

North Tyneside Council

Report to Council

Date: 13 March 2014

ITEM 7

Title: Safer North
Tyneside Community
Safety Strategy 2014-2019

Portfolio(s): Community Engagement

Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Carole Burdis

Report from: Chief Executive's Office

Report Author: Jackie Laughton, Strategic Manager, Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communications (Tel: (0191) 643 7070)

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present the Safer North Tyneside Partnership's Community Safety Strategy 2014 – 2019 for Council's consideration and approval pursuant to the Council's Budget and Policy Framework rules. The Council is a 'responsible authority' under this statutory Partnership.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Council:

- (1) agree the final proposals in respect of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019, in the form of the draft Strategy attached at Appendix 1 and Action Plan attached at Appendix 2.

1.3 Forward Plan:

28 days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 8 January, 2014.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

The Community Safety Strategy contributes to the following priorities of the 2014-18 Our North Tyneside Plan:

Our People will:

- Be listened to by services that respond better and faster to their needs.
- Be cared for and kept safe if they become vulnerable.

Our Places will:

Be places that people like living in and will attract others to either visit or live.

The Community Safety Strategy is submitted to Council pursuant to the rules under Part 4.7 of the Constitution for formulation and approval of plans and strategies within the Policy Framework.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002, Police and Justice Act 2006, the Police and Crime Act 2009 and Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011, places a duty on 'responsible authorities' to work together, with other agencies, to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse and reoffending within the community. The responsible authorities for North Tyneside are: North Tyneside Council, Northumbria Police, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority, Northumbria Probation Trust and North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group.

It is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (known in this borough as Safer North Tyneside) to prepare an annual 'strategic assessment' of crime and disorder issues impacting on the local community and for this to shape how the Partnership responds to emerging issues. This process informs the Community Safety Strategy and an annual review of that Strategy.

The current Community Safety Strategy covers the period April, 2011 to March 2014. This means that the Partnership is now required to undergo a formal review process. Previously Community Safety Partnerships were required, statutorily, to review their strategy every 3 years. However, in 2011 this requirement was repealed. At a meeting of the Safer North Tyneside Board on 17 April, 2013 the Partnership agreed that its next strategy should cover the period 1 April, 2014 to 31 March 2019.

1.5.2 Developing the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019

At its meeting on 10 June, 2013 Cabinet considered a report setting out the initial proposals in respect of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019, and detailing the process for the development of the Strategy.

Under the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules the initial proposals were presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 September, 2013. Comments received were considered by the Cabinet Member and as a result additional engagement took place with school pupils and also with previous offenders to gain an insight to their perceptions and experiences, specifically looking at reasons for reoffending.

The proposals for the final draft Strategy were presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 January, 2014. The Committee noted the proposals.

The final proposals in respect of the Strategy were agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 10 February, 2014.

1.5.3 Priorities of the Draft Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019

Crime

- Safeguarding our most vulnerable residents.

- Tackling violent crime, sexual violence and domestic abuse; particularly that which is alcohol related.
- Tackling Hate crime.

Disorder

- Tackling anti-social behaviour.
- Tackling criminal damage and deliberate fires.
- Providing priority support to vulnerable and repeat victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour.

Offending

- Ensuring the right targeted interventions are in place to deter offenders.
- Ensuring young offenders have access to a range of services designed to assist them to reach their true potential.

Community Concerns and Confidence

- Listening to our communities.
- Tackling problems that matter at a local level.
- Communicating progress and results to promote reassurance and confidence.

1.5.4 Safer North Tyneside has agreed an Action Plan that details how Partners will work together to address the priorities identified by our communities. A number of success measures have been included in the Action Plan to help Safer North Tyneside monitor progress.

1.5.5 Delivering the Plan

The Partnership has been structured to provide better outcomes and an improved responsiveness to emerging community safety issues:

- Safer North Tyneside Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction and long term vision of the Partnership.
- The Partnership's Policy and Performance Group (PPG) manages the day-to-day business of the Partnership such as monitoring performance.
- Delivering actions to address the priorities of Safer North Tyneside is the responsibility of Thematic Groups/Services that are directly responsible to the PPG.
- A multi agency Tasking and Coordination Group (TCG) responds to the local issues affecting our communities as they arise and, using the problem solving approach, delivers the most appropriate response.

