



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP AGENDA



Monday 26 February 2024

at 10.00 am

**in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.**

MEMBERS: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

Responsible Authority Members:

Councillor Young, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Little, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Denise McGuckin, Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council
Tony Hanson, Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Sylvia Pinkney, Assistant Director, Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Superintendent Martin Hopps, Community Safety, Cleveland Police
Jo Heaney, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Karen Hawkins, Director of Place, North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)
Ann Powell, Head of Stockton and Hartlepool Probation Delivery Unit
Carl Pattinson, Cleveland Fire Authority

Other Members:

Craig Blundred, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council
Steve Turner, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Michelle Hill, Hartlepool Voluntary and Community Sector Representative, Safer Communities
Angela Corner, Head of Community Resilience, Thirteen Group
Sally Robinson, Executive Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Jill Harrison, Executive Director of Adult and Community Based Services, Hartlepool Borough Council

Non-Voting Observer, Councillor Allen, Representative of Audit and Governance Committee, Hartlepool Borough Council

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**



3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2023.

4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 Right Care, Right Person – *District Commander, Cleveland Police*
- 4.2 General Neighbourhood Policing Update – *District Commander, Cleveland Police*
- 4.3 MUGA – Verbal Update– *Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative*
- 4.4 Fire Brigade Update – Verbal Update – *Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative*
- 4.5 Strategic Assessment 2022-2023 – *Executive Director, Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services*
- 4.6 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Action Plan – *Assistant Director, Regulatory Services*
- 4.7 Draft Community Safety Plan 2024 - 2027– *Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services*

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

2 OCTOBER 2023

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

Present:

Responsible Authority Members:

Councillor Sue Little, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Sylvia Pinkney, Assistant Director, Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Chief Inspector Peter Littlewood, Cleveland Police
Craig Strike, Head of Prevention and Engagement, Cleveland Fire Authority
Carl Pattinson, Station Manager, Hartlepool, Cleveland Fire Authority

Other Members:

Claire Robinson, Public Health Principal, Hartlepool Borough Council
Sarah Wilson, Policy, Partnerships and Delivery Officer. Office of the Police
and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Sally Robinson, Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services,
Hartlepool Borough Council

Also Present:

Councillor Brenda Harrison.
John Holden, Head of the Cleveland Violence Reduction Unit
Anna Waddington, Delivery Officer, Cleveland Violence Reduction Unit

Officers:

Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

12. Appointment of Chair

In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Principal Democratic Services Officer sought a nomination of a Chair for the meeting.

Decision

That Councillor Little be appointed Chair for this meeting.

Councillor Little in the Chair.

13. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mike Young, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council,
Denise McGuckin, Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council
Tony Hanson, Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services
Hartlepool Borough Council.
Craig Blundred, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council
Superintendent Martin Hopps, Community Safety, Cleveland Police
Jo Heaney, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Karen Hawkins, Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery, NHS
Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group
Ann Powell, Head of Stockton and Hartlepool Probation Delivery Unit
Michelle Hill, Hartlepool Voluntary and Community Sector Representative,
Chief Executive, Safer Communities
Angela Corner, Head of Community Resilience, Thirteen Group
Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services, Hartlepool
Borough Council.

14. Declarations of Interest

None.

15. Minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2023

Confirmed.

16. Community Payback – Council Motion

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported that Council In January of this year had passed a resolution seeking this Partnership “to request an update and presentation on the current community payback plan and invite all members to engage in reviewing how the partnership between our Youth Justice Service and the Probation Service works, to give victims of crime and antisocial behaviour in Hartlepool a stronger voice in how the service is used.”

There had been a presentation at the previous meeting from the Head of Community Integration, Probation Service North East providing details of the unpaid work that offenders could be required to undertake as part of a court order. The presentation had been circulated with the agenda papers and all Members of Council had been invited to attend the meeting. The Head of Community Integration was also present to answer any questions.

The Assistant Director indicated that the first three items on the agenda all had a link to community payback and suggested that a further discussion and any questions from Members could follow those items. This was supported by those present.

17. Youth Justice Strategic Plan (*Executive Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services*)

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to present the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2023-2024 (Appendix 1) for consultation to Safer Hartlepool Partnership. Feedback will be incorporated into the final draft plan which would be reported back to Children's Services Committee prior to adoption of the plan by full Council.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Executive Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services reported that there was a statutory requirement for all Youth Justice Services to annually prepare a local Youth Justice Plan for submission to the national Youth Justice Board. The annual Youth Justice Plan provided an overview of how the Youth Justice Service, the Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board and wider partnership would ensure that the service had 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. The draft Youth Justice Plan for 2023 – 2024 was submitted to the Partnership for comments and discussion. Any feedback would be reported to the Children's Services Committee.

The Chair asked how the plan would ensure the voice of the child / young person was heard as she was aware that many young people simply feel like they were not being listened to. The Youth Justice Service Manager commented that there were robust processes in place to ensure that workers listened to the views of the child / young person throughout their involvement with the Youth Justice Service. There were also follow up surveys and questionnaires that were utilised to ensure those involved and their feedback was fully acknowledged.

The Chair also commented that early intervention was always the best means of diverting young people away from crime and asked at what stage Youth Justice Workers went into schools to talk to the young people there. The Youth Justice Service Manager commented that this didn't happen formally as often as in the past. Workers did regularly meet young people referred into the service at their school to undertake their support work, often as a means of encouraging the young person to be at school.

The Partnership indicated its support for the draft Youth Justice Plan for 2023 – 2024 as submitted.

Decision

That Children's Services Committee be informed that the Safer Hartlepool Partnership supports the draft Youth Justice Plan for 2023 – 2024.

18. Criminal Justice Board (Verbal Update) (*Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland*)

Purpose of report

To provide and update to the Partnership on the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Policy, Partnerships and Delivery Officer from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland outlined the structure, vision, mission, values and priorities of the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board. The Officer outlined the partners involved in the Board representing the Police, Courts, Prison Service, Probation, the NHS and other bodies and the four priorities identified by the Board: -

1. Improving Victims Experiences;
2. Reducing Reoffending;
3. Violence Against Women and Girls;
4. Public Confidence.

The Policy, Partnerships and Delivery Officer stated that the principal aim of the Board was to put people at the centre of the criminal justice system, ensuring that all voices were heard; victims and their families and the offender.

Decision

That the update be noted.

19. Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan (*Assistant Director, Regulatory Services*)

Purpose of report

To update the partnership on the Governments Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported that in March 2023, the Government launched a new Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan. The Action Plan built upon the work already undertaken to make streets safer and invest in communities the length and breadth of the UK. It set out how they would deal with anti-social behaviour acting in three ways: -

- Treat anti-social behaviour with the urgency it deserves by bringing in hotspot policing to target the worst affected areas;
- Take a zero-tolerance approach – including cracking down on the illegal drugs that blight communities; and

- Give the police and other agencies the tools they need to act and restore pride in our communities.

Under the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Action Plan, published on 27th March 2023, the Government was delivering just over £60m of additional funding to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to roll-out increased presence of police and other uniformed authority figures, such as wardens, in areas where anti-social behaviour is most prevalent.

Cleveland was one of ten police force areas to pilot this approach in 2023/24. From 2024/25, a hotspot approach to tackling anti-social behaviour would be rolled out across England and Wales, with funding provided to all police forces.

Locally, there would be an increased use of hotspot policing and enforcement, while rolling out a new Immediate Justice service so anti-social behaviour perpetrators would swiftly have to clean up their own mess, together with giving communities more of a say over, and more visibility of, such reparations.

The Assistant Director also indicated there would be a range of other measures to discourage anti-social behaviour including, for example, increased fines for fly tipping, littering and graffiti, extra youth support hours, and stronger powers for local authorities to revitalise communities.

The Executive Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services commented that the Government's Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan did include additional powers for landlords to evict disruptive tenants. This had the potential for increasing the number of homeless and did seem counterintuitive in light of the work around reducing homelessness.

The Chair expressed concern at the numbers of PCSOs in Hartlepool as she was aware her ward did not currently have a dedicated PCSO. The Chief Police inspector indicated that there were currently only 11 PCSOs in Hartlepool, a shortage of four as there should be one for each electoral ward. There had been a recent recruitment drive and new officers should be starting in the community early in 2024. At this time they were undergoing all the appropriate vetting procedures and training.

A member of the public referred to the use of civil injunctions and stated that information from the Home Office there had only been one in the past two years when this Partnership was informed there were significantly more. The Police Chief Inspector stated that there were many different types of civil injunctions and his officers were using these and other tools to protect the public. There were currently three Criminal Behaviour Orders in place together with a number of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Protection Orders.

In terms of Police numbers, the Police Chief Inspector stated that the Community Safety Team was short of only one PC and this would be

addressed through the recent recruitment and training programme. The local Response Teams were now slightly over establishment as work in this area had been prioritised over recent months.

Decision

That the report be noted.

20. Community Payback – Council Motion

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services referred to the presentation at the previous meeting given by the Head of Community Integration, Probation Service North East, who was present at the meeting to respond to any questions. The Assistant Director commented that the content of the three previous items reflected much of the work that was going on around community payback and immediate justice. While the Council resolution requested action plan on community payback, one would not be possible due to the number of different agencies involved all with a different scope.

The Assistant Director stated that details of the website through which the public could suggest community payback schemes would be shared with Elected Members together with some wider communications. The Policy, Partnerships and Delivery Officer from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland indicated that the OPCC had commenced some consultation seeking feedback from the public on the types of schemes they would wish to see as part of community payback.

Out of court disposals did involve an element of victim's feedback into immediate justice undertakings. The Head of Community Integration indicated that out of court disposals were for cases that didn't get to court and these were effectively the immediate justice element. The element that came after court involvement was largely around the bigger community payback schemes previously discussed that the Probation Service worked in coordination with partners, such as the Council to deliver. Work in partnership with Hartlepool Council had involved path edging and clearing, clearing car parks, cutting back trees and overgrown sites, including churches, and painting railings – Community Payback work had painted all the railings around the marina and port ahead of the Tall Ships event. These works were all, however, fully planned and coordinated; they were not immediate justice schemes.

