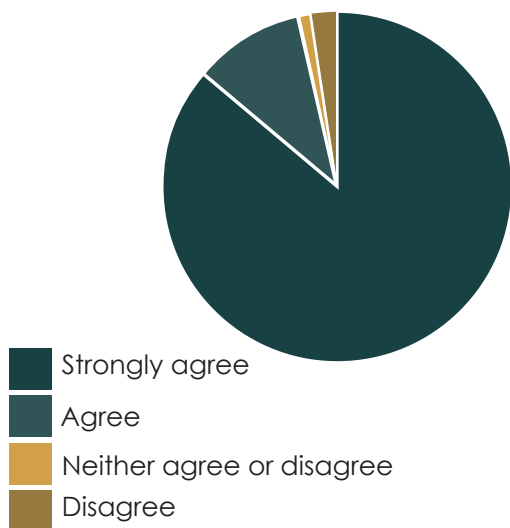
Furthermore, whilst victims generally report high levels of satisfaction with the services with which they come into contact 55% say they would not attend court again.

⁶ What works in supporting victims of crime: A rapid evidence assessment, Victims Commissioner, March 2016
<https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/victimscmm-prod-storage-clhgxgum05k1/uploads/2014/10/What-works-in-supporting-victims-of-crime.pdf>

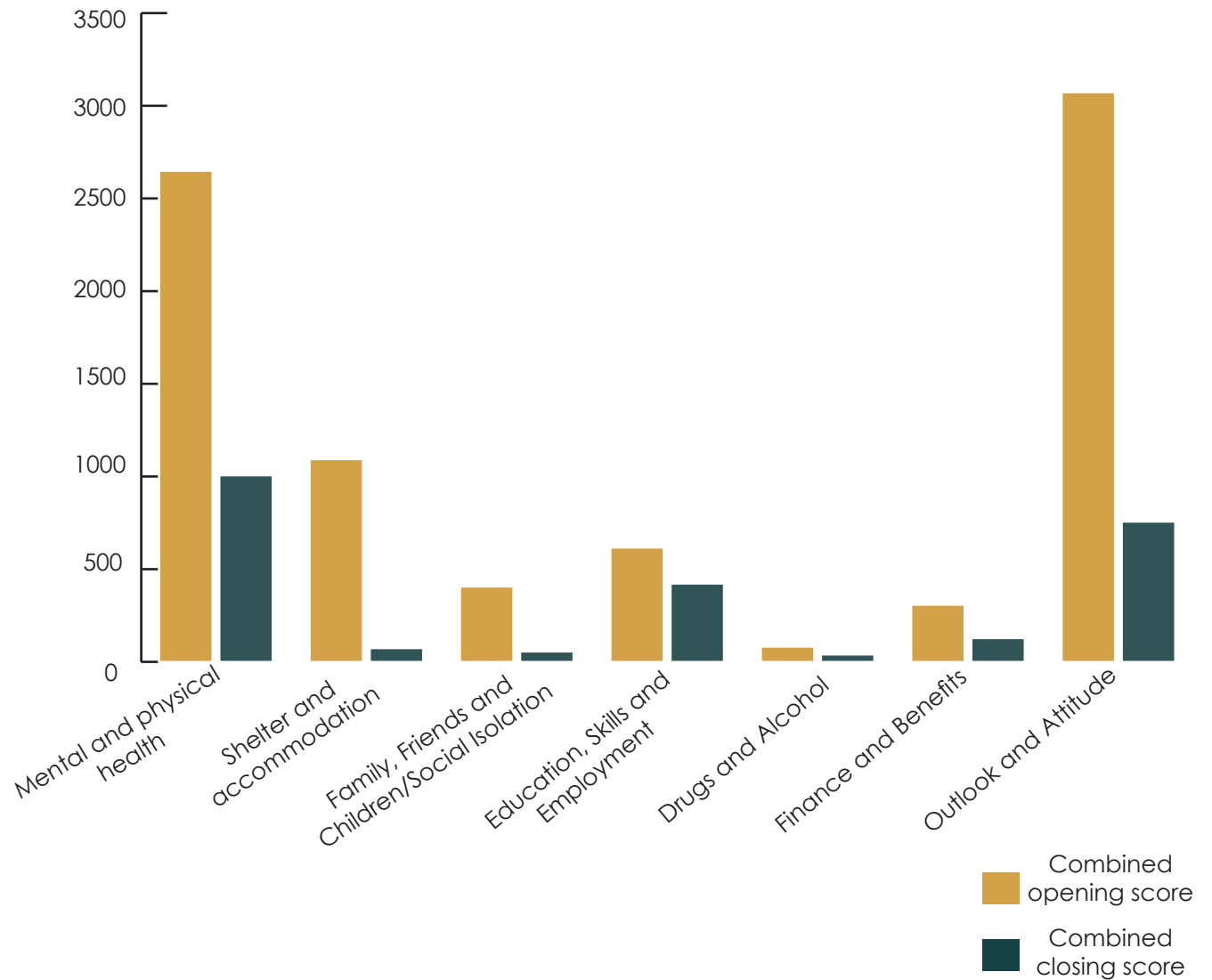
Police Victim Satisfaction Levels for
Durham and Cleveland 2016-17 (%)



VCAS Satisfaction Survey:
Victims' agreement with the statement 'Overall I
am satisfied with the support that I received from
VCAS' (%)



VCAS Combined Needs Assessment Scores at the Opening and
Closing of Cases (Cleveland and Durham)



Evidence base and the case for working together to improve the system

Reducing offending and reoffending

Despite a slight decrease in proven reoffending figures⁷, ongoing partnership work across our two local areas and the national reforms⁸ which have taken place over recent years, the offending and reoffending rates both nationally and locally have remained stubbornly high with 24.8% of all those who offend reoffending within a twelve month period⁹.

Early intervention with children and young people can clearly have an impact on these figures.

Recent changes to the way in which young people are dealt with and the support offered has seen a significant reduction in the numbers of young people coming into contact with the Criminal Justice System.

However, this means that those now supervised by our local youth offending services are the most difficult to rehabilitate, many of whom have been in care, have mental and physical health problems and experience learning difficulties.

The national review of YOS¹⁰ found that 'many of the children in the system come from some of the most dysfunctional and chaotic families

where drug and alcohol misuse, physical and emotional abuse and offending is common. Often they are victims of crime themselves'.

Recent figures from our local CRC support the fact that if not dealt with early then these factors can continue into adulthood and contribute to a cycle of reoffending which it is difficult to break from. The current caseload of the CRC reflects this with many participants being unemployed and having identified needs in relation to drug and alcohol misuse, relationship issues, financial management, accommodation, and mental health concerns. We need to ensure that our assessment of need is accurate and shared across the support agencies as well as providing appropriate support at all stages.

Supporting the work of our local children, youth and family services, securing an efficient transfer between the youth and adult probation services and ensuring that those who offend are given the right support to desist from crime is crucial if we are to see any decrease in the ever growing prison population and future offending and reoffending rates¹¹.

⁷ Since 2004 the overall proven reoffending rate has decreased by 2.5% and for those released from custody or who received a court order by 7.1%. Source: Proven Reoffending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, October 2014 to September 2015, Ministry of Justice, July 2017

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/633194/proven-reoffending-2015-q3.pdf

⁸ Transforming Rehabilitation: A Strategy for Reform, Ministry of Justice, May 2013

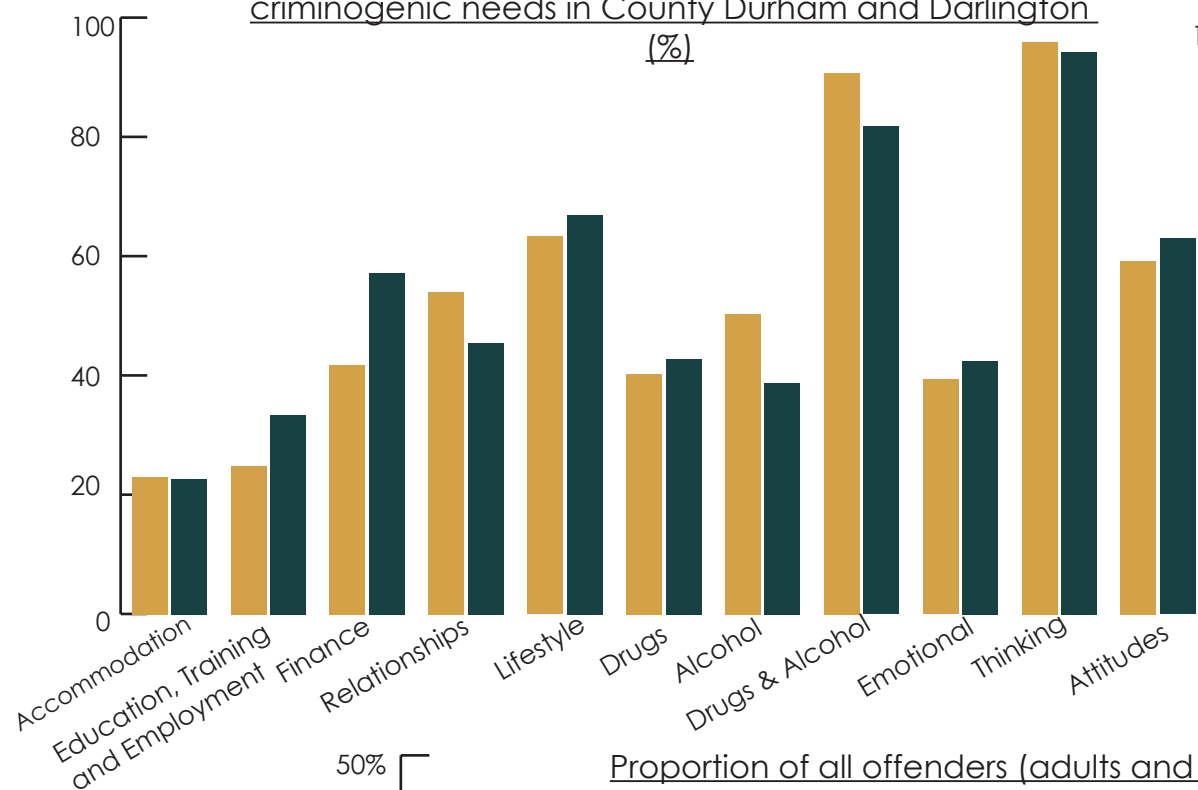
<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/transforming-rehabilitation/results/transforming-rehabilitation-response.pdf>

⁹ Proven Reoffending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, October 2014 to September 2015, Ministry of Justice, July 2017

