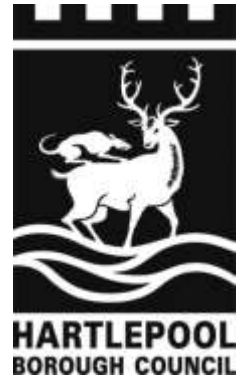


AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA



Thursday 5 December 2019

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room B
Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillors Black, Hall, Hamilton, Harrison, James, Loynes and Ward.

Standards Co-opted Independent Member: Ms Clare Wilson.

Standards Co-opted Parish Council Representatives: Parish Councillor John Littlefair (Hart) and Parish Councillor Alan O'Brien (Greatham).

Local Police Representative: Superintendent Alison Jackson.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

3. **MINUTES**

- 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on (i) 24 October (*attached*) and (ii) 7 November 2019 (*to follow*).

4. **AUDIT ITEMS**

- 4.1 Mazars Report- Audit Progress Report – *Assistant Director (Finance and Customer Services)*
- 4.2 Internal Audit Plan 2019/20 Update – *Head of Audit and Governance*
- 4.3 Business Continuity - *Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhoods Services)*

5. **STANDARDS ITEMS**

No Items.



6. STATUTORY SCRUTINY ITEMS

Crime and Disorder Issues

- 6.1 Youth Justice Strategic Plan – *Director of Children’s and Joint Commissioning Services*
- 6.2 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance - Quarter 1 (April-June 2019) – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 6.3 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance - Quarter 2 (July-October 2019) – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 6.4 Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Community Engagement and Consultation Update - *Statutory Scrutiny Manager*
- 6.5 Appointment to Committees / Forums - *Statutory Scrutiny Manager*

7. MINUTES FROM THE RECENT MEETING OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

None.

8. MINUTES FROM THE RECENT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH

None.

9. MINUTES FROM RECENT MEETING OF TEES VALLEY HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE

None.

10. MINUTES FROM RECENT MEETING OF SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

- 10.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2019.

11. REGIONAL HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

None.

12. DURHAM, DARLINGTON AND TEESSIDE, HAMBLETON, RICHMONDSHIRE AND WHITBY STP JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE UPDATE

None.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

For information: -

Date and time of forthcoming meetings –

Thursday 9 January, 2020 at 10.00 am
Thursday 6 February, 2020 at 10.00 am
Thursday 12 March, 2020 at 10.00 am



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

24 OCTOBER 2019

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

Present:

Councillor Ged Hall (In the Chair).

Councillors: James Black, Lesley Hamilton, Brenda Harrison, Marjorie James and Brenda Loynes.

Standards Co-opted Members:

Ms Clare Wilson – Independent Member

Parish Councillor Alan O'Brien (Greatham) and John Littlefair (Hart)

Also Present: Councillors Paddy Brown and Ann Marshall.

Officers:

Chris Little, Director of Finance and Policy

Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Noel Adamson, Head of Audit and Governance

Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager

Angela Armstrong, Scrutiny Support Officer

David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

66. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Standards Co-opted Member, Parish Councillor Alan O'Brien (Greatham).

67. Declarations of Interest

None.

68. Minutes of the meetings held on 5 September and 3 October 2019

Confirmed.

69. Audit and Governance Working Group (Council Referral) – Chaired by Clare Wilson (Independent Person): Allowances Paid to the Chair and Vice-chair of Council; and Funding to any Organisation to which an Elected Member is Affiliated (Referral from Full Council)

Clare Wilson, Independent Person and Chair of the Working Group introduced the report submitted to the Committee outlining the referral made by Council on 30 July 2019 and the establishment of the Working Group by the Audit and Governance Committee, on the 15th August 2019. The Working Group was also tasked with an additional issue in relation to 'allowances paid to the Chair and Vice Chair of Council'.

The Director of Finance and Policy outlined the principle points considered by the Working Group and the conclusions drawn at the meeting on 3 September 2019. In relation to the investigation into the payment of allowances to the Chair and Vice-Chair of Council, the Director highlighted how Hartlepool was unique in the North East in reporting all Councillors expenses individually and how the Constitution was now much more robust in terms of allowances which would ensure the practices that had been in place in the past could not happen now.

In terms of the substantive referral from Council in relation to funding to organisations to which an Elected Member is affiliated, the Director referred to the nine specific recommendations that the Working Group had agreed which were set out in full in the report.

The Chair wished to record his thanks to the Independent Chair of the Working Group and the officers involved for their work and drawing together of evidence for the working group to consider. The investigation showed there were robust procedures in place to ensure probity, a matter that was supported through repeated audits carried out by the Council's external auditors, Mazars. The Chair formally moved the recommendations set out in the report.

A Member took issue with the recommendations, particularly those around the Chair of Council's allowance. There was reference to the Constitution being 'silent' on the matter of the additional allowance in the report but the Member considered the Constitution was very clear in that it did not include the additional allowance and, therefore, it shouldn't have been paid. It was unacceptable that Officers had continued to pay the allowance.

Other Members, however, voiced their support for the recommendations and were assured that the payment had been the subject of a formal Member decision and that there were now robust controls to ensure only allowances agreed as part of the Constitution would be paid. Members

commented that the recommendations in relation to external organisations reflected the need for greater Member awareness and training.

The Director clarified the situation in relation to the allowance paid to the Chair and Vice-Chair. There had been a specific SRA payable to the Chair of Council as stipulated in the Constitution. The point of discussion was the allowance that was also paid. It was difficult for officers now to comment on decisions made in the past though it was clear there was a Plenary Policy Committee decision on that allowance in 1998.

Members discussed the issues surrounding the Chair's allowance and what further action could potentially be taken, if any. There was an amendment proposed to the recommendation in relation to the Chair's Allowance to clarify that the allowances were authorised by officers and the reporting of Members allowances over the period. There was a suggestion that if the allowances could not be recovered from the Elected member, as suggested by officers in the report, could the costs be recovered from the officers that had authorised the allowances as a Member suggested that it was this incorrect action that had led to this situation.

The Chair requested a short adjournment to discuss the point with the Chief Solicitor. When the meeting reconvened the Chair put the recommendations to the meeting, as amended. There was unanimous support for the recommendation in relation to the original referral relating to funding to any organisation to which an Elected Member is affiliated.

Members did consider that the two issues were very separate and there was further discussion on the issue of the Chair's allowance. The question in relation to the decision made by officers was pursued further and the Chair moved that in order to discuss the issues being raised, it would be appropriate to move into closed session and he, therefore, moved the resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting.

Recommended

1. That Council: -

Endorse the recommendations contained in paragraph 4.4 of the report, in relation to the issue of 'funding to any organisation to which an elected member is affiliated'.

2. That the discussions on the recommendations in relation to the Chair and Vice-Chair's allowance conclude in closed session.

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

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

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

Minute 71 – (Audit and Governance Working Group (Council Referral) – Chaired by Clare Wilson (Independent Person): Allowances Paid to the Chair and Vice-chair of Council; and Funding to any Organisation to which an Elected Member is Affiliated (Referral from Full Council) – This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 1), Information relating to any Individual; and (para 7), Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

- 71. Audit and Governance Working Group (Council Referral) – Chaired by Clare Wilson (Independent Person): Allowances Paid to the Chair and Vice-chair of Council; and Funding to any Organisation to which an Elected Member is Affiliated (Referral from Full Council)** This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 1), Information relating to any Individual; and (para 7), Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

The meeting concluded its discussion on the issue of the Chair and Vice-chair's allowance and these are reflected in the Exempt section of the minutes.

Recommended

The Committee agreed the following recommendations which, together with the recommendation at Minute 70 above, were to be submitted for consideration by Full Council on the 31st October 2019;

That Council: -

- (i) Note that the allowances paid up to 2011/12 to the Chair and Vice Chairs [of Council] were authorised by officers and publically reported as a collective figure during the period 2007/8 in the Council's Statement of Accounts and that from 2008/9 onwards they were published independently against each Member; and

- (ii) Note that officers have advised that there is no legal basis to seek to recover from the individual Members who received these allowances. To also note that this situation cannot arise again as these allowances were removed in 2011/12.

72. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm.

CHAIR

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

7 NOVEMBER 2019

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

Present:

Councillor: Ged Hall (In the Chair).

Councillors: James Black, Lesley Hamilton, Brenda Harrison, Marjorie James and Brenda Loynes.

Standards Co-opted Member:
Parish Councillor John Littlefair (Hart)

Also Present: Councillor Lee Cartwright

Dr James Hunter, Nottingham Trent University
Angela Corner and John Grace, Thirteen Housing
Bill Keen, 50+ Forum

Officers: Sylvia Pinkney, Head of Public Protection
Nicholas Stone, Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader
Philip Hepburn, Enforcement and Car Parking Services Manager
Lynda Igoe, Principal Housing Advice Officer
Julie Bower, Senior Housing Advice Officer
Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager
Angela Armstrong, Scrutiny Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

73. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Standards Co-opted Members Ms Clare Wilson and Parish Councillor Alan O'Brien (Greatham).

74. Declarations of Interest

None at this point in the meeting.

During the discussion on Minute no. 80, Parish Councillor John Littlefair declared a personal interest as a private landlord.

75. Minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2019

The Principle Democratic Services Officer requested that the minutes be deferred to the next meeting. There was concern expressed by a Member that the delay would prevent full scrutiny of the minutes ahead of the Council meeting in December. The Officer stated that the minutes would be available ahead of that date.

76. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Expert evidence and research - Anti-Social Behaviour: Living a Nightmare *(Dr James Hunter, Nottingham Trent University)*

Dr James Hunter from Nottingham Trent University was present at the meeting and gave a presentation on the perceptions, experience, reporting and harm of anti-social behaviour and who experiences anti-social behaviour and in what context. The presentation was based around the findings outlined in a report produced by Nottingham Trent University for the Victims Commissioner for England and Wales and ASB Help.

In the presentation, as well as outlining the main findings of the report, Dr Hunter also tailored its findings to Hartlepool reflecting national data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales 2015/16 for anti-social behaviour victimisation, nuisance neighbours, dangerous and out of control dogs and mapping this in to a 'neighbourhood level ASB harm index' to show the areas with the highest incidents of anti-social behaviour. There were, however, both risk factors and protective factors relating to those people that experienced and reported anti-social behaviour and applying those criteria and their prevalence in communities could lead to alternative areas being selected to be the focus of intervention as it would likely have a greater impact than those areas that actually experienced the highest number of incidents.

The Committee noted that further data could be dropped in to further inform the harm index to give a more informed picture and help focus activities / interventions. This included data from the local authority, housing and fire brigade.

One major concern was that the national statistics suggested that only 31% of people that actually experienced anti-social behaviour went on to report it to the Police or their housing provider. There were also statistics that showed that people from ethnic minorities were less likely to report anti-social behaviour, so when they did, it was likely that the impact was significant. Attention was also drawn to the importance of responding to an issue the first time it is presents, as the need for subsequent reports has a detrimental effect on satisfactions levels with the service.

The Chair commented on the significant amount of research behind the report and thanked Dr Hunter for sharing the findings with the Committee. The Chair stated that there was increasing interest in the 'Community Trigger' process despite the statistics that showed it was seldom used across the country. The Chair also stated that some were reporting Data Protection issues preventing the use of the Community Trigger. Dr Hunter stated that when the Community Trigger was used it could be a useful tool in dealing with some of the underlying issues around the incidents of anti-social behaviour. What was of concern was the lack of knowledge of the process among the community, community representatives and Police and local government officers. As for the data protection issues, Dr Hunter did not see these as an obstacle.

An elected Member from the Manor House ward stated that the maps included in the presentation showed the high number of anti-social behaviour incidents in the ward; an area that was originally 100% council housing but was now around 50% Thirteen Housing. There was an obligation placed on social landlords to house those families that could be termed as the 'more difficult' families to house because of previous tenancy problems. It was, therefore, no surprise that these areas reported higher incidents of anti-social behaviour which led to a skewing of statistics. The Member was also concerned at what people saw as anti-social behaviour. It was up to the person reporting as to whether they saw an issue as anti-social behaviour or not and with the higher prevalence of some of the issues set out in the presentation occurring in smaller community areas, the perception of what was worthy of reporting there may be very different to what another resident in an area with a much lower prevalence may see as a problem worthy of reporting to the Police.

Dr Hunter agreed that the issues were becoming more spatially concentrated. For example, all reported burglary was down 65% but in research showed that in areas with deprived households, their experience was burglary was increasing. How long people had been resident in an area also made a significant difference. The rise of private rented accommodation with much shorter tenures, often only a year, meant that people were less likely to have an affinity with the area as they were not likely to be there very long.

Members expressed some concern that there was no representative from Cleveland Police at the meeting to respond to some of the issues arising. There was also some debate around the issues that often didn't get reported as anti-social behaviour, such as fly-tipping. Issues that often affected the more rural areas were seldom reported as people feel they never get a response from the Police so consider it pointless. There were other areas, such as Seaton Carew where residents would react badly to being told the anti-social behaviour issues in their area were less of a problem than others.

Dr Hunter commented that the response needed to be right first time as a poor response would indeed lead to a lower propensity to report in the

future. If the Police are responding to incidents based on the potential of harm to the person, the anti-social behaviour incidents are going to be lower on their agenda. The Crime Survey for England and Wales focussed on the 13 categories of anti-social behaviour used by other agencies which enabled a more detailed analysis of the types of anti-social behaviour and ultimately a richer understanding of the scale of the problem and impact. It would be beneficial if the Police used the same 13 categories to record incidents of anti-social behaviour rather than the three they used now.

The meeting debated the issues around reporting anti-social behaviour and how that could be improved and how the data collected could be utilised to provide a more targeted response. The differences between the response of local authorities and housing providers to that of the Police was also an issue of debate with Members considering that a greater input from the Police would be beneficial to the investigation. The matter of the Community Trigger was also re-visited with Members indicating their desire to see this utilised more often but there were concerns expressed that when this route had been attempted by residents, their request was treated as a complaint, which was an unsatisfactory response.

The Chair thanked Dr Hunter for his very informative presentation and indicated that it and the University report provided excellent evidence in the Committee's investigation.

Recommended

That Dr Hunter be thanked for his informative presentation and that the report and the discussions be noted.

77. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Hartlepool Borough Council Position - Operation of the Community Trigger *(Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader)*

The Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader reported to the meeting that the Community Trigger was a process under the Anti-social, Crime and Policing Act 2014, where the Council, Cleveland Police, and Hartlepool and Stockton Clinical Commissioning Group were required to carry out a case review regarding how they had dealt with complaints that they had received involving anti-social behaviour. The threshold for such a case review was 3 or more anti-social behaviour complaints regarding the same issue which had been reported within a 6 month period by the same person. In addition all of the Registered Social Landlords operating in Hartlepool had previously also agreed to be part of Hartlepool's Community Trigger process. Hartlepool Community Safety Team acts as the single point of contact for the Community Trigger in Hartlepool on behalf of all partners involved.

In accordance with the requirements set out in the regulations, all agencies had Community Trigger champions to promote and raise awareness of the Community Trigger.

There was no set form to be completed to action a Community Trigger any reporting route could be used so long as it had the complainant's consent. In response to Member questions it was reported that there had only been one request received but this had not led to a Community Trigger being instigated as the issue had been dealt with as a complaint by the Council and Police.

Members were concerned that the reason that there was no Community Triggers was the lack of knowledge of them and the process among elected Members and the local communities. This should have formed part of Members induction training and the general view of Members was one of disappointment that this system was not more widely known. There was also debate around the reporting system and government guidance and its inadequacies. Members were also very concerned that it appeared that the complaints system was being used to deflect people from the Community Trigger and details of the numbers of 'complaints' relating to anti-social behaviour were requested. Members were also somewhat concerned to hear that the arrangements had been put in place among officers but there appeared to be little or no resulting action taken. Members expressed the view that it appeared that obstacles were being put in the way of people being able to create a Community Trigger and that this would need to be addressed. The Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader assured Members this was not the case and undertook to supply details of the numbers of complaints over the past twelve months to Members.

One of the Members that attended the Local Government Agency (LGA) did, however, highlight that the multi-agency team that had been established in Hartlepool was seen enviously by many other local authorities as a best practice model.

During the discussions on the Community Trigger the Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader indicated that there was an appeals system for Community Triggers, with the Police and Crime Commissioner having agreed to be the appeal responder. A Member considered the PCCs involvement concerning and considered that the processes around the Community Trigger needed to come before elected Members for consideration at some point.

Recommended

That the report and discussions be noted.

78. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour - LGA Conference - 15th October 2019

Councillors Black and Hamilton, together with the Statutory Scrutiny Manager had attended a Local Government Association (LGA) conference 'Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour' on 15 October 2019. Councillor Black reported that the conference had been extremely useful with an opportunity to discover the issues facing other local authorities. In London this was mainly knife crime while other areas had major issues around homelessness and drug related crime. Two major factors from the Conference that Councillor Black highlighted had already been discussed by the Committee, was the low reporting rate for anti-social behaviour with only 31% of incidents coming to the attention of any of the statutory agencies and the low use of the Community Trigger, which the Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales, Dame Vera Baird wished to see change.

Councillor Hamilton commented that she had raised concerns with the Victims' Commissioner over the reduction in support for services supporting victims of anti-social behaviour and criminal behaviour and had been disappointed in the response. Councillor Hamilton also referred to discussions on street beggars with particular problems being experienced with criminal gangs exploiting the genuinely homeless and also saturating areas with gang members begging. The problem had recently appeared in Newcastle with the Police having become involved. There was a concern that the Police action may move the gangs further down the country.

The Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader reported on Operation, Grantham, which had been launched across Hartlepool by the Community Safety Team to deal with some of the complaints received in relation to the 22 persistent beggars in Hartlepool. The shopping centre management were particularly concerned at reductions in footfall with people complaining about the beggars around car parking machines and cash machines. There was support for those that wished to access it with the charity Cornerstone having had workers go out in the town to talk to the homeless and offer support. Most had refused the help and it was believed that many were begging to get money for drugs. Rather than giving money to beggars, one part of the operation was to encourage people to give money to the foodbanks instead.

The Principal Housing Advice Officer reported that Council officers had also gone out to speak to the cohort of "homeless" people/beggars in the and around the town offering assistance with housing needs and all but a couple had refused any support. Officers were supporting the work of Cornerstone and around 30 people had been identified as sleeping rough during the three months that Cornerstone had been providing their outreach service however these are not the same people as those identified as begging and

there were a wide variety of reasons for their situations and many had had failed tenancies in the past.

