

COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB OSC AGENDA**Tuesday, 12 January 2016 at 1.30 pm in the Bridges Room - Civic Centre**

From the Chief Executive, Jane Robinson

Item	Business
1.	Apologies
2.	Minutes (Pages 3 - 16) The minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2015 are attached for approval. The minutes of the Community Safety Board held on 30 October 2015 are attached for information.
3.	OSC Review - Evidence Gatehringt Session on Preventing Extremism Presentation by Education Gateshead and Gateshead College
4.	Merging of Northumbria Area Command Presentation by Superintendent Central Area Command.
5.	Community Safety Board - Communication and Engagement Plan (Pages 17 - 24) Report of the Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing and Learning.
6.	Multi Agency Tasking and Co ordination: Addressing Offending Behaviour of Domestic Abuse Perpetrators (Pages 25 - 30) Report of the Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing and Learning.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillor P Dillon (Chair)

Councillors T Graham, B Coates, S Dickie, A Wheeler

CSS.8/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors P Craig and J McClurey.

CSS.9/15 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2015 were approved as a correct record.

The minutes of the Community Safety Board held on 3 July and 28 August 2015 were noted for information.

CSS.10/15 COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD – UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Committee received a report which provided an overview of the activities undertaken by the Community Safety Board in order to address its strategic priorities, as set out in the statutory Partnership Plan for 2015/16.

As a reminder, the Partnership Plan brings together the analytical findings from the Strategic Assessment, along with the key activities undertaken by the Board in the previous twelve months to set out the strategic priorities that will be delivered in the forthcoming year.

The strategic priorities endorsed by the Board for 2015/16 were:-

- **Tackling Crime and ASB**
tackling adult-related ASB; acquisitive and violent Crime; environmental issues; fear of Crime; embed ASB tools and powers
- **Addressing Re-offending**
Impact of transforming rehabilitation; older offenders; prevention and early intervention through FamiliesGateshead; youth crime
- **Protecting Vulnerable Groups**
Multi-agency safeguarding hub; Operation Encompass; domestic and sexual abuse; hate crime; victim's first hub; sexual exploitation
- **Addressing the Drivers of Crime and Disorder**
Drug-related deaths; Novel Psychoactive Substances ('Legal Highs'); alcohol-related crime and disorder; recovery (Treatment); welfare reform

Between April and August 2015, the level of recorded crime experienced within Gateshead increased by 22% (with an extra 833 crimes reported to Northumbria Police). Particular increases have been noted in violent crime (up 38%; 311 crimes), domestic related burglaries (up 34%; 51 crimes), criminal damage (up 38%; 272 crimes) and serious acquisitive crime (up 20%; +99 crimes)

Although the number of crimes is increasing, Gateshead remains one of the best performing Community Safety Partnerships within its most similar family groups of 15 CSPs; whilst the rate of crime per 1,000 residents continues to be lower than the average for the Northumbria Force area.

The volume of anti-social behaviour reported to Northumbria Police has fallen by 13% (down 680 incidents). Reported incidents of youth related ASB across the Borough have fallen by 11%, while there has been a 38% downturn in reported incidents of alcohol-related ASB (-224 incidents)

The Committee also received the progress and/or actions that have been implemented in the last six months and future work streams that are currently being developed to address any emerging themes/trends.

The Probation Service is currently subject to significant reforms (as a result of national Transforming Rehabilitation agenda) which is having a fundamental impact on future service delivery around the reduction in offending behaviour in Gateshead. As a reminder for members, Probation Services within Gateshead now comprise of: Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and National Probation Service (NPS).

Despite the changes, there remains an ongoing commitment to risk assessment and management of offenders throughout Gateshead and both the CRC/NPA continue to work closely in partnership to protect the public from harm – and from a public perspective, there should be very little change – with partnership activities continuing to operate effectively. This includes:

Integrated Offender Management continues to identify and proactively target our most prolific offenders using a co-ordinated multi-agency approach.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams continue to nominate individuals that are causing concern in local communities' relation to crime and disorder.

Strong links continue to be maintained with local Prison Services – and work continues to be developed in relation to the 'Through the Gate' model.

Work continues to take place with 'non-statutory' offenders that are leaving custody to address their offending behaviour.