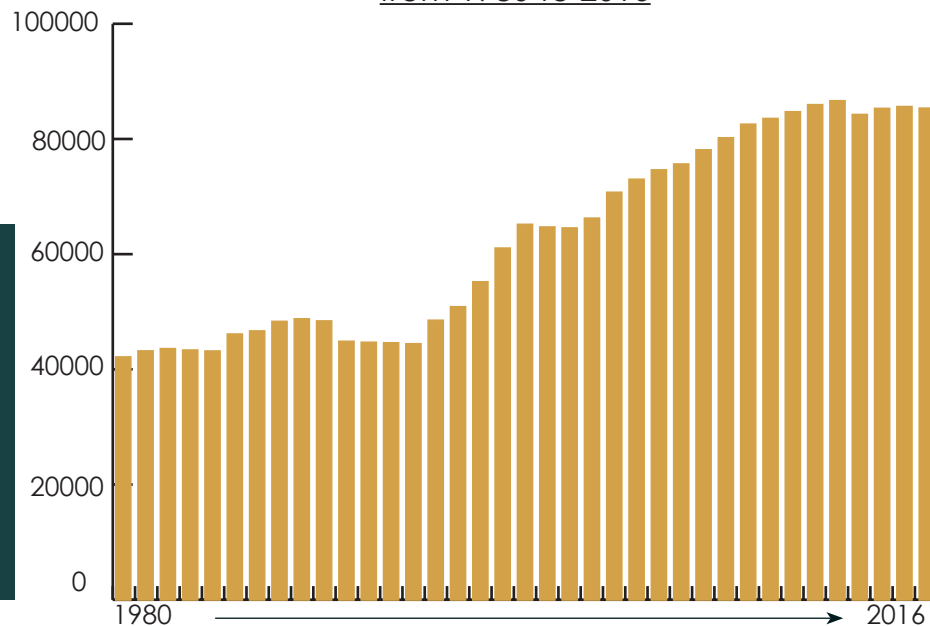
¹⁰ Review of the Youth Justice System in England and Wales, Ministry of Justice, December 2016
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/577103/youth-justice-review-final-report.pdf

¹¹ The custody rate for indicatable offences has been increasing steadily from 24% in 2010 to 31% in 2017

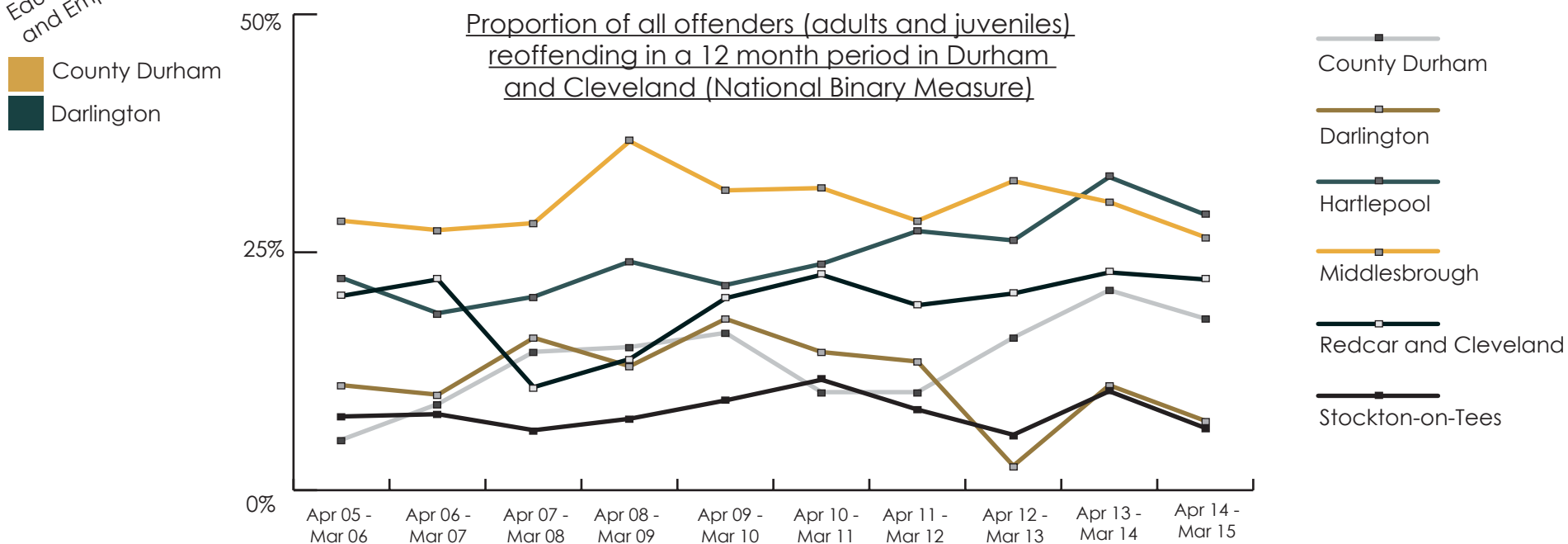
Proportion of CRC participants with identified criminogenic needs in County Durham and Darlington (%)



Prison Population in England and Wales from 1980 to 2016



Proportion of all offenders (adults and juveniles) reoffending in a 12 month period in Durham and Cleveland (National Binary Measure)



Outline timeframe and priority work areas

2017-2018 - Implementing the review

Agree the Criminal Justice Plan and high level objectives of the partnership

Appoint the Criminal Justice Team to be housed within the PCC/PCVC Offices and prepare initial work plan priorities

Establish priorities and allocate resources for each of the key objectives

Develop a public face and communication strategy for the local criminal justice partnership and its constituent agencies – e.g. Website, social media presence and local profile through media

Agree partnership information sharing arrangements

Begin discussions around potential opportunities and processes for consultation with CJ service users

Explore opportunities to join up the local work with that of the national board

Collate information from individual agencies data collection to inform the development of a performance framework across the partnership

Work stream priorities

Effectiveness and efficiency

E1	Identify and analyse available transforming summary justice data in order to increase our understanding of the reasons for cracked and ineffective trials, particularly the reasons why some victims and witnesses fail to attend court
E2	Locate existing data and any gaps in relation to the experience of vulnerable groups through the CJS
E3	Research available information regarding case file quality and transfer of data which can impact on delays and inefficiencies
E4	Evaluate current local provision of video links in order to support vulnerable victims and improve efficiency in terms of accessibility to court proceedings

Improving the experience of victims and witnesses	
V1	Develop an outcome framework for the measurement of cope and recovery from crime in order to support preparation of a performance framework for victim and witnesses
V2	Conduct a review of current service provision for victim and witnesses in order to inform gaps and where the current experience could be enhanced
V3	Review services available for vulnerable groups e.g. victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence, mental health, young people and hate crime
V4	Increase awareness and accessibility of Restorative Justice provision to all victims through development of multi-agency RJ hub
V5	Explore partners current collection of soft data from victims and how this might be collated to support understanding of the CJ experience
Reducing offending and reoffending	
R1	Conduct an assessment of pathway availability and impact for young people and adults who offend in order to inform priorities and future commissioning of services
R2	Identify available data across the Criminal justice agencies in order to develop a performance framework supporting the key objectives
R3	Review Integrated approach to supervision of prolific offenders in order to support and ensure an effective delivery model to reduce reoffending
R4	Sustain, oversee and develop the commitment to diversionary projects reducing the number of first time offenders coming before the courts
R5	Establish partnership support for the development of a whole system approach to the delivery of provision for females who offend and desistance based interventions

2018 - 2019

Review delivery of high level objectives during 2017 -18

Using shared performance data develop structured analysis of performance at board level to inform future priorities and areas of improvement

Review complaints and scrutiny processes and identify opportunities for shared learning

Explore opportunities for local flexibility which could allow for greater innovation

Ensure the service user voice is heard across the local development of CJS provision

Review and extend consultation with voluntary sector in order to inform understanding of pathway provision and commissioning opportunities

Explore opportunities for co-commissioning and participatory budgeting taking into account medium term financial plans

Explore opportunities for shared IT systems to support more effective communication

Work stream priorities

Effectiveness and efficiency

E5	Analyse available data in order to increase the number of guilty pleas at first hearing whilst reducing the number of local cracked and ineffective trials
E6	Collect and analyse data relating to the experience of vulnerable groups through the CJS and ensure that this incorporated into wider discussion of the issues such as domestic violence, hate crime, child sexual abuse and other sexual violence
E7	Ensure processes in place to improve case file quality and transfer of data between partners in order to prevent delays and inefficiencies
E8	Prepare for delivery of video-enabled justice to support vulnerable victims and improve efficiency in terms of accessibility to court proceedings

Improving the experience of victims and witnesses	
V6	Use analysis of collated performance data to highlight areas of concern and good practice in relation to both quality of service and achieving appropriate outcomes for victims and witnesses
V7	Following the identification of any gaps in provision seek to fill these through partnership arrangements and increased capacity where appropriate
V8	Review and embed where appropriate the current advocacy provision for vulnerable victims
V9	Ensure that every victim is offered the opportunity to engage with RJ and that where appropriate interventions are delivered to the RJ quality mark standard
V10	Agree method for collection of soft data from victims and ensure that processes are in place to share learning from across all partners
Reducing offending and reoffending	
R6	Using information gathered from assessment of pathway availability and impact for young people and adults who offend determine priorities and future commissioning of services
R7	Use and analyse collated performance data to support priorities and future commissioning of services
R8	Provide governance to Integrated Offender Management approach to supervision of prolific offenders and monitor impact on reducing reoffending
R9	Sustain, oversee and develop the commitment to diversionary projects reducing the number of first time offenders coming before the courts
R10	Implement a whole system approach to delivery of desistance based interventions to females who offend
R11	Implement commitments with local authorities / combined authority on employability and opportunities for employment for those who offend
R12	Work with housing providers to improve availability of accommodation for those who offend and sustainability of the tenancy
R13	Research local need of those who offend aged 18 to 25 and identify ways in which this group can better be supported by partners working together

2019 - 2020

Review progress of whole-system approach to reducing reoffending and supporting victims, evaluating delivery of more integrated services, including those resulting from co-commissioning

Embed learning and act on increased understanding from shared scrutiny and complaint processes

Analysis of the performance framework embedded into the end to end delivery of CJ services

Mature provision of effective pathways to desistance at all stages of the system

Outcome measurement for victims fully developed and analysed

Ongoing development and consultation with voluntary sector

Work stream priorities to be identified by December 2019

2020 - 2021

Review and evaluate service delivery and develop specification for future term

Evidenced reduction in reoffending

Victim experiences measured in terms of outcomes and compliance with victim's code with an evidenced increase

Measurable improvements to the progression of cases through the CJS



Contact Cleveland PCC

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for
Cleveland, Cleveland Police Headquarters,
Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough, TS8 9EH
pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk
01642 301623

Contact Durham PCVC

Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims'
Commissioner, Durham Police Headquarters,
Aykley Heads, Durham, DH1 5TT
general.enquiries@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk
0191 3752001



LCJP

Cleveland & Durham
Local Criminal Justice Partnership





SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

13th April 2018



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT JANUARY 2017-
DECEMBER 2017

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To receive the Strategic Assessment January 2017- December 2017.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 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 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 January 2017–December 2017 is attached at **Appendix A**.

2.2 To aid the development of the Community Safety Plan 2017-2020 (Year 2) 2018 a presentation will be delivered to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership outlining the key findings of the Strategic Assessment (January 2017- December 2017) and progress in relation to the strategic objectives and annual priorities identified in the current three year community safety plan (2017-2020) as follows:

Strategic Objectives 2017-2020	Annual Priorities 2017-2018
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	<p>Acquisitive Crime - reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on residential burglary.</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Abuse – safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse and reduce repeat victimisation of those identified as “high risk”.</p>

Strategic Objectives 2017-2020	Annual Priorities 2017-2018
Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	Substance Misuse - reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	Vulnerable Victims – work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour. Anti-social Behaviour – reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational and enforcement activity and increase restorative interventions.
Reduce offending and re-offending	Reduce Re-offending - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity

3. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The presentation will identify any key risks to community safety for possible inclusion in the Community Safety Plan the first draft of which will be presented to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in June 2018.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to undertake an annual strategic assessment.

6. CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 The Strategic Assessment includes feedback from consultation undertaken with the public and other key stakeholders through an on-line survey undertaken on behalf of the SHP January – March 2018, Cleveland Police Public Confidence Survey 2017, and the annual face the public event held in February 2018.

7. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 7.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations related to this report.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations associated with this report.

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

- 9.1 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 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. The assessment will therefore enable the SHP to consider and identify any changing/new priorities for future inclusion in the Community Safety Plan Year 2 (2018-2019).

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 There are no staff considerations associated with this report.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 There are no asset management considerations associated with this report.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership are asked to discuss the contents of the presentation in relation to the key findings of the strategic assessment and discuss any new and emerging priorities that could be included in the Community Safety Plan Year 2.
- 12.2 Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership are asked to consider the delivery structure needed to address existing and emerging priorities ie potential sub groups or task groups that may be required during 2018/19 to enable a focus on these priorities.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 To assist in the annual refresh of the Community Safety Plan the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory requirement to undertake an annual strategic assessment to identify and address the key community safety issues impacting on the local community.

14. CONTACT OFFICER

Denise Ogden
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY
Email denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523301

Clare Clark
Head of Community Safety and Engagement
Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY
Email clare.clark@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523100



**Safer Hartlepool Partnership
Strategic Assessment
2017**

Executive Summary

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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 and by 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 priorities to inform the development of Year 2 of the Community Safety Plan 2017 – 2020.

The Strategic Assessment has been prepared by the Community Safety 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
- Community Safety Team
- Youth Offending Service
- Public Health
- Child & Adult Services
- Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Cleveland Police
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust
- Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner
- Balance
- Victim Support
- Harbour

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES & PRIORITIES

As outlined in the Community Safety Plan 2017-2020 (Year 1), the current strategic objectives and annual priorities for 2017-2018 were agreed by the Partnership in March 2017 and are detailed in the table below.

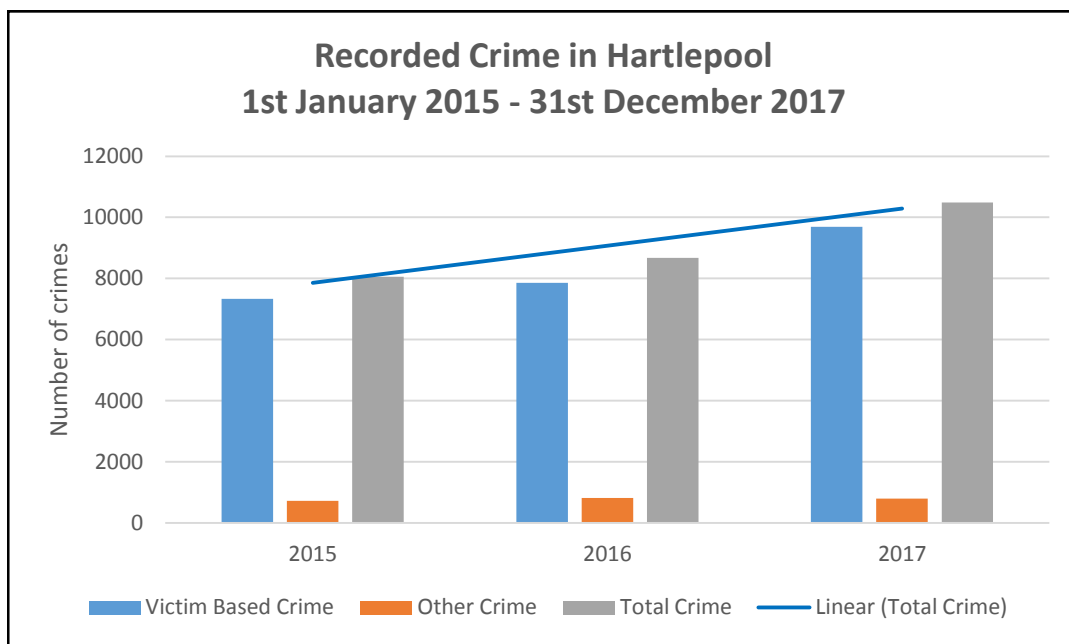
Strategic Objectives 2017-2020	Annual Priorities 2017-2018
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	<p>Acquisitive Crime - reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on residential burglary.</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Abuse – safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse and reduce repeat victimisation of those identified as “high risk”.</p>
Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	Substance Misuse - reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	<p>Vulnerable Victims – work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Anti-social Behaviour – reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational and enforcement activity and increase restorative interventions.</p>
Reduce offending and re-offending	Reduce Re-offending - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity

PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

The following tables and charts provide an overview of key partnership performance indicators for the strategic period January to December 2017

1. Crime in Hartlepool

Recorded crime levels in Hartlepool have increased year on year since 2015, and continue to follow an increasing trend.



In 2017, recorded crime in Hartlepool increased by 21% (+1,808 offences) in comparison to the previous assessment period.

Total Recorded Crime in Hartlepool	2016	2017	Change	% Change
	8680	10,488	1808	21%

2. Victim based crime¹

Crime Category/Type	2016	2017	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	2063	2344	281	14%
Homicide	2	0	-2	-100%
Violence with Injury	865	916	51	6%
Violence without Injury	1196	1428	232	19%
Sexual Offences	201	232	31	15%
Rape	63	80	17	27%
Other Sexual Offences	138	152	14	10%
Acquisitive Crime	3903	5549	1646	42%
Burglary - Residential	565	814	249	44%
Burglary – Business and Community	191	356	165	86%
Bicycle Theft	179	186	7	4%
Theft from the Person	41	62	21	51%
Robbery - Personal	44	58	14	32%
Robbery - Business	4	13	9	225%
Vehicle Crime	613	1320	707	115%
Shoplifting	1334	1405	71	5%
Other Acquisitive	980	1306	326	33%
Criminal Damage and Arson	1647	1592	-55	-3%
Total	7862	9688	1826	23%

3. Other crimes against society²

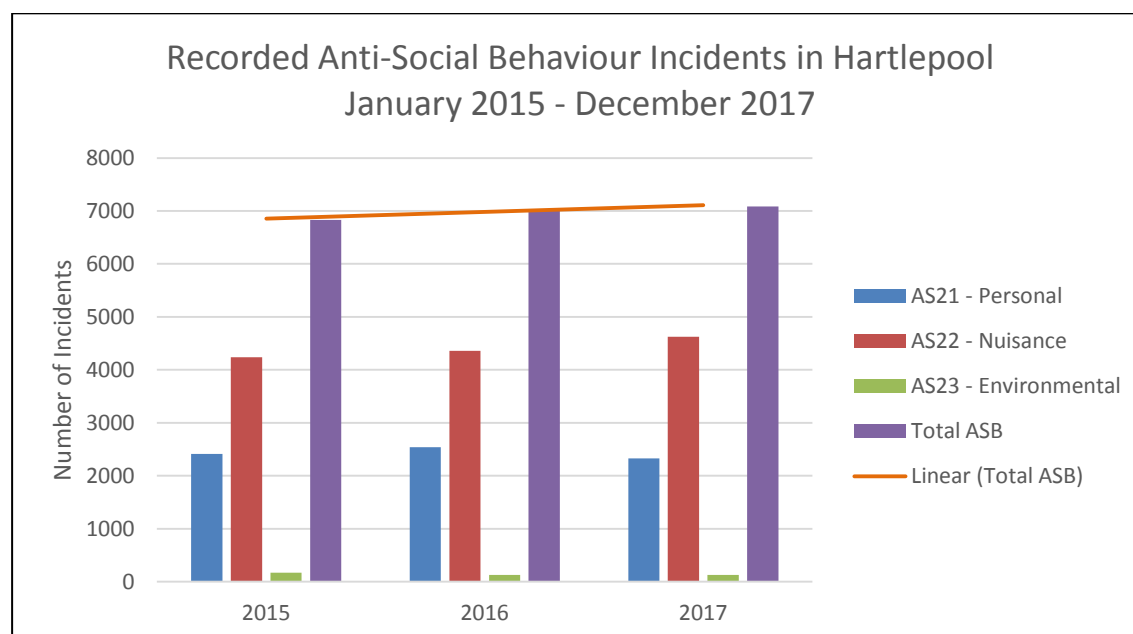
Crime Category/Type	2016	2017	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	317	353	36	11%
Drug Offences	284	227	-57	-20%
Trafficking of Drugs	60	63	3	5%
Possession / Use of Drugs	224	164	-60	-27%
Possession of Weapons	65	56	-9	-14%
Misc. Crimes against Society	152	164	12	8%
Total	818	800	-18	-2%

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

² 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.

4. Anti-social Behaviour

Police Anti-social behaviour incidents are displaying a slowly increasing trend over the past three years with the increase in 2017 being less than 1% when compared to the previous year.



The 3 different types of anti-social behaviour incidents recorded by the police are defined as follows:

ASB: Personal

'Personal' is designed to identify ASB incidents that the caller, call-handler or anyone else perceives as either deliberately targeted at an individual or group or having an impact on an individual or group rather than the community at large. It includes incidents that cause concern, stress, disquiet and/or irritation through to incidents which have a serious adverse impact on people's quality of life.

At one extreme of the spectrum it includes minor annoyance; at the other end it could result in risk of harm, deterioration of health and disruption of mental or emotional well-being, resulting in an inability to carry out normal day to day activities through fear and intimidation.

ASB: Nuisance

'Nuisance' captures those incidents where an act, condition, thing or person causes trouble, annoyance, inconvenience, offence or suffering to the local community in general rather than to individual victims. It includes incidents where behaviour goes beyond the conventional bounds of acceptability and interferes with public interests including health, safety and quality of life.

Just as individuals will have differing expectations and levels of tolerance so will communities have different ideas about what goes beyond tolerable or acceptable behaviour.

ASB: Environmental

'Environmental' deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments.