Recommended

That the report and the discussions be noted.

79. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Good Practice by Local Authority, Partners and other bodies (statutory and voluntary) in curbing Anti-Social Behaviour – Thirteen Housing

Representatives from Thirteen gave a presentation to the meeting outlining their operation in Hartlepool and their approach to anti-social behaviour issues among their tenant. Thirteen had Neighbourhood Coordinators that would visit tenants who had complaints or were causing issues and also senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officers. Thirteen operated a triage approach to anti-social behaviour complaints and targeted interventions where appropriate. Thirteen was to commence shortly a new approach to anti-social behaviour in the Hemlington area of Middlesbrough involving visiting and talking to every resident of one of their properties and discussing any issues they may be suffering. Thirteen was also developing mobile phone app for residents to report anti-social behaviour incidents.

A Member questioned if the anti-social behaviour incidents reported to Thirteen were then reported onto the Police so that they would show in the Police statistics. The Thirteen representative stated that this would happen on some occasions and not on others. Some people, frequently the elderly, would wait until Monday to report an incident of anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhood; such incidents would not always be passed onto the police unless they were significant. Thirteen were now part of the multi-agency team dealing with anti-social behaviour and their incidents were reported to that group. It was acknowledged that there had been disparities in how anti-social behaviour complaints had been dealt with in different areas and internal procedures had been reviewed with a greater centralisation of response to provide greater consistency.

Recommended

That the Thirteen Housing representatives be thanked for their attendance and that the presentation and discussions be noted.

80. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Good Practice by Local Authority, Partners and other bodies (statutory and voluntary) in curbing Anti-Social Behaviour - Private Sector Housing *(Principal Housing Advice Officer)*

The Principal Housing Advice Officer updated the Committee on the current Selective Licensing area operating in and around the town centre; prior to establishing the designation new regulations required significant evidence to be provided in relation to low demand and anti-social behaviour directly linked to private sector tenancies. The first designation in Hartlepool covered a significantly larger area however the current designation only covers 13 streets based on the evidence available. An independent review of the Selective Licensing scheme is to be undertaken early in the new year and its findings will be reported back to Members as soon as it is available.

As no private landlords could be available to meet directly with Members their views were requested via a survey sent to 300 private landlords and letting agents. A response rate of 20% was achieved and although the results of the survey were still being collated by officers, the Principal Housing Advice Officer gave some initial brief statistics to the Committee based on the first overview of the responses.

The major issue highlighted was the issue of empty, boarded-up properties bringing down an area and affecting let-ability and rents. After that the major concern was finding reliable tenants. Concerns around Police numbers in the town were highlighted as were the crime rates particularly around drugs. There was some dis-satisfaction with the licencing scheme also raised which was one of the issues that the department would be looking for further comment upon from an independent review of the new scheme.

In response to Member questions, the Principal Housing Advice Officer highlighted how the new regulations for selective licencing zones made it much more difficult for the authority to simply have 'blanket' zones over certain areas; the licenced area must have very specific criteria met in order to meet the requirements for licencing. Officers had viewed streets having more than 50% of the houses belonging to private landlords as potentially having a major impact whereas two or three wouldn't.

There were also concerns around landlords using the Council's Good Tennant referencing scheme with only 1 in 5 saying it was the only reference they undertook with many simply letting properties 'blind' acknowledging that the risk was theirs. One issue maybe that an empty property would incur full Council Tax which they would have to pay rather than a tenant.

Parish Councillor Littlefair declared an interest as a private landlord at this point in the discussions.

Members expressed their concerns at the incident reported by the officers of a tenant waiting until a Monday morning to report an incident of someone openly carrying a knife outside their home during the weekend. Residents needed to be encouraged to report more promptly anti-social behaviour issues and particularly criminal behaviour as soon as possible to the Police via 999 or 101. A Member commented that experience with the 101 services was, however, very poor with people who had used it having very little confidence in it, which may explain some of the reports waiting until they could phone a council or housing association officer on a Monday.

Members commented that they considered the approach taken by Thirteen to be very positive with tenants saying they were a good landlord

Recommended

That the report and the discussions be noted and that a report on the detailed analysis of the Landlords Survey be submitted to a future meeting.

81. Scrutiny Investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool: Provision of Evidence - Good Practice by Local Authority, Partners and other bodies (statutory and voluntary) in curbing Anti-Social Behaviour - Joseph Rowntree Trust

The evidence from the Joseph Rowntree Trust was deferred to a future meeting date.

82. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance – Quarter 1 – April - June 2019 *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

The report was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

83. Appointment to Committees / Forums *(Statutory Scrutiny Manager)*

The report was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

84. Minutes of the Meeting of Safer Hartlepool Partnership held on 26 July 2019

Received.

85. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer reminded Members that the public consultation on anti-social behaviour was still ongoing with the public questionnaire having been circulated widely and also available on the Council's Website. The Officer requested Members to encourage as many people and groups as possible to complete the questionnaire which was already getting a good response rate.

The meeting noted that the next meeting would be held on 5 December 2019 at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

The meeting concluded at 1.05 pm.

CHAIR

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 December 2019



Report of: Assistant Director, Finance and Customer Services

Subject: MAZARS REPORT- AUDIT PROGRESS
REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Members of the Audit and Governance Committee that arrangements have been made for representatives from Mazars to be in attendance at this meeting, to present the content of the report Audit Progress Report.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 This report updates the Audit and Governance Committee on Mazars progress in meeting their responsibilities as the Councils external auditor. It also highlights key emerging issues and national reports which may be of interest to the Audit and Governance Committee.

3. FINDINGS OF MAZARS

3.1 Details of key messages are included in the main body of the report attached as Appendix 1.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There is a risk that if Members of the Audit and Governance Committee do not receive the information needed to enable a full and comprehensive review of governance arrangements at the Council, this could lead to the Committee being unable to fulfil its remit.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no financial considerations.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 There are no legal considerations.

7. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no staff considerations.

10. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no asset management considerations.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That the Audit and Governance Committee:

- i. Note the report of Mazars.

12. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 To ensure the Audit and Governance Committee is kept up to date with the work of our External Auditor.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

13.1 Mazars Update Report.

14. CONTACT OFFICER

14.1 John Morton
Assistant Director Finance and Customer Services
Civic Centre
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Hartlepool
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Audit Progress Report

Hartlepool Borough Council

November 2019





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2. National publications
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This document is to be regarded as confidential to Hartlepool Borough Council. It has been prepared for the sole use of the Audit and Governance Committee. No responsibility is accepted to any other person in respect of the whole or part of its contents. Our written consent must first be obtained before this document, or any part of it, is disclosed to a third party.

1. AUDIT PROGRESS

Audit progress

This report sets out progress on the external audit.

2018/19 Audit

We presented our Annual Audit Letter to a previous meeting of this committee, which signalled the conclusion of the 2018/19 audit. In the Annual Audit Letter we stated that at the time of producing the report, the audit fee had not yet been finalised. We have now agreed that no additional fees were needed in relation to 2018/19.

2019/20 Audit

We are currently planning our 2019/20 audit to take account of risks to the opinion and value for money conclusion. This includes on-site work to walk-through the key controls in material financial systems and update our documentation. We will present our Audit Strategy Memorandum, summarising the findings from our risk assessment to a future meeting of this committee.

1. Audit progress

2. National publications

3. Contact details

2. NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER UPDATES

	Publication
1	Challenges in using data across government, NAO, June 2019
2	A practical guide for Local Authorities on Income Generation (2019 edition), CIPFA, July 2019
3	Local Government audit opinions issued by 31 July 2019, PSAA, August 2019
4	Review of local authority financial reporting and external audit, MHCLG, September 2019
5	New Code of Audit Practice 2020/21 – Consultation, NAO, September 2019
6	Local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021: technical consultation, MHCLG, October 2019

1. Challenges in using data across government, NAO, June 2019

The government plans to produce a new national data strategy in 2020 to position “*the UK as a global leader on data, working collaboratively and openly across government*”. The NAO has published a report, which sets out its experience of data use across government. The report includes:

- the current data landscape across government;
- strategy and leadership;
- the quality, standards and systems needed to use data effectively; and
- safeguarding data and enabling change.

The NAO report highlights that without accurate, timely and proportionate data, government will not be able get the best use out of public money. Despite years of effort and many well-documented failures, government has lacked clear and sustained strategic leadership on data, which has affected departments’ own progress in managing and improving data. The report identifies some early signs that the situation is improving, but unless government uses the data strategy to get the right leadership, processes, systems and conditions in place to succeed, there is a risk that opportunities to improve will be missed.

The NAO has also published a blog *Right data, right place, right time*, which draws from the report and highlights some of the difficulties of maintaining effective and accurate data to inform decision making and deliver public services.

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/challenges-in-using-data-across-government/>

2. A practical guide for Local Authorities on Income Generation (2019 edition), CIPFA, July 2019

CIPFA’s revised income generation guide reflects on the income generation issues of 2019 and the changes that are being made.

The issues that are examined in this publication include:

- the need for thorough testing and business cases to robustly assess income proposals;
- the impact of the 2018 MHCLG Statutory Investment Guidance; and
- how the pattern of local authority income is changing.

The guide is designed to allow local authorities to maximise their income potential against a backdrop of Brexit uncertainties and other economic changes. With more authorities relying on income generation to balance their budgets, the guide can help finance staff stand at arms-length to ensure authorities act prudently.

The publication also has practical guidance on income generation for different service areas including the fire and rescue service and there is a full coverage of discretionary charging rules.

<https://www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/publications/a/a-practical-guide-for-local-authorities-on-income-generation-2019-edition>

1. Audit progress

2. National publications

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2. NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

3. Local Government audit opinions issued by 31 July 2019, PSAA, August 2019

PSAA issued a press release after the end of the 2018/19 audit deadline to highlight the increase in the number of audit opinions that were not available by 31 July 2019. PSAA found that over 40% (210 out of 486) of audit opinions on 2018/19 statements of accounts were not available by the target date of 31 July 2019, compared to just 13% in the previous year. The press release highlights the main factors that have driven the increase in delays focusing on a shortage of appropriately skilled and experienced auditors, the standard and timeliness of draft accounts, and/or associated working papers and difficulties in obtaining responses to and resolving audit queries.

Although Mazars achieved the deadline at a significantly higher proportion of authorities than the national average there was an increase in delays for similar reasons to those noted by PSAA and resourcing the large volume of public sector audit work within such a tight timetable is proving extremely challenging for all PSAA's audit suppliers.

<https://www.psa.co.uk/2019/08/news-release-local-government-audit-opinions-delivered-by-31-july-2019/>

4. Review of local authority financial reporting and external audit, MHCLG, September 2019

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government announced in September that they had appointed Sir Tony Redmond to conduct a review of the arrangements in place to support the transparency and quality of local authority financial reporting and external audit including those introduced by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The review will not look at broader issues of local authority finances and sustainability.

The review will examine the existing purpose, scope and quality of statutory audits of local authorities in England and the supporting regulatory framework to in order to determine:

- Whether the audit and related regulatory framework for local authorities in England is operating in line with the policy intent set out in the Act and the related impact assessment;
- Whether the reforms have improved the effectiveness of the control and governance framework along with the transparency of financial information presented by councils;
- Whether the current statutory framework for local authority financial reporting supports the transparent disclosure of financial performance and enables users of the accounts to hold local authorities to account; and
- To make recommendations on how far the process, products and framework may need to improve and evolve to meet the needs of local residents and local taxpayers, and the wider public interest.

As part of the review, MHCLG have issued a "Call for Views" which is linked below, along with the review's terms of reference.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-local-authority-financial-reporting-and-external-audit-terms-of-reference>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/review-of-local-authority-financial-reporting-and-external-audit-call-for-views>

5. New Code of Audit Practice 2020/21 – Consultation, NAO, September 2019

Schedule 6 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act (2014) requires that the Code be reviewed, and revisions considered at least every five years. The current Code came into force on 1 April 2015, and the maximum five-year lifespan of the Code means it now needs to be reviewed and a new Code laid in Parliament in time for it to come in to force no later than 1 April 2020.

The consultation is taking place in two stages. The first has concluded and the second is currently underway with a deadline for responses of 22 November 2019. The NAO plans to finalise the Code by the end of 2019, ready to be laid in Parliament early in 2020. The new Code will apply from audits of local bodies' 2020/21 financial statements onwards.

The first stage of the consultation showed broad support for maintaining the principles-based nature of the Code, being the wider scope of public audit, independence and public reporting. However the responses highlighted that this should be supported by more detailed sector-specific guidance.

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2. NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

The second stage of the consultation is focusing on the text of the draft Code. In particular there are proposed changes to the way auditors report on arrangements to deliver value for money in the use of resources.

The Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 places a specific duty on the local auditor to be satisfied whether the body they are auditing has proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. In the current Code, this is referred to as work on arrangements to secure value for money. Currently, the local auditor reports against a single overall criterion as to whether: *"In all significant respects, the audited body had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people."* This is known as the value for money conclusion and is included in the Auditor Report included in Council's financial statements. The consultation draft Code proposes changes to this reporting, with a more detailed commentary on the value for money arrangements being included in a new 'Auditor's Annual Report'.

Should the Authority wish to respond to the consultation, the details are provided in the link below. The consultation will close on 22 November 2019.

<https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/code-of-audit-practice-consultation/#>

6. Local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021: technical consultation, MHCLG, October 2019

The government has published a consultation document setting out its proposals for funding local government in 2020-21. The consultation confirms that the Core Spending Power of local authorities is estimated to rise in real terms by 4.3% to £49.1 billion in 2020-21, an increase of £2.9 billion. It is anticipated that as part of the settlement, local authorities will be able to access an additional £1.5 billion of funding for adult and children's social care.

The consultation, which was open during October 2019, contained the following proposals:

- options for councils to raise more money for adult social care (where needed) through additional council tax flexibilities;
- powers for local authorities to raise council tax by up to 2% plus an additional 2% of adult social care tax before the need for a local referendum;
- £900 million for New Homes Bonus in 2020-2021;
- maintaining the funding for the Improved Better Care Fund at the 2019-20 levels of 1.837 billion;
- continuing the Rural Services Delivery Grant at £81 million, with all recipients receiving the same amount as in 2019-20;
- confirmation that business rates retention pilots agreed for 2019-20 will finish at the end of the financial year with no further pilots running in 2020-21; and
- confirmation of the decision to delay the funding distribution and business rates retention reforms until 2021-22.

The full technical consultation document can be found through this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-finance-settlement-2020-to-2021-technical-consultation>

3. CONTACT DETAILS

Please let us know if you would like further information on any items in this report.

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1. Audit progress

2. National publications

3. Contact details

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

05 December 2019



Report of: Head of Audit and Governance

Subject: INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2019/20 UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the progress made to date completing the internal audit plan for 2019/20.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In order to ensure that the Audit and Governance Committee meets its remit, it is important that it is kept up to date with the ongoing progress of the Internal Audit section in completing its plan. Regular updates allow the Committee to form an opinion on the controls in operation within the Council. This in turn allows the Committee to fully review the Annual Governance Statement, which will be presented to a future meeting of the Committee, and after review, will form part of the statement of accounts of the Council.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 That members consider the issues within the report in relation to their role in respect of the Councils governance arrangements. Table 1 of the report detailed below, sets out the school audits that have been completed and the recommendations made. Recommendations to mitigate the risks identified have been agreed and a follow up audit will be carried out to ensure satisfactory implementation.

Table 1

Audit	Objectives	Recommendations	Agreed
St Hilda's Secondary	Ensure school finance and governance arrangements are in line with best practice.	- The School's Pay Policy should be presented to Governors for approval on an annual basis	Y
		- A review of income records should be undertaken to ensure that they enable reconciliation of income collected to bankings. Periodic checks should be undertaken by Finance Staff to ensure	Y

Audit	Objectives	Recommendations	Agreed
		<p>that all income collected is fully banked in a prompt manner. In addition, a review of cash security arrangements away from the main school office should be undertaken to ensure that access is restricted to authorised staff only and registered with HBC Insurance Services.</p> <p>- Annual accounts should be prepared and examined by an independent person and then reported to the Governing Body.</p> <p>- Where expenditure is incurred from the school budget for goods / services relating to activities where income is collected in the school private fund, the school should ensure that the school budget is reimbursed with income collected prior to expenditure being incurred, particularly when transactions involve payment of VAT.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>Y</p>

- 3.2 In terms of reporting internally at HBC, Internal Audit produces a draft report which includes a list of risks currently faced by the client in the area audited. It is the responsibility of the client to complete an action plan that details the actions proposed to mitigate those risks identified. Once the action plan has been provided to Internal Audit, it is the responsibility of the client to provide Internal Audit with evidence that any action has been implemented by an agreed date. The level of outstanding risk in each area audited is then reported to the Audit and Governance Committee.
- 3.3 The benefits of this reporting arrangement are that ownership of both the internal audit report and any resulting actions lie with the client. This reflects the fact that it is the responsibility of management to ensure adequate procedures are in place to manage risk within their areas of operation, making managers more risk aware in the performance of their duties. Greater assurance is gained that actions necessary to mitigate risk are implemented and less time is spent by both Internal Audit and management in ensuring audit reports are agreed. A greater breadth of assurance is given to management with the same Internal Audit resource and the approach to risk assessment mirrors the corporate approach to risk classification as recorded in covalent. Internal Audit can also demonstrate the benefit of the work it carries out in terms of the reduction of the risk faced by the Council.
- 3.4 Table 2 summarises the assurance placed on those audits completed with more detail regarding each audit and the risks identified and action plans agreed provided in Appendix A.

Table 2

Audit	Assurance Level
Home Care Contract	Satisfactory
Officer Expenses	Limited
Debtors	Satisfactory
Community Infrastructure Levy	Satisfactory
Youth Employment Initiative	Satisfactory
Troubled Families Grant	Satisfactory
Budgetary Control	Satisfactory
Main Accounting System	Satisfactory
Children Services Capital	Satisfactory
Children Services Computer Audit	Satisfactory

For Members information, Table 3 below defines what the levels of assurance Internal Audit places on the audits they complete and what they mean in practice:

Table 3

Assurance Level	Meaning
Satisfactory Assurance	Controls are operating satisfactorily and risk is adequately mitigated.
Limited Assurance	A number of key controls are not operating as intended and need immediate action.
No Assurance	A complete breakdown in control has occurred needing immediate action.