1.6 **Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Council:

Option 1

Council may approve the final proposals in respect of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019 as recommended at paragraph 1.2.

Option 2

Council may not approve the final proposals and request that other proposals are developed.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

If Council approves the recommended option it will ensure that an up to date Community Safety Policy Framework is in place to support the well being of residents and to further enhance the borough as a safe and attractive place to live.

The Strategy has been developed using a robust evidence base that analysed the levels and patterns of crime, disorder, substance misuse, reoffending and behaviour adversely affecting the environment in the area and through engagement with elected members, partner agencies and the public.

If the preferred option is not approved, Council may instruct officers to undertake further work on the Strategy.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019.

Appendix 2: Community Safety Action Plan.

1.9 Contact officers:

Lynne Crowe, Community Safety Officer, Tel.: Ext 6433

Alison Campbell, Financial Business Manager, Tel.: Ext 7038

1.10 Background information:

The following information has been used in the compilation of this report and is available at the offices of the author.

- (1) The Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- (2) Statutory Instrument 2007/1830 - The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.
- (3) Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011
- (4) Strategic Assessment, October 2013. This assessment was produced by the Safer North Tyneside Partnership and analyses crime and disorder issues impacting on the local community. The Partnership used this Assessment to inform the priorities of this Strategy.
- (5) Our North Tyneside Council Plan
- (6) The Authority's Constitution and Budget and Policy Framework Rules

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Council to consider crime and disorder reduction and community safety when undertaking all of its duties and responsibilities. The responsibilities placed on all local government departments by Section 17 potentially sets a wide scope, with all services being required to consider how their service area can contribute to reducing crime and disorder and the impact their service has on social and economic factors that affect crime levels.

The strategy will be delivered by The Safer North Tyneside Partnership with each partner delivering the elements that it is responsible for from within existing resources.

2.2 Legal

The statutory responsibilities in respect of the preparation of a Community Safety Strategy are set out in section 1.5 of this report.

The Community Safety Strategy forms part of the Council's Policy Framework and is required to be formulated and progressed in compliance with the requirements of the Policy Framework Procedure Rules at section 4.7 of the Authority's Constitution. In accordance with those rules, any member wishing to propose any objections to the Cabinet's final proposals in respect of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019 must submit these in writing to the Head of Law and Governance on behalf of the Chief Executive by no later than 4pm on 12 March 2014.

The Authority's Constitution recognises that a number of strategies or plans are prepared under partnership arrangements, and that such documents need to be negotiated and agreed by the relevant authorities. One such strategy is the Community Safety Strategy, the preparation of which is the responsibility of the Safer North Tyneside Partnership. The Constitution (at Article 4.4) makes clear that the Council should not usually overturn any plans and strategies already agreed with local partners provided that the Budget and Policy Framework Rules have been complied with.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

A great deal of consultation has been carried out with local communities on crime, disorder and substance misuse issues including North Tyneside Council's annual Residents' Survey and Northumbria Police's quarterly Safer Communities Survey. This process ensures the gathering of information, and an increase in our understanding of community safety issues and how they affect differing local communities and community groups.

The priorities within the Community Safety Strategy 2014 – 2019 were developed through an extensive consultation programme. This included consultation with:

- Partner agencies of Safer North Tyneside Board and Policy and Performance Group (including Northumbria Police, Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service, North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group, Northumbria Probation Trust, Victim Support and senior officers of North Tyneside Council)
- The Elected Mayor
- Council Members
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The initial proposals were presented on 2 September, 2013 and the final proposals in respect of the Draft Strategy were presented to the Committee on 6 January, 2014.
- Residents of the borough via a Focus Group, the Residents Panel and the Council's website. As per Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendation, pupils from secondary schools and previous offenders were consulted.
- Victims of crime.
- North Tyneside Strategic Partnership.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

A priority of Safer North Tyneside is to 'Target Hate Crime'. An equality impact assessment has been carried out on the consultation process that informed the Community Safety Strategy. No issues arose from the assessment.