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

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

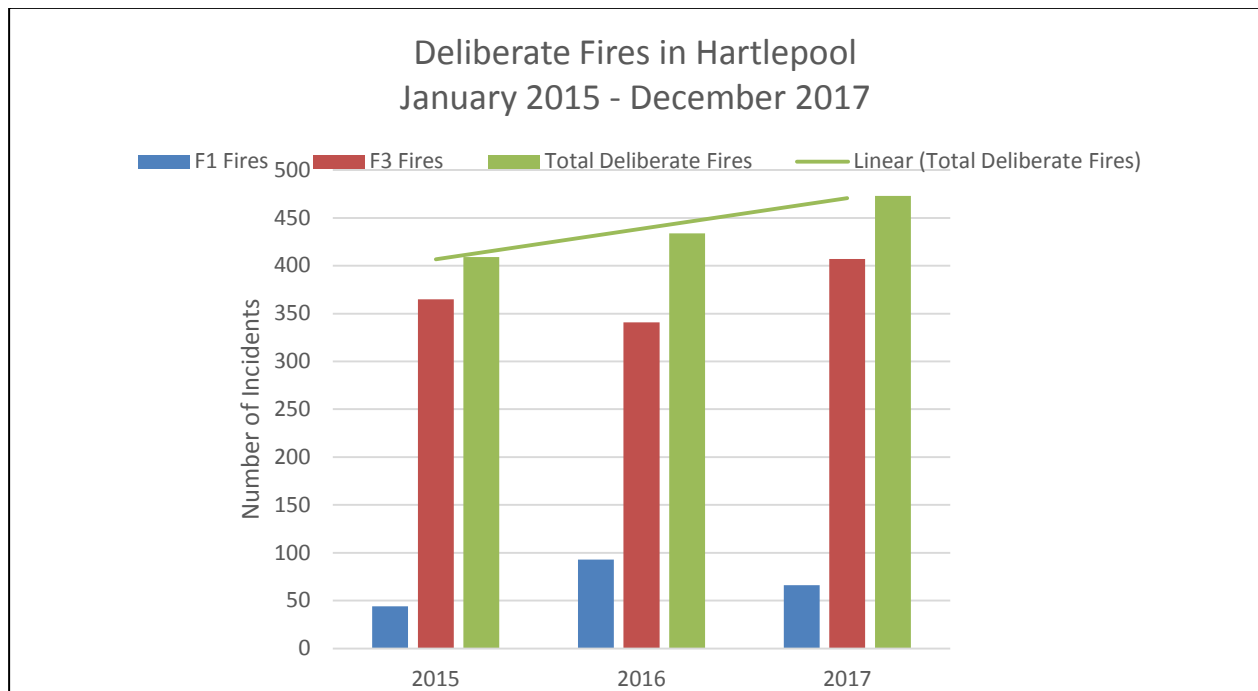
Public spaces change over time as a result of physical effects caused, for example, by building but the environment can also change as a result of the people using or misusing that space.

In comparison to our local peers, although Hartlepool continues to have the second highest anti-social behaviour rate per 1,000 population, this is now within just 0.3% of the Cleveland average.

Police Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	Redcar & Cleveland	Stockton	Cleveland Average
	77.8	98.0	72.4	65.8	77.5

5. Deliberate Fire Setting

Deliberate fires recorded by the Fire Brigade in Hartlepool have increased year on year since 2015, and continue to follow an increasing trend.



In 2017 Cleveland Fire Brigade recorded a reduction of 29% for deliberate primary fires³ and a 19.4% increase for deliberate secondary fires⁴ in Hartlepool.

Deliberate Fires	2016	2017	Change	% Change
Primary Fires (F1)	93	66	-27	-29.0%
Secondary Fires (F3)	341	407	66	19.4%
Total Deliberate Fires	434	473	39	9.0%

³ Deliberate Primary Fires (F1) are non-accidental fires that involve casualties and/or rescues or property or where at least five appliances attend.

⁴ Deliberate Secondary Fires (F3) are any non-accidental fires that do not involve property or casualties/rescues or where four or fewer appliances attend. Derelict properties are classed as secondary fires.

STRATEGIC SUMMARY

CRIME

Overall Hartlepool is a high crime area when compared to similar areas elsewhere in the country and crime has increased by 21% in comparison to the previous assessment period. Nationally, levels of crime have continued to fall consistent with general trends since the mid-1990s⁵. However, these figures cover a broad range of offence types and not all offence types have experienced reductions.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) indicates that many high-volume crimes⁶ were either estimated to be at levels similar to the previous year or to have reduced. In contrast, police data sources suggest that low-volume, higher-harm offences⁷ have increased. Police figures for England and Wales demonstrate increases in vehicle related theft and burglary, which reflects the trend shown in the Hartlepool data.

Acquisitive Crime

In comparison to the previous year acquisitive crime in Hartlepool has increased significantly by 42%. It is the most prevalent crime type in Hartlepool accounting for over half (53%) of all recorded crime during the assessment period.

Residential burglary and vehicle crime have increased by 44% and 115% respectively and, as requested by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, work will be undertaken by a new Task and Finish group over the next twelve months to explore if the introduction of Universal Credit in December 2016 has impacted on acquisitive crime offence types.

Whilst it is recognised that socio-economic factors can affect crime rates, analysis identifies that substance misuse and re-offending continue to be key factors in the occurrence of crime in Hartlepool.

There has been a notable increase in residential burglary with 249 more offences recorded in 2017 than in the previous year and slightly more than one third of (36%) of all offences occurred in the Victoria and Headland and Harbour wards.

From April 2017 the way that burglaries are recorded and classified was changed. As a result, burglaries to sheds, garages, outhouses are now classed as 'burglary residential'. Everything else e.g., schools, businesses, churches, leisure, etc. is now classed as 'burglary business and community'.

⁵ Office for National Statistics (ONS)

⁶ E.g. lower harm violent crime, criminal damage and theft

⁷ E.g. knife and gun crime

Residential burglaries occurred in all months, but a spike was experienced in October and November which was attributed to a spate of burglaries in the Burn Valley and Foggy Furze wards.

The data identifies that almost half of residential burglaries in 2017 occurred in sheds and garages. Of those which took place in a dwelling, the majority occurred in unoccupied properties and in most cases the means of access was via the front door (either insecure or not).

In unoccupied properties, the target is usually valuable metals (particularly copper), pipework, radiators and boilers. Where properties are occupied, small electrical items such as mobile phones, tablets and laptops are commonly taken, along with cash and handbags. In sheds and garages bicycles are the most commonly taken item. Other items include motorbikes and accessories, tools and gardening equipment and food and alcohol.

Vehicle crime increased by 115%, 707 more offences than in 2016, and equated to 13% of total crime in the town. The majority of vehicle crime offences are theft from motor vehicles.

Analysis identifies that there are a number of individuals committing offences across the town, some targeting works vehicles for tools and other high value equipment and other, more opportunist offenders, who are trying vehicle handles until they come across cars or vans that have been left insecure. Hotspots for vehicle crime offences have been identified in the Headland and Harbour and Burn Valley wards.

In an attempt to raise awareness and prevent vehicle crime, crime prevention messages have been promoted through social and other media channels and posters have been displayed in Council car parks and buildings to remind people to remove valuables and secure their vehicles.



Violent Crime

Violence Against the Person offences in Hartlepool have increased by 14% when compared to the previous reporting year, with violence offences equating to almost one quarter (22.3%) of total recorded crime in Hartlepool, with the rate per 1000 population being the second highest in the Cleveland area, and slightly above the Cleveland average.

Comparable to the previous year males aged between 25 and 34 years continue to be at the greatest risk of being a victim of non-domestic related violence. Perpetrators of non-domestic violence offences are predominantly male and in previous years have been primarily aged between 18 and 24 years. Analysis in this reporting period has identified that the age of offenders has increased with

more than one third of male offenders now aged between 25 and 34 years, mirroring the victim age profile. Whilst it is reasonable to suggest that the increase in the offender age profile could be due to the same repeat offenders advancing in years and moving into the next age bracket, further detailed analysis would be required to confirm if this is indeed the case.

Domestic Violence and Abuse

The number of domestic related violence offences⁸ in Hartlepool has increased by 17% (+136 offences) with evidence in the data demonstrating an increase in the recording of offences such as harassment and malicious communications.

In line with national data, male victimisation is evident in recorded crime, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), and support service data, however numbers remain very low. Similarly the number of victims from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community are also low. So therefore in line with the national picture, it is women and girls in Hartlepool who continue to be at the greatest risk of domestic abuse.

Comparable to the previous strategic period, more than three quarters of victims are female with more than half of those aged between 18 and 34 years. Repeat victimisation is evident, with more than one quarter (26%) of female victims and 12% of males suffering two or more incidents during the reporting period.

Repeat offending is also evident in the data. In 2017 172 perpetrators were identified and, of these, 48 (28%) had been charged with 2 or more offences during the year with 9 of these individuals charged with 4 or more offences.

In an effort to challenge the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic abuse, the Council's commissioned domestic abuse support service provider Harbour offers a range of interventions for victims, children, and families. The perpetrator programme delivered by Harbour has recently been renamed the 'Harbour Domestic Abuse Prevention Service' to encourage greater engagement with this aspect of the service which includes the following interventions:

- Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme – Respect accredited behaviour change programme
- Targeted one to one work
- Alter Programme – brief awareness course
- Work with females using violence/abuse in relationships
- Caring Dads Programme
- Partner Safety Work

Efforts to raise awareness of the different forms that domestic abuse can take, as well as the support services available, have included extensive communications

⁸ Offences were "Y" has been inserted into the "Domestic Violence?" field

campaigns using both social and traditional media. Activities include the promotion of the 16 Days of Activism (Against Gender-Based Violence) campaign (25th November – 10th December 2017) with posts on various domestic abuse related issues posted daily on social media. This campaign proved very effective with posts on 'Clare's Law' (Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme) reaching nearly 6,500 people on Facebook. Other activities included a drop-in event at the Central Hub with support service provider Harbour where an unprecedented number of self-referrals (including by one male victim) were made.

Hartlepool has the second highest rate per 1000 population for domestic related incidents, repeat incidents and domestic related violence offences in the Force area. Despite this, the number of high risk domestic violence cases that have been referred to the Hartlepool MARAC have reduced by 10%⁹ although the repeat case rate (33%) is above the national average of 27%¹⁰.

During 2017, a review of the current MARAC arrangements in Cleveland was undertaken and from 1st April 2018 there will be 2 MARAC Operational Groups that will operate on a north (Hartlepool and Stockton) and south (Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland) Tees basis with a renewed focus on problem solving. Each of the MARACs will meet on a fortnightly basis and meeting venues will be alternated across each of the Local Authority areas.

The Operational Groups will benefit from an Independent Chair who will facilitate problem solving, action planning and hold partners to account. The Independent Chair is funded by agreed contributions from partner agencies and the recruitment process is underway to enable the post to begin in April 2018.

Sexual Offences

More than one quarter (28%) of sexual offences recorded in Hartlepool related to historical incidents that occurred more than one year previously and predominantly involved victims aged 16 years and under. Females, particularly young females, and children (male & female) are most at risk of sexual violence, with the majority of victims knowing the offender via family and/or friend networks. Strong correlation also continues to exist between the occurrence of sexual violence and domestic related abuse.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

Analysis of local intelligence evidences the presence of child sexual exploitation (CSE) issues in Hartlepool, where social media and mobile technology, including the exchange of sexual images, have been used to groom young people. In the

⁹ 115 cases compared to 128 in the previous year

¹⁰ Data Source: safelives.org.uk

last 12 months, the number of incidents recorded by the police specifically linked to CSE have reduced slightly.

Hate Crime

In 2017, 171 hate incidents and crimes were recorded in Hartlepool. This figure represents an 11.8% increase on the previous year.

Analysis shows that 80% of all hate incidents and crimes reported during 2017 were recorded as racial incidents. Hate incidents predominantly occurred in the Victoria, Burn Valley and Headland and Harbour wards. Analysis indicates that the majority of victims continue to be individuals working in hot food takeaway premises or convenience stores.

Both nationally and locally, under-reporting remains an issue particularly in regards to homophobic, transphobic and disablist incidents. 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. The Partnership continues to take a proactive approach to tackling hate with third party reporting centres being promoted via Heartbeat and social media, and support for victims being provided by the Victim Services Officer.

