

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP





31st January 2025

at 2.00pm or immediately following the Informal Safer Hartlepool Partnership whichever is the latter

> in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

Responsible Authority Members:

Councillor Harrison, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council Councillor Oliver, 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 Detective Chief Inspector Alan O'Donoghue, Cleveland Police (VC)

Jo Heaney, Chair of Youth Offending Board

Karen Hawkins, Director of Place, Northeast and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Ann Powell, Head of Stockton and Hartlepool Probation Delivery Unit S Smith, Cleveland Fire Authority

Other Members:

Jonathan Brash, MP for Hartlepool (C)

Craig Blundred, Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council Matt Storey, 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

Jonathan Brash, Member of Parliament for Hartlepool (Chair)

Non-Voting Observer, Councillor Jorgeson, 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 6th December 2024



4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 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

6 December 2024

The meeting commenced at 5.00pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

Present:

Councillors Oliver and Harrison, Elected Members, Hartlepool Borough Council

Tony Hanson, Executive Director of Developments, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council (Chair)
Karen Hawkins, Director of Place, North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Officers:

Chris Hogben, Independent Chair of the Domestic Homicide Review Panel Joan Stevens, Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Manager

18. Apologies for Absence

Jonathan Brash, MP for Hartlepool

Denise McGuckin, Managing Director, Hartlepool Borough Council Sylvia Pinkney, Assistant Director, Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council

Detective Chief Inspector Alan O'Donoghue, Cleveland Police Jo Heaney, Chair of Youth Offending Board Ann Powell, Head of Stockton and Hartlepool Probation Delivery Unit Carl Pattinson, Cleveland Fire Authority

19. Appointment of Chair

It the absence of an appointed Chair it was agreed that Tony Hanson, Executive Director of Developments, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council.

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

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of

the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute 21 – Domestic Homicide Review – Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services (Para 2) – This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 2) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

21. Domestic Homicide Review (Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services) This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely (para 2) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Purpose of report

To consider the report into a recent death as part of the Safer Hartlepool Partnerships Statutory duty to commission Domestic Homicide Reviews under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004).

Issue(s) for consideration

Under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004) Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews and a detailed report was considered by the Partnership, details of which are set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Decision

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership Executive considered the Domestic Homicide Review Report and agreed that the final report be sent to the Home Office to be quality assessed.

22. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None

The meeting concluded at 6.00pm.

CHAIR



SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

31st January 2025



Report of: Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods

and Regulatory Services

Subject: COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 – 2027

Decision Type: Budget & Policy Framework

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITY

Hartlepool will be a place:

that is sustainable, clean, safe and green.

2 PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To present and seek approval from the Safer Hartlepool Partnership for the final draft of the Community Safety Plan 2024-27 (see **Appendix 1**).

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 reoffending issues in Hartlepool.
- 32. 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; and

1

Consulting with local residents and organisations on community safety priorities.

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 - 2027

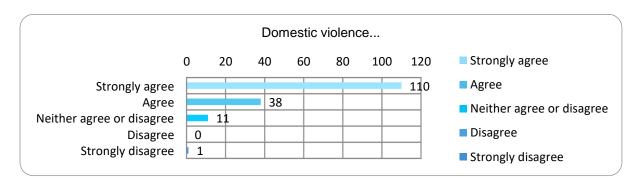
- 4.1 The Community Safety Plan 2024-27 will provide an overview of some of the recent activities undertaken to improve community safety in Hartlepool, along with key findings from the Partnership's Strategic Assessment and consultation with the public.
- 4.2 The proposed strategic objectives and priorities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

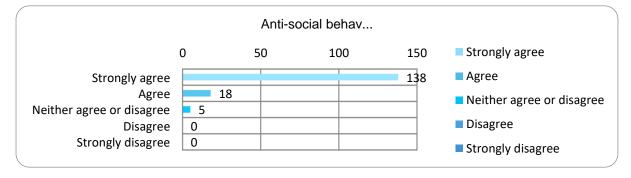
Strategic Objective	Priorities 2024 - 2027
To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.	Anti-social Behaviour Drugs and Alcohol Domestic Violence and Abuse Serious Violence

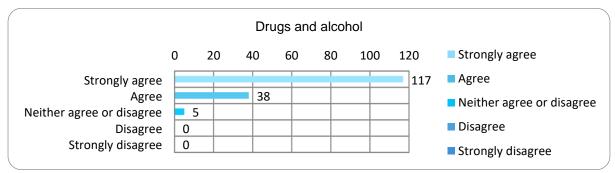
5. CONSULTATION

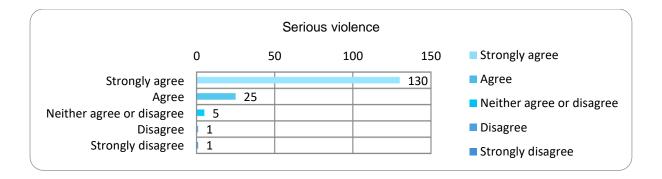
- 5.1 Following agreement of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objective and priorities in February 2024, the first draft of the Community Safety Plan was published for public consultation from 1st September to 11th November 2024.
- 5.2 The public consultation comprised of the following:
 - 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;
 - Paper copies of the survey were made available in Community Hubs;
 - Targeted emails to a range of public, private, community and voluntary sector representatives and groups containing a link to the online consultation survey; and
 - Presentation of the draft Plan to the Council's Audit and Governance and Finance and Policy Committees.