Decision

That Council be informed that while an action plan could not be developed, information on how elected Members and the public could feed in suggestions for immediate justice schemes and Community Payback programmes would be circulated.

21. Serious Violence Duty – Presentation *(Head of Cleveland's Unit for the Reduction of Violence)*

Purpose of report

Issue(s) for consideration

The Head of the Cleveland Violence Reduction Unit (CURV) reported that VRU's were the Home Office's response to serious violence. There had been 18 initial units targeted at the 18 Police areas with the highest incidents of violent crime. Cleveland had not been of the original list but was now one of the 20 Units across the country, primarily because of its small population a small number of serious injury incidents and murders had a significant effect on its statistics.

CURV undertook the delivery of the serious violence duty, the preparation and publication of a strategic needs assessment and all the appropriate returns to the Home Office on behalf of all the partner groups, which included Hartlepool BC. The Strategy for CURV had been published and would be available through the CURV website which was shortly due to be launched as part of the PCC website.

The Head of the Cleveland Violence Reduction Unit outlined CURV's core function which was to provide leadership and strategic coordination of Cleveland's response to serious violence. CURV would deliver this by strengthening partnerships, working with communities, and ensuring specified authorities, partners and key stakeholders collaborate across the whole of Cleveland to deliver against agreed objectives.

Some of the projects that CURV would be delivering in the community were outlined including the Custody Navigator and A&E Navigator. Custody Navigators worked in the custody suites particularly first offenders to show them there was an opportunity not to fall into a cycle of offending. There would also be a programme of school interventions mainly in other Borough areas. There was also a Night Time Economy Action Plan currently underway which had been an agreed priority by all partners. The Unit was also looking to link into organised youth engagement groups in Hartlepool as part of the development of services aimed at young people.

Members welcomed the positive involvement of young people in the development of targeted services and the links with the Chris Cave Foundation in tackling knife crime. The Executive Director commented that some work had started in schools since the commencement of the new school year on the CURV programme as outlined with the primary focus being diversion and intervention with trauma informed approaches also rolled out through Hartlepool's virtual school. It had to be emphasised that the average age for someone arrested for a violent crime in the Cleveland area is 31.

Decision

That the update be noted and that the presentation be shared with partners.

22. Arson and Deliberate Fires Reduction Strategy – Presentation *(Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative)***Purpose of report**

To update the Partnership on the issues of arson and deliberately set fires in the Cleveland area.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Head of Prevention and Engagement at Cleveland Fire Authority gave a presentation to the Partnership setting out the scale of the problem of arson and particularly deliberately set fires. For Hartlepool, the three main wards that caused most concern were Rossmere, Victoria and Manor House. The social and economic effect of the 84 deliberately set fires in Hartlepool in June 2023 alone was in excess of £566,000. The presentation showed some of the fires and sites where deliberately set fires had occurred. It was also highlighted that fires on abandoned sites and grass lands could also have an impact on wildlife.

Cleveland had the highest incidents of deliberate fires nationally, including the highest level of vehicle fires and secondary fires per 100,000 of population in 2021/22. The Chair commented that it would be useful for all Members to receive a copy of the presentation specifically including the costs should be shared with all Borough Councillors.

The presentation went on to outline the Arson and Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy for 2023/24. The definitions of arson and deliberate fires were very specific. Arson was categorised within the Criminal Damage Act 1971 (section 1) as an act of attempting to destroy or damage property, and/or in doing so, endangering life, and only offences that meet the definition should accurately be termed as arson. Deliberate fires were those fires where the motive was 'thought to be' or 'suspected to be' deliberate. These include fires to an individual's own property, others' property or property of an unknown owner but not necessarily with the intention to deliberately damage or destroy property or endanger life. Although deliberate fire records include arson, deliberate fires are not the same as arson.

There was discussion around the early intervention and education undertaken and the targeting of schools with specialist educational coordinators. Members highlighted the recently well reported incident with car fires. The Police representative stated that the individual had now been arrested and was being held on remand. The Cleveland Fire representatives did, however, comment that arson incidents in Hartlepool were relatively low.

The Head of the Cleveland Violence Reduction Unit indicated that CURV would like to link into the youth work that the Cleveland Fire undertook with young people, such as Crucial Crew.

Decision

That the presentation and discussions be noted and that ward information be circulated to elected Members.

23. Performance Review (*Assistant Director, Regulatory Services*)**Purpose of report**

To review the arrangements for partners to report their performance against the priorities outlined in the Community Safety Plan 2021/24 to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services indicated that the reporting arrangements currently in place were that a performance report was produced and presented to the partnership on a quarterly basis. While the information in these reports covered the priorities in the Community Safety Plan, it concentrated on the number of incidents recorded to partners and gives comparisons with previous years and other partnerships indicating trends. However it provides very little detail on the work being undertaken by partners and the outcomes.

It is proposed that we move away from this type of reporting and instead produce action plans covering each priority within the Community Safety Plan. These would outline all the work being carried out by partners. Some partners were already producing action plans to accompany strategies such as the Domestic Abuse and Drugs and Alcohol which were already being presented to the Partnership. The aim would be to build on these ensuring that all partners are contributing and including work they are carrying out.

The Assistant Director proposed that updates against these action plans would be reported to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership every six months. The action plans would be living documents and allow partners to include new initiatives to fully reflect the work being carried out.

Decision

That the changes to performance reporting as detailed be approved.

24. Drug and Alcohol Strategy and Action Plan (*Public Health Principal*)**Purpose of report**

To share with the Safer Hartlepool Partnership the final Hartlepool Drug and Alcohol strategy and action plan.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Public Health Principal reported that the strategy had been developed with partners and informed by the recent substance misuse health needs assessment, which has been shared previously with the Health and Wellbeing Board. The strategy was developed following a consultation event and engagement with service users through the local recovery groups. The following theme areas have been identified through this process:

- Prevention and early intervention;
- Reducing drug and alcohol related harms;
- Supporting wider health needs;
- Reducing drug and alcohol related crime and disorder.

Partners from the Fire Authority indicated that their normal reporting period would be quarterly. The Assistant Director stated that there would be no problem with more regular reporting to the Partnership. Other partners commented that twice yearly would fit neater with some of their external submissions to government for example.

Decision

That the Partnership supports the implementation of the Drug and Alcohol Strategy.

25. Community Policing Update *(Cleveland Police Representative)*

Purpose of report

To provide a policing update for Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Chief Inspector reported that Cleveland Police Force was now out of special measures and ranked as one of the most improved forces in the country. The recent spate of arson that had been discussed earlier had resulted in a man being charged and remanded into custody. The incident had been widely reported and had effected a wide part of the community.

In terms of anti-social behaviour, there had been an increase in incidents in August following a consecutive four month fall in numbers. For the rolling twelve month period, anti-social behaviour incidents were down 5%. There had been regular interruptions into organised crime activity by the Integrated Neighbourhood Policing Team. Three premises selling counterfeit vapes and cigarettes had recently been closed following work with Trading Standards colleagues. The sale of counterfeit vapes to young people was becoming an increasing problem.

Criminal damage incidents were down and it was believed the higher visibility patrols in hotspot areas were having an effect in this respect. Operation Endurance targeting off road bikes was continuing and drones were being used to identify offenders and bikes so they could be seized and crushed. The Chief Constable recognised the significant impact these offenders could have on communities and had stated his determination that any seized bikes or off-road vehicles would be crushed, even though the cost of crushing was proving to be quite high.

PSCO's had now been trained in the use of DNA spray which was a tagging system that could be used to tag riders and bikes that attempted to conceal their identity. The risks of pursuing these offenders was often too high so the spray could be used to identify them. In the last month 9 off-road bikes and vehicles had been seized and crushed in Hartlepool. Work was also ongoing with fuel retailers selling fuel to off-road bikes and vehicles.

A new Proactive Team to be shared with the Stockton force area consisting of one sergeant and 6 constables, was now in place to arrest outstanding warrants and targeted drugs raids. Hartlepool would be getting its own dedicated team in 2024.

In terms of performance over the last twelve months there had been 384 face to face engagements and a significant uplift in digital engagement. 33% of officer time had been spent patrolling hotspot areas significantly higher than in other force areas. There had been 419 incidents of targeted activity (33 in August) which was officers taking an active role in hotspot areas including stop and searches. In terms of problem solving, there were seven active plans in place with 3 completed. It was hoped that problem solving plans would be used more proactively in the future as they were now being embedded throughout the force.

Members welcomed the update and in particular the crushing of off-road vehicles and bikes and asked if this was publicised. The Chief Inspector stated that this had been happened in the past but not always.

Decision

That the report be noted.

26. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 pm.