Young offenders are routinely discussed with IOM to support the transition process from youth to adult services – and enables Probation to be fully up to speed on the case prior to hand over.

- RESOLVED -
- i) that the progress made in relation to each of the four strategic priorities of the Community Safety Board be noted.
 - ii) that the Committee continue to receive six monthly Community Safety updates

- iii) the Committee agreed to receive further details in relation to work undertaken as part of the MATAC process (to address perpetrators of domestic abuse) as well as the emerging trends of drug-related deaths and Novel Psychoactive Substances within Gateshead.

CSS.11/15 PREVENT – EVIDENCE GATHERING

The Committee received a presentation from M Broadhead of Northumbria Police Special Branch on the PREVENT agenda.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

**CSS.12/15 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – TOOLS AND POWERS USED
WITHIN GATESHEAD**

The Committee received a presentation on the national context, local context and next steps available to officers in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour in Gateshead.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD

30 October 2015

PRESENT:

Responsible Authority Members / Representatives:

Cllr Gary Haley (Chair)	- Cabinet Office, Gateshead Council
Jeff Boath	- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue
Steve Hails	- Northumbria Police
Martyn Strike	- Northumbria CRC
Alan McDonald	- HMI Probation (observing)
Mary Burns	- Newcastle Gateshead CCG

Partners / Officers:

Mark Warcup	- Chair – Domestic Homicide Review
Susan Butler	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Alice Wiseman	- Public Health
Julie McCartney	- The Gateshead Housing Company
Adam Lindridge	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Julie Crichton	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Nicola Johnson	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Rosalyn White	- Corporate Services and Governance

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Liz Hogg, Neil Bouch, Karin O'Neill, Louise Rule, Chris Piercy and Geoff Hagon.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 28 August 2015 were agreed as a correct record subject to the time of the Fire and Rescue Service automatic response to automated fire alarms being amended to 8am - 6pm.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW

Update – M Grey

Mark Warcup, Independent Chair of the Domestic Homicide Review Panel (DHR), provided an update on progress to date. It was noted that the Panel had expected to be nearer completion at this time, however at its meeting in October there was further disclosure of information provided by the police

which required further investigation. The Home Office has been informed of the delay.

It was reported that the issue was discovered following the split between the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and the National Probation Service (NPS). Although the issues identified could not have prevented the death there are issues that are being addressed before any recommendations are agreed.

It is hoped that the conclusion of the review will be agreed at the next meeting in December.

RESOLVED - That the Board receives further updates from the DHR panel.

New – S Garba

The Board was informed of a new DHR which will take place following the death of a woman in Felling. Domestic homicide was identified and formal notification of the DHR was given to the Home Office this week. Work is ongoing with Legal and Commissioning to set up a Review Panel and it is hoped the first meeting will be held during the first week of December.

5. PARTNER UPDATES

Community Rehabilitation Company

It was confirmed that between November and March the organisation will be reduced by 105 people, there will be 160 staff left. CRC is moving out of the Gateshead office during the first week of December to Aiden House, it is not expected that this will cause any access problems for service users.

TWFRS

It was noted that a targeted response vehicle had been brought to a recent Council meeting to show Councillors what to expect.

6. BUSINESS MANAGER UPDATE

An overview of the national, regional and local developments that have occurred in community safety since the last Board meeting was provided.

National Developments

The Counter Terrorism Strategy has been launched and outlines how work will be undertaken to beat extremism. A report will be brought to December's meeting about how this fits with Contest and Prevent.

It was acknowledged that the resettlement of Syrian refugees could lead to an increase in hate crimes. A joint meeting has been planned with Newcastle next week around work with area commands to mitigate such crimes. In addition, work is being carried out with Communications for when the refugees move into the area.

Regional Developments

It was noted that Northumbria Police were previously successful in obtaining Innovation Funding for the development of the MASH, Operation Encompass and Serial Victims of Domestic Abuse. 2016/17 funding has been announced and this focuses on increasing efficiency and improving outcomes. A Partner Working Group has been established by the PCC and bids have been submitted.

Local Developments

Discussions have been held with the Council's Volunteering Team around the possibility of recruiting volunteers to help support victims of anti-social behaviour.