- 5.3 The Council's digital engagement platform, "Your say, our future" enabled participants to:
 - Read the draft Community Safety Plan for 2024-27;
 - Complete an online survey which included questions on the draft plan;
 - Use the ideas board to make suggestions as to how the Safer Hartlepool Partnership can work with residents and partners to deliver on the priorities identified in the draft Community Safety Plan; and
 - Ask a question of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.
- 5.4 The Majority of those who did respond to the survey either agreed or strongly agreed with each of the priorities identified in the Community Safety Plan for 2024-27 as can be seen below.









- 5.5 Examples of what the respondents felt were missing from the priorities included:
 - Reducing crime and reoffending;
 - Provide greater visible police and warden presence;
 - Hate Crime; and
 - Challenge behaviours that make women and girls feel unsafe.
- 5.6 Examples of how respondents felt that the Partnership could work with residents and partners to deliver the priorities include:
 - Meetings with residents and the Community Sector;
 - Involve communities with more Community Safety Days;
 - Better communications to inform residents of the work being carried out;
 and
 - Better funding for services, particularly preventative and youth services.
- 5.7 These survey responses will be taken into consideration when developing plans and delivering activity to tackle the priorities.

6. DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 6.1 Delivery of the Community Safety Plan will be via existing agencies, organisations and partnerships and, where necessary, the development of new working groups shall be monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.
- 6.2 Performance against the Community Safety Plan will be monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, through the Community Safety Action Plan.
- 6.3 Upon approval by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, the Community Safety Plan will be presented Finance and Policy Committee prior to Full Council for adoption in February 2025 before then being published on the Safer Hartlepool Partnership web pages.

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

7.1 No relevant issues.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 No relevant issues.

9. **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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

10. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 No relevant issues.

11. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

11.1 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.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

12.1 No relevant issues.

13. **ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

13.1 No relevant issues.

14. **ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS**

14.1 No relevant issues.

15. **SECTION 17 CONSIDERATIONS**

15.1 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.

16. RECOMMENDATIONS

16.1 That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership approve the Community Safety Plan 2024/27.

17. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

18.1 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment 2022 – 2023

19. **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 Police and the 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 93,366 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%).

Population	Hartlepool's population has increased slightly over the past 5 years from 92,401 in 2019 to 95,366 in 2023.	Hartlepool's population is becoming more diverse with increasing numbers of ethnic minority residents.	Twenty percent of the population are aged 65 or over; whilst 21% are age 18 and under.
Unemployment	Unemployment rates in Hartlepool are above the national and regional averages. Almost 70% of Universal Credit claimants in Hartlepool are not in employment.	The unemployment rate of young people aged 18-24 remains above the national average.	
Deprivation	Hartlepool has pockets of high deprivation where communities experience multiple issues: higher unemployment, lower incomes, child poverty, ill health, low attainment, poorer housing conditions and higher crime rates.	Hartlepool is the 25 th most deprived local authority area out of 317 local authority areas.	Inequality within Hartlepool is getting worse, with the gap between the most deprived and the least deprived parts of the town widening.
Health & Wellbeing	Hartlepool residents spend a higher proportion of their lives in poor health than in other local authority areas.	Hartlepool has the highest rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions in the northeast region at 3,629 per 100,000 population. This is significantly higher than the national rate.	At 14.8 per 100,000, the rate of drug-related deaths in Hartlepool is significantly higher than the regional rate and almost three times the national rate.
Housing	Over half of the properties in Hartlepool are within the lowest "Band A" Council Tax bracket. 31% of pensioners in Hartlepool live alone, which is associated with multiple adverse outcomes.	Geography	Community safety problems are not evenly spread and tend to be concentrated in geographic hotspots, particularly in the most deprived wards in Hartlepool



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 antisocial 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