CHAIR



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

26th February 2024



Report of: District Commander, Cleveland Police

Subject: RIGHT CARE, RIGHT PERSON

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY

Hartlepool will be a place:

- where those who are vulnerable will be safe and protected from harm.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership of the Right Care, Right Person approach, an initiative to ensure that vulnerable people get the right type of support from the police and other services to assist with their needs.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Under the National Partnership Agreement (NPA), the police work with other services (such as the ambulance service, NHS, social services, mental health services and the fire service) to help give vulnerable people the care and support they need.
- 3.2 The police deal with a wide variety of incidents and calls for service. Some relate to policing matters. Others relate to mental health, welfare, and social care, where other agencies may offer a more appropriate response. In some of these incidents there may also be a role for the police.
- 3.3 There are several potentially adverse effects of a police response to incidents that are outside the remit of policing and best served by other agencies. RCRP aims to alleviate these adverse effects.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 At the centre of the RCRP approach is a threshold to assist police in making decisions about when it is appropriate for them to respond to incidents. The threshold for a police response to a mental health-related incident is:
- to investigate a crime that has occurred or is occurring.
 - to protect people, when there is a real and immediate risk to the life, or of a person being subject to or at risk of serious harm.
- 4.2 While some incidents do require police powers there are many which involve no crime or significant risk. A police response is not lawfully or proportionately required and may, in some cases, cause further distress.
- 4.3 For each incident, the most appropriate service to respond will be identified. This may be to manage the risk, or to provide care and support to the person and ensure vulnerable people are signposted to the right help and support for their needs.
- 4.4 The police will still attend incidents where the above threshold has been met. The police have a duty to protect life and prevent and detect crime will continue to do so.
- 4.5 All the partners in this work – police, NHS, local authorities, and voluntary organisations – have a strong history of working together to keep people safe and protecting the vulnerable.
- 4.6 Partner organisations are working together on detailed plans and processes to ensure people get the care they need from the most appropriate service, in a way that maintains public safety.
- 4.7 **Cleveland Police approach**
- Cleveland Police is taking a phased approach with the implementation of Right Care Right Person with the initial scope being focused on: "Concern for Welfare", with "Walk out of Health Care Facilities" and "AWOL from a mental health establishment" following later.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is important that the police understand risk and accept responsibility appropriately.
- 5.2 The police should not assume, directly or indirectly, responsibility for all forms of risk. They should consider whether it is appropriate for them to accept, or to continue to accept, responsibility for a risk when there are more appropriate agencies to deal with the situation.

- 5.3 In assessing risks, decisions should incorporate the principle of ‘know or ought to know’.
- 5.4 In assessing a duty to respond, decisions should be based on information that has been provided as well as information that is reasonable to learn, which may include information held on existing force systems.
- 5.5 A risk or threat must meet the conditions below before a legal duty to act arises.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 This paper does not request members of Safer Hartlepool Partnership to consider any financial considerations.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998 requires all public authorities, including the police, to act in a way which is compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).
- 7.2 In certain circumstances, the police have duties under the HRA 1998 to protect individuals from harm caused by others or by themselves.
- 7.3 In general terms, the police may have a responsibility to act where there is either:
- a real and immediate threat to life (ECHR Article 2)
 - a real and immediate threat of serious harm, torture or other inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment (ECHR Article 3)

Unless Article 2 or 3 or one of the core roles of policing is engaged, the police have no duty to respond.

8. OTHER CONSIDERATION

CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY	Not applicable
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
STAFF CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable

ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
CONSULTATION	Not applicable.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 There are no recommendations arising from this paper. This paper is intended to brief the Safer Hartlepool Partnership only.

14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 Not applicable.

15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 15.1 No previous papers have been submitted but further information can be found at the following [College of Policing - YouTube](#).

16. CONTACT OFFICERS

- Executive Lead – Assistant Chief Constable David Felton
- Strategic Lead – Detective Chief Superintendent Caroline McGlade



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

26th February 2024



Report of: District Commander, Cleveland Police

Subject: GENERAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY

Hartlepool will be a place:
- where those who are vulnerable will be safe and protected from harm.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership an update in respect of general policing duties within Hartlepool.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In January 2023, Cleveland Police underwent a restructure within Local Policing. The restructure absolved of responsibility of two area commands (North and South of the River Tees) into four separate local policing areas (Hartlepool, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland).
- 3.2 Consequently, each area gained a District Commander at Superintendent level. Supported by three Chief Inspectors dedicated to Response Policing, Criminal Investigations, and Neighbourhood Policing. The Senior Management Team remains unchanged.
- 3.3 Since the last Safer Hartlepool Partnership the following changes have been made:
- Response Policing have reduced from five reliefs to four to accommodate a new shift pattern. This shift pattern, typically a four-on-four-off pattern, was voted in by officers late last year following a period of staff consultation. The shift pattern has been tested

against demand modelling and found to be an effective way to meet demand at peak times. Furthermore, this shift pattern gives officers an extra 36 rest days and a greater number of rest days across full weekends on an annual basis. It was also tested against the Risk and Fatigue Index, but no significant issues were identified.

- Two additional vacancies have been fulfilled within Neighbourhood Policing with the addition of Sergeant Chris Phelan and the return of Police Community Support Officer Julie Dobson. PCSO Dobson will return to her original posting covering the Seaton Ward.

3.4 Local Crime, ASB and Hate Crime

Offence Type	Last Month	Last Six Months	Last 12 Months
Violence without injury	-13.9%	-6.6%	1.5%
Violence with injury	2.6%	3%	6.4%
Stalking & Harassment	-25.4%	-20.7%	-10.5%
Shoplifting	-8.9%	50.2%	73.7%
Vehicle	-61.4%	-12.7%	-8.1%
Burglary Residential	-23.1%	-33.1%	-23.1%
Theft from person	-33.3%	-37.5%	-34.3%
Criminal Damage	-9.8%	5.7%	12.5%
Robbery	71.4%	8.9%	25.3%
Anti-Social Behaviour	-50.94%	-34.6%	0.8%
Hate Crime	-28.1%	-18.6%	-6.3%

- 3.5 The Neighbourhood Policing Team continue to manage several problem-solving plans (16). An example of this approach occurred around Easington Road and King Oswy Drive where youths had been damaging vehicles by throwing stones at them. High visibility patrols, engagement with staff at Dimensions Care Home and working closely with the council assisted in reducing ASB jobs between October - December to 0. Ordinarily we would see a spike in ASB over Halloween / bonfire night however this has not been the case. Youths involved with ASB were identified and dealt with quickly, ensuring the clear message is passed that we will not tolerate poor behaviour. The ward PCSO will continue to engage with staff, providing them with reassurance and support moving forward.

3.6 Organised Crime

The Neighbourhood Policing Team continue to relentlessly pursue those involved in Organised Crime and the illicit drugs trade. In the previous 6 months, they have executed 39 warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act and recovered controlled drugs amounting to millions of pounds of street value.

More importantly, they have emancipated several victims of modern slavery. During our Neighbourhood Policing Week of Action (w/c 22/01/2024), we uncovered two large cannabis farms, seizing approximately £500,000 worth

of cannabis plants with two adult males arrested, charged, and remanded in custody.

3.7 **Engagement**

A force wide review of policing engagement with our communities is currently under way, to understand how to really reach as many people as possible in our communities, and to promote meaningful, two-way dialogue.

We now have an established IAG, which met in January and discussed topics such as Drugs enforcement and Ward engagement.

We also continue to hold Ward Surgeries hosted by our PCSOs, and provide regular updates on our group activities, via the Hartlepool Neighbourhood Policing Team Facebook page. More recently, PC Geoff Coggins featured on Hartlepool Radio with PCC Steve Turner.

4. **PROPOSALS**

4.1 **Neighbourhood Strategy Review**

Cleveland Police will soon undertake a review of their Neighbourhood Policing Strategy to strengthen partnership working, community engagement, and proactive prevention activity.

4.2 **Hartlepool Proactive Team**

Recruiting has commenced in respect of forming a proactive team dedicated to Hartlepool. This team, consisting of a sergeant and six officers, will be tasked daily by senior management to tackle issues causing the most threat, harm, and risk to the local community. It is anticipated that the team will be implemented no later than May 2024.

4.3 **Matrix Launch**

Cleveland Police has launched the Matrix team to demonstrate to the public how we are tackling criminals and protecting communities, by Cracking Down on Crime.

The Matrix team will employ a new way of working to reduce and eradicate emerging threats of serious and organised crime.

The Matrix team consists of Tactical Disruption Team (previously known as the Operational Support Unit); Firearms; the Dog Unit; Roads Policing; Casualty Reduction and Road Safety; Camera Enforcement; Football; Public Order; Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN); Search; as well as Operational and Emergency Planning.

Vehicles within the fleet have been rebranded; and the Tactical Disruption Team vehicles will also be bright yellow. This is to provide a highly visible deterrent to criminals and a reassuring presence for the public.

With a One Team ethic, the four departments will work together to support the force priorities and achieve their objectives.

A week of action will be launched in Hartlepool to demonstrate their capability.

5. OTHER CONSIDERATION

RISK IMPLCIATIONS	No risks are identified
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	There are no financial considerations regarding this paper.
LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS	There are no legal considerations regarding this paper.
CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY	Not applicable
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
STAFF CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS	Not applicable
CONSULTATION	Not applicable.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 There are no recommendations arising from this paper. This paper is intended to brief the Safer Hartlepool Partnership only.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Not applicable.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Not applicable.

9. CONTACT OFFICERS

Superintendent Martin Hopps, District Commander.



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

26th February 2024



Report of: Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services

Subject: STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2022 - 2023

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY

Hartlepool will be a place:

- that is sustainable, clean, safe and green.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To receive the Strategic Assessment for October 2022 to September 2023

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) has a statutory requirement to undertake an annual strategic assessment to identify and address the community safety issues that impact upon and matter to the local community. To address these issues, it is important to understand not only what is happening where, but what may be causing the problems and the best way to tackle them. The findings from the Strategic Assessment will inform the development of the next Safer Hartlepool Partnership's statutory Community Safety Plan due in April 2024.

3.2 As agreed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and detailed in the Community Safety Plan 2021-2024, the Partnership's current strategic objective and priorities are:

Strategic Objective 2021 - 2024	Priorities 2023 - 2024
To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.	Anti-social Behaviour Drugs and Alcohol Domestic Violence and Abuse

4. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2022 - 2023

- 4.1 The Strategic Assessment 2022 - 2023 Executive Summary is attached at **Appendix A**. The document draws on a wide range of multi-agency data, analysis of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool.
- 4.2 The key findings of the assessment identify that the current Community Safety Plan priorities of Anti-social Behaviour, Drugs and Alcohol and Domestic Violence and Abuse remain relevant and, with the addition of Serious Violence, should be retained as priorities in the next Community Safety Plan, due for implementation in April 2024.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

RISK IMPLICATIONS	No relevant issues
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY	No relevant issues
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
STAFF CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues

7. SECTION 17 CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Local Authorities and other public bodies have a duty to consider how their activities may impact on crime and disorder. The annual Strategic Assessment enables the SHP to consider and identify any changing/new priorities for inclusion in the next Community Safety Plan.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership are asked to discuss the contents and key findings of the strategic assessment and agree the priorities for inclusion in the next SHP Community Safety Plan.
- 8.2 That a draft Community Safety Plan 2024 – 2027 be presented to the next meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership for approval.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 There are no background papers for this report.