As indicated in table 2, one 'limited assurance' audit report has been issued and information on this is provided in paragraph 3.5 – 3.6.

- 3.5 Officers Expenses has been assessed as limited assurance due to the fact that some minor errors were identified relating to mileage claims. It was also noted that driver checks, covering insurance and licences, differ across the Authority. In some instances the lack of monitoring/follow up processes in place show that driver mileage claims are being processed without the correct, most up to date documentation being provided and copies retained. Furthermore, for a small number of travel and subsistence claims the amount paid differed from the amount set out in the Single Status Agreement.
- 3.6 In order to mitigate the risks identified the following actions were taken immediately:
- The roll-out of revised Employee Expenses Guidance to reinforce the responsibilities of the authorising officer in validating all details of the mileage claim for accuracy and completeness. Drop in sessions for managers will provide advice and clarification where necessary. Reports will be produced to analyse where officers that are currently accessing the Payroll System MyView continue to complete paper claim forms.

- The Councils Driver Policy is currently under review. This includes agreement on arrangements for the checking of insurance and licences.
- Resourcelink/Payroll System is now set-up to ensure that VAT receipts can be stored against each mileage claim and guidance will be provided and monitoring reports produced to identify areas of non-compliance with the submission of VAT receipts.
- In future all employee expenses claims will be processed through the ResourceLink/Payroll System. This will improve controls by ensuring claims can be tracked and warning messages will be set to show when a claim exceeds an allowable amount.

These actions agreed and implemented to mitigate the risks identified will also be subject to a follow up audit to ensure that they are embedded and operating appropriately across the Authority.

3.7 As well as completing the audits previously mentioned, Internal Audit staff have been involved with the following working groups:

- Information Governance Group.
- Performance and Risk Management Group.

3.8 Table 4 below details the audits that were ongoing at the time of compiling the report.

Table 4

Audit	Objectives
Flexi Scheme	Ensure Council procedures are adhered to.
Payroll	Ensure all payments made are in line with statutory and HBC policies and procedures.
Internet/Email Controls	Arrangements are in place that ensure adequate security in the use of Internet//email.
Direct Payments	Ensure payments are made in line with Council and statutory guidance.
Public Health Contracts	Ensure contracts are awarded and monitored adequately.
Council Tax	Liability for Council Tax is assigned to the correct parties. The application of discounts/exemptions to liability is valid, accurate and supported. Council Tax bills are issued in accordance with regulations and are accurate and complete. Personal data is secure from unauthorised loss/harm. Effective arrangements are in place to ensure all payments received in respect of Council Tax are identified promptly and accurately posted to the correct accounts. Systems in place monitor the Council Tax collection rate. Refunds are valid, accurate and appropriately authorised.
Business Rates	The correct liable party has been identified and informed of the amount due. Liabilities are correctly calculated and adequate & appropriate reviews take place to ensure that any reliefs have been correctly awarded.
Energy Management	HBC has adequate strategic and operational arrangements in place for the management of energy consumption.
Creditors	Review the systems and procedures in place for ordering, receiving and paying for goods and services to ensure that the supplies of goods and services are properly authorised and comply with Authorities Financial Procedure Rules.
Housing Benefit	Ensure all awards made are compliant with statutory requirements.
Open Spaces	Ensure adequate arrangements are in place to manage budgets and operate in line with Council procedures.

Computer Audit – Virus Checker Defence Systems	Arrangements are in place that ensure adequate security arrangements are in place in respect of defence against malicious IT attack.
Ground Maintenance	Ensure adequate arrangements are in place to manage budgets and operate in line with Council procedures.
Local Council Tax Support Scheme	Ensure all awards made are compliant with statutory requirements and the local scheme.

3.9 The work completed and currently ongoing is in line with expectations at this time of year, and audit coverage to date has allowed Mazars to place reliance on the scope and quality of work completed when meeting their requirements under the Audit Code of Practice.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There is a risk that if Members of the Audit and Governance Committee do not receive the information needed to enable a full and comprehensive review of governance arrangements at the Council, this would lead to the Committee being unable to fulfil its remit.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no financial considerations.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 There are no legal considerations.

7. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no staff considerations.

10. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no asset management considerations.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report.

12. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 To ensure that the Audit and Governance Committee meets its remit, it is important that it is kept up to date with the ongoing progress of the Internal Audit section in completing its plan.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

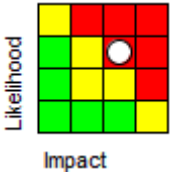
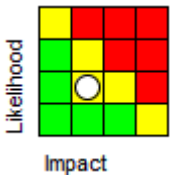
- 13.1 Internal Audit Reports.

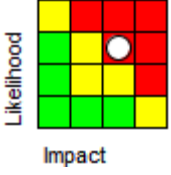
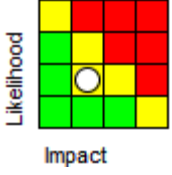
14. CONTACT OFFICER

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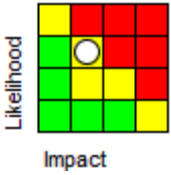
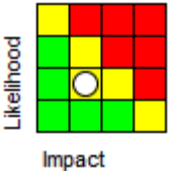
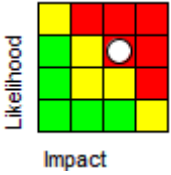
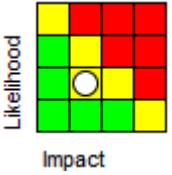
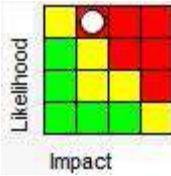
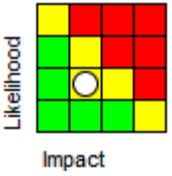
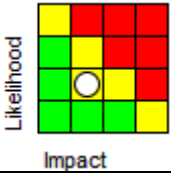
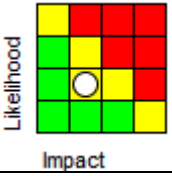
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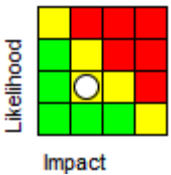
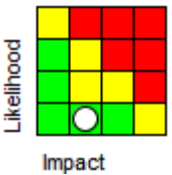
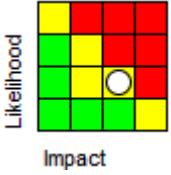
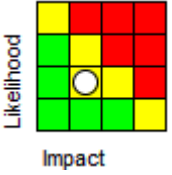
Email: noel.adamson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Audit	Objective		Assurance Level
Home Care Contract (HBC/Commissioned)	Review the strategic framework; maintenance planning; budgetary control; allocation of works and performance management.		Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented
Home Care may be paid for where a service is not provided/required, resulting in additional costs to the service		Finalise and put in place regular monthly checking process covering the 2 main domiciliary providers - to ensure each 4 weekly extract file (received from providers) is uploaded, checked and all queries raised, interrogated (with providers and internal workers as necessary) to ensure all records are accurate and errors corrected as required. Records of all issues raised and addressed will be retained.	

Audit	Objective		Assurance Level
Officer Expenses	Ensure all payments are in line with HBC policies and procedures		Limited
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented
Claims and allowances may be paid without entitlement if appropriate arrangements for completing and authorising claims are not in place. Claims submitted may not be accurately processed and paid in a prompt manner. Vehicles may not be adequately insured and roadworthy resulting in a claim being made against the local authority.		Arrangements to address this issue will be implemented as part of introduction of the Employee Expenses module of Resourcelink Payroll System. This automatically warns the officer if their claim exceeds an agreed limit. It also warns the authorising officer when they review the claim of any excess values. This has been set up as a warning and not a block as there are valid reasons, on occasions, when this amount can justifiably be exceeded. Where a limit is exceeded it is expected that a reason is provided and that this is approved by the authorising officer. Reports will be set up to identify frequency of instances and also if comments have been recorded.	

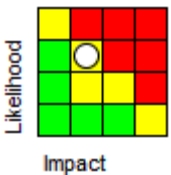
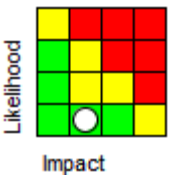
4.2

<p>Claims and allowances may be paid without entitlement if appropriate arrangements for completing and authorising claims are not in place. Claims submitted may not be accurately processed and paid in a prompt manner. Vehicles may not be adequately insured and roadworthy resulting in a claim being made against the local authority.</p>		<p>Mileage entry in Resourcelink requires entry of supporting information. The authorising officer is expected to validate all details of the claim for accuracy and completeness. Employee expenses roll-out guidance will reinforce this expectation. Drop in sessions will be provided to provide advice and guidance where necessary. Reports will be produced to analyse where officers that are currently accessing MyView continue to complete paper claim forms.</p>	
<p>Claims and allowances may be paid without entitlement if appropriate arrangements for completing and authorising claims are not in place. Claims submitted may not be accurately processed and paid in a prompt manner. Vehicles may not be adequately insured and roadworthy resulting in a claim being made against the local authority.</p>		<p>Driver policy currently under review. This includes agreement on arrangements for the checking of insurance and licences.</p>	
<p>Claims and allowances may be paid without entitlement if appropriate arrangements for completing and authorising claims are not in place. Claims submitted may not be accurately processed and paid in a prompt manner. Vehicles may not be adequately insured and roadworthy resulting in a claim being made against the local authority.</p>		<p>Resourcelink is set-up to ensure that VAT receipts can be stored against each claim. Guidance will be provided and monitoring reports produced to identify areas of non-compliance. Income is included in workforce savings work stream.</p>	
<p>Claims and allowances may be paid without entitlement if appropriate arrangements for completing and authorising claims are not in place.</p>		<p>Guidance documents are in place and the authorising officer is expected to validate all details of the claim for accuracy and completeness. The transition of Employee Expenses to Resourcelink and associated guidance will reinforce this expectation.</p>	

Audit	Objective		Assurance Level
Debtors	Debtor records are bona fide, complete and accurate and the correct person/organisation is charged the correct amount, at the correct time and is only charged for those good and services they have received.		Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented
Potential loss of income if the correct person/organisation is not charged the correct amount and/or at the correct time for goods and/or services received.		An initial review will be undertaken to identify areas with a high volume/value of credit notes and undertake an assessment of the authorisation processes in place. Integra process for the authorisation of credit notes to be revisited and the option to introduce system authorisation investigated. Review will involve contacting Capita and other Integra users to see what operational arrangements in place elsewhere. Any system changes will have an introduction lead-time owing to other ongoing projects within System Support & Development team.	
Non-compliance with Data Protection legislation (including GDPR) may result in data loss and large fines imposed, reputational damage and distress to individuals.		Privacy notice review is taking place. Initial meeting held with Legal. Agreed that an independent privacy notice will be produced for the Recovery team and that links will be added to invoices and Direct Debit mandate. (October 2019). Information retention is also being reviewed and amendments made to the existing retention document. (November 2019)	

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Community Infrastructure Levy	Statutory requirements are complied with.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented	
Section 106 Planning Obligations Database management information may not currently reflect financial year end financing adjustments.		The responsible Finance Officer has returned to work after a period of sickness absence and has started the reconciliation process which mainly consists of identifying which planning agreement references need to be updated to reflect actual expenditure incurred as per the Integra Financial Ledger System.		

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Youth Employment Initiative grant	Ensure grant terms and conditions are adhered to.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented	
No unmitigated risk identified.				

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Troubled Families Grant	Ensure grant terms and conditions are adhered to.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified		Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented
Incorrect data may be recorded resulting in a reduction of grant award.			The Troubled Families programme is reliant on information from external and internal services. As numbers attached to the programme continue to rise, issues such as timeliness of case recordings and discrepancies between data held by different services become more apparent. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy at the time of claim, however, due to the changing and sometimes chaotic lifestyles of our cohort, we are not always aware of changes in benefit status.	

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Budgetary Control	Roles and responsibilities of officers and Members are clearly defined in relation to the budget setting and budget monitoring processes; Budgets are prepared within the timeframe set out in the budget timetable. The timetable is laid out in accordance with statutory requirements/deadlines; An approved medium/long term financial planning strategy is in place that has considered all potential issues.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified		Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed	Risk Level after action implemented
No unmitigated risk identified.				

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Main Accounting System	Ensure HBC meets its statutory requirements.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed		Risk Level after action implemented
No unmitigated risk identified.				

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Children Services Capital	Adequate management arrangements are in place to manage the private lettings function in line with agreed priorities.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed		Risk Level after action implemented
No unmitigated risk identified.				

Audit	Objective			Assurance Level
Children Services Computer Audit	Ensure all departmental software applications are recorded and used in line with all relevant statutory and internal requirements.			Satisfactory
Risk Identified	Risk Level prior to action implemented	Action Agreed		Risk Level after action implemented
No unmitigated risk identified.				

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5th December 2019



Report of: Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhoods Services)

Subject: BUSINESS CONTINUITY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the Councils Business Continuity arrangements, following a report presented to the Committee in July 2018 by the Head of Audit and Governance which identified this area as having 'limited assurance'.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Civil Contingencies Act (2004) places a statutory duty on Hartlepool Borough Council as a 'Category 1 Responder':

- To maintain plans for the purpose of ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that if an emergency occurs the person or body is able to continue to perform its functions.

2.2 A review undertaken by the Council's Internal Audit identified a number of weaknesses within the existing arrangements whereby up to date information is not currently held, agreed or tested.

2.3 Consequently a significant amount of work has been progressed to address the concerns highlighted by internal audit, with arrangements having been reviewed to reflect current best practice.

2.4 These revised arrangements have been rolled out across each Council department to ensure that accurate up to information is held to assist in the recovery of services, should it be necessary.

2.5 Tests are planned to ensure that these plans are fit for purpose and any lessons learnt from these exercises will be incorporated into future plans.

3. PROPOSALS/ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The Council will consider to review and refine its business continuity arrangements in line with current best practice, ensuring that we continue to meet out statutory responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that members note the work done to ensure that robust Business Continuity arrangements are in place, which addresses the concerns highlighted in the Audit report.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To ensure that robust arrangements for business continuity within a structured framework and address the concerns raised by the recent audit.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Audit and Governance Committee on 25th July 2018.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

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AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 December 2019



Report of: Director of Children’s and Joint Commissioning

Subject: YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The outline of this report is to consult with members of Audit and Governance Committee on the Youth Justice Plan for 2019-2021 attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 Full Council will be asked to adopt the plan on 20 February 2020. Recommendations made by Audit and Governance Committee, Children’s Services Committee and Safer Hartlepool Partnership will be considered in the final plan presented to Council.
- 1.3 The final version of the Strategic Plan will also be sent to National Youth Justice Board.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The national Youth Justice System primarily exists to ensure that children and young people between the age of 10 and 17 do not engage in offending or re-offending behaviour and to ensure that where a young person is arrested and charged with a criminal offence, they are dealt with differently to adult offenders to reflect their particular welfare needs as children.
- 2.2 Local Youth Offending Services were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to develop, deliver, commission and coordinate the provision of youth justice services within each Local Authority.
- 2.3 Hartlepool Youth Justice Service was established in April 2000 and is responsible for youth justice services locally. It is a multi-agency service and is made up of representatives from the Council’s Children’s Services, Police, Probation, Health and Education.

- 2.4 The primary objectives of Youth Justice Services are to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people and reduce the use of custody.
- 2.5 There is a statutory requirement for all Youth Justice Services to annually prepare, a local Youth Justice Plan for submission to the national Youth Justice Board.
- 2.6 The annual Youth Justice Plan provides an overview of how the Youth Justice Service, the Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board and wider partnership will ensure that the service has sufficient resources and infrastructure to deliver youth justice services in its area in line with the requirements of the *National Standards for Youth Justice Services* to:
- Promote performance improvement;
 - Shape youth justice system improvement;
 - Improve outcomes for young people, victims and the broader community.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Youth Offending Service and broader youth justice Partnership focus on the following key strategic objectives during 2019/20;
- **Early Intervention and Prevention** sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that there remain strategies and services in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour
 - **Re-offending** Reducing further offending by young people who have committed crime with a particular emphasis on the development of activities to address the offending behaviour of young women
 - **Remand and Custody** – Demonstrate that there are robust alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands to custody whilst awaiting trial/sentencing
 - **Voice of the Young Person** – – ensure that all young people are actively involved in developing their own plans and interventions and have the opportunity to develop and inform current and future service delivery
 - **Effective Governance** – ensure that the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board is a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance
 - **Risk and Safety & Wellbeing (Asset Plus)** – ensure all children and young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system

benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk of harm, safety and wellbeing concerns and desistance factors, to inform effective intervention and risk management

- **‘Child First’** – *ensure that the Child First principles are embedded within the Youth Justice Service and that every child has the opportunity to live a safe and crime free life, and makes a positive contribution to society.*

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 For members of the Committee to consider the draft Youth Justice Plan 2019-2021 and make any recommendations to be presented to Children’s Services Committee and Council in February 2020.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The development of the Youth Justice plan for 2019-2021 will provide the Youth Justice Service with a clear steer to bring about further reductions in youth offending and contribute to improving outcomes for children, young people and their families alongside the broader community.
- 5.2 The local Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2019–2021 will establish responsibility across the Youth Justice Service and the Youth Justice Strategic Board for taking each improvement activity forward within agreed timescales.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
 - Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

- 7.1 Jane Young, Assistant Director, Children and Families, Hartlepool Borough Council, Level 4, Civic Centre, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523957. Email: jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk



HARTLEPOOL
YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2019/2020

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1. FOREWORD

Welcome to the 2019 - 2021 Hartlepool Youth Justice Strategic Plan. This plan sets out our ambitions and priorities for Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and the broader local Youth Justice Partnership for the next 2 years.

Hartlepool's Community Strategy 2008-20 establishes a vision for the town:

“Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential”.

The Youth Justice Service and broader partnership has a key role in contributing to this vision, by continuing to deliver a high quality, effective and safe youth justice service that prevents crime and the fear of crime, whilst ensuring that young people who do offend are identified, managed and supported appropriately, without delay.