2.6 Risk management

The Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019 provides a Community Safety Policy Framework for the borough. Risks relating to any actions the Council may take to meet the priorities in the Strategy will be identified and logged in the risk register of the lead Service for the individual action concerned.

2.7 Crime and disorder

The Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019 is a statutory document and is the framework by which Safer North Tyneside will work together to achieve their vision of 'Keeping North Tyneside Safe'.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications directly arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Strategic Manager Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communications



INTRODUCTION

For the fourth year running, in 2012/13, North Tyneside was the safest metropolitan borough in England. Our new 2014-2019 Community Safety Strategy will help Safer North Tyneside to maintain this achievement.

Every year a number of surveys are carried out in our borough to ask residents about their community safety concerns. Two of these surveys are North Tyneside Councils Residents' Survey and the Northumbria Community Safety Survey – this survey is conducted by telephone.

The results of these surveys have been used, along with crime and disorder information provided by our Partners (Northumbria Police, North Tyneside Council, Northumbria Probation Trust, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service and Northumbria Health Care Trust), to help Safer North Tyneside identify local community safety priorities.

This strategy covers the big things that we need to do to improve community safety. The following priorities have been identified to help us reduce crime, disorder and offending and to tackle our communities concerns.

To make sure that Safer North Tyneside is focusing on the priorities that matter most to our communities, the Partnership shared their proposals with residents and listened to what they were saying. What you told us has helped to shape our final proposals.

Alongside this strategy our Partners will continue to deliver high quality, value for money services. Cuts in government funding over the next five years will mean that partners need to prioritise what they will do. This strategy will help us all to do that.

However, I know that there is a lot that we can do and that together we can keep Our North Tyneside safe.

Councillor Carole Burdis
Chair, Safer North Tyneside



OUR SAFER NORTH TYNESIDE PRIORITIES

Crime – we will make a difference by:

- Safeguarding our most vulnerable residents
- Tackling violent crime, sexual violence and domestic abuse, particularly which is alcohol related.
- Tackling Hate crime

Disorder – we will make a difference by:

- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Tackling criminal damage and deliberate fires
- Providing priority support to vulnerable and repeat victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour

Offending – we will make a difference by:

- Ensuring the right targeted interventions are in place to deter offenders
- Ensuring young offenders have access to a range of services designed to assist them to reach their true potential

Community Concerns and Confidence – we will make a difference by:

- Listening to our communities
- Tackling problems that matter at a local level
- Communicating progress and results to promote reassurance and confidence



HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE ARE BEING SUCCESSFUL?

Crime

1. We will be the safest metropolitan borough in England
2. There will be a reduction in repeat victimisation.
3. We will have improved case closure satisfaction scores for victims of anti social behaviour and hate crime.
4. Young people will be more likely to recognise domestic abuse in their own relationships and seek support.
5. Victims of domestic abuse will be identified, supported and safeguarded.

Disorder

1. We will have improved the satisfaction of victims of anti social behaviour.
2. There will be a reduction in incidents of anti social behaviour

Offending

1. There will be a reduction in reoffending by an identified cohort (based on cohort identified on 1st April 2014)
2. There will be an increase in referrals and successful completions in relation to Alcohol Treatment Requirements and Drug Rehabilitation Requirements for those offenders identified with a substance misuse issue
3. We will increase the proportion of young offenders in suitable education, training or employment upon completion of intervention.
4. We will increase the proportion of young people that successfully complete a Community based Criminal Justice Intervention.
5. There will be a reduction in first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System

Community Concerns and Confidence

1. More residents will feel safe in the borough
2. We will have anti social behaviour procedures focussing on supporting victims and taking robust action against perpetrators.
3. We will have improved crime and anti social behaviour perception levels.