It was reported that joint work is ongoing with Sunderland Council to train domestic abuse practitioners to deal with domestic violence victims consistently. This work has been commissioned through Wearside Women in Need and roll out is expected in January 2016.

In terms of resident perceptions, which was discussed at the last meeting, mapping work has started across Gateshead to find any hotspots for crime and disorder issues. The findings from the mapping exercise will be reported to the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group and a report will be brought back to December's meeting to identify any areas for development.

It was confirmed that all schools have undertaken the Prevent Duty Awareness training. The sessions have been well received and it has been asked that a six month refresher training be held.

In terms of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Team there has been a significant increase of 57% in referrals, this equates to 300 extra clients. Analysis work is underway to identify why there has been an increase, updates on this work will be reported to the Domestic Abuse Executive Forum.

Training sessions are ongoing by the Drug and Alcohol Treatment services, focusing on the importance of legal highs.

A response has been submitted to the consultation on closer working between emergency services.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

7. CRIME, ASB AND CONFIDENCE SUB-GROUP – UPDATE

Steve Hails presented a report on progress of the Crime, ASB and Confidence Group.

It was reported that there is a review of the current Safer Neighbourhood Framework, a further report will be brought back to a future meeting. Two Operation WAYS have been undertaken in the Central and West of

Gateshead, focused on ASB and perceptions. Operation Sentinel has been launched in the South of Gateshead to offer crime prevention advice to those most vulnerable to burglary.

It was confirmed that the first Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) application in Gateshead has been made. This is around motorcycle incidents in the Kibblesworth area.

Work is ongoing with the University College London to develop a burglary initiative, this will focus on reducing repeat victimisation, Central Gateshead has been identified as a suitable area for this initiative.

It was reported that the Central Area Command has established a Central Engagement Team to enhance community engagement across Gateshead, they will support and work with communities and take administrative work from operational officers.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
 - (ii) That the Board agreed to receive a further report following the review of the Safer Neighbourhoods Framework.
 - (iii) That the Board agreed to receive further updates in relation to Crime, ASB and Confidence Group.

8. COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE / FRAMEWORK

The Board was provided with an overview of the Communications Framework, this has been produced to raise the profile of the work undertaken by partners to make residents feel safe.

It was confirmed that Gateshead continues to be one of the best performing boroughs in Northumbria in terms of community safety and residents feeling safe and secure. However, it was noted that with increasing reported crime it is now more important to get the message out.

The framework sets out the commitment of the Community Safety Board and who the target audience will be. Communication work has been undertaken since July around promoting the work of the Board.

The next step is to implement the framework and set up a Task and Finish Group with media leads to progress communication activity on behalf of the Board. An action plan for the next 12 months will be developed.

It was queried whether the CCG would be part of the focus group. It was confirmed that the group has not yet been set up and it was acknowledged that health would be represented. It was also suggested that it would be good practice to have more joint media releases. The point was made that it would be beneficial to join up with the work of Environmental Health and Public

Protection. It was noted that mapping of all communications is ongoing to see where community safety fits.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the comments of the Board on the contents of the report be noted.
 - (ii) That the Board approved the communication actions/priorities identified in the report.
 - (iii) That the Board agreed to receive a further update at a future meeting.

9. HOME OFFICE INNOVATION FUND PILOT: SERIAL VICTIMS AND OPERATION ENCOMPASS

A report was presented to the Board providing an update in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the Innovation Fund.

It was noted that through funding from the PCC the adult MASH was formed to mitigate the risk of anyone slipping through the safeguarding net. Additional funding has been received which means that the MASH will be extended until March 2017, so there is now more focus on protecting serial victims of domestic abuse. Two additional domestic violence workers and a serial victim worker have been appointed.

It was reported that the MASH focuses on low level incidents to ensure early intervention and more preventative work. Officers are looking at other areas of good practice and a recent visit has been held to Camden, which also has an adult MASH. Newcastle University is currently undertaking an evaluation of the MASH and Northumbria Police has also commissioned a separate evaluation of the serial victim's project, which is currently being developed.

In terms of Operation Encompass, in the first four months there have been 276 separate incidents of domestic abuse reported to schools. 601 children have been identified as being present at the time of the incident taking place. The highest proportion of incidents took place in the South of Gateshead, 29% and Central Gateshead, 22%. All schools have signed up and training have been delivered around how to approach and support a child who has been affected.