In recent years Hartlepool has witnessed a significant reduction in youth crime. The local youth justice partnership has been particularly effective in reducing the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time, but there remains a need to drive down incidents of re-offending by young people who have previously offended. This will be achieved through a combination of robust interventions designed to manage and reduce risk of harm, support safety & wellbeing, restore interpersonal relationships, promote whole family engagement and achieve positive outcomes. Encouragingly, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service is developing its restorative offer to young people whilst ensuring that victims of youth crime have a voice.

The recently published 'Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019' and the 'Child First' ethos will be integral to the way the service builds upon our progress to date. However, it must be acknowledged that the current economic climate, and the continuing introduction of new reforms relating to how we respond to children, young people, families and communities, will inevitably present new challenges in the coming year and beyond.

Despite these challenges I am very confident that Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and the broader Youth Justice Partnership will continue to help make Hartlepool a safer place to live, work, learn and play

In 2019-21 we will strive to continuously improve by:

- Adopting an Enhanced Case Management model, with trauma informed practice at its core.
- Developing a clear and consistent approach to all forms of child exploitation.
- Building on the improving YJS offer of a 'whole family approach'
- Ensuring the Service maintains a 'child first' ethos.

None of the above will be possible without the continued support and close working relationships of our partners and Children's Social Care. In addition, these relationships allow us to mitigate the impact of ever reducing partnership budgets whilst maintaining the quality and effectiveness of the Service.

2018-19 has been a year of change with the YJS Team Manager. Mike Lane moved to HMIP as a Lead Inspector, I would like to put on record the thanks of the Management Board, YJS staff and all the partners for his dedicated and effective leadership.

We also wish Roni Checksfield all the very best in taking up the challenge and are confident that the Service will continue to deliver high quality services to all young people, families and victims.

As always, the Strategic Management Board is extremely grateful for the skill and dedication of our employees in supporting young people who offend, or are at risk of becoming involved in offending.

On behalf of the Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board I am pleased to pledge my support to and endorse the Youth Justice Strategic Plan

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ch Insp Burnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell, Cleveland Police - Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board Chair

2. INTRODUCTION

The National Youth Justice System primarily exists to ensure that children and young people between the age of 10 and 17 (who are arrested and charged with a criminal offence) are dealt with differently to adult offenders, to reflect their particular welfare needs.

In summary, young people who offend are:

- Dealt with by youth courts;
- Given different sentences in comparison to adults and
- When necessary, detained in special secure centres for young people.

It is the responsibility of the Local Authority and statutory partners to secure and coordinate local youth justice services for young people, area who come into contact with the Youth Justice System as a result of their offending behaviour. This is achieved through the established Youth Justice Service.

The primary functions of Youth Justice Services are to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people and reduce the use of custody.

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service was established in April 2000 and is a multi-agency service made up of representatives from Children's Services, Police, Probation, Public Health, Education, Community Safety and the local voluntary/community sector. Hartlepool Youth Justice Service seeks to ensure that:

- All young people entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk and protective factors associated with their offending behaviour in order to inform effective interventions.
- Courts and Referral Order panels are provided with high quality reports that enable them to make informed decisions.
- Orders of the Court are managed in such a way that they support the primary aim of the youth justice system, alongside managing risk of harm and ensuring there is due regard to the welfare of the young person.
- Services provided to courts are of a high quality and ensure that magistrates and the judiciary have confidence in the supervision of young people.
- Comprehensive bail and remand management services are in place locally for young people remanded or committed to custody, or on bail while awaiting trial or sentence.
- The needs and risks of young people sentenced to custodial sentences (including long-term custodial sentences) are assessed to ensure effective resettlement and management of risk.

- Those receiving youth justice services are treated fairly regardless of race, language, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability or any other factor, and actions are put in place to address discrimination if identified

In addition to the above, the remit of the service has widened significantly in recent years due to both national and local developments relating to prevention, diversion and restorative justice and there is a now requirement to ensure that:

- Strategies and services are in place locally to prevent young people from becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour;
- Out-of-court disposals deliver targeted and bespoke interventions for those at risk of entering the Youth Justice System
- Assistance is provided to the Police when determining whether Youth Cautions should be issued and
- Restorative approaches are used, where appropriate, with victims of crime and ensures that restorative justice is central to work undertaken with young people who offend.

The Hartlepool Youth Justice Plan for 2019-2021 sets out how youth justice services will be delivered, funded and governed in response to both local need and national policy changes including the implementation of Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019. It also highlights how Hartlepool Youth Justice Service will work in partnership to prevent offending and re-offending by young people and reduce the use of custody.

3. WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN 2017/18 & 2018/2019

A review of progress made against last year’s plan highlights that the service has made progress across the majority of the year’s priorities; but there remains key areas for improvement that will need to be driven forward in the coming year:

	Comments
<p>Early Intervention and Prevention – sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that there remain strategies and services in place locally to prevent young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour</p>	<p>The last two years have seen decreases in FTE’s. In 2016/17 we had an increase in FTE to 42. This has been followed by a 52% reduction in 2017/18 to 20 and a further 25% reduction in 2018/19 to 15. These decreases are reflective of the Tees-wide trend, with neighbouring Tees Valley YOTS also reporting decreases across the same period.</p> <p>Our continued partnership arrangements with Cleveland Police remain effective in relation to the diversion of young people from the Youth Justice System. This is primarily through the delivery of Out Of Court Disposals, with longer term data trend evidencing significant success in this area.</p> <p>The Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) continues to fund Triage.</p>
<p>Re-offending - reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime</p>	<p>The YJMIS reoffending data demonstrates how unpredictable young people’s behaviours can be. The current rate is 53.8% (Apr 17-Jun 17 cohort) which represents an increase after 5 consecutive quarterly reductions. The number of re-offenders has also fluctuated over the last 2 years. Inevitably, due to the low cohort numbers, any re-offending sees a considerable increase in the rate.</p> <p>The rate of youth re-offending within Hartlepool remains above both the national and regional average and addressing this remains a strategic priority in the coming year. This will be primarily through continued assessment and a bespoke package of interventions (which is currently being developed). In addition, the proportionate use of rehabilitative interventions and, where necessary, restrictive interventions will serve to ensure effective management of risk and support around welfare-related need. We aim to address the needs of young people using a systemic team around the family model maximising inter-agency support and services and the family own resources.</p>
<p>To focus our iniRemand and Custody – demonstrate that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.</p>	<p>The number of remand episodes in 2017/18 was 0 with 1 in 2018/19. These are excellent figures and continue to evidence the Bail Supervision and Support/ISS packages which are provided (where necessary and appropriate) as an alternative to custody.</p>

	<p>The number of custodial sentences across 2017/18 and 2018/19, have remained static with 3 young people having been made subject to such a disposal.</p> <p>The number of breaches of community based court orders has decreased from 15 in 2017/18 to 8 in 2018/19.</p> <p>Compliance panels have been established within YJS practice, as a means of identifying barriers to engagement and the reasons for none attendance, with the aim of increasing attendance and reducing the likelihood of remand.</p>
<p>Restorative Justice – ensure all victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches and restorative justice is central to work undertaken with young people who offend.</p>	<p>The victims of youth crime are given the opportunity to participate in restorative justice. Restorative practice remains an integral part of the work undertaken with young people involved with the YJS.</p> <p>The Restorative Justice and Victim provision was in-sourced from April 2017, after a review of the previous provision. These statutory duties were re-aligned within the existing staffing of Hartlepool YJS – all of whom have undertaken service-wide Restorative Justice training, many to level 3. This has enabled Hartlepool YJS to have control and influence in shaping the direction and quality of Restorative Justice work. Across 2017/18 and 2018/19 there were 90 contacts with victims of crime and where consented a Victim Impact Statement completed.</p> <p>Young people, under the supervision of Hartlepool YJS, delivered approximately 700 hours of direct and indirect unpaid reparative activity within the Hartlepool area in 2017/18 and 2018/19. This was across various projects and involved working with local voluntary groups throughout the town.</p>
<p>Risk and Safety & Wellbeing – ensure all children and young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk and vulnerability to inform effective intervention and risk management.</p>	<p>Risk, Safety and Wellbeing arrangements continue to benefit from regular quality assurance, ensuring all young people entering (or at risk of entering) the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment (via Asset Plus). The management of risk remains a key priority, alongside ensuring interventions are tailored to meet the individual’s needs. The safety and wellbeing of young people under the supervision of the YJS is paramount.</p>
<p>Voice of the Young People – ensure that all young people are actively involved in developing their own plans and interventions and have the opportunity to develop and inform current and future service delivery</p>	<p>Hartlepool YJS has ensured young people have a voice and this is captured within their assessment – primarily through completion of the Asset Plus self-assessment.</p> <p>The service has ensured young people have been provided with opportunities to influence and shape service delivery – through utilising Hartlepool YJS e-survey feedback.</p>

	<p>The e-survey has recently been extended to include parents/carers and victims.</p> <p>Specialist Speech, Language and Communication Need (SLCN) training was commissioned from Durham YOS, and whole-service training was delivered, with the aim of raising awareness and supporting those young people with a SLCN. In turn, this enabled more effective signposting of young people to specialist Speech & Language Therapeutic services, culminating with the YJS commissioning a Speech and Language Therapist in 2018/19 and re commissioned in 2019/20.</p>
<p>Extremism and PREVENT Strategy – To ensure that the Youth Justice Service is compliant with legislative and practice requirements and adhere to the specific objectives of the 2011 Prevent Strategy</p>	<p>All members of Hartlepool Youth Justice Service (across all staff grades) have completed the mandated training around the PREVENT strategy and the Government’s overall counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST)</p> <p>Hartlepool YJS has a designated staff member as a specialist Prevent lead and WRAP3 Train the Trainer, accredited via the Office for Counter Terrorism & Security.</p> <p>Assessments and planned interventions adequately consider issues such as extremism and radicalisation and, where necessary or appropriate, refer young people for further guidance and support</p> <p>Hartlepool YJS are also represented on the local Prevent Operational Group.</p>
<p>Effective Governance – ensure that the Youth Justice Strategic Management Board remains a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.</p>	<p>The Youth Justice Strategic Management Board continues to be a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Justice Service performance. Ongoing development/shadowing days with all board members will continue to ensure the board remain committed and are able to advocate for the YJS within their own service areas.</p> <p>A new YJS Team Manager was appointed in October 2018 and a review was undertaken in March 2019 to ensure that the governance of YJS activity is fit for purpose, in line with changing national policy.</p>

Young People Who Offend

In spite of the challenges that young people, families and communities contend with in Hartlepool, the local Youth Justice Partnership has had significant success in recent years in terms of preventing and reducing youth offending behaviour.



The number of offences committed by the YJS cohort has reduced from 179 (2016/17) to 96 in 2017/18 and followed by a slight increase to a current level of 116 in 2018/19 – which represents a significant reduction of 35% across the two years. Alongside this, the longer term rising trend in Restorative Interventions (for which responsibility lies with the Police) has contributed to a reduction of the number of young people entering the Criminal Justice System.

Prevention and Diversion

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service, and the broader youth justice partnership, continue to place a significant emphasis on the prevention of young people's involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour. This continues to positively impact on the reduction of young people entering the Youth Justice System.

Youth crime prevention and diversion is based on the premise that it is possible to change the direction of young people by reducing risk factors that may lead to offending behaviour and enhancing protective factors that might help prevent offending.

It marks a concerted shift away from reactive spending, towards early action and intervention, through a range of programmes for young people who are at risk of offending, which can result in better outcomes and greater value for money.

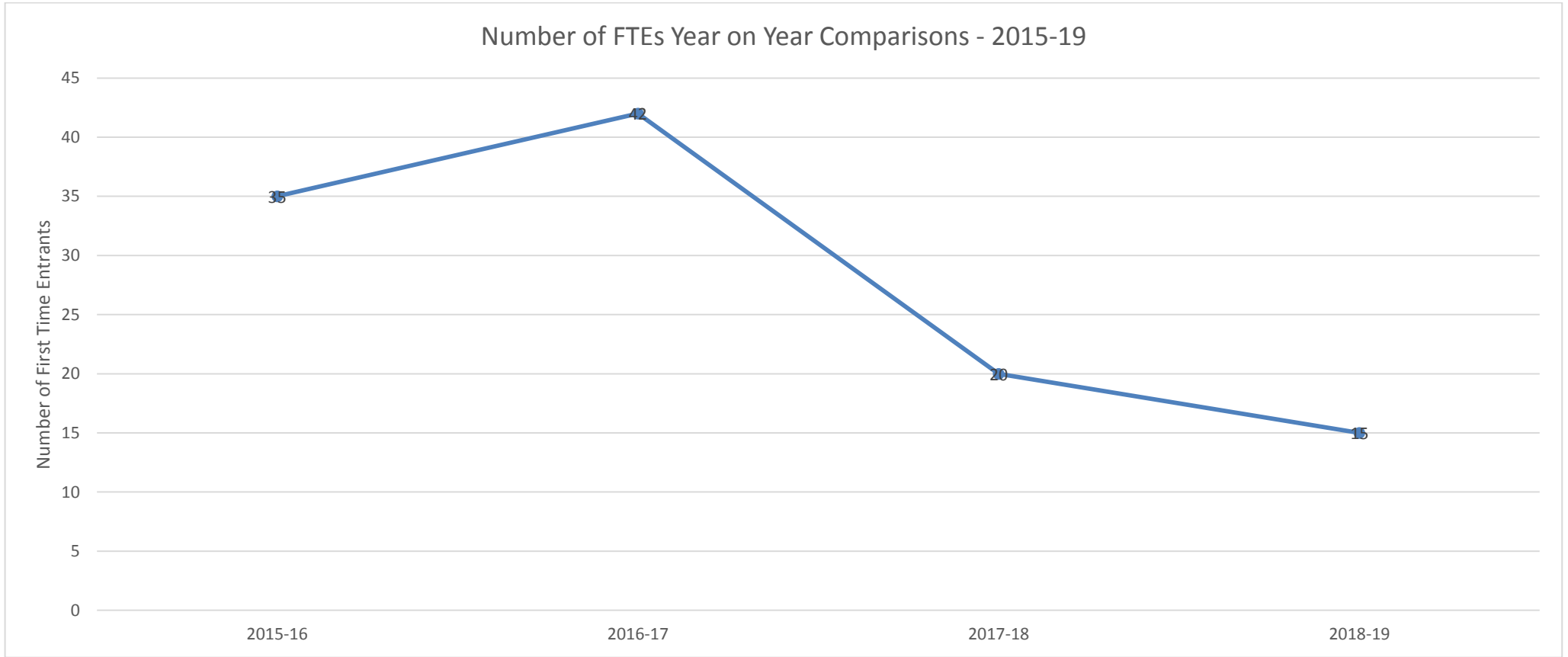
For young people whose behaviour has become more problematic, robust out of court interventions have proven to be highly successful in diverting young people away from further involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour. The use of out of court interventions are able to impress upon the young people the seriousness, and potentially damaging effect, of their actions however they do not criminalise the young people in the way that statutory court orders inevitably do.

Hartlepool YJS has again seen a reduction in First Time Entrants (FTEs) over the last 2 years 2017/18 and 2018/19. Hartlepool YJS partnership arrangements with Cleveland Police are established and effective in relation to the diversion of young people from the Youth Justice System. This remains primarily through the delivery of Out Of Court Disposals (O OCD), with longer term data trend evidencing significant success in this area. Indeed, Hartlepool YJS will continue to monitor the number of FTEs and for those young people subject to an O OCD, ensuring interventions are robust and sufficient to address the offence committed, alongside other areas of need identified in the assessment, in order to help prevent any further offending.

Cleveland PCC continues to fund the diversionary Triage programme which has made a considerable contribution to the continuing reduction of FTEs. There was a recorded 143 FTEs in 2009/10, compared to 15 in 2018/19 marking a huge reduction of 89%.

Multi agency partnership work is ongoing to implement suitable interventions and processes to work intensively with those young people identified as potentially being criminally exploited. Hartlepool YJS will be providing a leading role in this process alongside the Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) local board.

First Time Entrants (FTEs)



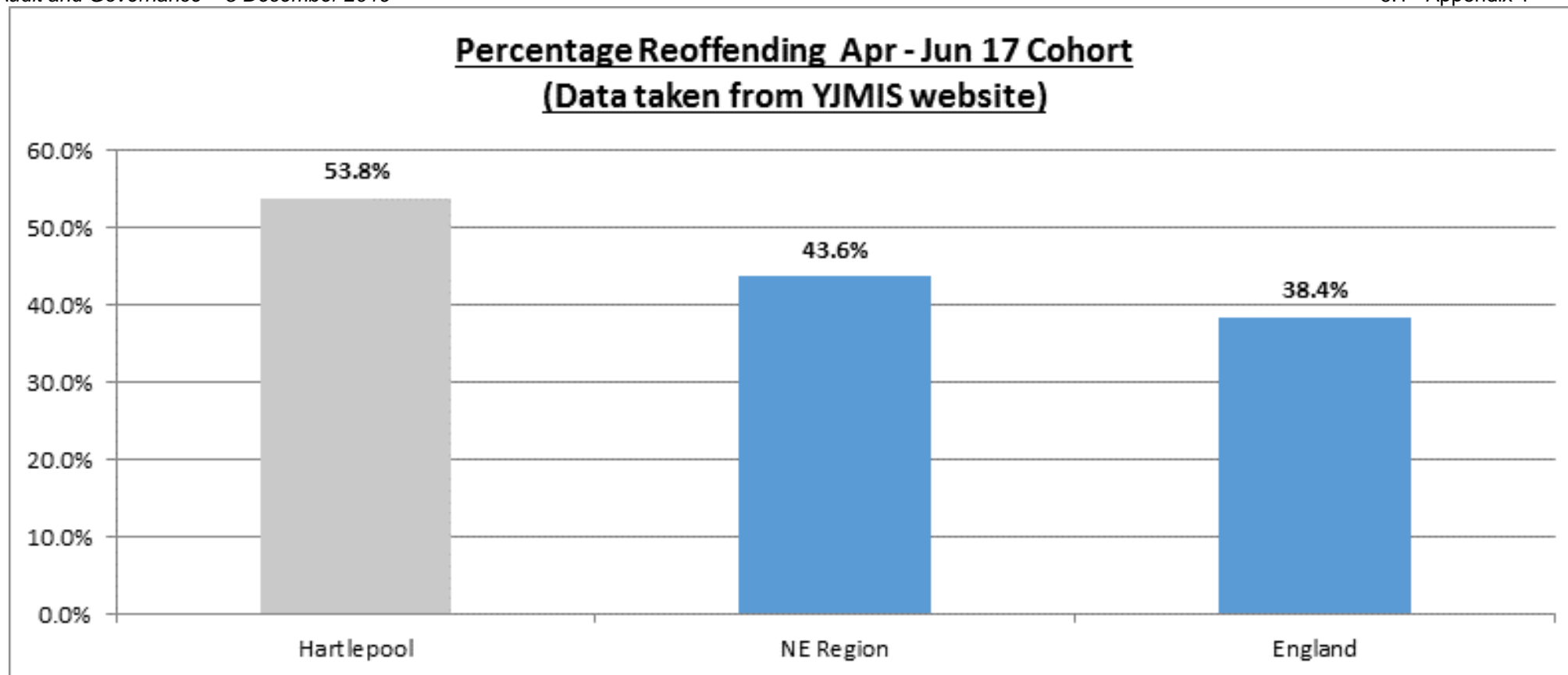
Reoffending

The reoffending indicator has been changed nationally which makes direct comparisons with historical performance difficult. Although Hartlepool is still above the national and regional average, the YJMIS reoffending data provides a somewhat unpredictable picture. Up until recently, Hartlepool YJS’s reoffending rate had seen a reduction for 5 consecutive quarters. At a current level of 53.80%, which still represents a reduction of 6.20% from the July 15 – Sept 15 cohort. Each of the cohorts are tracked for a period of 12 months, plus a further waiting period of 6 months to allow for any offences which may not have yet been dealt with by the Criminal Justice System – therefore the most recent reoffending data always has an 18 month time lag.