National Hate Crime Awareness Week (14th-21st October 2017) provided a platform to promote the importance of reporting hate with social media posts flagging details of local third party reporting centres reaching almost 2,000 people. In addition, in recognition of the particular impact on businesses, a poster has been produced for local businesses to promote the fact that hate will not be tolerated on their premises and to tell staff how to report any incidents they experience.

It is reasonable to suggest that these campaigns have been effective and that the increase in reported hate crimes and hate incidents reflects an increased awareness of reporting mechanisms and confidence in reporting hate.

Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime covers a broad range of activity which impacts on individuals, communities, businesses and the economy in different ways. Organised Crime Groups (OCG's) do not tend to limit themselves to one area of criminality and will diversify to exploit new opportunities, markets and customer needs.

Analysis identifies that 14% of OCG members in the Cleveland Police Force area reside in Hartlepool and account for 0.02% of the local population. These individuals are members of four OCGs, all responsible for the supply and distribution of drugs, as well as other types of criminality particularly organised violence and the supply of counterfeit goods. A member of an OCG believed to be responsible for child sexual exploitation also has links with Hartlepool. Interconnectivity exists at a low level, particularly amongst street dealers and customers.

The highest levels of OCG members reside within the Manor House ward, representing just over 40% of individuals linked to OCGs in the Hartlepool area. These individuals are aligned to two groups operating separately, one of which is also linked to criminal activity outside the Cleveland Force area. All are associated with the supply and distribution of drugs.

The Police continue to disrupt the efforts of OCGs. Multiple drug warrants have been executed during 2017 and two premises have been closed.

Prevent

The co-ordination of activity to prevent violent extremism on a tactical level continues to be undertaken by the Tees Silver Group. This Group reports to the four Community Safety Partnerships within the Cleveland Police Force area, and the Cleveland Police CONTEST and Serious Organised Crime Group. The activities of this group are informed by the Counter Terrorism Local Profile which is currently being reviewed and will in future be produced on an annual, as opposed to quarterly basis.

Following the decision of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in March 2017, a local Hartlepool Prevent Operational group has been established. An action plan has been developed by this group to ensure that all partners in the local area can fulfil their statutory responsibilities under the Prevent Duty and promote reassurance to reduce any tensions amongst communities.

Recent activities undertaken by this group include social media campaigns; cohesion events, and the promotion of educational films such as the RUN HIDE TELL video – this film has also been shown to more than 3,000 students at the College of Further Education.

Across Cleveland, the Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) training continues to be delivered to build an understanding of the vulnerabilities associated with radicalisation and how to safeguard people who may be vulnerable to it through existing multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

In Hartlepool, the delivery of WRAP is now coordinated through the Local Authority's Workforce Development Teams. Sessions are available for all staff in the Local Authority and partner agencies and are part of the induction process for new starters. During 2017 31 sessions were delivered to 321 front line practitioners and partner agencies. In November 2017 WRAP was also delivered to foster carers in Hartlepool. A further programme to deliver WRAP to services commissioned by the Council will be rolled out throughout 2018.

Channel Referrals

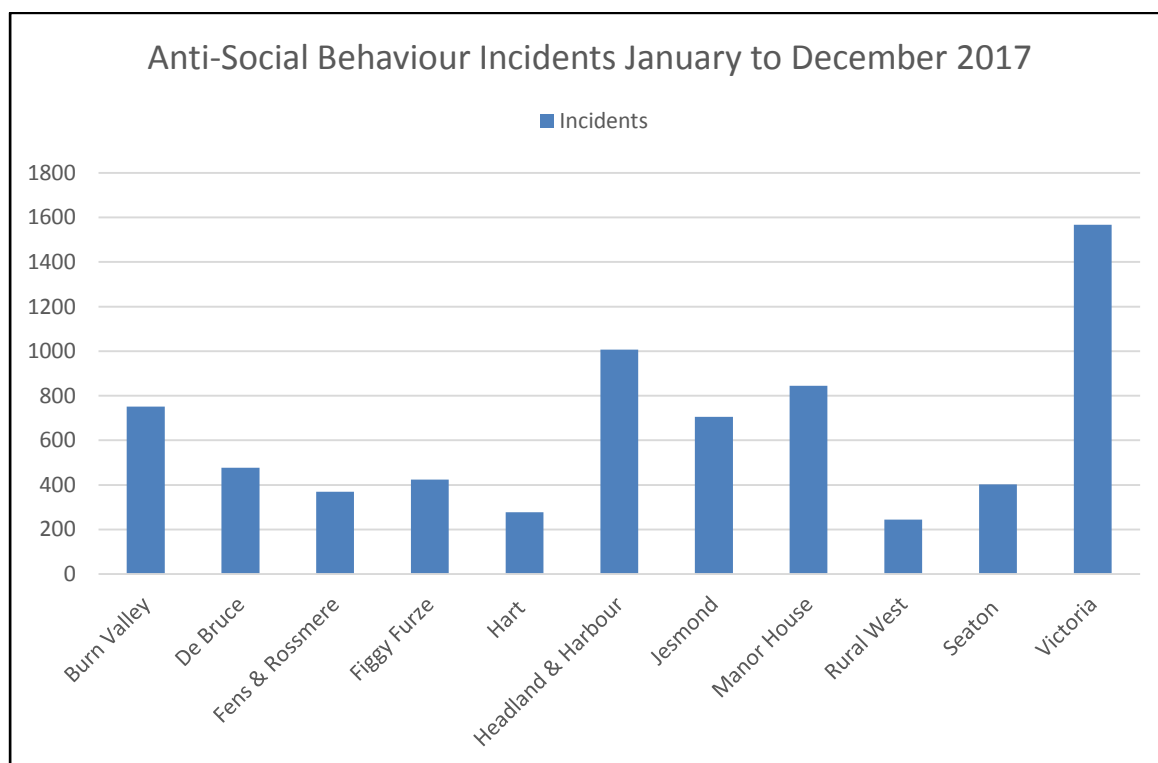
An increase in Channel referrals was experienced nationally between April and July 2017 following the spate of terrorist incidents that began with the Westminster attack on 22nd March, followed by those in Manchester, London Bridge and Finsbury Park. During the same period there were 81 referrals to the Channel process in Cleveland. Of the 5 referrals in Hartlepool 4 were not linked to any particular ideology or theme, with the fifth linked to extreme right wing ideology.

During the 12 month period January to December 2017, 11 Channel referrals were made in Hartlepool, predominantly by educational establishments and without links to any particular ideology. None of the referrals required a Channel Panel to be convened having being dealt with through other processes.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In Hartlepool, anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the Police increased by 1% compared to the previous year.¹¹

Reported incidence of anti-social behaviour shows considerable variance across the town, with more than one third (36%) of all anti-social behaviour incidents reported in the Victoria and Headland & Harbour wards.



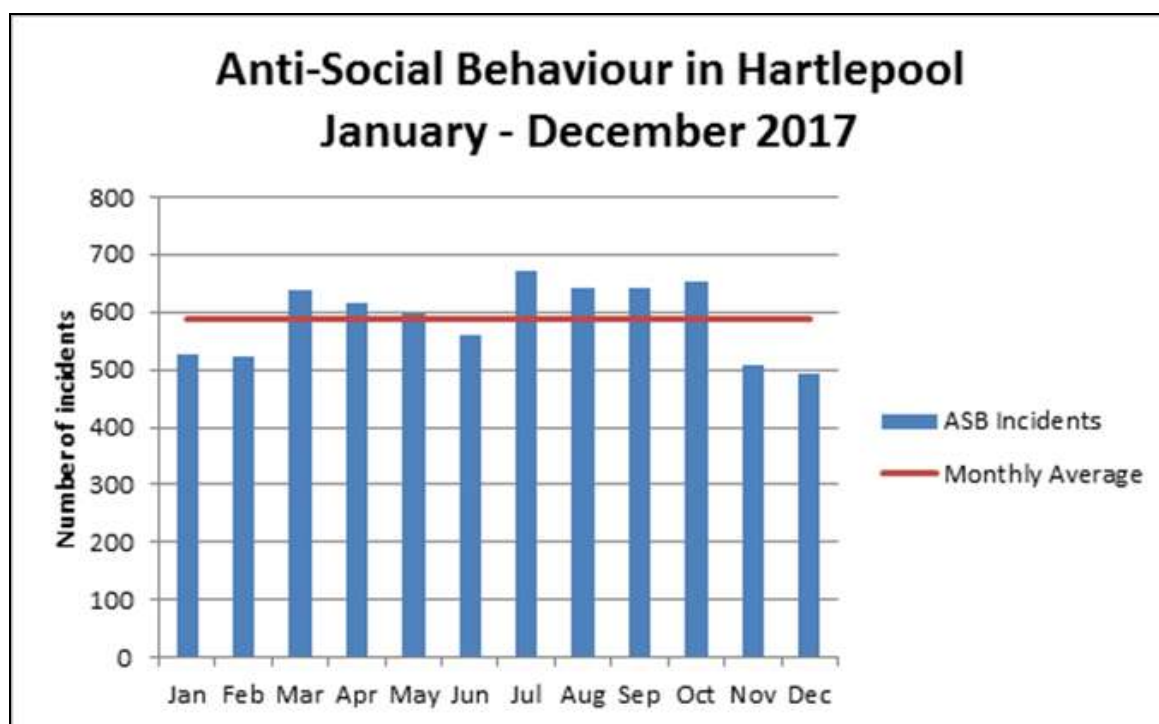
During the period January to December 2017 an average of 589 incidents were recorded by the Police each month. In Hartlepool, nuisance anti-social behaviour incidents are the most common type of incident reported and in 2017 equated to almost two thirds of incidents recorded by the Police as detailed in the table below:

Police Anti- Social Behaviour Incidents	2016	2017	Change	% Change
Personal	2540	2331	-209	-8.2%
Nuisance	4361	4623	262	6.0%
Environmental	132	132	0	0%

¹¹ January to December 2016 = 7033 incidents, January to December 2017 = 7086 incidents