10. CONTACT OFFICERS

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**Safer Hartlepool Partnership
Strategic Assessment
2022 - 2023**

Executive Summary

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INTRODUCTION

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

As the Partnership nears the end of its three year plan for 2021 – 2024, the Strategic Assessment 2023 will assist the Partnership in setting strategic objectives and priorities to inform the new Safer Hartlepool Community Safety Plan for 2024 – 2027.

The Strategic Assessment has been prepared by the Hartlepool Community Safety Team and we would like to thank the following agencies, partners and organisations who have provided data, material and / or comment on this assessment's content:

- Hartlepool Community Safety Team
- Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council
- Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Cleveland Police
- Office of the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES & PRIORITIES

As agreed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and detailed in the Community Safety Plan 2021-2024, the Partnership's current strategic objective and priorities are:

Strategic Objective 2021 - 2024	Priorities 2021 - 2024
To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.	Anti-social Behaviour Drugs and Alcohol Domestic Violence and Abuse Serious Violence (from 2022)

LOCAL CONTEXT

Hartlepool is the smallest unitary authority in the North East region.

It has a population of approximately 93,663 people with 51% being female and 49% male.

There are approximately 40,434 households with 28% renting their home; 11% have dependent children.

The average age in Hartlepool is 40 with 7% of the population aged 55-69.

The largest ethnic group is White British (98%).

Low educational attainment, high unemployment and poor physical health place Hartlepool in a deprived status and amongst the top 10% in England (ONS, 2021).

PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

The following provides an overview of key partnership performance indicators for the strategic period October 2022 to September 2023.

1. Performance Key Findings:

1.1 - Recorded crime during the period increased by 11% (+1,471 offences) in Hartlepool when compared to the previous assessment period.

1.2 – Increases were experienced in violence against the person offences (+315; 5%), sexual offences (+46; 12%) and criminal damage offences (+232; 14%).

1.3 - Acquisitive crime offences increased overall by 34%, predominantly due to an increase in recorded shoplifting offences:

- Residential Burglary (-83; -12%)
- Vehicle Crime (+103; +20% offences)
- Shoplifting (+722; +66%)

1.4 - Community Safety Partnerships are arranged in “Most Similar Groups¹” with 14 other CSPs, determined by various measures including population figures and deprivation levels. Positions in these groups are ranked with 1 being the lowest (fewest offences) and 15 the highest (most offences).

1.5 - The crime rate in Hartlepool is above the Most Similar Group (MSG) average of 118 per 1,000 population, standing at 154. (July 2023). (Table 1)

1.6 - In comparison to our local peers Hartlepool has the second highest victim-based crime rate per 1,000 population and is above the Cleveland average. (Table 2)

¹ Most Similar Group (MSG) Community Safety Partnerships – I-Quanta: Walsall, Sunderland, South Tyneside, Halton, Barrow-in-Furness, Rochdale, St Helens, Newport, Knowlesley, Stoke-on-Trent, Middlesbrough, North East Lincolnshire, Bradford, Thanet, Hartlepool.

Table 1 – Comparison to Most Similar Group

Crime Type	Hartlepool	MSG Average	Hartlepool Position	MSG Comparison
All Crime	154.006	117.497	15	Above
Violence against the Person				
Homicide	0.054	0.013	15	Above
Violence with Injury	13.492	12.661	11	Above
Violence without Injury	21.130	17.855	13	Above
Sexual Offences				
Rape	1.577	1.286	12	Above
Other Sexual Offences	3.025	2.461	15	Above
Acquisitive Crime				
Burglary Residential*	10.404	6.418	15	Above
Burglary Bus & Com	1.707	1.513	9	Above
Bicycle Theft	1.113	0.967	11	Above
Theft from the Person	0.0605	0.574	9	Above
Robbery - Personal	1.145	0.858	12	Above
Robbery - Business	0.162	.0125	13	Above
Vehicle Crime	6.449	6.040	11	Above
Shoplifting	17.576	8.159	15	Above
Other Acquisitive	10.208	8.290	13	Above
Criminal Damage				
All Criminal Damage	16.938	12.309	15	Above
Arson	1.015	0.804	13	Above

Table 2 – Comparison to Local Peers

Crime Category / Type	Hartlepool	Redcar and Cleveland	Middlesbrough	Stockton	Cleveland
Violence against the person	58.1	45.8	68.4	45.7	53.5
Homicide	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Death or injury due to driving	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Violence with Injury	13.7	10.6	17.7	11.1	13.1
Violence without Injury	20.6	15.7	26.1	16.1	19.2
Stalking and Harassment	23.8	19.4	24.5	18.5	21.1
Sexual Offences	4.7	4.0	5.8	4.4	4.7
Rape	1.5	1.5	2.3	1.5	1.7
Other Sexual Offences	3.2	2.5	3.5	2.8	3.0
Robbery	1.3	1.2	2.6	1.3	1.6
Robbery - Personal	1.1	1.0	2.5	1.2	1.5
Robbery - Business	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Acquisitive Crime	46.9	39.3	46.3	38.1	41.9
Burglary - Residential	6.3	7.9	7.9	6.5	7.2
Burglary – Business and Community	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.8
Bicycle Theft	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.2	1.2
Theft from the Person	0.6	0.5	1.4	0.6	0.8
Vehicle Crime	6.8	7.4	10.2	7.1	7.9
Shoplifting	19.6	12.1	12.2	12.1	13.3
Other Acquisitive	10.7	8.3	11.3	8.9	9.7
Criminal Damage and Arson	18.7	16.8	23.1	15.2	18.1
Total	129.8	106.9	146.2	104.7	119.8

1.7 - Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported to the Police reduced by 5% (-183 incidents) compared to the previous assessment period.

1.8 - The anti-social behaviour rate in Hartlepool is more than double the national rate of 18 incidents per 1,000 population². In comparison to our local peers, Hartlepool continues to have the second highest anti-social behaviour rate, but is slightly below the Cleveland rate. (Table 3)

Table 3 – ASB incident rate per 1,000 population

Police Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	Hartlepool	Redcar & Cleveland	Middlesbrough	Stockton	Cleveland Average
	34.5	29.4	40.3	25.9	31.8

² Data Source: Office of National Statistics – Crime in England and Wales March 2023

APPENDIX A

1.9 - During the assessment period Cleveland Fire Brigade recorded a reduction of 15% for deliberate primary fires and a 34% reduction for deliberate secondary fires in Hartlepool. (Table 4)

Table 4 – Deliberate Fires in Hartlepool

Deliberate Fires	Oct 20 – Sep 21	Oct 21 – Sep 22	Oct 22 - Sep 23	Change from 21/22	% Change from 21/22
Primary Fires (F1) ³	91	108	92	-16	-15
Secondary Fires (F3) ⁴	598	1049	695	-354	-34
Total Deliberate Fires	689	1157	787	-370	-32

1.10 - In comparison to our local peers, Hartlepool has the highest rate per thousand population for deliberate primary fires; the highest rate for deliberate secondary fires, and is above the Cleveland rate in both categories. (Table 5)

Table 5 – Rate of Deliberate Fires per 1000 population

Deliberate Fires per 1000 population	H'pool	M'boro	R&C	S'ton	C'land
Primary Fires (F1)	0.99	0.91	0.76	0.81	0.85
Secondary Fires (F3)	7.52	7.04	5.03	3.18	5.30

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

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

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

1. Crime

Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive crime in Hartlepool increased by 34% (-806 offences). Historically, acquisitive crime has been the most prevalent crime type in Hartlepool for many years, however during this assessment period acquisitive crime accounted for only 31% of offences.

Whilst residential burglary offences reduced, vehicle crime and shoplifting offences increased by 20% and 66% respectively.

Violent Crime

‘Violence Against the Person’ offences in Hartlepool increased by 5% when compared to the previous assessment period and equated to 46% of all victim based crime in the town.

More than half (56%) of all violence offences were assault without injury, assault with injury and harassment offences.

The geographical analysis of recorded violence offences identifies that more than half (55%) occurred in four wards; Victoria, Burn Valley, Headland and Harbour and De Bruce.

In April 2018 the government published its Serious Violence Strategy in response to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide across England. The strategy called for a public health approach, with the establishment of Violence Reduction Units to play a key role in the strategic coordination of all relevant agencies, to tackle serious violence and its root causes.

The Serious Violence Duty was legislated for in the Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Act 2022. The duty requires specified authorities, the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, youth offending teams, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in England, (Local Health Boards in Wales) and probation services, to work together to formulate an evidence-based analysis of serious violence in a local area and then formulate and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those issues.

A Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence, “CURV”, was established in 2022 to provide leadership and strategic coordination of Cleveland’s response to serious violence and is based within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Serious violence offences are identified as follow;

- Homicide, attempted murder and manslaughter
- Assault with intent to cause serious harm
- Malicious wounding- wounding or inflicting GBH
- Arson with intent to endanger life
- Aggravated burglary
- Death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving
- Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking
- Kidnap
- Sexual Violence offences
- Knife crime and/or firearms enabled/threatened offences (including robbery, threats to kill, assault with injury, assault with injury on a Constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury)

During the reporting period, serious violence increased by 26% when compared to the previous year, with Assault with Intent to Cause Serious Harm offences increasing by 54%

Offences of serious violence are highest in Victoria ward followed by Burn Valley with knife crime offences also highest in these and the Rossmere ward.