Alongside this, the number of re-offenders also continues to fluctuate, although the constant low numbers impact hugely on the reoffending measures.

Cohort	Number in cohort	No of Re-offenders	No of Re-offences	Re-offences / Re-offenders	% Re-offending
Jul 15 - Sep 15	20	12	54	4.50	60.00%
Oct 15 - Dec 15	29	17	88	5.18	58.60%
Jan 16 - Mar 16	16	9	54	6.00	56.30%
Apr 16 - Jun 16	18	10	23	2.30	55.60%
Jul 16 - Sep 16	22	10	36	3.60	45.50%
Oct 16 - Dec 16	29	9	22	2.44	31.00%
Jan 17 - Mar 17	25	11	31	2.82	44.00%
Apr 17 - Jun 17	26	14	35	2.50	53.80%

The rate of youth reoffending within Hartlepool remains above the national and regional average and will be a key priority in the coming year. This will be primarily achieved through an improvement in the offers of intervention (which is under review) to young people under YJS supervision and using feedback from young people to inform service delivery. In addition the planned use of Live Tracker and the proportionate use of rehabilitative interventions and, where necessary, restrictive measures will serve to ensure effective management of risk and support welfare-related need.



The service is dealing with smaller caseloads consisting of complex individuals with multiple risks and vulnerabilities. Recent analysis reveals a cohort which display broader lifestyle choices relating to substance misuse and the need to generate income to maintain this. This also reflects the national and regional picture in terms of caseload composition.

Furthermore, this cohort of young people who continue to offend are predominantly young males aged between 15 and 17, many of whom reside within Hartlepool’s most deprived neighbourhoods. Although not mutually exclusive, the common criminogenic need and welfare issues prevalent amongst this cohort are identified as:

- higher than average mental health/emotional wellbeing needs

- higher levels of drug and alcohol use than for the general population and in particular ‘heavy cannabis use’
- low educational attachment, attendance and attainment
- having family members or friends who offend
- higher than average levels of loss, bereavement, abuse and violence experienced within the family
- a history of family disruption
- chaotic and unstructured lifestyles

Alongside this cohort of young males, there is another cohort of young females aged 14 -17 whom, although perhaps not as prolific in terms of reoffending, are of significant concern due to multiple complex issues which are predominately welfare-orientated. These include:

- Substance misuse
- Chaotic lifestyles
- Sexual exploitation
- Missing from home
- Family breakdown

Again, as with the male cohort, young females who are offending are noted to have a higher prevalence of poor emotional well-being. Analysis shows that this arises from loss, bereavement and domestic or sexual abuse.

Working in partnership is key to supporting a greater understanding of these underlying issues, alongside addressing them in a holistic and co-ordinated way to provide “pathways out of offending”, with the intention of trying to reduce crime and break the cycle of offending behaviour across generations. This collaborative work is achieved through:

- A Better Childhood In Hartlepool,
- Hartlepool Community Safety Partnership
- Cleveland & Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership
- Education Commission
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation

It is also important to adopt an ‘intelligence-led’ targeted approach, particularly in relation to prevention, and build on service-wide staff training to respond to Speech, Language, & Communication, alongside the emotional health and wellbeing needs of the young people. An important element to the reduction of reoffending and the number of those entering the youth justice system is the development of the YJS interventions. Interventions are bespoke, based on high quality, integrated assessments and plans, delivered by YJS staff and partner agencies. Some progress has been made in this area, however further work is needed in the forthcoming year. Some innovative interventions have been developed and a more evident ‘Whole Family’ approach is being further developed with the recent inclusion of Psychological Therapists and the re commission of the Speech and Language Therapist within the service. This will continue to be monitored through established quality assurance and performance measures, such as the monthly YJS performance clinics and the Hartlepool Community Safety Partnership meetings between Police, Social Care, ASBU, YJS, Fire and Rescue Services and Adult Services.

Victims of Youth Crime

Whilst crime rates in Hartlepool have fallen, the likelihood of being a victim of crime still remains a reality, especially in our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. The YJS and broader Youth Justice Partnership are working hard to reduce the numbers of victims of crime, by incorporating the use of restorative justice practices. Restorative Justice (RJ) provides opportunities for those directly affected by an offence (victim, offender and members of the community) to communicate and ensure victims of youth crime have a voice.

In addition victims of youth crime are helped to access appropriate support pathways that enable them to move on from the impact of crime. A personalised approach is taken to ensure that victims of crime in Hartlepool are placed at the centre. This includes ensuring that individual needs and wishes are fully taken into account. As a result we aim to visit all victims of crime so they are able to access pathways to support, including the option to participate in restorative justice. Across 2017/18 and 2018/19 there were **90** contacts with direct victims of crime and where consented a Victim Impact Statement carried out.

RJ is an important underlying principle of all disposals for young people on YJS caseload, from Triage to Detention & Training Orders. Whilst restorative processes typically result in practical reparation, for example participating in a task that benefits the community, the communication between victim and offender, as part of this process, can also produce powerful emotional responses leading to mutual satisfaction and socially inclusive outcomes.

The decision was made to in-source the RJ and Victim provision as of 1/4/17. These statutory duties have been re-aligned within the existing staffing of Hartlepool YJS – all of whom have undertaken service-wide RJ training, many to level 3. This decision has enabled Hartlepool YJS to have direct control and influence in shaping the direction and quality of RJ work, including the establishment of updated working policies, practices and procedures. In turn, this has already begun to result in better outcomes for both victims and young people and is much more responsive to local need.

There is considerable evidence that RJ practice is much more integrated across all areas of the service. In particular, there is a closer link between those workers with additional RJ responsibility and case managers in relation to the needs and wishes of victims.

In summary, young people under the supervision of Hartlepool YJS delivered approximately 700 hours of direct and indirect reparative activity within Hartlepool in 2017/18. This was across a varied scope of projects and collaborative working with local voluntary groups in varying locations. across the town, including The Headland, Burn Valley Park, Ward Jackson Park and Seal Sands beach. In addition, more individual bespoke projects have taken place involving furniture restoration, bird boxes for distribution to local groups, Christmas hampers for those in need and an art project to benefit the local community.



Throughout 2018/19, the YJS Team Manager has focused on the quality of assessments and subsequent managerial oversight and quality assurance. This has been sustained by the current management team, through regular supervision, audit and staff training. Policy development has been a priority over the last two years in particular updating and reviewing the staff guidance in relation to the management of Risk of Harm, Safety & Wellbeing and also Case Recording.

Performance management and data analysis has continued to be a priority within 2018/19, with significant work undertaken in conjunction with the Local Authority's Data information and IT teams. This has enabled various processes and documents (including the YJS Board Report) to be aligned with cleansed data, which not only makes performance management data more accessible and understandable, but also allows such data to inform service improvement activity, comparative analysis and the directing of resource to areas of organisational need.

Hartlepool YJS continue to commission South Tees YOS, to provide duty cover of Youth Court work in Teesside. Whilst allowing the service to maintain excellent working relationships within the Court arena, this continues to create some necessary and critical capacity within the team to manage the volume of post-court work and utilise staffing time more effectively. Given the success of this arrangement (strategically, operationally and financially) this was re commissioned in March 2019 for a further 12 month period.

A continued key strength of Hartlepool YJS is the ability of all staff to engage complex and challenging young people, through quality assessments and response to individual need. This builds positive relationships and leads to better outcomes – both for the young person as an individual and their families and the community as a whole. Throughout 2017/18 and 2018/19 there has been considerable service-wide training, which compliments staff members' professional development on an individual level via training from the Local Authority and other statutory and voluntary partners. Alongside internal training around Risk of Harm, Safety & Wellbeing, and Asset Plus refreshers. Hartlepool YJS has received Talking Mats training which is a specialist Speech Language and Communication Need (SLCN) intervention and some staff attended Kids For Law training. All of the YJS staff received two days Trauma training delivered by Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust, which will be followed up by Trauma Recovery Model training and the implementation of Enhanced Case Management, which is planned for late of 2019. Staff development will continue throughout 2019-21 and remains a key focus in working towards a quality service. This will be supported by regular supervision and appraisal, alongside reflective supervision sessions which encourage staff to analyse their practice within a supportive learning environment.

The HMIP inspection framework and the recently published 'Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019' will ensure that Hartlepool YJS continues to provide the best outcomes possible for children in the youth justice system.

Service User Feedback

The voice of the young person was identified as a key strategic objective for 2017/18 and 2018/19 and completion of Asset Plus self-assessments remains critical in capturing the voice and perceived needs of those young people with whom the YJS work. Internally, given that (as of April 2017) HMIP were no longer gathering and monitoring Viewpoint e-survey returns. Hartlepool YJS completed some internal work to develop an evaluative Survey Monkey (based on the original Viewpoint questions) to measure Young People's perceptions of: Quality of Service, Likelihood of Offending, Fairness of treatment by YJS staff and Quality of interventions.

52 surveys were completed by young people across the last 2 years:

- Just under 90% of YP indicated they know what kind of things make them more likely to offend;
- Just under 90% of YP indicated work with the YJS made them realise change is possible;
- Over 80% of YP indicated they are a lot less likely to offend;
- Over 90% of YP felt they were treated fairly;
- Over 80% of YP felt the service they given was 'very good';
- 100% of YP of YP felt listened to by the people who worked with them
- Just under 80% of YP indicated the sessions helped change their behaviour

4. STRATEGIC VISION AND PRIORITIES - A BETTER CHILDHOOD IN HARTLEPOOL

Hartlepool's Children Strategic Partnership has set out its vision for children and young people within the town as follows:

Vision:

Our ambition as a children's partnership is to enable all children and families in Hartlepool to have opportunities to make the most of their life chances and be supported to be safe in their homes and communities.

Obsessions:

- Children and young people have opportunities to make the most of their life chances and are safe
- Improving family relationships, strengths, skills and ability to cope
- Reducing the impact of domestic violence, mental health, drugs and alcohol misuse on children and families
- Helping parents, carers and young people to gain skills and get jobs

The Youth Justice Service, as part of the wider services for children, seeks to deliver on the vision and obsessions through a number of identified Youth Justice Service Strategic Priorities for 2019 - 2021.

In addition, these priorities align and overlap with the strategic objectives set by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership for 2017-2020:

- Reduce Crime and repeat Victimisation
- Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
- Create confident, cohesive and safe communities
- Reduce offending and reoffending.

To enable Hartlepool Youth Justice Service to contribute to the vision above, it will focus on the following strategic objectives and priorities:

Proposed Strategic Objectives and Priorities – 2019-2021

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service (and the broader Youth Justice Partnership) will be utilising the YJB grant to help achieve the following key strategic objectives during 2019-21, also ensuring the service achieves and maintains inspection readiness and that the recently published Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019 are embedded throughout the service:

Youth Justice Strategic Priorities

Re-offending - reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime with a particular emphasis in the development of Service interventions that are structured, responsive and tailored to meet identified individual need and evaluated. (Both within Youth Justice Service and provided by external agencies).

Key Actions

- Undertake quality assessments of young people at risk of re-offending, ensuring risks, desistance factors and needs are identified which inform effective intervention planning
- Improve interventions delivered, through innovation and collaboration where appropriate
- Improve intelligence and timely information sharing relating to those young people who are at risk of offending, to inform service-wide improvement activity or targeted work
- Continue to improve the ‘whole family’ approach offer within the service and with partners
- Scoping activity to be undertaken in relation to retaining both the Speech & Language Therapist and Emotional Wellbeing therapists presence within the YJS beyond March 2020

Early Intervention and Prevention – sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that strategies and services remain in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.

Key Actions

- Embedding of ‘A Better Childhood’ in Hartlepool and fulfilling the YJS role within the wider Local Authority approach and vision
- Operate a targeted approach to supporting individuals and groups of young people at risk of offending - based on intelligence and collaborative working with key partners (Police, ASB, Early Help, Voluntary Community Sector, Schools, etc)
- Ongoing trend analysis of past and current FTE’s to identify key themes and responses
- Ongoing briefings to key partners (such as Police and Social Care) to emphasise and promote the Prevention and Diversion agenda
- Ensure point of arrest diversion is evident as a distinct and substantially different response to formal out of court disposals

Remand and Custody – demonstrate that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.

Key Actions

- Monitor and maintain the use of Compliance Panels to ensure continued effectiveness
- Ensure the Service provides intensive packages of supervision and support to high intensity orders and bail arrangements
- Ensure that the needs of young people in custody and the factors relating to their offending behaviour are addressed in the secure estate to prevent further offending upon release
- Ensure that robust and timely Resettlement Planning is in place for young people upon release to reduce the risk of further reoffending (Recommendations to be implemented from the Joint Youth Resettlement Inspection carried out by HMI Probation and HMI Prisons 2018/19)
- Review capacity to deliver ISS, and resource appropriately, through a multi-agency approach

Risk and Safety & Wellbeing (Asset Plus) – ensure all children and young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk of harm, safety and wellbeing concerns and desistance factors, to inform effective intervention and risk management.

Key Actions

- Continued Asset Plus refresher training, ensuring robust assessment of a young person's needs
- Work in partnership with other agencies to ensure there is a co-ordinated assessment and plan relating to a young person's risk and safety & wellbeing
- Implement an audit cycle/performance clinic to ensure assessment and plans are meeting the appropriate quality standards through robust and transparent quality assurance and feedback.
- Ensure that desistance factors are identified and analysed in all assessments of every young person subject to YJS supervision through quality assurance and staff supervision.
- Attendance and contribution to YJB Regional Effective Practice groups and peer collaboration with Tees Valley and North East YOT colleagues
- Ongoing internal staff training and workshops to benchmark quality standards in the management of risk and safety & wellbeing
- Continue to work alongside the partnership to identify suitable interventions and pathways for children and young people criminally exploited and potentially being drawn into County Lines activity
- Undertake 'Practice Week', this consists of a team of independent auditors to carry out case work audits, undertake practice observations and gain feedback from young people and their families. The evaluation of practice week will inform the service development plan.

Restorative Justice – ensure all victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches and restorative justice is incorporated in to the work undertaken with young people who offend.

Key Actions

- Ensure that victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches leading to improved outcomes for victims
- Continue to use restorative practice across all aspects of the Youth Justice Service
- Regularly re-visit, review and develop practice and process around Referral Order panels to ensure increased involvement from victims, panel members, young people and their families
- Continue to develop the in-house RJ 'offer' to consolidate and embed current and better integrated working practices – including the victim's evaluation

Effective Governance – ensure that the Youth Justice Strategic Management Board is a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Justice Service performance.

Key Actions

- The Youth Justice Management Board will provide oversight and scrutiny of the service action plan and performance
- Ensure Management Board members attend regular development and shadowing opportunities as provided by the YJS Team Manager.
- Continue to review the Terms of Reference for the YJS board to ensure it is fit for purpose and includes appropriate representation and contribution of all statutory partners.
- Attendance and representation at YJB Regional executive meetings with colleague YOT Managers from the North East – to share learning and Governance issues to improve wider regional service delivery

Voice of the Young People – ensure that all young people are actively involved in developing their own plans have the opportunity to develop and inform current and future service delivery

Key Actions

- Ensure young people's involvement in relation to their assessment and plans is clearly evidenced within the records.
- Young people to be actively involved in developing their own plans and their comments are captured at implementation, review and closure of all plans
- The service will ensure young people are provided with opportunities to influence and shape service delivery – through access to, and completion of, Survey Monkey feedback
- YJS leadership team to hold regular evaluation/feedback meetings to ensure all comments are seen and actioned where required

‘Child First’ – ensure that the Child First principles are embedded within the Youth Justice Service and that every child has the opportunity to live a safe and crime free life, and makes a positive contribution to society.

Key Actions

- Prioritise the best interests of children, recognising their needs, capacities, rights and potential.
- Encourage children’s active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion.
- Ensure that all work carried out by the service is a meaningful collaboration with children and their parents/carers.
- The YJS will promote a childhood that is removed from the Justice System, using prevention, diversion and minimal intervention and that all work minimises stigma.

5. STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Service Structure:

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service employs a staff team of thirty people, which includes three seconded staff, and four sessional workers (**see Appendix 1**). The service also benefits from a team of ten active volunteers who are Referral Order Panel members. All staff and volunteers are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks which are renewed every three years.

Hartlepool YJS has experienced a challenging year (operationally and strategically) during 2018/19. Internal challenges have included staffing changes at managerial and operational level, policy development, service-wide training, and, in addition, external issues in terms of ongoing reductions in finance and resource across the partnership.

The YJS delivery model has been reconfigured and restructured to ensure the service remains sufficiently flexible to address future challenges. This will continue to be achieved through a generic case management and intervention delivery model, across pre and post court functions. This will ensure maximum resilience, capacity and flexibility to meet the needs of children and young people and the service as a whole.