Total	7033	7086	53	0.8%
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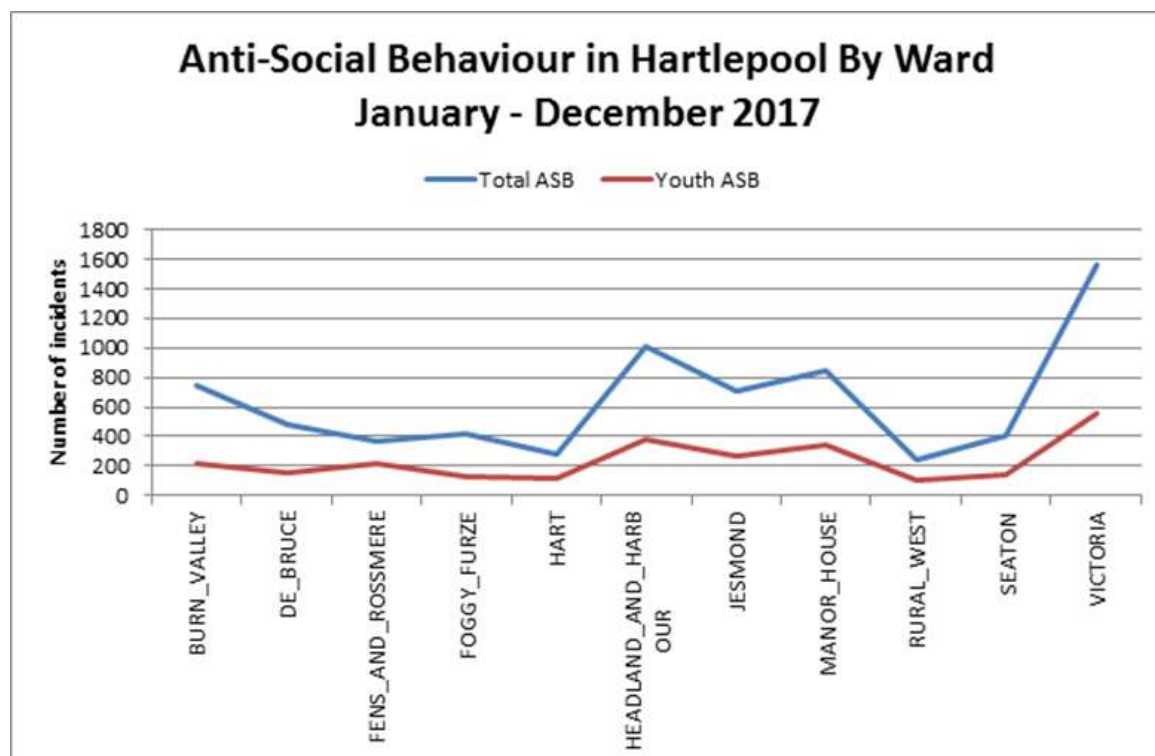
Peaks in the number of incidents experienced in March and April were linked to youth anti-social behaviour at McDonalds Restaurants in Burn Road and Marina Way and deliberate fires at Summerhill Country Park. In July to September the peak was linked to McDonalds, Rossmere Youth Centre and vehicle nuisance in Tesco car park and in October, the peak in incidents was again linked to McDonalds and Rossmere Youth Centre, but also incidents at Rossmere Park and a spate of incidents on Halloween were numerous reports were received from Hart ward in relation to eggs being thrown at windows.



Youth Anti-Social Behaviour

Whilst youth related anti-social behaviour equated to more than one third of all anti-social behaviour incidents recorded in 2017, the actual number of incidents of youth anti-social behaviour reduced by 37, from 2,661 to 2,624 incidents in 2017.

Youth related anti-social behaviour reduced in seven of the eleven wards. An increase was experienced in Fens and Rossmere ward, predominantly attributable to specific issues linked to Rossmere Youth Centre and Skate Park, Led by the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, a multi-agency problem solving approach was taken to address the problems, and the young people identified were signed up to anti-social behaviour agreements with the number of ASB incidents involving young people subsequently reducing. As outlined in the chart below Fens and Rossmere ward continues to experience fewer incidents of youth anti-social behaviour when compared to other wards across Hartlepool.



Further analysis of youth related anti-social behaviour revealed that more than 600 individuals were involved in more than 1200 incidents during the reporting period. Repeat perpetrators were also identified with 170 individuals involved in 820 incidents, equating to almost one third (31.3%) of all youth related ASB incidents in this year.

Forty eight individuals were recorded as being involved in 5 or more incidents in this year with the highest number perpetrated by any one individual being 38 incidents. The average age of repeat perpetrators in this year was 13 years and 9 months.

During this assessment period, it is also evident that anti-social behaviour is a precursor to criminal behaviour with a dip sample of the current cohort of Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO's) identifying that many were known to the Police and Local Authority as perpetrators of anti-social behaviour in their early teenage years. On this basis, agencies will continue to work together to provide diversionary activities for young people as well as early intervention for those most at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour or offending.

Hartlepool Borough Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit has supported 465 complainants linked to 438 anti-social behaviour cases. The team continue to prioritise the needs of vulnerable victims through the completion of the Vulnerable Victims Assessment Matrix (VAM) and repeat caller process.

During 2017, 16 high risk victims of anti-social behaviour have been referred to Hartlepool's Vulnerable Victims Group ensuring vulnerable victims receive a co-ordinated response specific to their needs and level of risk. Analysis of cases highlights the negative impact that persistent anti-social behaviour can have on an individual's health and wellbeing, particularly mental health.

In addition to the above, the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit has continued to offer a mediation and restorative intervention service to individuals.

Environmental Nuisance

Vehicle nuisance, particularly off road motorbikes, has been problematic during the strategic period. Vehicle nuisance equates to 12.5% of all anti-social behaviour incidents¹². Of these, 17% (152 incidents) were youth-related. 42% of reports of nuisance vehicles involved motorbikes, scramblers, mopeds or quad bikes. Complaints include riding dangerously putting pedestrians and other road users at risk, the riding of off-road vehicles in residential areas (including on pavements), young people riding without helmets and noise nuisance. Complaints involving cars mainly related to erratic driving on the highway, speeding and taking part in manoeuvres such as 'donutting'¹³ in public and private car parks.

Reports of nuisance vehicles were most frequent on a Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday with between 13:00 and 19:00 being the timeframe when most complaints were received. Locations with a high volume of complaints relating to nuisance vehicles include Tesco's car park, Masefield Road, Summerhill, Old Cemetery Road and West View Road.

In view of the volume of complaints about nuisance vehicles, Cleveland Police has been running Operation Endurance, which aims to raise awareness of the responsibilities of owners of off-road motorbikes. Publicity around Operation Endurance was increased in the run up to Christmas to encourage parents and carers to think twice about buying such vehicles for their children as gifts.



Key messages of the campaign include:

- Off road bikes (including scramblers, quads and mini-motos) are required to be taxed and insured if taken onto the public road and some may also require a valid MOT certificate
- Public roads include all highways, public footpaths, bridleways and some car parks
- Off road vehicles can only be taken onto private land with the consent of the landowner
- Nuisance off road vehicles can be seized by the Police

The Council's Environmental Enforcement team (which forms part of Hartlepool Community Safety Team) have worked in partnership with the Police to tackle nuisance off-road bikes by installing warning signage on Council land at hotspot

¹² 887 incidents out of a total of 7070

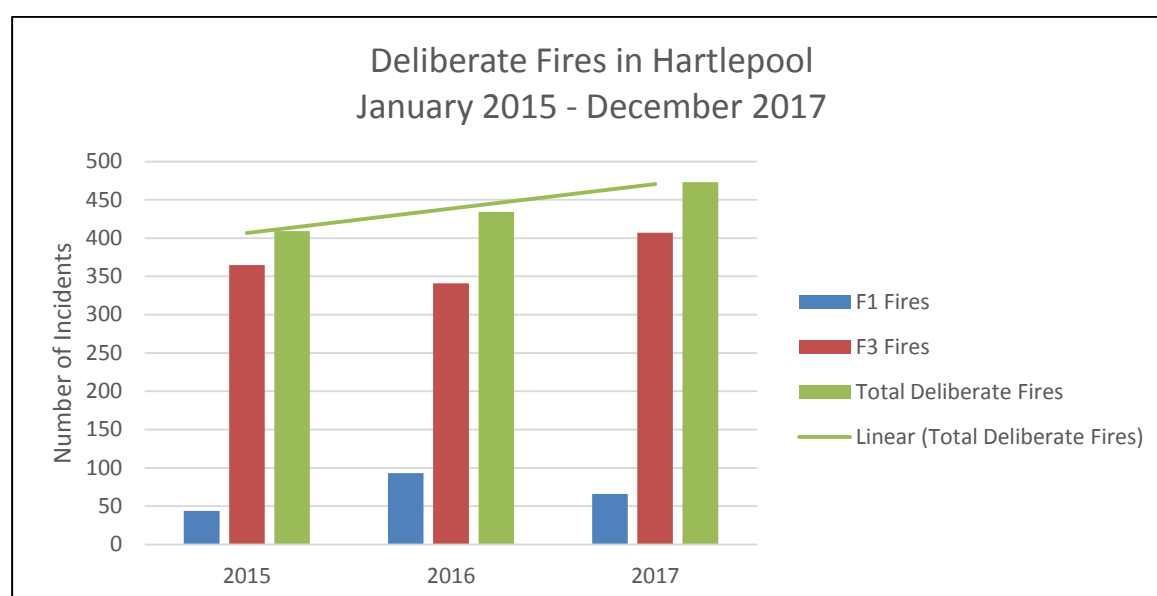
¹³ i.e. spinning the car very fast in a small circle to leave a distinctive 'donut' shaped tyre mark on the road surface

areas. These signs act as an official warning to riders of these bikes and enable the authorities to seize nuisance vehicles immediately without having to issue a further warning first.

The Environmental Enforcement team have also taken action against environmental nuisance including littering; dog nuisance; fly-tipping, illegal encampments. During 2017 the enforcement team issued 233 fixed penalty notices in relation to environmental crime.

DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

Deliberate fires in Hartlepool are following an increasing trend as shown in the following chart and have increased by 9% when compared to the previous year (+39 fires).

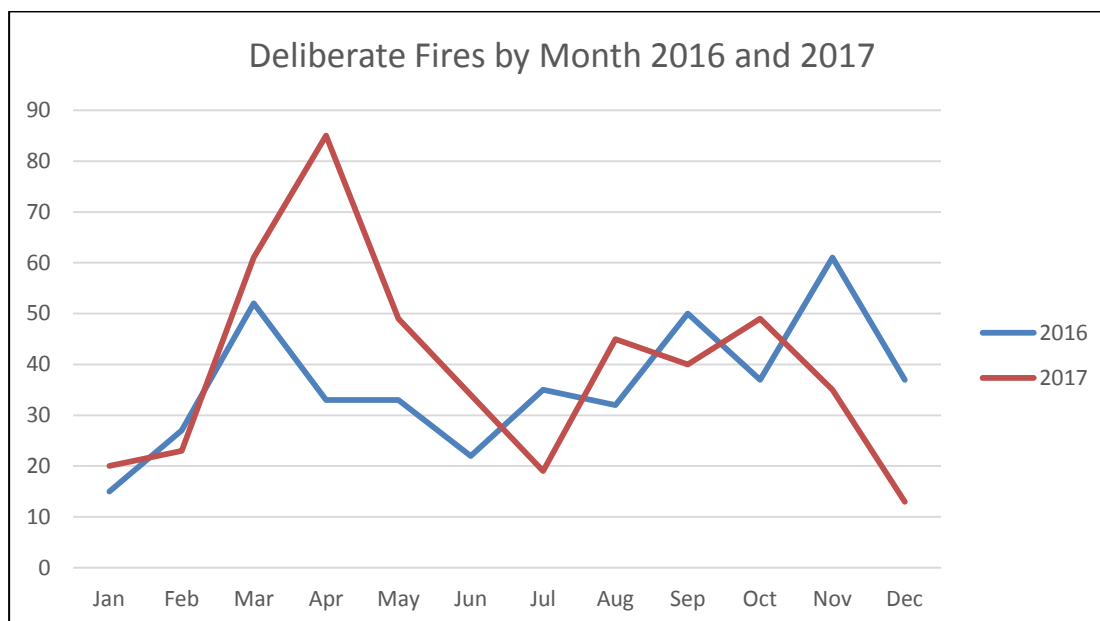


Hotspots for deliberate fires have been identified in Headland and Harbour (Old Cemetery Road), Fens and Rossmere (Rossmere Park), Hart (Clavering play area) and Manor House (Summerhill) wards.