**Our Safer North Tyneside
Action Plan
2014-2019**

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Alongside this strategy our Partners will continue to deliver high quality, value for money services. Cuts in government funding over the next five years will mean that partners need to prioritise what they will do. This strategy will help us all to do that.

However I know that there is a lot that we can do and that together we can keep Our North Tyneside safe.

Councillor Carole Burdis
Chair, Safer North Tyneside

1. Crime	<p>A. Safeguarding our most vulnerable residents.</p> <p>B. Tackling violent crime, sexual violence and domestic abuse, particularly which is alcohol related.</p> <p>C. Tackling Hate crime.</p>		
Success measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safest metropolitan borough in England • Reduction in repeat victimisation • Improved case closure satisfaction scores for victims of anti social behaviour. • Improved case closure satisfaction scores for victims of hate crime. • Young people more likely to recognise domestic abuse in their own relationships and seek support • Victims of domestic abuse identified, supported and safeguarded. 		
Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
A.	Complete a risk assessment for category 1 anti social behaviour cases, and share high scores with adult safeguarding and the police. (i.e. physical violence, domestic abuse, hate related incidents, verbal abuse, harassment, intimidation, threatening behaviour)	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
A.	Maintain weekly contact with victims of category 1 anti social behaviour cases and signposts to support agencies where necessary.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
A.	Harm Plans, managed by Neighbourhood Inspectors, reported upon at weekly Sector Review meetings with Area Command Senior Management Team	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police
A.	Partnership Tasking and Coordination Group to run on a five weekly basis - vulnerability discussed as part of the agenda.	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police
A.	Ensure sufficient domestic abuse specialist services are available to meet the needs of victims and their children	Lesley Pyle, Domestic Abuse Coordinator	Domestic Abuse Partnership

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Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
B.	Healthy relationship sessions for young people delivered across the borough in school and youth settings.	Lesley Pyle, Domestic Abuse Coordinator	Domestic Abuse Partnership
B.	MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase a victims safety.	Lesley Pyle, Domestic Abuse Coordinator	Domestic Abuse Partnership
B.	Police Officers to receive 'brief interventions' training from Turning Point to improve operational response to alcohol issues.	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police
B.	Police officers to proactively visit offenders and explain the implications of further offending.	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police
C.	North Tyneside Homes will respond to reports of hate crime within one working day (i.e. agreeing action plan with victim to tackle issue, with timescales).	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	Joint Engagement Group process established within North Tyneside for actual or potential rise in tension (provides structure for coordinated engagement activity between police, council and partners).	Supt. Paul Orchard	Northumbria Police

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Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
C.	Hate Crime discussed at Area Command Daily Management Meetings to ensure that the response is appropriate.	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police

2. Disorder	<p>A. Tackling anti-social behaviour</p> <p>B. Tackling criminal damage and deliberate fires.</p> <p>C. Providing priority support to vulnerable and repeat victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour.</p>		
Success measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will have improved the satisfaction of victims of anti social behaviour. • Reduction in incidents of anti social behaviour 		
Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
A.	North Tyneside Homes and Neighbourhood Police Teams maintain Operation Respect, targeting households and individuals who engage in anti social behaviour, regardless of tenure. (i.e. Council tenants, home owners, tenants of privately rented accommodation).	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
A.	Provide sign-posting support to perpetrators of anti social behaviour to help them change their ways and reduce re-offending. (e.g. mental health, drug and/or alcohol abuse)	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
B.	Where appropriate, use civil tools and powers against perpetrators, following the conclusion of criminal investigations. (e.g. tenancy breach, Injunctions).	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	Provide weekly contact to repeat victims, including category 1 anti social behaviour cases, updating them regularly on the progress of their case.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	Increase the number of volunteers to the 'Victim and Witness Support Group'.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	Harm Plans, managed by Neighbourhood Inspectors, reported upon at weekly Sector Review meetings with Area Command Senior Management Team	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police