The current YJS structure aims to consolidate areas of strong performance and effective practice, whilst also providing a dynamic framework to respond to emerging priorities, recognised both by the Local Authority and key partners. This model (alongside the YJS strategic plan) allows the organisation and the wider YJS partnership to action the priorities for service delivery and to achieve best outcomes for children and young people across the range of statutory and preventative service.

Governance:

The Youth Justice Service is located within the Children & Joint Commissioned Services Division of Child and Adult Services. The Management Board is chaired by the local Police Area Commander and is made up of representatives from Child and Adult Services, Police, Probation, Public Health, Courts, Education, Youth Support Services and Community Safety.

Effective integrated strategic partnership working and clear oversight by the Management Board are critical to the success and effective delivery of youth justice services in Hartlepool. The board is directly responsible for:

- Determining how appropriate youth justice services are to be provided and funded;
- Overseeing the formulation each year of the youth justice plan;
- Agreeing measurable objectives linked to key performance indicators as part of the youth justice plan;
- Ensuring delivery of the statutory aim to prevent offending by children and young people;

- Giving strategic direction to Youth Justice Service Manager and Youth Justice Service Team;
- Providing performance management of the prevention of youth crime and periodically report this to the Safer Hartlepool Executive Group;
- Ensuring that Standards for children in the youth justice system 2019 are embedded across the whole service and audits are completed within required timescales;
- Promoting the key role played by the Youth Justice Service within local integrated offender management arrangements;
- Advocate on behalf of the YJS within their own service areas and beyond, specifically supporting the YJS overcome barriers to effective multi agency working;
- Oversight of all data submissions to the YJB ensuring timeliness, especially conditions set out in the YJB grant;

The Management Board is clear about the priority areas for improvement, and monitors the delivery of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan, performance and prevention work. It is well attended and receives comprehensive reports relating to performance, finance and specific areas of service delivery.

Members of the Board are knowledgeable, participate well in discussions and are members of other related boards, such as the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, which contribute to effective partnership working at a strategic level. Board meetings are well structured and members are held accountable. The current membership of the Board is as follows:

Nigel Burnell (Chair)	Local Police Area Commander
Jane Young (Deputy Chair)	Assistant Director – Children and Families’
Roni Checksfield	Hartlepool YJS Team Manager
Emma Rutherford	Virtual School Headteacher, HBC
Ann Powell	Head of Cleveland NPS – National Probation Service (NE)

Rachel Parker	Community Safety Team Leader HBC
Zoe McKenna	One Stop Shop Manager, HABC
Deborah Clark	Public Health Improvement Practitioner HBC
Jo Heaney	Clinical Commissioning Group (North east)
Lesley Moss	Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS)
David Ward	Head of Finance (Children's & adults) HBC
Lisa Oldroyd	Office for Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Kay Nicholson	Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
Paul Cartmell	Head of Service, Health & Justice Services
Linda Bush	Head of Innovation and Engagement (North East/Yorks & Humber) Youth Justice Board for England and Wales

6. RESOURCES AND VALUE FOR MONEY

The Youth Justice Service budget is mainly funded by a combination of Local Authority funding and Youth Justice Board grant, although historically there have been financial contributions from the Police and Health (CCG and Public Health). The Local Authority’s contribution to the service has remained protected; however there have been significant reductions in the other areas of funding.

The Youth Justice Board grant has been static for the last two years 2017/18 and 2018/19, and the anticipated cut in YJB grant for 2019/20 wasn’t as big as expected, the YJB allocated a grant reduction of 0.94%.

The National Probation Service continue to provide funding (£5k) as well as their staffing contribution which is 0.5 FTE, however there continues to be no health contribution (CCG).

Cleveland Police ceased their cash contribution in 2013/14. However funding secured from the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2015 towards the delivery of Triage continues, there has however been a slight reduction in the amount of this funding for the next 18 months.

2019/2020 Youth Justice Service Budget

Agency	Staffing Costs	Payments in kind	Other delegated funds	Total
Police		45,000		45,000
Police and Crime Commissioner			32,000	32,000
Probation		19,000	5,000	24,000
Health				0
Local Authority	148,954	117,545	92,398	358,987
Welsh Government				0
YJB	213,034		156,979	370,013
Other				0
Total	361,988	181,545	286,377	830,000

Planned/Proposed Expenditure 2019/20

Direct Costs	2019/20 Budget £'000
Employees	532
Premises	23
Transport	12
Other Non-Pay Costs	114
Indirect Costs – HBC #	85
Indirect Costs - Police	45
Indirect Costs - Probation	19
Total	830

- Inc recharges for premises, management, payroll, HR, finance, legal etc

The minimum staffing requirements set out in the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 requires that the service has a nominated person from each of the following statutory partners; Police Service, Children’s Social Services, National Probation Service, Education and Health. Hartlepool YJS does not have an education rep sitting within the team, however there is a designated Education Officer who deals solely with YJS children. Monthly Education meetings are held where each child in the current cohort is discussed at depth, barriers to education, current circumstances and plans moving forward are also agreed. All staff have direct access to the Education Officer to discuss ongoing daily education issues as and when they arise and gather any information/data as required.

7. PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service is a statutory partnership which includes, but also extends beyond, the direct delivery of youth justice services. In order to deliver youth justice outcomes it must be able to function effectively in both of the two key sectors within which it operates, namely:

- Criminal justice services.
- Services for children, young people and their families.

The Youth Justice Service contributes both to improving community safety and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in particular protecting them from significant harm.

Many of the young people involved with the Youth Justice Service are amongst the most vulnerable children in the borough and are at greatest risk of social exclusion. The Youth Justice Service's multi-agency approach ensures that it plays a significant role in meeting the safeguarding needs of these young people. This is achieved through the effective assessment and management of safety & wellbeing and risk, through working in partnership with other services, for example Children's Services, Health, Education, Secure Estate and Police to ensure young people's wellbeing is promoted and they are protected from harm. Regular ongoing communication, meetings, joint training opportunities and speedy information/intelligence sharing ensure ongoing strong links and relationships.

All high risk cases can be escalated to either the Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked group (VEMT) or the Strategic Risk Management Group, the Youth Justice Service has representation on both groups which meet monthly. Discussions around serious youth violence, criminal exploitation and county lines are conducted within these forums ensuring tight plans are implemented and strategic management oversight is afforded

8. RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY

The key risks that have the capacity to have an adverse impact on the Youth Justice Service in the coming twelve months and potentially beyond are detailed below:

Risks	Potential Impact	Control Measures
<p>Secure Remand Costs</p>	<p>The continued unpredictability associated with remand episodes and remand length has the potential to place significant financial pressure on the YJS and broader Local Authority.</p>	<p>It remains essential that the service can demonstrate to magistrates that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.</p> <p>Coordinated multi-agency responses to young people at risk of remand where safe and secure accommodation is the precipitating factor to be further developed. Remand budget is incorporated within Wider Children’s Services placement costs.</p>
<p>Managing the potential for reduction in YJB grant and partnership financial and ‘in-kind’ contributions for post-2019/20</p>	<p>Consequential negative impact on performance. Reduced capacity to meet strategic and operational obligations and statutory requirements. Reduced capacity to continue to focus on early intervention and identification</p>	<p>Targeted resources to address need. Continue to administer and embed the current structure and practice. Regional collaboration with neighbouring YOS’ such as coverage of TYC. Robust financial management and oversight from strategic board.</p>
<p>Performance on reoffending outcomes and impact to children</p>	<p>Rising reoffending rates will have an adverse effect on the service as a whole. Leading to potential rises in remand, custody figures and the use of alternatives to custody. This will place considerable pressure on the service both financially and in terms of capacity.</p>	<p>Through continued assessment and a bespoke package of interventions (which is currently being developed) and identifying all desistance factors. In addition, the proportionate use of rehabilitative interventions and, where necessary, restrictive interventions will serve to ensure effective management of risk and support around welfare-related need.</p> <p>Continue to work alongside the partnership to identify suitable interventions and pathways for children and young people criminally exploited and potentially being drawn into</p>

		<p>County Lines activity alongside timely referrals to Strategic Risk Management and VEMT groups.</p>
<p>Emerging concerns around Serious Youth Violence, Criminal Exploitation and County Lines</p>	<p>The rise in FTE, reoffending rates and exploitation of vulnerable children. Ultimately leading to criminalisation and wider service involvement having an adverse impact on Looked After Children (LAC) figures</p>	<p>Continued regular communication, intelligence and information sharing across all services. Ensuring a multi-agency approach is adopted with senior strategic oversight. Ongoing joint training and regular updates on the national and local picture enabling timely and relevant interventions.</p> <p>Ensure clear processes and pathways (known to all staff) are implemented to work with identified children.</p>

9. STRATEGIC SUMMARY

In spite of the adversities that families and communities contend with in Hartlepool, the local Youth Justice Partnership has had significant success in recent years in preventing and reducing youth offending behaviour.

An emphasis on prevention and diversion needs to be maintained, however this presents significant challenge in light of the continued economic climate and potential impact on staffing and resources. In spite of the continued reductions in offences and FTE, the rate of re-offending in Hartlepool continues to be an area of concern. The Youth Justice Service will continue to work with partner agencies particularly Early Help Locality Teams, Schools and CAMHS to identify and support children and young people at risk of offending as part of the wider programme “A Better Childhood in Hartlepool”, the Education Commission and Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Programme

Evidence highlights that it is often the complex interplay of multiple deprivation factors and difficulties that makes problems in some households insurmountable and places these vulnerable children at significant risk of criminal exploitation, involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour and in some instances links to County Lines. As a result there is a need to place an even greater emphasis on whole family interventions to create “pathways out of offending”, reduce crime and break the cycle of offending behaviour across generations.

Whilst youth crime rates in Hartlepool have fallen, the likelihood of being a victim of crime still remains a reality, especially in our most disadvantaged communities and there remains a need to continue to invest in the delivery of restorative approaches to give victims of crime a voice, choice, control and satisfaction in the criminal justice system.

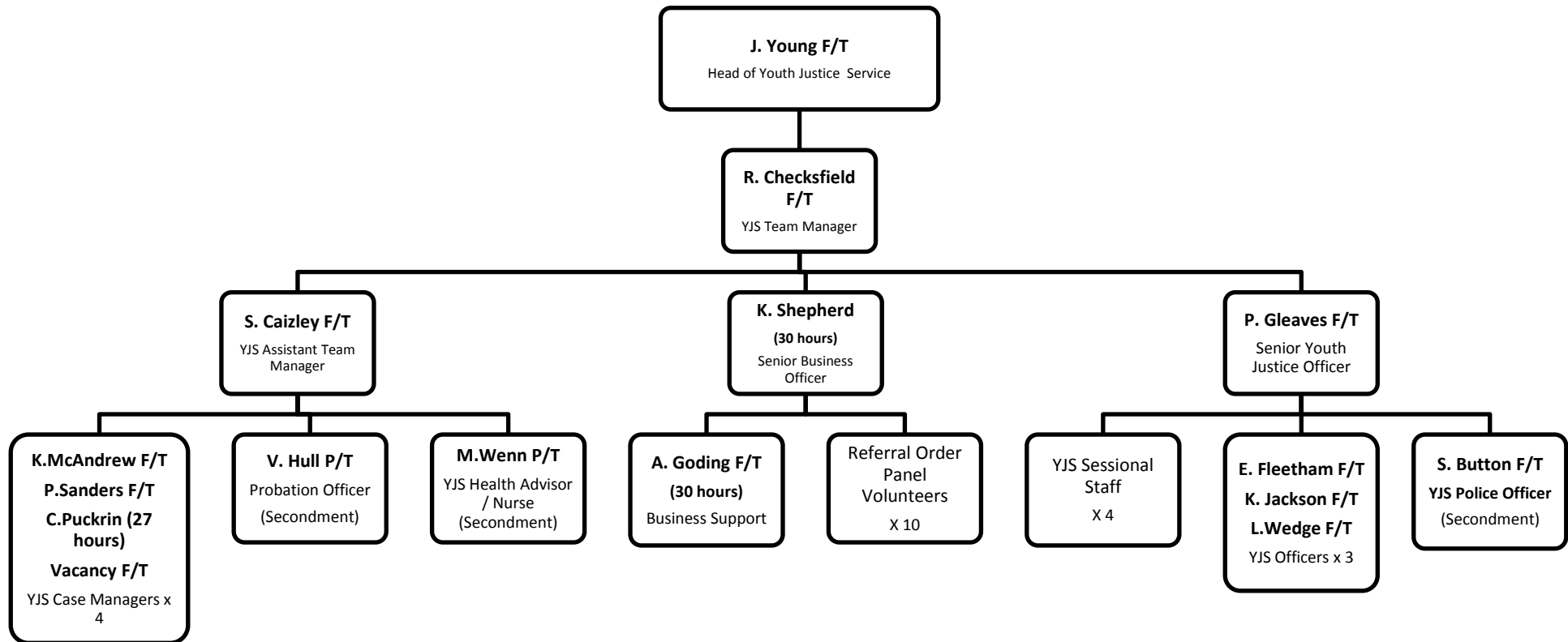
At a national level the recent implementation of the new HMIP Inspection Framework and newly published Standards for children in the youth justice system have given all youth justice providers elements of challenge, but a clear steer and direction of travel for the future. Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and broader Youth Justice Partnership will be proactive in implementing the above standards, tackling all future challenges and ultimately securing further reductions in offending and re-offending by children and young people.

Hartlepool Youth Justice Partnership



Appendix 1

Youth Justice Service Structure



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 December 2019



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP
PERFORMANCE – QUARTER 1 (APRIL-JUNE 2019)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) performance for Quarter 1 – April-June 2019 (inclusive).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Community Safety Plan 2017-20 outlines the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objectives and annual priorities for 2019/20.

3. PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 3.1 The report attached (**Appendix A**) provides an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 1, comparing current performance to the same time period in the previous year, where appropriate.
- 3.2 In line with reporting categories defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), recorded crime information is presented as:

Victim-based crime – All police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Other crimes against society - All police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state. The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 There are no equality of diversity implications.

5. SECTION 17

5.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Audit and Governance Committee note and comment on the SHP performance in Quarter 1.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has within its responsibility to act as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee and in doing so scrutinise the performance management of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Community Safety Plan 2017-20

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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Appendix A

Safer Hartlepool Performance Indicators Quarter 1 April – June 2019

Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimisation

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Apr-Jun 18	Current Position Apr – Jun 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
All Recorded Crime	11993	Reduce	2805	3071	3071	266	9.5
Residential Burglary	733	Reduce	184	194	194	10	5.4
Vehicle Crime	637	Reduce	196	186	186	-10	-5.1
Shoplifting	1961	Reduce	436	423	426	-13	-3.0
Violence	3688	Reduce	758	956	956	198	26.1
Repeat Cases of Domestic Violence – MARAC	48	Reduce	10	5	5	-5	-50

Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Apr-Jun 18	Current Position Apr – Jun 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Number of substance misusers going into effective treatment – Opiate	659	3% increase (TBC)	642	627	627	-15	-2
Proportion of substance misusers that successfully complete treatment - Opiate	6.8%	12% (TBC)	6.4%	4.6%	4.6%	-	-1.8
Proportion of substance misusers who successfully complete treatment and represent back into treatment within 6 months of leaving treatment	26.5%	10% (TBC)	12%	33.3%	33.3%	-	21
Number of young people found in possession of alcohol	1	Reduce	0	0	0	-	-

Strategic Objective: Create Confident, Cohesive and Safe Communities

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Apr-Jun 18	Current Position Apr – Jun 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Anti-social Behaviour Incidents reported to the Police	5546	Reduce	1648	1130	1130	-518	-31
Deliberate Fires	627	Reduce	124	241	241	117	94
Criminal Damage to Dwellings	688	Reduce	139	153	153	14	10
Hate Incidents	144	Increase	37	37	37	0	-

Strategic Objective: Reduce Offending & Re-Offending

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Apr-Jun 18	Current Position Apr – Jun 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Re-offending rate of young offenders	Data not yet published	Reduce	Data not yet published	Data not yet published	Data not yet published		
First-Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System	15	Reduce	2	6	6	4	200
Number of Troubled Families engaged with	362	1000	785	1229	1229		
Number of Troubled Families where results have been claimed	355	1000	414	820	820		

Recorded Crime in Hartlepool April to June 2019**Victim-based crime**

Victim-based crime is all police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime)				
Crime Category/Type	Apr 18 - Jun 18	Apr 19 - Jun 19	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	758	956	198	26.1%
Homicide	0	1	1	-
Death or Injury Due to Driving	0	0	0	-
Violence with injury	254	247	-7	-2.8%
Violence without injury	285	344	59	20.7%
Stalking and Harassment	219	364	145	66.2%
Sexual Offences	52	83	31	59.6%
Rape	20	26	6	30.0%
Other Sexual Offences	32	57	25	78.1%
Robbery	20	19	-1	-5.0%
Business Robbery	2	3	1	50.0%
Personal Robbery	18	16	-2	-11.1%
Acquisitive Crime	1305	1175	-130	-10.0%
Domestic Burglary	184	194	10	5.4%
Other Burglary	98	75	-23	-23.5%
Bicycle Theft	39	42	3	8.0%
Theft from the Person	17	15	-2	-11.8%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	196	186	-10	-5.1%
Shoplifting	436	423	-13	-3.0%
Other Theft	335	240	-95	-28.4%
Criminal Damage & Arson	346	404	58	16.8%
Total	2481	2637	156	6.3%
Police Generated Offences				
Crime Category/Type	Apr 18 - Jun 18	Apr 19 - Jun 19	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	184	217	33	17.9%
Drug Offences	72	97	25	34.7%
Trafficking of drugs	12	26	14	116.7%
Possession/Use of drugs	60	71	11	18.3%
Possession of Weapons	20	23	3	15.0%
Misc. Crimes Against Society	48	97	49	102.1%
Total Police Generated Crime	324	434	110	
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL	2805	3071	266	9.5%

Other crimes against society

These offences are all police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state.

The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons.