Data from Cleveland Fire Brigade identifies that the most common deliberate fires are refuse/bin fires¹⁴ and grassland fires¹⁵, accounting for 56% and 22% of all deliberate fires respectively. As shown in previous years, and corresponding with similar peaks in other types of anti-social behaviour and crime, there was a spike in deliberate fires in March/April, with fires tailing off after October.

¹⁴ Refuse fires include 'refuse-non specified', 'wheeled bin adjacent to a house', 'wheeled bin in the street' and 'refuse container – commercial' and 'litter bin'.

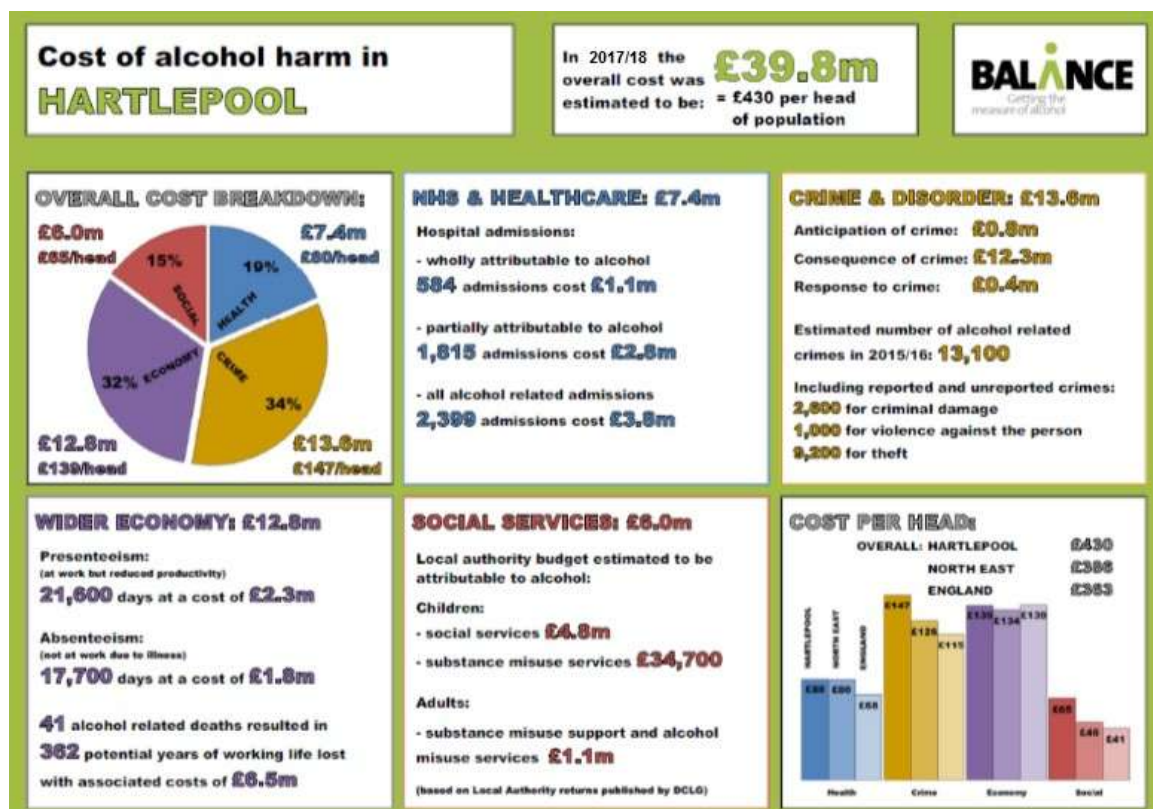
¹⁵ Grassland fires include 'grassland', 'scrub', 'hedge' and 'single tree'.



SUBSTANCE MISUSE

Alcohol

It is estimated that cost associated with alcohol misuse in Hartlepool is in excess of £30 million. This figure equates to an overall cost of £430 per head of population every year. The infographic below from Balance North East shows the cost of alcohol harm in Hartlepool.



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 alcohol-related assault presentations at the Urgent Care Centre at the University Hospital of Hartlepool equating to more than one quarter of all assault presentations.

Alcohol related violent crime remains at its highest in the Victoria and Headland & Harbour wards and is predominantly linked to the night-time economy.

Utilising data collected by the North West Public Health Observatory in the Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE), it is identified that:

- Hartlepool had some of the highest rates in the UK for binge drinking with 29.2% of those surveyed admitting to drinking more than twice the recommended amount of alcohol in a single session.
- Alcohol-specific hospital admissions for people under 18 in the last three years in Hartlepool stood at 91.3 per 100,000 of the population, with the regional average being 107.7.
- However, alcohol-attributable hospital admissions for the area were higher than average at 2130.6 per 100,000 for males and 1161 per 100,000 for females.
- Crime statistics were also higher than the regional average of 5.7 alcohol-related recorded crimes per 1,000 of the population at 7.9 per 1,000 in Hartlepool.

The National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) indicates that in the last 12 months there were 348 adults in effective alcohol treatment in Hartlepool, which is down 2.6% on the previous year. Of those in treatment, 72.9% are using alcohol only, with the remaining 27.1% in treatment for alcohol use alongside other substances.

The Treatment Outcome Profile review at 6 months shows that 21.1% of those presenting to treatment services with alcohol as a problem substance are reporting abstinence of alcohol, with a further 14.0% showing a reduction in their alcohol use.

Drugs

Drug use and drug dealing continues to be a community concern particularly in our most deprived neighbourhoods.

In Hartlepool the number of people who are dependent on drugs is twice the national average, standing at 18.57 per 1,000 population, with more than two thirds of these users accessing treatment services.

The number of individuals accessing drug treatment over the last 12 months in Hartlepool is 813¹⁶, which is down 4.1% on the previous year and almost two

¹⁶ PHE Adult Quarterly Activity Partnership Report

thirds of the treatment population are opiate users. Data from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) indicates that the percentage of adult clients completing treatment and not re-presenting in 6 months is significantly below the national rate for non-opiates, but is statistically similar for opiates.

Drug misuse continues to be a contributory factor in offending behaviour, specifically in regard to acquisitive crime and high rates of re-offending. However, analysis identifies that 50.9% of individuals released from prison in the last 12 months have successfully engaged with a community programme, which is significantly higher than the national rate of 30.5%.

The Treatment Outcome Profile review at 6 months shows that 33.3% of those presenting to treatment services with heroin as a problem substance are reporting abstinence of heroin, with a further 37.5% showing a reduction in their heroin use.

The data also identifies that an increasing number of children and young people are identified with need to access specialist services for drug or alcohol misuse. Approximately 3 out of every 4 children and young people accessing services is below 16years. The youngest service user is 12 years old.

A recent report to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership by the Substance Misuse Task Group identified that providing a safer environment with minimised harm from Drug and Alcohol for children, and empowering young people to make informed decisions as key priorities with the following actions required to protect and support children and young people (CYP) as part of the Hartlepool Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Delivery Framework (2018 -2025):

- Provide regular training and marketing in conjunction with schools and colleges to increase awareness of the harmful impacts of Drugs and Alcohol to parents and CYP
- Provide and promote diversionary activities for CYP
- Work with communities and businesses to reduce availability/ illegal sale to CYP
- Align prevention programmes with other ongoing programmes e.g. crucial crew to raise awareness in schools and embed in curriculum

These will be achieved through the following expected outputs:

- Annual CYP training and marketing programme agreed with schools and colleges and implemented
- Business model for reducing illegal sale to CYP established with regular monitoring

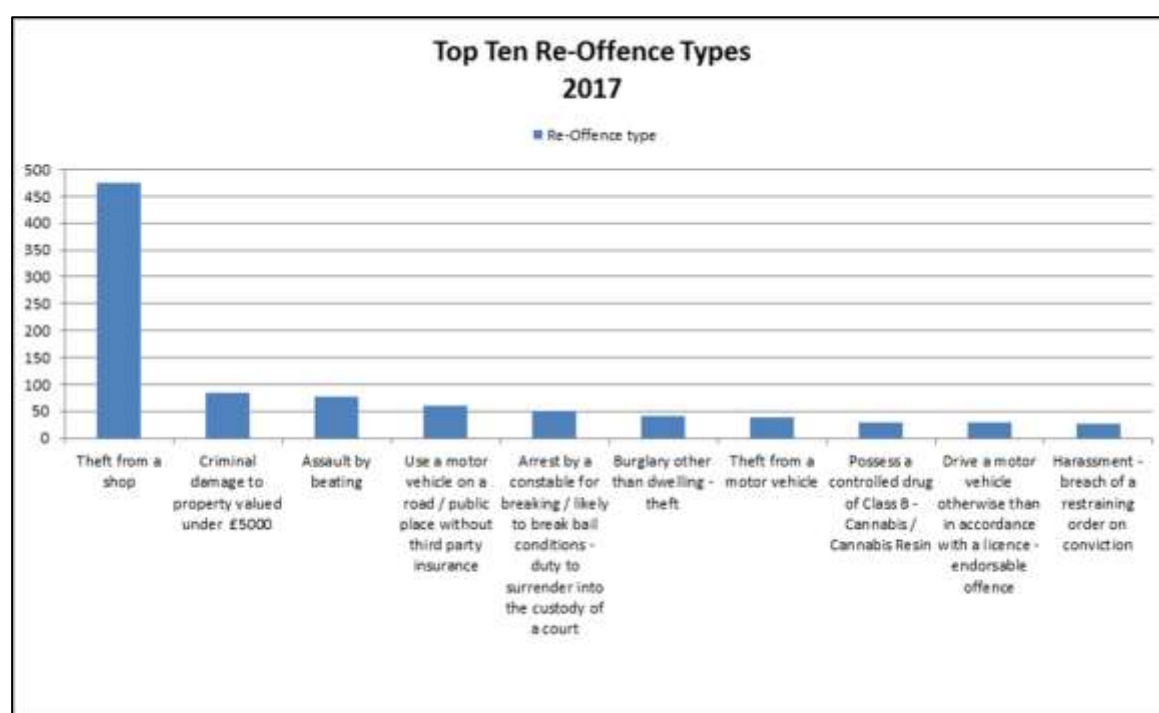
RE-OFFENDING

The most recently available Ministry of Justice data for re-offending in Hartlepool is from 2015/16. This data indicates that in Hartlepool the proportion of adult offenders re-offending was 40.5%, increasing to 57% for juvenile re-offenders.

Based on crime data recorded during 2017, a total of 729 offenders were detected and charged with more than 1,850 offences in Hartlepool, with 377 individuals having committed two or more offences. These individuals were detected to 1,524 offences, accounting for 81% of all detected crime and an average of 4 offences per individual.

For the purposes of the Strategic Assessment, data analysed in relation to re-offending is based on detected crime, i.e. individuals charged with offences during the strategic period, but not necessarily convicted by the courts.

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

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is represented at the Cleveland Reducing Re-Offending Group (CRRG). This group was established to deliver the tackle re-offending objective of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2016-2021; as well as the four Cleveland Community Safety Partnerships' reducing re-offending objectives.

The CRRG is chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner and its key objectives include developing strategic pathways through key services to ensure offenders have the support they need to stop their offending. The Group also

works to identify cross-cutting issues and share best practice in reducing re-offending across the Cleveland Police area.

Given that when published, re-offending data is almost 2 years out of date, a Cleveland Reducing Re-offending Performance Subgroup has been established and work is ongoing to develop a timely, local measure for re-offending.