Organised Crime

A Cleveland Serious and Organised Crime Local Profile is commissioned by the Local Serious and Organised Crime Partnership Board. The latest profile was published in early 2023 with the findings regularly reviewed at the Board meetings. The aim of the profile is to assess the threat from serious and organised crime and the impact on local communities in Cleveland. The profile should be used to:

- Understand the impact and success of the police approach to tackling serious and organised crime in partnership with other agencies;
- develop a common understanding among local partners of the threats, vulnerabilities and risks;
- provide information on which to base local response and action plans;
- support the mainstreaming of serious and organised crime activity in day-to-day policing, local government and partnership work;
- allow a targeted and proportionate use of resources.

The profile incorporates police and partnership data to identify and assess current and emerging threats associated with serious and organised crime.

Organised crime activity in Hartlepool mainly occurs in the Victoria and Burn Valley wards and is predominantly related to the cultivation of cannabis, street level distribution of drugs and sales of counterfeit cigarettes and illegal vapes / e-cigarettes.

Modern Slavery and criminal exploitation are key features of the Organised Crime activity in Hartlepool. Organised crime groups are known to exploit children and vulnerable young people, coercing them into being cannabis 'farmers' and

‘runners’ to transport drugs, money and weapons locally as well as around the UK.

Hate Crime

Hate crime⁵ is different to other forms of crime as it targets people because of their identity. It is a form of discrimination that infringes human rights and prevents people from enjoying the full benefits of our society. Research has shown that hate crimes cause greater psychological harm than similar crimes without a motivation of prejudice. Hate crime creates fear in victims, groups and communities and encourages communities to turn on each other.⁶

Hate crime is defined as “any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic”⁷. There are five centrally monitored strands of hate crime:

- race or ethnicity;
- religion or beliefs;
- sexual orientation;
- disability; and
- transgender identity

Home Office figures released in October 2023 indicate that in 2022/23 there were 145,214 hate crime offences recorded by the Police in England and Wales (excluding Devon & Cornwall Police), a decrease of 5% compared with the previous year (153,536).

Hate crimes in Hartlepool recorded during the assessment period increased by 7% when compared to the previous year.

As in previous years, and in line with the national picture, the majority of hate crimes continue to be racially motivated and accounted for two thirds (66%) of all hate offences (70% nationally).

Analysis identified that 25% (52) of all recorded hate crimes occurred in the Victoria ward and were predominantly (81%; 42 offences) racially motivated.

Domestic Violence and Abuse

In the reporting period, police recorded incidents of domestic violence (DV) increased by 3% when compared with the previous year.

Domestic violence crimes equated to 21% of all recorded victim based crime in Hartlepool. The number of domestic related violent crimes in Hartlepool increased

⁵ Incorporating Racially/Religiously Motivated Crime Categories and crimes which are recorded with “Y” in the Racially Motivated data field

⁶ www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime-victims/reducing-crime/hate-crime

⁷ Common definition agreed in 2007 by the police, Crown Prosecution Service, prison Service (now the national Offender Management Service) and other agencies that make up the criminal justice system.

by 12% (+214 offences) compared to the previous year and equated to 31% of all violent crime.

Whilst more than three quarters (76%) of domestic violence offences are violence offences, other offence types which are recorded as domestic violence predominantly include criminal damage (11%), theft (4%) and sexual offences (3%).

Women and girls in Hartlepool continue to be at the greatest risk of domestic violence and abuse with more than thirds (70%) of all victims being female. Local analysis identifies that 62% of female victims of domestic violence and abuse are aged between 21 and 42 years. Repeat victimisation is evident, with 34% of female victims and 22% of males suffering two or more incidents during the reporting period.

The number of high risk domestic violence cases discussed at the Hartlepool Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) in the assessment period stood at 142, a 3% increase when compared with the previous assessment period with a repeat case rate of 32%. The Police and Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) continue to be the primary referral agencies to the MARAC accounting for more than 90% of referrals.

In relation to the perpetrators charged with domestic abuse offences during the assessment period, 84% were males with more than two thirds aged between 27 and 45 years. Repeat offending is evident with 41 males charged with 2 or more offences during the reporting period.

2. Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Drug and alcohol misuse in Hartlepool is a cross cutting issue that impacts on the work of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership as it is often a factor in crime, anti-social behaviour and reoffending.

Cleveland Police crime data identified that drug offences were comparable to the previous assessment period with 255 possession of drugs offences and 97 drug supply offences recorded⁸.

These offence types are indicative of proactive policing to tackle the dealing and use of illegal drugs in our community and are reliant on community intelligence to facilitate the obtaining and executing of warrants.

Analysis identified that more than half (59%) of all drug dealing / supply offences occurred in the Victoria (29), Foggy Furze (15) and Burn Valley (13) wards and related to the production of cannabis and supply of Class A drugs.

⁸ 2021/22: 264 possession offences and 99 supply offences

Drug possession offences were recorded in all wards, however offences in the Victoria (66), Burn Valley (51) and Foggy Furze (30) wards equated to 58% of all offences recorded during the reporting period.

Substance misuse is a key priority for the Safer Hartlepool Partnership. Hartlepool has high numbers of substance users, high numbers of drug and alcohol related deaths and a significant proportion of treatment service users fail to complete their treatment.

In England and Wales, in the year ending March 2023, an estimated 9.5% of people aged 16 to 59 years (approximately 3.1 million people) reported using a drug in the last 12 months; 7.6% reported using cannabis (around 2.5 million people) and 3.3% reported using a Class A drug (around 1.1 million people)⁹.

During the reporting period, Hartlepool Borough Council's Public Health Team undertook a drug and alcohol needs assessment which identified that:

- Hartlepool has had more than a threefold increase in drug related deaths since 2012/14 with the current rate being the 3rd highest in England;
- In 2019/20, Hartlepool was in the top 10 highest rates across the country for alcohol related hospital admissions;
- For the last 5 years, more than 50% of young people engaged in substance misuse treatment services were aged 15 or younger;

The needs assessment informed the development of the Hartlepool Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2023-2028 and action plan which was presented to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in October 2023.

The Strategy covers four key themes:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Reducing drug and alcohol related harms
- Supporting wider health needs
- Reducing drug and alcohol related crime and disorder

Progress in relation to the strategy implementation and delivery of the action plan will be reported to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on an annual basis.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour is described as (i) conduct that has caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person, (ii) conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises or (iii) conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.¹⁰

⁹ [Drug misuse in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/drug-misuse)

¹⁰ Crime and Policing Act 2014

Incidents of anti-social behaviour include a variety of behaviours and outcomes that can blight the quality of life of a particular individual, group or community.

Anti-social behaviour in all its forms (such as nuisance or rowdy behaviour, misuse of vehicles, littering, dog fouling) acts as visible signs of disorder in the community and is closely linked to perceptions of safety, satisfaction with the local area as a place to live and confidence in local services.

In Hartlepool, anti-social behaviour incidents recorded by the Police reduced by 5% when compared to the previous 12 months.¹¹

During this reporting period an average of 266 incidents were recorded by the Police each month, compared to 281 in the previous reporting period. Incident levels were greatest in March, April and May 2023 and were predominantly related to an increase in complaints relating off road bikes and other vehicle nuisance, particularly in the Headland and Harbour ward.

Whilst reported incidents of anti-social behaviour display considerable variance across the town, almost half (48%) occurred in just 3 wards; Headland and Harbour, Victoria and Burn Valley. Incidents in the Headland & Harbour ward equated to 20% of all anti-social behaviour incidents in the town and as mentioned above, predominantly related to vehicle nuisance caused by off road motorbikes.

Similar to anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the Police, complaints received by the Hartlepool Community Safety Team display variance across the town. ASB cases in the Victoria and Burn Valley wards equated to more than one third of all complaints received during the assessment period with almost one third of cases linked to drug dealing.

One quarter of ASB cases during the reporting period related to drug dealing, with rowdy behaviour and nuisance behaviour cases equating to a further 21% and 20% respectively.

Analysis identifies that the majority of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents are perpetrated by adults. During this assessment period, youth related anti-social behaviour equated to one third (34%) of all incidents recorded and is comparable to the previous year when the level was 30%. Youth related ASB increased by 7% (+73 incidents).

Almost half (47%) of all youth related ASB was recorded in the Headland and Harbour, Manor House and Victoria wards. One quarter of the youth related ASB in these wards is linked to off road motorbike / vehicle nuisance.

National research¹² suggests that people judge the level of anti-social behaviour in an area by obvious physical signs, such as poor presentation of public spaces i.e. the presence of litter, graffiti or criminal damage. If environmental issues are

¹¹ 3188 recorded ASB incidents compared to 3371 in October 21 to September 22

¹² Home Office – The Drivers of Perceptions of Anti-Social Behaviour

APPENDIX A

not addressed at the earliest opportunity, there is a risk that more incidents, disorder or serious crime may occur. A delayed and uncoordinated response to this type of crime can also signal to communities that no-one cares about them, leading to a downward spiral in community cohesion, an increase in anxiety, fear and changes in behaviour to protect themselves and their property.

Fly-tipping is a significant blight on the local environment, creates potential danger to public health, and is a source of pollution and a hazard to wildlife. It also undermines legitimate waste carrier businesses who are undercut by unscrupulous competitors operating outside the law.

Reports of fly-tipping received by the Council's Contact Centre increased by 43% (+ 833) during the period October 2022 to September 2023. A total of 2,749 incidents were recorded compared to 1,916 in October 2021 to September 2022.

Further analysis of this data identified that reports of fly-tipping in the Manor house, Headland and Harbour and Victoria wards equated to almost half (46%) of all complaints received during the assessment period. The most common types of waste that are fly-tipped in these wards are household items / furniture and black bags.

Noise complaints received by Hartlepool Borough Council's Public Protection Team increased by 10% in comparison to the previous reporting period with 517 complaints received compared to 470.

Comparable to the previous assessment period, complaints predominantly related to loud music and barking dogs which equated to 62% of all complaints received.