Police Generated Offences				
Crime Category/Type	Apr 18 - Jun 18	Apr 19 - Jun 19	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	184	217	33	17.9%
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Misc. Crimes Against Society	48	97	49	102.1%
Total Police Generated Crime	324	434	110	
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL				
	2805	3071	266	9.5%

Recorded Crime in Cleveland April to June 2019

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime) Apr - Jun 19										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Violence against the person	956	10.5	1202	9.0	2027	14.9	1665	8.9	5850	10.7
Homicide	1	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.0
Death or injury due to driving	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0	4	0.0
Violence with injury	247	2.7	288	2.2	531	3.9	413	2.2	1479	2.7
Violence without injury	344	3.8	449	0.4	788	3.2	645	1.7	1023	1.9
Stalking and Harassment	364	4.0	464	3.5	705	5.2	605	3.2	2138	3.9
Sexual Offences	83	0.9	112	0.8	150	1.1	152	0.8	497	0.9
Rape	26	0.3	35	0.3	47	0.3	57	0.3	165	0.3
Other Sexual Offences	57	0.6	77	0.6	103	0.8	95	0.5	332	0.6
Robbery	19	0.2	19	0.1	76	0.6	32	0.2	146	0.3
Business Robbery	3	0.0	5	0.0	11	0.1	6	0.0	25	0.0
Personal Robbery	16	0.2	14	0.1	65	0.5	26	0.1	121	0.2
Theft	1175	12.9	1085	8.1	2024	14.9	1711	9.1	5995	10.9
Burglary - residential	194	4.8	182	3.1	371	6.5	237	3.0	984	4.2
Burglary - Business and Community	75	0.8	100	0.7	95	0.7	85	0.5	355	0.6
Bicycle Theft	42	0.5	18	0.1	97	0.7	48	0.3	205	0.4
Theft from the Person	15	0.2	19	0.1	80	0.6	50	0.3	164	0.3
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	186	2.0	160	1.2	267	2.0	322	1.7	935	1.7
Shoplifting	423	4.6	334	2.5	601	4.4	502	2.7	1860	3.4
Other Theft	240	2.6	272	2.0	513	3.8	467	2.5	1492	2.7
Criminal Damage & Arson	404	4.4	486	3.6	873	6.4	677	3.6	2440	4.4
Total	2637	28.9	2904	21.7	5150	37.8	4237	22.5	14928	27.2

Police Generated Offences (Non -Victim Based Crime) Apr - Jun 19										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Public Disorder	217	2.4	235	1.8	498	3.7	375	2.0	1325	2.4
Drug Offences	97	1.1	56	0.4	173	1.3	114	0.6	440	0.8
Trafficking of drugs	26	0.3	13	0.1	39	0.3	25	0.1	103	0.2
Possession/Use of drugs	71	0.8	43	0.3	134	1.0	89	0.5	337	0.6
Possession of Weapons	23	0.3	21	0.2	49	0.4	45	0.2	138	0.3
Misc. Crimes Against Society	97	1.1	90	0.7	171	1.3	123	0.7	481	0.9
Total Police Generated Crime	434	4.8	402	3.0	891	6.5	657	3.5	2384	4.3
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME	3071	33.7	3306	24.7	6041	44.4	4894	26.0	17312	31.5

Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool April to June 2019

Incident Category	Apr – Jun 18	Apr – Jun 19	Change	% Change
AS21 - Personal	510	247	-263	-52%
AS22 - Nuisance	1091	848	-243	-22%
AS23 - Environmental	47	35	-12	-26%
Total	1648	1130	-518	-31%

Incident Category	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop
AS21 - Personal	247	2.7	389	2.9	528	3.9	490	2.6	1654	3.0
AS22 - Nuisance	848	9.3	1157	8.6	2033	14.9	1906	10.1	5944	10.8
AS23 - Environmental	35	0.4	41	0.3	45	0.3	14	0.1	135	0.2
Total	1130	12.4	1587	11.8	2606	19.1	2410	12.8	7733	14.1
Quarterly Year on Year Comparison	Reduced by 31%		Reduced by 23%		Reduced by 10%		Reduced by 14%		Reduced by 18%	

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5th December 2019



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP
PERFORMANCE – QUARTER 2 (JULY-OCTOBER
2019)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) performance for Quarter 2 – July-September 2019 (inclusive).

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Community Safety Plan 2017-20 outlines the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objectives and annual priorities for 2019/20.

3. PERFORMANCE REPORT

3.1 The report attached (**Appendix A**) provides an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 2, comparing current performance to the same time period in the previous year, where appropriate.

3.2 In line with reporting categories defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), recorded crime information is presented as:

Victim-based crime – All police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Other crimes against society - All police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state. The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for

example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 There are no equality of diversity implications.

5. SECTION 17

5.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Audit and Governance Committee note and comment on the SHP performance in Quarter 2.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has within its responsibility to act as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee and in doing so scrutinise the performance management of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Community Safety Plan 2017-20

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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Safer Hartlepool Performance Indicators Quarter 2 July – September 2019

Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimization

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Jul – Sep 18	Current Position Jul - Sep 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
All Recorded Crime	11993	Reduce	3027	3342	6411	315	10.4
Residential Burglary	733	Reduce	168	189	383	21	12.5
Vehicle Crime	637	Reduce	151	294	480	143	94.7
Shoplifting	1961	Reduce	494	408	831	-86	-17.4
Violence	3688	Reduce	938	1157	2133	219	23.3
Repeat Cases of Domestic Violence – MARAC	48	Reduce	12	13	18	1	8

Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Jul – Sep 18	Current Position Jul - Sep 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Number of substance misusers going into effective treatment – Opiate	659	3% increase	638	606	632	-32	-5
Proportion of substance misusers that successfully complete treatment - Opiate	6.8%	12%	6.1%	4.3%	4.3%	-	-1.8
Proportion of substance misusers who successfully complete treatment and represent back into treatment within 6 months of leaving treatment	26.5%	10%	25%	36.4%	36.4%	-	11.4

Strategic Objective: Create Confident, Cohesive and Safe Communities

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Jul – Sep 18	Current Position Jul - Sep 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Anti-social Behaviour Incidents reported to the Police	5546	Reduce	1611	1327	2457	-284	-18
Deliberate Fires	627	Reduce	175	151	392	-24	-13.7
Criminal Damage to Dwellings	688	Reduce	161	154	307	-7	-4
Hate Incidents	144	Increase	46	33	70	-13	-28

Strategic Objective: Reduce Offending & Re-Offending

Indicator Name	Baseline 2018/19	Local Directional Target 2019/20	Jul – Sep 18	Current Position Jul - Sep 19	Year to Date 2019/20	Actual Diff.	% Diff
Re-offending rate of young offenders	Data not yet published	Reduce	Data not yet published	Data not yet published	Data not yet published		
First-Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System	15	Reduce	1	2	8	1	100
Number of Troubled Families engaged with	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000		
Number of Troubled Families where results have been claimed	748	1000	557	913	913		

Recorded Crime in Hartlepool July to September 2019**Victim-based crime**

Victim-based crime is all police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime)				
Crime Category/Type	Jul – Sep 2018	Jul – Sep 2019	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	938	1157	219	23.3%
Homicide	1	1	0	0.0%
Death or Injury Due to Driving	0	0	0	-
Violence with injury	265	265	0	0.0%
Violence without injury	354	451	97	27.4%
Stalking and Harassment	318	440	122	38.4%
Sexual Offences	63	58	-5	-7.9%
Rape	23	17	-6	-26.1%
Other Sexual Offences	40	41	1	2.5%
Robbery	19	35	16	84.2%
Business Robbery	1	11	10	1000.0%
Personal Robbery	18	24	6	33.3%
Acquisitive Crime	1262	1260	-2	-0.2%
Burglary - Residential	168	189	21	12.05%
Burglary – Business & Community	57	77	20	35.1%
Bicycle Theft	53	29	-24	-45.3%
Theft from the Person	23	23	0	0.0%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	151	294	143	94.7%
Shoplifting	494	408	-86	-17.4%
Other Theft	316	240	-76	-24.1%
Criminal Damage & Arson	397	375	-22	-5.5%
Total	2679	2885	206	7.7%

Other crimes against society

These offences are all police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state.

The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons.

Police Generated Offences				
Crime Category/Type	Jul – Sep 2018	Jul – Sep 2019	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	185	262	77	41.6%
Drug Offences	60	86	26	43.3%
Trafficking of drugs	21	22	1	4.8%
Possession/Use of drugs	39	64	25	64.1%
Possession of Weapons	12	31	19	158.3%
Misc. Crimes Against Society	91	78	-13	-14.3%
Total Police Generated Crime	348	457	109	31.3%
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL				
	3027	3342	315	10.4%

Recorded Crime in Cleveland July to September 2019

Publicly Reported Crime (Victim Based Crime) July - September 2019										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Violence against the person	1157	12.4	1148	8.4	1992	14.2	1872	9.5	6169	10.9
Homicide	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Death or injury due to driving	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Violence with injury	265	2.8	299	2.2	527	3.7	446	2.3	1537	2.7
Violence without injury	451	4.8	409	3.0	801	5.7	701	3.6	2184	3.8
Stalking and harassment	440	4.7	440	3.2	664	4.7	724	3.7	2268	4.0
Sexual Offences	58	0.6	100	0.7	162	1.2	162	0.8	482	0.8
Rape	17	0.2	35	0.3	83	0.6	73	0.4	208	0.4
Other Sexual Offences	41	0.4	65	0.5	79	0.6	89	0.5	274	0.5
Robbery	35	0.4	31	0.2	75	0.5	63	0.3	204	0.4
Business Robbery	11	0.1	12	0.1	18	0.1	19	0.1	60	0.1
Personal Robbery	24	0.3	19	0.1	57	0.4	44	0.2	144	0.3
Acquisitive Crime	1260	13.5	1097	8.0	2024	14.4	1559	7.9	5940	10.5
Burglary - Residential	189	2.0	207	1.5	320	2.3	234	1.2	950	1.7
Burglary - Business and Community	77	0.8	77	0.6	93	0.7	67	0.3	314	0.6
Bicycle Theft	29	0.3	27	0.2	85	0.6	56	0.3	197	0.3
Theft from the Person	23	0.2	16	0.1	58	0.4	37	0.2	134	0.2
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	294	3.2	175	1.3	356	2.5	269	1.4	1094	1.9
Shoplifting	408	4.4	313	2.3	617	4.4	478	2.4	1816	3.2
Other Theft	240	2.6	282	2.1	495	3.5	418	2.1	1435	2.5
Criminal Damage & Arson	375	4.0	562	4.1	840	6.0	719	3.6	2496	4.4
Total	2885	30.9	2938	21.5	5093	36.2	4375	22.2	15291	26.9

Police Generated Offences (Non-Victim Based Crime) July - September 2019										
Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Public Disorder	262	2.8	302	2.2	680	4.8	459	2.3	1703	3.0
Drug Offences	86	0.9	51	0.4	168	1.2	119	0.6	424	0.7
Trafficking of drugs	22	0.2	14	0.1	43	0.3	33	0.2	112	0.2
Possession/Use of drugs	64	0.7	37	0.3	125	0.9	86	0.4	312	0.5
Possession of Weapons	31	0.3	23	0.2	56	0.4	49	0.2	159	0.3
Misc. Crimes Against Society	78	0.8	118	0.9	170	1.2	142	0.7	508	0.9
Total Police Generated Crime	457	4.9	494	3.6	1074	7.6	769	3.9	2794	4.9
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME	3342	35.8	3432	25.1	6167	43.9	5144	26.1	18085	31.9

Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool July to September 2019

Incident Category	Jul - Sep 18	Jul - Sep 19	Change	% Change
AS21 - Personal	488	259	-229	-46.9%
AS22 - Nuisance	1089	1043	-46	-4.2%
AS23 - Environmental	34	25	-9	-26.5%
Total	1611	1327	-284	-18%

Incident Category	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop
AS21 - Personal	259	2.8	290	2.1	438	3.1	379	1.9	1366	2.4
AS22 - Nuisance	1043	11.2	1346	9.8	2098	14.9	1886	9.6	6373	11.2
AS23 - Environmental	25	0.3	36	0.3	31	0.2	51	0.3	143	0.3
Total	1327	14.2	1672	12.2	2567	18.3	2316	11.7	7882	13.9
Quarterly Year on Year Comparison	Reduced by 18%		Reduced by 12%		Reduced by 13%		Reduced by 18%		Reduced by 15%	

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5th December 2019



Report of: Statutory Scrutiny Manager

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN HARTLEPOOL: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee's with an update on the progress of the investigation into 'Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool' along with the ongoing consultation and engagement.

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 The Audit and Governance Committee at its meeting on the 25th July 2019, agreed the Scope and Terms of Reference for the conduct of its anti-social behaviour investigation. As part of the investigation, the Committee agreed to undertake a range of consultation and engagement activities a number of which have now been completed.
- 2.2 Whilst it had been intended to fully feedback the results of these activities at today's meeting, this will now be delayed until the January 2020 meeting as a result of purdah. However, a brief update is provided as follows.
- 2.3 **Public Survey** – A town-wide survey (attached at **Appendix A**) has been undertaken as part of the investigation which closed at the end of November. The Survey was:
- Completed electronically (survey monkey) and via paper copies (available on request and in Community Hubs / public buildings).
 - Publicised extensively through local press, social media and via posters in public buildings, pharmacies, GP practices.
- 2.4 At the time of the production of this report, a total of 268 electronic responses to the survey had been received.

2.5 In addition, the engagement events noted below have been held at various venues across the town, attendance at which has been good, with over 100 individuals participating.

2.6 **Drop-In Sessions -**

16 October – South Hub, Wynyard Road
 17 October – Central Hub, Victoria Road
 18 October – North Hub, Miers Avenue
 21 October – Hartfields, Bishop Cuthbert
 22 October – Laurel Gardens, Marlowe Road
 24 October – Albany Court, off Tankerville Street

2.7 **Workshops and other visits** – A variety of other opportunities have been taken to engage with residents from across communities and age groups to assist the Committee in obtaining a full understanding of issues and options going forward. Details are as follows:-

24 October – Workshop with the Children in Care Council/Youth Council
 28 October – Visit of the Community Safety Office Visit
 29 October – Day of Action, Oxford Road
 7 November – Enforcement Officer Patrol
 11 November – Workshop with the Asylum Seeker Refuge Group, St Joseph's Hall, Hutton Avenue
 11 November – Youth Outreach Team Patrol, via Belle Vue Centre
 13 November – Workshop with local taxi drivers, Civic Centre
 13 November – Workshop with representatives from Residents' Associations/Groups
 14 November – Workshop with young people from Youth Clubs across the town, West View Advice and Resource Centre

2.8 **Outstanding events** - The following are events that remain to be scheduled and Members are invited to express an interest in attending the events:

- Cleveland Police Ride Along Scheme
- Premise Closure Operation
- Interviews with residents who have reported anti-social behaviour
- Interviews with a selection of perpetrators of anti-social behaviour

2.9 A further report fully detailing the outcome of the Committees engagement and consultation activities (including a full analysis of the outcome of the town wide survey) will be presented at the Audit and Governance Committee on the 9th January 2020. In the meantime, however, Members are asked to consider if they wish to identify any further pieces of engagement work they would like to see undertaken as part of the investigation.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Members were asked to:

- i) Note the update on the consultation and engagement programme undertaken as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation;
- ii) Indicate if they are interested in attending any of the remaining consultation events; and
- iii) Consider if they wish any further pieces of engagement work to be undertaken as part of the investigation.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper(s) was/were used in the preparation of this report:-

- a) Hartlepool Borough Council Scrutiny Investigation – [Anti Social Behaviour | Hartlepool Borough Council](#)
- b) SHP Annual Strategic assessment 2018.
- c) Community Safety Plan 2017 – 2020 (Year 3)

Anti-Social Behaviour Survey 2019

The Council's Audit and Governance Committee is investigating how we respond to reports of anti-social behaviour to find out if we are getting this right and what we can do better.

Who do we want to hear from?

We would like to hear from residents who have experienced anti-social behaviour in the past 6 months. Anti-social behaviour is behaviour which causes you alarm, harassment or distress. It might include things like people shouting/fighting in the street, throwing stones at houses or cars, starting fires, dealing drugs or noise nuisance.

If you have experienced this kind of behaviour in the past 6 months we would like to hear from you regardless of whether or not you reported this behaviour.

How will this information be used?

The information you provide will be part of the evidence considered the Audit and Governance Committee to help improve the way we deal with anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool.

About this survey

The closing date for the survey is **24th November 2019**. It should take around 10 mins to complete.

Some of the questions ask you to give us personal information such as your postcode. This is to help us understand your answers and to see if these answers change in different areas. We will not use this information to identify individuals and no personal information will be shared. Hartlepool Borough Council is the data controller.

The survey forms part of a wider review of anti-social behaviour services, the findings of which will be reported to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Council's Audit and Governance Committee. Further copies of the survey can be obtained from the Civic Centre reception, the Community Hubs or by telephoning 01429 523647.

You can also complete this survey online using the link or QR code:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ASBFeedback2019



**Hartlepool Community
Safety Team**



**HARTLEPOOL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



Protecting local
communities



**YOUR SAY
OUR FUTURE**



To begin with, please tell us whether you have experienced anti-social behaviour in the past 6 months?

1. Have you experienced anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool in the past 6 months?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Please go to Q2
No	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Please go to Q20

TYPES OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR EXPERIENCED

2. So we can get an idea what kind of anti-social behaviour is going on in Hartlepool, please tell us if you have experienced any of the following in the past 6 months (please tick all that apply)?

Noisy neighbours or loud parties	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Rude/abusive behaviour from adults in public places	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Rubbish/litter lying around	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Rude/abusive behaviour from children/young people in public places	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to properties and vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Stones or other items thrown at properties/cars	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
People dealing drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Deliberate fires/arson	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
People drinking or taking drugs in the street or other public place	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Hate crime or incident (including verbal abuse, graffiti, posters/stickers promoting far right groups, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Groups hanging around in the street/other public place	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	People begging/asking for money in public places	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Run down or boarded up properties	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	People banging on my door/window)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Physical violence	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Nuisance motorbikes/off-road bikes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Household burglary	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Something else (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Vehicle crime (including theft of, or from, a vehicle)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁		

REPORTING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

3. Did you report the anti-social behaviour you were experiencing?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Please go to Q4
No	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Please go to Q18

Please tell us who you reported the anti-social behaviour to and what happened after you reported it.

By 'reporting' the issue we mean that a record of your report was made and you may have been given a reference number or received some form of confirmation. Please don't count any comments you may have made 'in passing' as these might not have been recorded.