2. Disorder	A. Tackling anti-social behaviour B. Tackling criminal damage and deliberate fires. C. Providing priority support to vulnerable and repeat victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour.		
Success measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will have improved the satisfaction of victims of anti social behaviour. • Reduction in incidents of anti social behaviour 		
Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
C.	Partnership Tasking and Coordination Group to run on a five weekly basis - vulnerability discussed as part of the agenda.	Ch/Insp. Jamie Pitt	Northumbria Police

3. Offending	<p>A. Ensuring the right targeted interventions are in place to deter offenders</p> <p>B. Ensuring young offenders have access to a range of services designed to assist them to reach their true potential</p>
Success measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in reoffending by identified cohort (based on cohort identified on 1st April 2014) • There will be an increase in referrals and successful completions in relation to Alcohol Treatment Requirements and Drug Rehabilitation Requirements for those offenders identified with a substance misuse issue. • We will increase the proportion of young offenders in suitable education, training or employment upon completion of intervention. • We will increase the proportion of young people that successfully complete a Community based Criminal Justice Intervention. • Reduction in first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System

Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
A.	North Tyneside to pilot 'Making Every Adult Matter', a project specifically aimed at developing a cross sector partnership approach across criminal justice, substance misuse, homelessness and mental health services to tackle very chaotic individuals who often appear to fall between the cracks.	Richard Booth, Reducing Reoffending Manager	Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group
A.	Continue to effectively manage high crime causers whilst going through a period of restructuring within the Criminal Justice System.	Richard Booth, Reducing Reoffending Manager	Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group
A.	Ensure offenders access the appropriate substance misuse pathways to address their addictions.	Richard Booth, Reducing Reoffending Manager	Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group

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Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
A.	Review social housing provider's allocations practices and ensure allocation decisions do not unreasonably restrict access to social housing for offenders.	Richard Booth, Reducing Reoffending Manager	Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group
A.	Consider how welfare rights services and local advice agencies are represented on the Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group and whether these agencies are able to provide evidence of unmet need amongst prisoners and their families to support the local financial inclusions work	Richard Booth, Reducing Reoffending Manager	Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group
B.	Acceptable behaviour agreements to include positive provisions that encourage young perpetrators to engage with support agencies where their behaviour is linked to drug and alcohol misuse.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
B.	Young people have an appropriate statutory educational placement or appropriate training/employment to assist in reducing further offending.	Pete Xeros, Operations Manager	Youth Offending and Prevention Service

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Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
B.	Young people have access to a range of accredited Arts projects linked to national qualifications.	Pete Xeros, Operations Manager	Youth Offending and Prevention Service
B.	Young people are engaged in creative educational opportunities.	Pete Xeros, Operations Manager	Youth Offending and Prevention Service
B.	Young people identified as 'at risk' are targeted at the earliest opportunity.	Pete Xeros, Operations Manager	Youth Offending and Prevention Service
B.	The Youth Offending and Prevention Service will work in partnership with the Troubled Families programme to delivery the "early help" offer.	Pete Xeros, Operations Manager	Youth Offending and Prevention Service

4. Community Concerns and Confidence	<p>A. Listening to our communities.</p> <p>B. Tackling problems that matter at a local level.</p> <p>C. Communicating progress and results to promote reassurance and confidence.</p>		
Success measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More residents will feel safe in the borough • Anti social behaviour procedures focussing on supporting victims and taking robust action against perpetrators. • Improved crime and anti social behaviour perception levels. 		
Ref.	Actions	Lead Officer	Thematic Group/Service
A.	Analyse feedback from anti social behaviour case closure satisfaction surveys, and other community surveys, and using results to improve anti social behaviour procedures.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
A.	Introduce a programme of on-line meetings.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
B.	Regular (4 – 6 weekly) Safer Estate meetings with partners to develop action plans to tackle issues of local concern.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	North Tyneside Homes and Northumbria Police issuing joint news releases to media, reporting on successes in the county court. (i.e. use of civil enforcement tools and powers).	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team
C.	Joint (council/police) newsletters/leaflets delivered to communities reporting on local success and encouraging residents to report crime and anti social behaviour they witness.	Colin Boxshall, Safer Estates Manager	Safer Estates Team