Complaints received from the Victoria, Burn Valley and Headland and Harbour wards equated to 40% of all complaints across the Town.

Deliberate fire setting is the human behaviour employed in committing the crime of arson. Arson endangers life, damages property and causes destruction to the local environment. It also blights neighbourhoods, having a detrimental effect on people, communities and local authorities.

In 2022/23, the estimated economic cost to Hartlepool from deliberate fires was in excess of £2.2m.

Data provided by Cleveland Fire Brigade identified an overall reduction in deliberate fires of 32% during the assessment period; a 15% reduction in F1 deliberate primary fires¹³ occurred whilst F3 deliberate secondary fires¹⁴ across the town reduced by 34%.

Deliberate primary fires (F1) predominantly occurred in the Manor House, Burn Valley, Foggy Furze and Victoria wards and equated to 63% (58 of the 92 incidents) of all F1 fires during the reporting period. The main type of property targeted in these incidents were vehicles (53%) and dwellings (29%). Incidents of

¹³ Deliberate Primary Fires (F1) are non-accidental fires that involve casualties and/or rescues or property or where at least five appliances attend.

¹⁴ Deliberate Secondary Fires (F3) are any non-accidental fires that do not involve property or casualties/rescues or where four or fewer appliances attend. Derelict properties are classed as secondary fires.

this nature are often linked to Serious and Organised crime and domestic violence.

Although they remain low in volume, the effects of deliberate primary fires are high personal impact and community loss, risk to life and high financial loss.

Police data identified that 104 offences of Arson were recorded in the assessment period, with 21% (22) categorised as Arson Endangering Life.

Deliberate secondary fires (F3) predominantly occurred in the Rossmere, Manor House, Hart and Headland & Harbour wards and equated to 64% (442 of the 695 incidents) of all F3 fires during the reporting period. F3 fires in these wards were predominantly refuse and grassland fires with a specific issue of trees being set alight in the Hart ward.

4. Re-Offending

Reducing re-offending is fundamental to both reducing crime and protecting the community. Proven re-offending rates published by the Ministry of Justice identify that re-offending rates for adult offenders in Cleveland remain high with three of the four local authority areas featuring within the “Top 20”¹⁵ areas with the highest re-offending rates in the country as detailed in the following table.

Upper Tier Local Authority Area	% of Adults who Re-offend
Cardiff	34.9
Darlington	34.0
Middlesbrough	33.9
Stockton-on-Tees	33.9
Gwynedd	33.2
Merthyr Tydfil	32.3
York	32.3
Swansea	31.4
Plymouth	31.3
Redcar and Cleveland	31.1
Nottingham	30.6
Wrexham	30.5
Hartlepool	30.4
Kingston upon Hull, City of	30.4
Blackpool	29.4
Conwy	29.3
Newcastle upon Tyne	29.3
Cheshire West and Chester	29.3
Westminster	29.0
Rhondda Cynon Taf	29.0

¹⁵ [Proven reoffending statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/proven-reoffending-statistics)

Top 20 - Local Authority areas in England & Wales with the highest proportion of adult offenders who committed a proven re-offence within 12-months, January 2021 – December 2021¹⁶

Recorded crime data identified a total of 659 individuals were detected and charged with more than 1,400 offences in Hartlepool during the assessment period; 252 charged with 2 or more offences of whom 23 were charged with 10 or more offences. These 23 individuals were detected to more than 350 offences which accounted for 24.5% of all detected crime and an average of 16, predominantly shoplifting, offences per individual.

The majority of repeat offenders were adults (92%) of which three quarters (75%) were males predominantly aged between 23 and 40 years (63%).

Information provided by the Hartlepool Youth Justice Service identified that comparable to the previous year, 20 young people entered the Criminal Justice system for the first time during the financial year 2022/23.

As identified in the Youth Justice Service Strategic Plan 2023 – 2024, the rate of youth re-offending in Hartlepool is lower than the regional and national percentages. Preventing reoffending remains a strategic priority for the Youth Justice Management Board.

During the assessment period, 51 young people aged between 11 and 17 years were detected to 85 offences in Hartlepool.

Offences committed by these 51 individuals were predominantly violence offences (36%). Other offence types included robbery, arson endangering life, criminal damage and drug offences that mainly occurred in the Victoria, Burn Valley and Manor House wards.

¹⁶ Ministry of Justice Proven Reoffending Statistics are two years out of date on publication.

HORIZON SCANNING

Organisational Change

Organisational change has been a key issue for Partnership members during the reporting period. As budget pressures continue, changes to service delivery and potential loss of some services may impact on community safety.

Legislation

Criminal Justice Bill 2023

The Criminal Justice Bill was introduced to the House of Commons in November 2023. The Bill contains various measures which the Government says will protect the public, give the police the powers they need to cut crime and anti-social behaviour, improve public confidence in the police, introduce tougher sentencing for sexual and violent criminals and strengthen the supervision of offenders on release from prison.

Terrorism Protection of Premises Bill

Also known as Martyn's law, this Bill is expected to become law in 2024 and is designed to reduce the risk to the public from terrorism by the protection of public venues. The Bill will place a requirement on those responsible for certain locations to consider the threat from terrorism and put measures in place to mitigate the threat, including implementing security systems, staff training and clearer processes.

Community Safety Partnership Review

In 2022, the Government's internal review of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) recommended that the Home Office conduct a full review of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across England and Wales: the CSP Review. The CSP Review seeks to clarify the role of CSPs, and improve their transparency, accountability, and effectiveness, making it easier for CSPs to serve the needs of their communities in tackling crime, disorder, and antisocial behaviour.

Phase One of the CSP review launched in March 2023 alongside the Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan. Phase One comprised of a consultation exploring the relationship between CSPs and PCCs, with the aim of improving the way they work together, and strengthening the accountability of Community Safety Partnerships. The Government response to the consultation¹⁷ will bring forward a package of targeted measures to improve alignment and collaboration between CSPs and PCCs, including creating a power for PCCs to make recommendations on the activity of CSPs to support the delivery of the objectives set out in the

¹⁷ [Community safety partnerships review and antisocial behaviour powers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/community-safety-partnerships-review-and-antisocial-behaviour-powers)

police and crime plan and create a duty on CSPs to take those recommendations into account.

Phase Two of the CSP review will consider the broader role and responsibilities of CSPs in the local partnership landscape. Evidence gathering surveys were issued in December 2023, with the Government response expected in early 2024.

General Election

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has said he expects to call a general election "in the second half" of 2024. There had been speculation it could be held in May, when some local elections take place.¹⁸

The latest a Parliament can be dissolved for a general election is on the fifth anniversary of the day it first met. For the current Parliament, that date is 17 December 2024. However, 25 working days are then allowed to prepare for the election meaning the next election must be held by 28 January 2025.

¹⁸ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-62064552>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

It is recommended that the SHP retains the strategic objective and priorities of the current Community Safety Plan, with an additional priority of Serious Violence, for the development of the forthcoming 2024 - 2027 Plan as detailed in the table below:

Strategic Objective	Priorities 2024 - 2027
<p>To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.</p>	<p>Anti-social Behaviour</p> <p>Drugs and Alcohol</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Abuse</p> <p>Serious Violence</p>

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP**26th February 2024****Report of:** Assistant Director (Regulatory Services)**Subject:** Safer Hartlepool Partnership Action Plan**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision**1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY****Hartlepool will be a place:**

- That is sustainable, clean, safe and green.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To provide a Safer Hartlepool Partnership Action Plan in which partners report their performance against the priorities outlined in the Community Safety Plan 2024/2027

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Draft Community Safety Plan for 2024/27 has a strategic objective to “make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit”. The priority areas identified to achieve this objective should be Serious Violence, Anti-Social Behaviour, Drugs and Alcohol and Domestic Violence.
- 3.2 In a report to SHP on 2nd October 2023 it was agreed that performance reporting would be in the form of an action plan covering each priority with the Community Safety Plan. This would outline all the work being carried out by partners. It was agreed that updates against these action plans would be reported to SHP every six months. The action plans would be living documents and allow partners to include new initiatives to fully reflect the work being carried out.

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The draft Safer Hartlepool Partnership Action Plan is attached in **Appendix 1** of the report it outlines activities carried out by partners across the priorities of the 2024/2027 plan.
- 4.2 Some partners are already producing action plans to accompany strategies such as Domestic Abuse and Drugs & Alcohol which are already being presented to the Partnership. Details from these plans are included in the action plan to ensure that all partners are contributing and including work they are carrying out.

5. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/IMPLICATIONS

RISK IMPLICATIONS	No relevant issues
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY	No relevant issues
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
STAFF CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
CONSULTATION	No relevant issues

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That Members approve the action plan.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Partnership is responsible for monitoring performance against the Community Safety Plan 2024-2027.

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Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

Priority	Objective / Outcome	Who	Actions/Progress/Comments	Date / RAG
Anti-Social Behaviour*	Ensure victims understand how to report ASB.	SHP members and partner organisations		
	Ensure victims are aware of the ASB case review process – “Community Trigger” and how to initiate it	SHP members and partner organisations		
	Provide a more visible police and council officer ‘on street’ presence	Police and Local Authority	ASB hot spot funding uniformed patrols carried out in Headland & Harbour and Victoria wards. SS5 funding providing project officer in Victoria Ward.	
	Make full use of the ASB tools and powers related to the partnership activity to tackle ASB	Local Authority, Police and partner organisations; Thirteen Group	Community Safety Accreditation scheme in ASB hot spot areas giving Civil Enforcement Officers additional powers	
	Reduce deliberate fires	Local Authority, Police, Fire Brigade and partner organisations	Multi agency deliberate fires group	
	Reduce the nuisance caused by illegal / off road bikes/vehicles	Local Authority, Police, Fire Brigade and partner organisations	Multi agency off road vehicle group	
	Tackle environmental crime in all its forms	Local Authority, Police, Fire Brigade and partner organisations	Multi agency fly tipping group.	