4. Who did you report the anti-social behaviour to (please tick all that apply)?

Hartlepool Community Safety Team	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
HBC Environmental Protection Team (the 'noise team')	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Cleveland Police	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Hartlepool Borough Council's Customer Services (e.g. Civic Centre reception)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Community Hub	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Landlord/Housing Provider	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Ward Councillor	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

5. How did you report the anti-social behaviour (please tick all that apply)?

By telephone	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	In person	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
By email	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁		
By letter	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

6. Was your report made anonymously?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
No	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

7. Did you find it easy to report the anti-social behaviour?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
No	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

8. If you did not find it easy to report the anti-social behaviour, why was this (please tick all that apply)?

I didn't know how to report it	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
I didn't know who to report it to	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
I didn't know how to contact the agency/people I wanted to report it to	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
I tried but I was not able to report it	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

9. If you reported the issue and were informed that action would be taken but then nothing happened, how many more times did you have to report it before you got a response?

0 – I got a response the first time I reported it	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
4 or more	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

AFTER MAKING THE REPORT

10. After making the report did the level of anti-social behaviour change?

It stopped	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
It reduced	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
It stayed the same	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
It got worse	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

Please go to the next page

SUPPORT OFFERED

11. When you made your report (or at any time during the process) were you offered any support?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
No	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Don't know/can't remember	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

12. Please tell us what support you were offered and whether you used this support (please tick all that apply).

	I was offered this	I used this	I was not offered this	I would have used this if it had been offered
Victim Support (e.g. support from a victim services officer)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
A fire home safety visit from the Fire Brigade	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Crime prevention help (e.g. lights, window alarms, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Referral to MIND mental health services	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Referral to the Samaritans	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Referral to Harbour domestic abuse support services	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

- 13. If you used one or more of the support services listed above and found it to be useful, please tell us why it was useful.**

- 14. If you used one or more of the support services listed above and did not find it to be useful, please tell us why.**

Please go to the next page

OVERALL SATISFACTION

Thinking about the way your report(s) was handled, from making the first report to how things are now, we would like to know how satisfied you were with the service you have received.

15. Do you agree with the following statements?

	Yes	No
Were you satisfied with the response you received to your report(s)/	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Was the Officer(s) dealing with your report(s) polite and courteous?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Were you satisfied with the information and advice provided to you?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Were you kept informed about what was happening with your report(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Did you feel adequate support was provided to you?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Were you satisfied with the length of time it took to deal with the problem you reported?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Was the criteria for having your case looked at under the 'Community Trigger' process explained to you?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

16. If you answered no to any of the above questions, please tell us why?

17. Overall, how satisfied were you with the service you received?

Very satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Very dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

Now go to Question 20

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR NOT REPORTED (From Question 3).

Please use this section to tell us about your decision not to report the anti-social behaviour.

18. Please tell us why you did not report the anti-social behaviour (please tick all that apply).

I didn't know how to report it	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
I was afraid of reprisals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
I thought there was nothing that could be done	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
I dealt with it myself (e.g. by repairing the damage or through insurance)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
I didn't think anyone would help	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

19. What would have made it easier to report the issues?

Please go to the next page

GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN HARTLEPOOL

In this section we will ask you about your general perceptions of anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool

20. How much of a problem do you think anti-social behaviour is in your local area?

A very big problem	A fairly big problem	Not a very big problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/no opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

21. Compared with 12 months ago, do you think anti-social behaviour has become more of a problem, less of a problem or has not changed?

More of a problem	Not changed	Less of a problem	Don't know/no opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

22. How much would you say your quality of life was affected by anti-social behaviour?

Very affected	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Fairly affected	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Hardly affected	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Not affected at all	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Don't know/no opinion	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

23. Do you agree or disagree that the Police, Council and other agencies are dealing with anti-social behaviour issues in your local area?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

24. If you 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' please tell us what you think we could do to tackle these issues.

HARTLEPOOL COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

Hartlepool Community Safety Team was launched in February 2018 by bringing together community safety staff from Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade, and Cleveland Victim Care and Advice Service who are co-located at Hartlepool Police Station.

The team aims to improve information sharing and joint working, and ensures that Hartlepool's communities benefit from a co-ordinated approach to tackling community safety issues.

The team operates using a proactive and problem solving approach where resources are targeted at issues identified by the team with the highest threat, risk, harm, vulnerability, and impact on both individuals and communities.

25. Have you seen any publicity about the work of Hartlepool Community Safety Team (please tick all that apply)?

In the Hartlepool Mail newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	At a drop-in event	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
In the Hartlepool Life free newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Hartlepool Community Safety Team letter or leaflet	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
In the Council's Hartbeat magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	I have not seen any publicity about Hartlepool Community Safety Team	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
On social media	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁

A BIT ABOUT YOU...

Finally, we would like to ask a few questions about you. This information will help us to understand the answers you have given to earlier questions and to see if these answers change in different areas. This information will not be used to identify individuals.

For each question, there is the option not to answer and some questions have text boxes for you to self-identify.

By providing this information you give Hartlepool Borough Council the authority to collect and retain information about you. This information will be held securely and no personal data will be disclosed. Hartlepool Borough Council is the data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act.

26. Please tell us the first part of your postcode.

TS22	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
TS23	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
TS24	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
TS25	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
TS26	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
TS27	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

27. Are you...

Female	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Male	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Self-Identify:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

28. How old are you?

17 or under	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	45-54	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
18-24	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	55-64	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	65+	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
35-44	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Prefer not to say	

29. Do you have a disability?

Yes	No	Prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

30. What is your ethnic origin?

White	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Other ethnic group	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Asian or Asian British	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Self-identify:	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Black African, Caribbean or Black British	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁		

31. Do you consider yourself to be...?

Heterosexual	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Homosexual	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Self-identify:	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁		

Please turn over for the privacy statement and survey return information

PRIVACY

By completing this questionnaire you give Hartlepool Borough Council the authority to collect and retain information about you. The information collected about you will be held securely and will be processed to produce statistical reports. No personal data will be disclosed. Hartlepool Borough Council is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act.

Thank you for taking part in the survey

Please place completed surveys in the box provided or return to:

Scrutiny Team
Hartlepool Borough Council,
Civic Centre, Level 2
Victoria Road,
Hartlepool,
TS24 8AY

The closing date is Sunday 24th November 2019

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5 December 2019



Report of: Statutory Scrutiny Manager

Subject: APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES / FORUMS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Further to the report considered by the Committee on 6 June 2019, a vacancy remains on the following: Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee - The Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) replaced the Better Health Programme in developing health services to meet patient needs now and in the future with constantly improving health and social care delivered in the best place. Commissioners want to make sure that:

- We improve results for patients;
- Care is of the same high standard wherever, and whenever it is provided;
- Services have the resources to be sustainable for the next 10 -15 years;
- We can provide services across 7 days a week where necessary;
- We make services easier for patients to understand and use;
- We improve life expectancy and quality of life for everyone in Darlington, Durham and Tees.

- 2.2 The programme aimed to continue improving the services available in Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby but in doing so, key challenges have been identified including:

- The changing health needs of local people;
- Meeting recommended clinical standards;
- Availability of highly trained and skilled staff;
- High quality seven-day services;
- Providing care closer to home; and
- Making the best use of our money.

- 2.3 The Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee was established in 2017, as the body through which it is proposed that the respective Local Authorities respond to consultations as part of the STP process. A full copy of the Committees Terms of Reference is attached at **Appendix 1**.

- 2.4 Going forward, the Committee is asked to note that STP's have now evolved into Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), which are 'autonomous systems in which local bodies take collective responsibility for the health and social care of their populations within a defined budget'. Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) have also been established under ICS's, as bodies through which providers can work collaboratively, rather than competing to build on the new care models programme and pre-existing collaborations between services.
- 2.5 On this basis, the Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP has now evolved into the South Integrated Care Partnership (ICP), the purpose of which is to be 'a new type of even closer collaboration, whereby NHS organisations, in partnership with local councils and others, take collective responsibility for managing resources, delivering NHS standards, and improving the health of the population they serve'.
- 2.6 To reflect this, the title of the Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is to change in the coming year to the 'Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby ICP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee'. However, in the meantime, the Committee is requested to appoint three members to the Durham Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. The Committee meets a minimum of four times a year, with its first meeting for 2019/20 held on the 12th June 2019.
- 2.7 The appointments should reflect the Council's political balance and the following were made earlier this year: Labour – Councillor Hall, Independent Union and Conservative – Councillor Loynes. To maintain the political balance, the vacancy should be from within Socialist Labour and a nomination is sought.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members agree to fill the vacancy to the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

Contact Officers:- Joan Stevens – Statutory Scrutiny Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Legal Services
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

David Cosgrove – Democratic Services Team
Chief Executive's Department – Legal Services
Tel: 01429 523019
Email: david.cosgrove@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

HBC Constitution Part 7; Appointments to Outside organisations and other bodies.

APPENDIX 1

Durham Darlington Teesside Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Committee**Terms of Reference**

1. To consider the draft Durham Darlington Teesside Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby STP (hereafter called STP).
2. To consider proposals for substantial development and variation to health services as contained in and/ or developed from the STP and as proposed by the following:
 - a) Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG);
 - b) Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield CCG;
 - c) Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees CCG;
 - d) South Tees CCG;
 - e) Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG.
3. To consider the following in advance of the formal public consultation:
 - The aims and objectives of the STP, the constituent workstreams therein including those proposals formerly developed as part of the Better Health Programme;
 - The plans and proposals for public and stakeholder consultation and engagement;
 - Any options for service change identified as part of the STP including those considerations made as part of any associated options appraisal process.
4. To consider the STP's substantive proposals during the period of formal public consultation, and produce a formal consultation response, in accordance with the protocol for the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and the consultation timetable established by the relevant NHS Bodies.
5. In order to be able to formulate and provide views to the relevant NHS bodies on the matters outlined above, the Joint Committee may:-
 - a) Require the relevant NHS Bodies to provide information about the proposals the subject of the consultation with the constituent local authorities and the Joint Committee; and
 - b) Require an officer of the relevant NHS Bodies to attend meetings of the Joint Committee, in order to answer such questions as appear to them to be necessary for the discharge of their functions in connection with the consultation.
6. To ensure the formal consultation response of the Joint Committee includes, in full, the views of all of the constituent authorities, with the specific reasons for those views, regarding those areas where there is no consensus, as well

as the constituent authorities' views in relation to those matters where there is a consensus.

7. To oversee the implementation of any proposed service changes agreed as part of the STP/Better Health Programme process.
8. The Joint Committee does not have the power of referral to the Secretary of State.

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

11 October 2019

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

Present:

Responsible Authority Members:

Councillor: Shane Moore (In the Chair)
Councillor John Tennant
Denise McGuckin, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Tony Hanson, Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services
Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Kevin Harrison, Cleveland Fire Authority

Other Members:

Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Sally Robinson, Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services

Also Present:

John Lovatt was in attendance as substitute for Jill Harrison,
Ian Armstrong as substitute for John Graham,
Karen Hawkins as substitute for Michael Houghton, and
Tony O'Ceallaigh as substitute for Pat Riordan
Councillor Lee Cartwright
Sarah Wilson, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Officers: Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

19. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, John Graham, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company, Pat Riordan, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council, Superintendent Alison Jackson, Cleveland Police, Joanne Hodgkinson, Safe in Tees Valley, Michael Houghton, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees and Darlington CCG.

20. Declarations of Interest

None.

21. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2019

Confirmed.

22. Drug and Alcohol Service Provision (*Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services*)**Purpose of report**

To update the Partnership on the current provision of services for drugs and alcohol in Hartlepool and to inform the Safer Hartlepool Partnership of the development of future provision for the service.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Public Health Consultant reported on the background to the recent review of drug and alcohol service provision and the agreement to establish a new model of provision that would report jointly to the SHP and Health and Wellbeing Board. The proposed changes to the current model of drug and alcohol delivery had been presented to Finance and Policy Committee in August when they agreed their preferred option to keep the PSI element of treatment in house with significant restructure and review and re-procure the prescribing element through the appropriate channels. The new integrated clinical drug and alcohol services would commence from 1 June 2020. The changes to current service provision would include the offer of a number of treatment option to clients, details of which were set out in the report.

Decision

The Partnership noted the new model of integrated clinical service provision which had been approved by Finance and Policy Committee and the progress being made towards its delivery.

23. Police and Crime Plan (*Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland*)**Issue(s) for consideration**

The Police and Crime Commissioner, who was in attendance at the meeting, reported on the background to the requirements by law for PCC's to develop a plan setting out key objectives for policing and community

safety in their area. In support of the report, the Police and Crime Commissioner provided the Partnership with a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to the Police and Crime Plan for 2019-2020 which included an overview of the Commissioner's key commitments over the next year for each of the five priorities, together with the outcomes which would be measured through the Commissioner's Performance Management and Scrutiny Programme:-

Five Key Priorities

- Investing in Policing
- A Better Deal for Victims and Witnesses
- Tackling Offending and Re-offending
- Working Together to make Cleveland Safer
- Securing the Future of Communities

In the discussion that followed the presentation the representative responded to queries raised arising from the presentation. In response to a query raised, the Partnership was advised that there would be a consultation process to seek views in relation to proposed plans to return to a neighbourhood policing model. The Police and Crime Commissioner was pleased to report the recent announcement regarding the proposed recruitment of additional police officers, details of which were provided.

The Chair of the Youth Offending Board advised that the police were keen to receive input/views from Partnership Members as well as other key partners in relation to future neighbourhood policing teams and suggested engagement activities. The Chair requested that a hard copy of the survey be provided to Partnership Members to enable their views to be fed into the proposals.

The Chair commented on the benefits of neighbourhood policing and the importance of PCSO's in terms of community intelligence gathering. In relation to a query raised regarding the future custody suite arrangements for Hartlepool, the representative advised that this would be reviewed by the Superintendent. A number of positive comments were raised regarding the benefits of the integrated community safety arrangements operational in Hartlepool. In response to a query raised regarding the costs to the Council of the co-location arrangements, the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods advised that a copy of the full business case was available and could be provided following the meeting. It was noted that the Corporate Management Team was currently undertaking a piece of work in terms of office accommodation and disposal of buildings.

Decision

- (i) That the contents of the 2019/20 Police and Crime Plan and comments of Partnership Members be noted.

- (ii) That a hard copy of the survey regarding future policing arrangements be provided to Partnership Members following the meeting.

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

Purpose of report

To provide an overview of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 1 covering April to June 2019.

Issue(s) for consideration

The report provided an overview of the Partnership's performance during Quarter1, 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.

With regard to the significant increase in deliberate fires, it was reported that information would be submitted to the November meeting of the Partnership which would provide some context around the work the Fire Service was doing to address this increase. Anti-Social Behaviour Officers had been working with individuals involved in deliberate fires during the reporting period and there had been no further reports of anti-social behaviour in this regard since the restorative interventions had been introduced.

A representative from the Fire Service commented on the hot spot areas within the town and the measures in place to address this.

Comments were raised regarding interpretation of the data around the proportion of substance misusers that successfully completed treatment and represented back into treatment within six months of leaving treatment and the potential reasons for an increase in these figures.

A Member expressed concern regarding the negative perceptions around the response times of the 101 police response service and was keen to receive performance data in this regard with a view to addressing such perceptions. Whilst it was noted that additional resources had been allocated to the 101 police control room, given the increase in demand which had resulted in service improvements, the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed to speak to the Member following the meeting and investigate the issues raised. The Police and Crime Commissioner commented on the opportunity to invite a representative from the Control Room to attend a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on

the ongoing work of the Control Room Team and respond to any issues raised.

The importance of pro-active crime prevention to support vulnerable individuals was highlighted. The Director and Police and Crime Commissioner provided clarification in response to further queries raised regarding the joint working arrangements between the police, Community Safety Team as well as various other agencies and outlined the type of issues that were discussed at regular problem solving meetings which included issues such as patrols and the symptoms of crime.

Decision

- (i) That the Quarter 1 performance figures and comments of Partnership Members be noted and actioned as appropriate.
- (ii) That a representative from the Police Control Room be invited to a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on the ongoing work of the Control Room Team and respond to any queries raised.

25. Prevent Update (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

Purpose of report

To update the Partnership on the local and national arrangements for the delivery of Prevent.

Issue(s) for consideration

The report provided 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. Hartlepool's Prevent Operational Group had been established to assist local partners in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015) to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism by ensuring the Prevent Duty was embedded within partner organisations.

The Hartlepool Operational Prevent Group commenced work on its self-assessment in April and initial findings had identified that the Group was achieving or developing expected compliance and good practice activity against some of the benchmarks. Gaps in the delivery of Prevent had been identified in relation to community engagement and the proactive communication of Prevent to the wider community and the Group would focus on these areas to develop good practice.

Decision

That the contents of the report be noted.

26. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chairman ruled that the following item of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

27. Any Other Business – Update from Hartlepool Action Lab – Stronger Neighbourhoods Project

The Chair welcome representatives from Hartlepool Action Lab and Joseph Rowntree Foundation, who were in attendance at the meeting, and updated the Partnership in relation to their ongoing work around building stronger neighbourhoods.

The Partnership was advised that the project focussed on Cornwall Street and Oxford Road where intense support had been provided by Hartlepool Action Lab. A number of engagement events had been held in these communities, the outcomes of which were shared with the Partnership. Concerns were raised regarding housing standards in this area, the high number of empty properties, that properties available were of a poor standard and that rents were high resulting in individuals struggling to make ends meet. The negative impact on individuals taking up such tenancies due to a lack of alternative options available were outlined. Feedback in relation to some of the challenges facing this community included a high prevalence of addiction, drug problems, sofa surfing, poor health, chaotic lifestyles, no access to GP's, financial difficulties, anti-social behaviour as well as difficulties around obtaining support from services in terms of access to a safe house for individuals who may be at risk of harm and unable to return to their home for fear of repercussions.

The positive engagement links that had been established with the community as a result of this project were discussed and the importance of working together and sharing intelligence information with the Council's Community Safety Team as well as other services were emphasised. The Chair of the Partnership and Chair of Youth Offending Board were keen to provide support and agreed to meet with the representatives following the meeting to discuss areas of concern around housing related issues and engagement opportunities.

Decision

That the information given and comments of Partnership Members be noted.

28. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Chair reported that the next meeting would be held on Friday 22 November 2019 at 10.00 am.

The meeting concluded at 11.00 am.

CHAIR