Adult Re-Offenders

Adult repeat offending continues to be a significant factor, with 94% of all repeat offenders being aged 18 years and over and 85% being male. The average age of repeat male offenders is 31 years, with more than one third being aged between 25 to 34 years.

Female re-offenders were charged with a total of 259 offences, the majority of which were shoplifting offences.

Further analysis identifies 8 individuals as having committed 15 or more offences and being responsible for 11.3% of detected crime in Hartlepool, as displayed in the following table. Two of these offenders are currently identified as Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs).

Offender	Age	Gender	Number of Detected Crimes
Offender A	31	Female	34
Offender B	36	Male	28
Offender C	41	Female	27
Offender D	25	Female	21
Offender E	42	Male	16
Offender F	44	Male	16
Offender G	17	Male	16
Offender H	38	Male	15

Juvenile Re-Offenders

Based on crime recorded during the assessment period, juvenile re-offending was evident with 20 individuals charged with two or more offences equating to 5.3% of all re-offenders. This shows a reduction when compared to the previous year, when juvenile re-offenders equated to 8% of all re-offenders in the twelve month period. Comparable with adults, the majority of juvenile re-offenders were male.

Further analysis identified 4 individuals, aged between 15 and 17 years, who were each charged with 5 or more offences. In total, these individuals were charged with 44 offences, 52% of all offences detected to juvenile re-offenders. All four of these juvenile offenders are currently engaging with the local Youth Justice Service.

Offender	Age	Gender	Number of Detected Crimes
Offender A	16	Male	16
Offender B	15	Male	13
Offender C	17	Male	10
Offender D	16	Male	5

VICTIMS

The likelihood of being a victim of crime in Hartlepool 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.

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

Locally, there are well established pathways into support services for victims of crime, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour. During the reporting period, the Council's Victim Services Officer has supported 443 victims and target hardened 270 residential properties.

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 continues to adopt a victim-centred approach; responding to the needs of the individual, rather than the crime type or incident suffered.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

Consultation with communities in Hartlepool takes place all year round through the work of the two Local Authority Community Cohesion Officers. These officers engage on a daily basis with communities across the town to inform, consult, and involve residents in the planning and delivery of services that affect their neighbourhood.

On an annual basis, members of the public are invited to the Partnership's Face the Public event and to participate in an online survey.

Accessed via the Safer Hartlepool webpages, this year's online survey was open in January and February 2018. The survey sought responses to a number of questions about feelings of safety, how much of a problem is crime and anti-social behaviour and should the Partnership's annual priorities for 2018/19 remain the same as 2017/18.

There were 77 respondents to the survey and the majority agreed that the priorities outlined on page 3 are still important, along with concerns in relation to the levels of Police presence in the community and vehicle crime.

Whilst the majority of respondents reported feeling safe in their neighbourhoods during the day, around one quarter of respondents felt unsafe in their local area after dark. 65% of respondents felt that anti-social behaviour was a problem in their neighbourhood, and 48% felt that crime was a problem. When asked to compare with the previous year, 35% felt that crime had become more of a problem in the past year.

This year's Face the Public event was well attended with more than 60 people taking part. The launch of the new Hartlepool Community Safety Team, which brings together staff from Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police and Cleveland fire Brigade co-located in Hartlepool Police Station, was well received and a table top workshop session generated lively discussions around the room in relation to community safety issues that directly affect residents and the neighbourhoods where they live.

Feedback from the workshop session highlighted concerns in relation to reduced Police/PCSO numbers and the perception that this was leading to reduced effectiveness in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in the community. Problems contacting the Police and the opening hours of Hartlepool Police Station were highlighted. Other concerns raised included poor street lighting; the impact of local authority budgetary cuts on diversionary services for young people such as youth centres. When asked what the Partnership could do to improve matters, suggestions included better promotion of support services and where to go for help. People were aware that services such as drug and alcohol support were still available but did not know how to access them. Some people also felt that a culture of acceptance of bad behaviour and a reluctance among many people to get involved in their local community had developed and that this needed to be challenged.

Making people take responsibility for their actions and encouraging 'neighbourly-ness' and respect for others was also highlighted, and it was suggested that this could be achieved through better liaison with schools and landlords, as well as more use of restorative justice with offenders to make them repair the harm they had caused to their community.

Suggestions in relation to how the public could help focussed on becoming more active members of the community, for example, volunteering, looking out for neighbours and sharing local intelligence and information. It was felt that residents associations were well placed to help do this, particularly by looking out for vulnerable people in the neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Watch, 'No Cold Calling Zones', and Cleveland Connect were also identified as potential ways of encouraging the community get involved.

Cleveland Police's annual "Local Public Confidence Survey" also provides a structured means of obtaining feedback from local residents about the problems they face in their neighbourhoods and their perceptions of how Cleveland Police are dealing with these problems.

The survey is conducted via telephone interviews amongst a random sample of local people, irrespective of whether or not they have had any previous contact with the police. The survey script has been developed locally with some of the questions aimed to replicate those asked in the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Survey results in Hartlepool for the 12 months ending December 2017 included the following:

- The percentage of people who feel that their quality of life is affected by their fear of crime and anti-social behaviour remained stable at 20.7% compared to 18.8% in the previous year.
- The percentage of people who think that the Police and Local Authority are dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter locally also remained stable at 64.5% compared to 68% in the previous year.
- The percentage of people who perceive there to be a high level of anti-social behaviour in their area remained stable at 8.2% compared to 7.2%, and
- The percentage of people who perceive drug dealing or usage to be a problem in their local area remained stable at 22.4% compared to 17.8% in the previous year.

NEIGHBOURHOODS

Data from the Index of Multiple Deprivation¹⁷ (IMD) shows that nationally, Hartlepool is the 18th most deprived local authority area out of 326 local authorities¹⁸. The IMD indicates that one quarter (23.9%) of the Town's population live in income deprived households. There are six wards in Hartlepool that are ranked as within the top 10% of the most deprived wards nationally; Headland and Harbour, Manor House, Jesmond, Victoria, De Bruce and Burn Valley. Crimes and anti-social behaviour incidents in these wards equated to 75% of all crime and anti-social behaviour incidents during the reporting period.

Vulnerable Localities

The Vulnerable Localities Index is a composite measure that brings together data on crime, with indicators on social exclusion; datasets used include deprivation, low educational attainment and qualification, young people population (15-24 yrs) and crime and disorder information. As defined by the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science, a vulnerable community displays two core attributes:

1. It is an area that experiences problems that relate to community breakdown and fragmentation
2. It is an area where the trends indicate continual problems, recurring problems or an increasing problem.

The identification of vulnerable localities allows the direction of crime reduction resources into those areas with the greatest need. There are 22 areas in

¹⁷ Index of multiple deprivation 2015

¹⁸ Hartlepool was ranked 24th in the 2010 IMD

Hartlepool that have been identified as vulnerable localities; these are located in the Jesmond, Victoria, Headland & Harbour, Burn Valley, De Bruce and Manor House wards.

Analysis of crime and anti-social behaviour incidents in these 22 vulnerable localities shows an increase in crime of 15.5%. This can mainly be attributed to a small number of streets in the Burn Valley, Headland and Harbour and Victoria wards which experienced above average increases in crime. Conversely, total anti-social behaviour incidents in the vulnerable localities fell by 9.3%, due to large reductions in anti-social behaviour incidents in the Stotfold Street/Alderson Street area of Victoria ward, the Oxford Road/Cornwall Street ladder streets in Burn Valley ward and the Greenock Road/Dunoon Road area of Manor House ward. However, anti-social behaviour incidents in vulnerable localities remain high, equating to between 7% and 33% of all anti-social behaviour in the wards in which they are located.

HORIZON SCANNING

Regeneration of Church Street

The Church Street area of Hartlepool is currently undergoing a major regeneration project to transform the area into a hub for creative industries and move away from a focus on the night time economy. A new campus for Cleveland College of Art and Design has already been constructed and improvements to Church Street and Church Square will see the area being made more pedestrian-friendly as well as restoration of the historic buildings and the creation of events spaces.

All regeneration works present opportunities for criminal activity due to the resale value of materials targeted during rebuild works. During construction works, valuable plant equipment is often targeted when left on sites unattended. Research conducted into crime in the construction industry by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) has shown that an overwhelming majority have experienced theft, vandalism and health and safety neglect. The survey showed that the most effective crime deterrents are secure storage, enhanced lighting linked to CCTV and registering plant and equipment.

Once completed, this project is likely to have an ongoing impact on the levels of crime and disorder in Church Street by increasing footfall (and therefore natural surveillance) in the area during the day time; as well as changing the character of the street from a focus on drinking to other activities. On the other hand, an increase in the residential student population may also see a trend towards an increase in theft and burglary.

Homelessness Reduction Act 2018

The Homelessness Reduction Act comes into law in April 2018 and places a legal duty on councils to give people meaningful support to try and resolve their homelessness irrespective of their priority need status (as long as they qualify for assistance) as well as introducing measures to prevent people becoming homeless in the first place. The Act will amend part VII of the Housing Act 1996.

Domestic Abuse Bill

The public consultation on the proposed Domestic Abuse Bill runs from the 8th March to the 31st May 2018 and can be accessed via the following link <https://consult.justice.gov.uk/homeoffice-moj/domestic-abuse-consultation/>

New measures proposed under the Bill include the electronic tagging of suspected abusers, stronger sentences for those convicted of domestic abuse where children are involved and more support for victims through the court process by giving domestic abuse victims the same status in court as those who have suffered sexual offences or modern day slavery.

The creation of an independent domestic abuse commissioner is also being considered as well as a new definition of economic abuse where victims have been denied access to jobs or money or forced to take out loans.

Integrated Communities Strategy

The Integrated Communities Strategy green paper invites views on the government's vision for building strong integrated communities where people – whatever their background – live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities. The following is a link to the consultation which closes on 5th June 2018 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7D2C89V>

Royal Wedding

To mark the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, licensing hours are due to be extended from 11pm to 1am on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th May 2018. As a result, levels of alcohol-related violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour are likely to increase.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The new GDPR regulations come into force on 25th May 2018. The new regulations aim to strengthen and unify data protection and to give citizens greater control over how their personal data is collected, stored and used. The Partnership will need to be mindful of the new restrictions and sanctions on the collection and processing of personal and/or sensitive data in the delivery of its functions.

FIFA World Cup

The next FIFA World Cup is due to take place between the 14th June and 15th July 2018. It is likely that supermarkets and other outlets will be running cut-price alcohol promotions and a number of licensed premises will be screening matches. Studies have shown that peaks in domestic violence are experienced during major sporting events and it is also likely that alcohol-related crime and disorder will increase during the event.

PROPOSED PRIORITIES 2018 - 2019

Based on the key findings of this year's Strategic Assessment and linked to the existing strategic objectives for 2017-2020, the following priorities are offered for consideration by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

Strategic Objectives 2017 - 2020	Annual Priorities 2018 - 2019
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	<p>Acquisitive Crime - reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity.</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Abuse – safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse and reduce repeat victimisation of those identified as “high risk”.</p>
Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	Substance Misuse - reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	<p>Vulnerable Victims – work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Anti-social Behaviour – reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational and enforcement activity and increase restorative interventions</p>
Reduce offending and re-offending	Reduce Re-offending - reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