* Community Safety Plan Priority

Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

Domestic Violence and Abuse*	Local delivery of the Domestic Abuse Local Strategic Partnership action plan 2022-2025	SHP members and partner organisations		
	Workforce are equipped to ask the right questions and to support victims of Domestic Abuse	Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board / All		
	Ensure that the needs of victims / survivors with multiple and complex issues are given due consideration	Strategic MARAC Group / Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board		
	Domestic Abuse in all its forms is recognised by the workforce and in the community	All / HBC Domestic Abuse Coordinator / Corporate Communication Teams	Training/ promotion of Domestic Abuse campaigns; Ask for Angela, 16 Days of Action/....	
	Victims/survivors (adults and children) are true partners in the review and development of services	HBC Domestic Abuse Coordinator / Harbour		
	Learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews is disseminated, resulting in improved service delivery across the whole system	SHP members and partner organisations		


* Community Safety Plan Priority

Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

Drug and Alcohol Misuse*	<p>Work in partnership with the Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) to reduce drug supply</p> <p>Local delivery of the Drug & Alcohol Strategy action plan</p> <p>Review the current criminal justice pathways into substance misuse services to ensure efficacy of treatment and support</p> <p>Work in partnership to disrupt the supply of illegal drugs</p> <p>Raise awareness of the harms associated with drug and alcohol misuse amongst school and college students</p>	<p>SHP members and partner organisations</p> <p>START and Criminal Justice Partners</p> <p>Police Trading Standards Community Safety</p> <p>Neighbourhood Police Team (PC Coggin)</p>	<p>Supply chain disruption work carried out including. Premises visits, raids & closures</p> <p>Presentations and targeted interventions delivered in schools and colleges across Hartlepool on key themes including County Lines and anti-social behaviour and drink spiking</p>	
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* Community Safety Plan Priority

Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

Serious Violence*	Analysis of existing and emerging hotspots of serious violence is shared and a multi-agency response is planned.	Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence (CURV)	Partners providing data for need assessment.	
	Local delivery of the CURV Response Strategy  CURV Response Strategy-Final.pdf	SHP members and partner organisations	Partners providing data for deep dive. Needs assessment undertaken and response strategy developed.	
	Assist in the delivery of the CURV night time economy action plan.	SHP members and partner organisations	Installation four Bleed Cabinets at key locations across the borough. Establish a Responsible Authorities group. The group will consult on new licensing applications. In partnership with CURV to provide 25 apex radios to the Night Time Economy Premises Partnership working with the Hartlepool Town Pastors.	
	Raise awareness of the risks and potential consequences of serious violence amongst school and college students	Neighbourhood Police Team - Supt. Martin Hopps / PC Geoff Coggin	Presentations and targeted interventions delivered in schools and colleges across Hartlepool on key themes including knife crime, personal safety and “Ask for Angela” initiative.	
	Provide a more visible police presence to prevent and deter serious violence in		Dedicated patrols in hotspot (GRIP) areas / positive action / reduction in offences and victims	

* Community Safety Plan Priority

Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

	identified hotspot areas and the night-time economy	Police - Supt. Martin Hopps / Ch. Inspector Pete Littlewood		
Re-offending	The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) 'Proven adult offending rate' for Hartlepool offenders is reduced. Implement the Youth Justice Service Strategic Plan	Probation / Integrated Offender Management YJS Management Board Chair (Jo Heaney) / HBC YJS Manager (Roni Checksfield)		
Prevent	Susceptible individuals are safeguarded from being radicalised by individuals and/or groups promoting extremist ideologies online or in the community Workforce and Community awareness of Prevent and the risks of radicalisation is increased Victims of hate crime have increased confidence in reporting and accessing support services	Community Safety / Police Community Safety / Police / Corporate Communication Team Community Safety / VCAS / Third Party Reporting Centres	Training Key partners briefed on the Counter Terrorism Local Profile Local Prevent Risk Assessment is in place Develop a Prevent Communications Plan	

* Community Safety Plan Priority

Safer Hartlepool Action Plan 2024 - 2025

Acquisitive Crime	Reduction in residential burglary offences	Police / Crime Prevention/Community Safety	Proactive patrols in key areas/ prioritise activity to locate and arrest outstanding suspects / crime prevention and target hardening measures to prevent repeat victimisation. SS5 funding providing target hardening works.	
	Reduction in shoplifting offences	Police / PCSOs / Community Safety	Proactive patrols in key areas / prioritise activity to locate and arrest outstanding suspects / pursue robust enforcement for repeat offenders.	
Protect	Workforce and Community awareness of Protect duty and the risks of terrorist threats.	SHP members and partner organisations	Requirement for staff to undertake ACT Awareness eLearning and SCaN for All training package Recommended that all staff with a work Mobile phone to download the free ProtectUK App	

* Community Safety Plan Priority



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

26th February 2024



Report of: Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services

Subject: DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 - 2027

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY

Hartlepool will be a place:

- that is sustainable, clean, safe and green.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To consider and agree a draft Community Safety Plan for 2024 – 2027 (see **Appendix A**)

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have a statutory responsibility to develop and implement a Community Safety Strategy setting out how it intends to address crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending issues in Hartlepool.
- 3.2 CSP's are made up of representatives from the 'responsible authorities'. These include the Local Authority, Police, Fire Brigade, National Probation Service, and Clinical Commissioning Group. CSP's have a number of statutory duties which include:
- Producing a **Community Safety Strategy** that details how the CSP will tackle the crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending priorities in its local area;
 - Producing an annual partnership **strategic assessment** to help identify and better understand local community safety priorities;

- **Consulting** with local residents and organisations on community safety priorities.

4. DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 - 2027

- 4.1 The Community Safety Plan 2024-27 will provide an overview of some of the recent activities undertaken to improve community safety in Hartlepool, along with key findings from the Partnership's Strategic Assessment and consultation with the public.
- 4.2 The proposed strategic objectives and priorities for the 2024-27 Plan as recommended in the annual strategic assessment are as follows:

Strategic Objective	Priorities 2024 - 2027
To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.	<p>Anti-social Behaviour</p> <p>Drugs and Alcohol</p> <p>Domestic Violence and Abuse</p> <p>Serious Violence</p>

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Subject to approval by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, the draft Community Safety Plan will be subject to an eight week consultation period with the consultation exercise comprising of the following:
- An online consultation survey – with links published on the Safer Hartlepool Partnership web page, Hartlepool Borough Council website, Hartlepool Borough Council Facebook page and Hartlepool Borough Council Twitter page. The use of local media mechanisms including but not limited to Hartlepool Mail.
 - Targeted emails to a range of public, private, community and voluntary sector representatives and groups containing a link to the online consultation survey.
 - Presentation of the draft Plan to the Council's Audit & Governance and Finance and Policy Committees and the Health & Wellbeing Board.

6. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 6.1 The delivery of the Community Safety Plan will be monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, through the provision of quarterly performance reports to demonstrate progress against the agreed priorities.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007 the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to produce a Community Safety Strategy to set out how it intends to address crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending issues

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE.)

- 8.1 The consultation process will ensure that the needs of all sections of the community are considered when formulating and implementing the Community Safety Plan 2024 – 2027.

9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

RISK IMPLICATIONS	No relevant issues
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY	No relevant issues
STAFF CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues
ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS	No relevant issues

10. SECTION 17 CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 Failure to develop a Community Safety Strategy would undermine the Safer Hartlepool Partnerships ability to fulfil its statutory responsibilities around reducing crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending in Hartlepool.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership consider, discuss and agree any amendments to the proposed draft plan prior to the commencement of the consultation period.
- 11.2 That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership consider whether the establishment of sub group /task groups is required to deliver the Community Safety Plan priorities.

12. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory duty to develop a strategy aimed at reducing crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending behaviour.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 13.1 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment 2022 - 2023

14. CONTACT OFFICERS

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Safer Hartlepool Partnership



Community Safety Plan

2024 - 2027

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1. FOREWORD

As Chair, I am pleased to present the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Plan for 2024 – 2027 on behalf of The Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP).

The Partnership Plan brings together our aims, ambitions and priorities for the next three years. We will work in Partnership to tackle the issues which impact on, and matter to local people.

The Community Safety Plan retains the strategic objective and priorities of the 2021/24 plan, with an additional priority of serious violence, reflecting the outcomes of the 2022 - 2023 SHP Strategic Assessment and ongoing analysis of emerging issues across the Town. Utilising this data and information enables the SHP to deliver a holistic approach to address the priorities, with a greater emphasis on prevention and reducing harm.

In recent years, there has been a significant change in issues that are presented to partners to address, whilst also tackling substantial resource pressures. Important matters such as anti-social behaviour, serious violence, substance misuse, domestic violence and responding to those members of our communities with specific vulnerabilities understandably take priority.

The SHP will continue to look at new and innovative ways of working collaboratively to reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending, and most importantly, improving the quality of life for the people who live and work in and visit Hartlepool.

Chair, Safer Hartlepool Partnership

2. INTRODUCTION

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) brings together a number of agencies and organisations concerned with tackling crime and disorder in Hartlepool. As defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Partnership comprises members from each of the “responsible authorities”; Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Service, The Probation Service and Hartlepool and Stockton Clinical Commissioning Group. In addition, a range of other stakeholders from the public and voluntary sectors are also represented and include Thirteen Group, Safe In Tees Valley and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland.

Our key role is to understand the kind of community safety issues Hartlepool is experiencing; decide which of these are the most important to deal with; and then decide what actions we can take collectively, adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by our individual agencies and organisations.

We detail these actions in our Community Safety Plan. To help us do that we undertake a Strategic Assessment which analyses a range of detailed information that exists about crime, disorder, substance misuse, re-offending and other community matters that are affecting Hartlepool.

The outcomes of the assessment form recommendations about how to keep the Community Safety Plan priorities relevant.

In producing our plan we are also mindful of the pledges of the Police and Crime Commissioner in the Police and Crime Plan and the requirement to 'have regard' to the priorities established by this plan.