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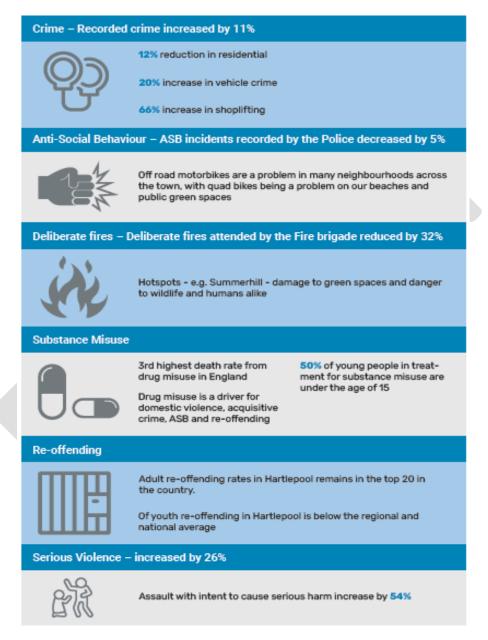
Publicity campaigns to raise awareness of domestic abuse and promote
initiatives including "ask for ANI", a code word scheme that enables victims of
domestic abuse to discreetly ask for immediate help in participating
pharmacies, and "ask for Angela", a code word scheme for women to seek
help from staff in pubs and bars if they are feeling unsafe on a night out.





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.



Community Safety Partnerships are arranged in "Most Similar Groups¹" with 14 other CSPs, determined by various measures including population figures and

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



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)





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 Of	fences						
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

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory obligation to engage and consult with the communities of Hartlepool about community safety priorities.

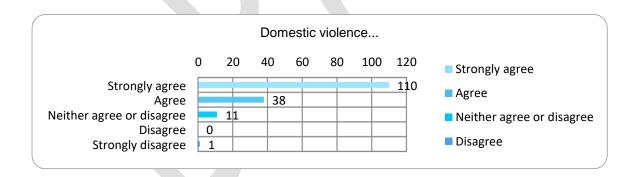
The Community Safety Survey is designed to assist the Partnership to:

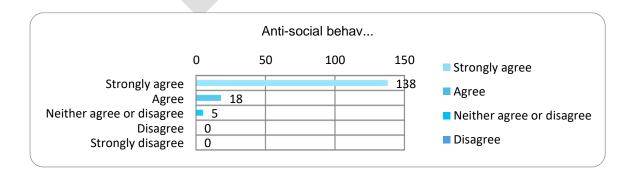
- Gain a wider understanding of public perception of crime and anti-social behaviour in the local area;
- Understand what makes people feel safe and unsafe; and
- Understand which issues cause most concern

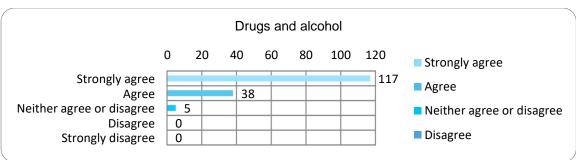
Analysis of the results of the survey conducted in 2024 highlighted that, although many residents perceive crime and anti-social behaviour to be a problem in their area, with off road bikes being highlighted as the biggest concern. More than half of respondents said they had not been a victim of crime in the previous 12 months.

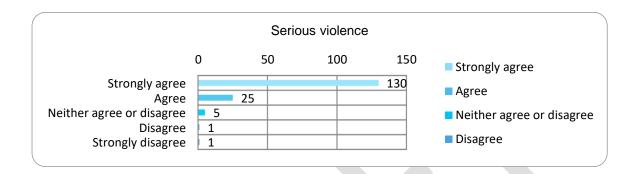
When asked about feelings of safety, whilst most respondents said they feel safe being outside during the day the majority felt unsafe at night. Those who said they felt unsafe stated this was due to poor street lighting, lack of police, suspicious people hanging around and people dealing drugs.

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree with each of the priorities identified in the Community Safety Plan 2024-27 and gave clear support to these priorities.











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

8. PRIORITIES 2024 - 2027

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

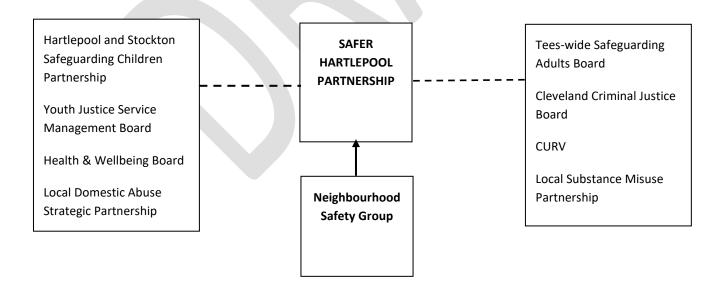
The Partnership will work together to safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse. Working with the Office and the Police and Crime Commissioner, the development of a perpetrator strategy is a key priority for 2024/25.

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.

9. DELIVERING THE PLAN

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has the responsibility to deliver the priorities that are set out within this plan. There are 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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For further information contact:

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