The community safety landscape continues to evolve and partners continue to face challenges in having to adapt the way services and initiatives are delivered. Since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, legislative changes have amended our focus, and also the statutory partners we work with, but the principles of working together remain at the heart of tackling crime and disorder.

The strategic objective of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership remains unchanged and is still as important as it ever has been:

“To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit”

3. LOCAL CONTEXT

Hartlepool is the smallest unitary authority in the North East region with a population of approximately 93,663 people; 51% female and 49% male.

There are approximately 40,434 households with 58% of homes owned outright / owned with a mortgage.

The average age in Hartlepool is 40 with 7% of the population aged 55-59.

The largest ethnic group is White British (98%).

Low educational attainment, high unemployment and poor physical health place Hartlepool in a deprived status and amongst the top 10% in England (ONS, 2021).

4. SUMMARY OF THE 2021/24 PLAN

Over the last 3 years we have focused on ensuring Hartlepool is a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit by undertaking activity to address the issues that are likely to have most effect on people during their day to day lives.

Community Safety Priority: Anti-social Behaviour

- **Operation Endurance** is an ongoing campaign which tackles anti-social behaviour caused by off-road bikes in local communities. Responding to community intelligence, numerous targeted operations have resulted in offenders being identified and off-road bikes subsequently seized and destroyed
- **Effective use of Anti-Social Behaviour Tools and Powers** including obtaining premise closure orders, issuing of Community Protection Warnings, engaging young people in Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and undertaking reviews of ASB cases through the Community Trigger process
- **Publicity campaigns** to increase awareness of environmental crime, such as fly-tipping and deliberate fires, and encourage the reporting of these issues.
- **Robust enforcement** in relation to individuals illegally dumping waste in the Town

Community Safety Priority: Drugs and Alcohol

- **Drug and Alcohol Needs Assessment** undertaken to identify any gaps in treatment and support services.
- **Development of a Drug and Alcohol Strategy** which focuses on prevention and early intervention, reducing drug and alcohol related harms, supporting wider health needs and reducing drug and alcohol related crime
- **Execution of warrants** under the Misuse of Drugs Act resulting in the recovery of controlled drugs amounting to millions of pounds in street value
- **Presentations and targeted interventions** delivered in schools and colleges across Hartlepool on key themes including County Lines and anti-social behaviour and drink spiking

Community Safety Priority: Domestic Violence and Abuse

- **Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment** undertaken and Domestic Abuse Strategy developed.
- **Improved provision** of safe accommodation for victims of Domestic Abuse
- **Re-commissioned** specialist domestic abuse services based on lived experiences
- **Publicity campaigns to raise awareness** of domestic abuse and promote initiatives including “ask for ANI”, a code word scheme that enables victims of domestic abuse to discreetly ask for immediate help in participating pharmacies, and “ask for Angela”, a code word scheme for women to seek help from staff in pubs and bars if they are feeling unsafe on a night out.

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5. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

The Partnership conducts an annual assessment of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool to identify and address the community safety issues that impact upon and really matter to the local community. The following provides an overview of the key findings from the assessment which covers the period from October 2022 to September 2023.

Recorded crime during the period increased by 11% (+1,471 offences) in Hartlepool when compared to the previous assessment period.

Increases were experienced in violence against the person offences (+315; 5%), sexual offences (+46; 12%) and criminal damage offences (+232; 14%)

Acquisitive crime offences increased overall by 34%, predominantly due to an increase in recorded shoplifting offences:

- Residential Burglary (-83; -12%)
- Vehicle Crime (+103; +20% offences)
- Shoplifting (+722; +66%)

Community Safety Partnerships are arranged in “Most Similar Groups¹” with 14 other CSPs, determined by various measures including population figures and deprivation levels. Positions in these groups are ranked with 1 being the lowest (fewest offences) and 15 the highest (most offences).

The crime rate in Hartlepool is above the Most Similar Group (MSG) average of 118 per 1,000 population, standing at 154. (July 2023). (Table 1)

¹ Most Similar Group (MSG) Community Safety Partnerships – I-Quanta: Walsall, Sunderland, South Tyneside, Halton, Barrow-in-Furness, Rochdale, St Helens, Newport, Knowlesley, Stoke-on-Trent, Middlesbrough, North East Lincolnshire, Bradford, Thanet, Hartlepool.

Crime Type	Hartlepool	MSG Average	Hartlepool Position	MSG Comparison
All Crime	154.006	117.497	15	Above
Violence against the Person				
Homicide	0.054	0.013	15	Above
Violence with Injury	13.492	12.661	11	Above
Violence without Injury	21.130	17.855	13	Above
Sexual Offences				
Rape	1.577	1.286	12	Above
Other Sexual Offences	3.025	2.461	15	Above
Acquisitive Crime				
Burglary Residential*	10.404	6.418	15	Above
Burglary Bus & Com	1.707	1.513	9	Above
Bicycle Theft	1.113	0.967	11	Above
Theft from the Person	0.0605	0.574	9	Above
Robbery - Personal	1.145	0.858	12	Above
Robbery - Business	0.162	.0125	13	Above
Vehicle Crime	6.449	6.040	11	Above
Shoplifting	17.576	8.159	15	Above
Other Acquisitive	10.208	8.290	13	Above
Criminal Damage				
All Criminal Damage	16.938	12.309	15	Above
Arson	1.015	0.804	13	Above

6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To follow

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7. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2021-2024

Based on the findings of the 2022 - 2023 Strategic Assessment and consultation with the local community and other stakeholders, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's Strategic Objective 2024-2027 is: -

**To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable
place to live, work and visit**

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8. PRIORITIES 2024 - 2025

As with any town, Hartlepool faces many challenges and must work within an environment of conflicting demands and limited resources.

The Partnership recognises that there are many issues that impact on the lives of some, or all, of Hartlepool's residents and continued efforts will be made by all Partnership members to address these in a focussed and effective manner.

Issues such as violence (particularly serious violence) and exploitation are significant in both the local and national context and the Partnership recognises the need to work both individually and collectively to address them.

However, the Partnership also recognises the benefits of identifying those issues that have the greatest impact on the town and the need to target resources and efforts to deal with them effectively and efficiently.

To do this, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership will focus activity on four key priority areas:

Anti-Social Behaviour

By adopting an intelligence led problem solving approach, the Partnership will work to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) across the town by deploying resources and undertaking targeted activity to address the issues that cause concern for our residents and communities and negatively impact on their quality of life.

Drugs and Alcohol

Through targeted partnership working, focussed efforts will be made to reduce both the demand for, and the supply of, illegal drugs in Hartlepool.

The Partnership will also work together to reduce the negative social, personal and health consequences caused by the misuse of alcohol in the town.

Domestic Violence and Abuse

The Partnership will work together to safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse. Working with the Office and the Police and Crime Commissioner, the development of a perpetrator strategy is a key priority for 2024/25.

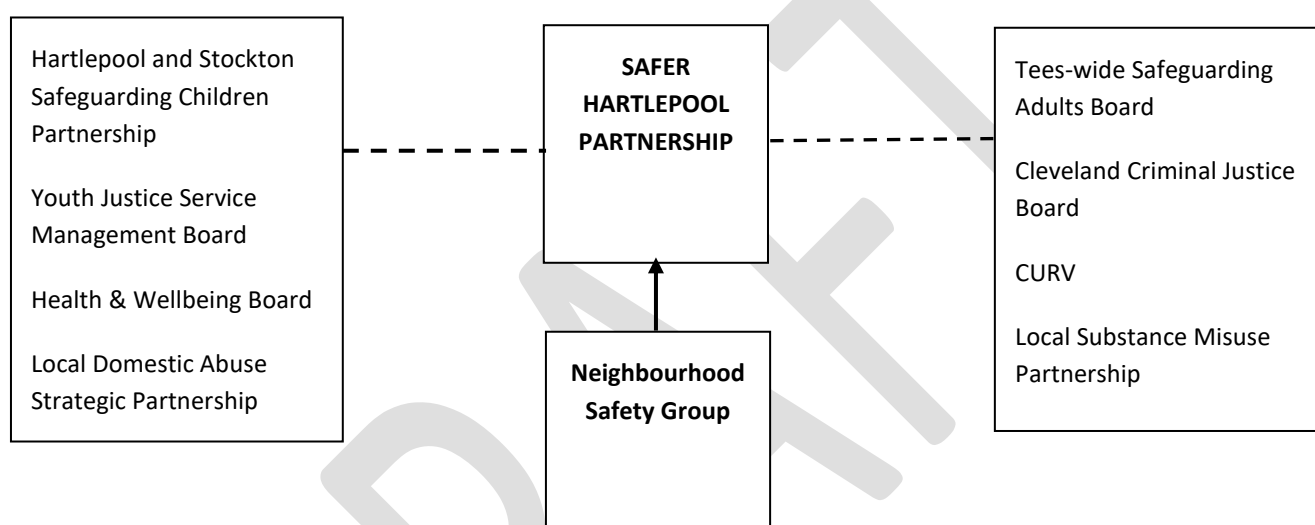
Serious Violence

The Partnership will continue to work with the Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence (CURV) to deliver the objectives contained in its Response Strategy at a local level.

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9. DELIVERING THE PLAN

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has the responsibility to deliver the priorities that are set out within this plan. The governance structure is outlined below. This chart outlines the Partnership delivery and reporting structure. Recognising its responsibility to reduce re-offending, the SHP sub groups will include re-offending as a specific area of focus. Performance monitoring will be undertaken on a quarterly basis to assess progress against key priorities drawn from the strategic assessment and identify any emerging issues.



10. MONITORING PERFORMANCE

Performance reporting will be in the form of an action plan covering each priority with the Community Safety Plan. The action plan will outline the work being carried out by partners and updates will be reported to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership every six months. The action plan is a living document which will allow partners to include new initiatives to fully reflect the work being carried out.

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