It was questioned who was present at the operational meetings regarding the MASH. It was confirmed that there had so far only been two operational meetings, it was also noted that the MASH will be relaunched and will set out clear procedures, pathways and a performance framework so it is clear what is being achieved.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board discussed and noted the contents of the report.
 - (ii) That the Board agreed to receive regular updates

on the MASH, Operation Encompass and serial victim project.

10. ASB FRAMEWORK AND PRACTICE GUIDANCE NOTES

A report was brought to the Board for endorsement of the Guidance Notes to support the ASB Framework. It was noted that at July's meeting the Board agreed the ASB Framework and guidance documents have now been produced for partners and residents. This has been produced following implementation of new legislation which sets out tools and powers to tackle ASB.

It was reported that the guidance documents are in four different sections;

- Safer Neighbourhood Guidance
- Community Trigger Guidance
- Graded Response Framework
- Practitioner Guide to Anti-Social Behaviour

All documents have been submitted to the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group so all Neighbourhood Inspectors have seen these.

It was confirmed that some actions have already been undertaken in relation to the Framework. For example; agreed treatment services if the root cause of ASB, a dedicated protocol established with the YOT regarding consultation for under 18's and regular discussions are being held with Registered Social Landlords. In addition, a regional ASB Working Group has been established to share best practice.

The documents will be presented to Cabinet in December and then rolled out through training sessions to all partner agency organisations.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board noted the contents of the report.
 - (ii) That the Board endorsed the ASB Guidance Documents.
 - (iii) That the Board agreed to receive regular updates at future meetings.

11. SUICIDES: UPDATE ON REGIONAL GROUP AND AUDIT

A report was presented which gave an overview of findings of the audit of suicide and injury undetermined deaths in Gateshead 2011-2014. It was noted that suicide is often under reported because if it is not a clear suicide it will not be recorded as such, however work has been undertaken with the coroner to look at all deaths.

The audit looked at 48 deaths, the majority of which were men. Significant risk factors were identified such as; unemployment, relationship problems, drug and alcohol problems. Of these 48 deaths, 42% had previously

attempted suicide and 63% died in their own home. It was reported that of the deaths looked at, half had made contact with primary care in the three months prior to death and a third of those contact were due to a mental health problem. 27% of the deaths were by people who were known to mental health services. It was confirmed that the findings have shown that there is no conclusive profile of a suicidal adult.

In terms of prevention work, this has been ongoing with Police and other services. Data has been received from Police around suicide attempts, particularly in relation to hotspots such as bridges. 63 suicide attempts were made from bridges, two of which succeeded. Therefore work is ongoing around possible interventions, for example, signage, barriers and CCTV.

The findings of the audit will contribute to the development of the Safeguarding Adults Practice Guidance for practitioners. Public Health England have completed a Health Needs Assessment and recommended;

- The development of a local suicide prevention plan
- Ensuring individuals are supported to access benefits, debt advice and employment support where required
- Strengthening CCG's approach to suicide prevention work within their broader mental health agenda

National guidance is expected in December and work is continuing to finalise the suicide prevention plan, which will focus on the wider determinants.

It was suggested that 'near misses' should also be monitored and it was agreed to bring a report back to the Board on this.

It was queried whether any links had been made to the housing tenure for these people. It was confirmed that the coroner reporting is limited and therefore this information was not known. It was suggested that any near misses should be reported to the Housing Company so that the system can be flagged and appropriate support services put in place, links to the Troubled Families programme are already in place within the Housing Company.

It was suggested that more needs to be done to raise awareness of the Troubled Families programme with GPs and it was acknowledged that closer working is required in this area.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board considered the issues outlined in the report and its suggestions on how to further strengthen suicide prevention be noted.
 - (ii) That the Board agreed to receive the completed suicide prevention plan for Gateshead.
 - (iii) That the Board agreed to receive updated reports on the combined drug related and suicide death process to ensure trends are monitored and appropriate action taken.

12. YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM BOARD – UPDATE (inc FAMILIES GATESHEAD UPDATE)

The Board received a report outlining the current work at YOT Board and the latest performance in relation to Families Gateshead.

It was confirmed that the Youth Justice Plan has been signed off by the YOT Board. In addition, the Prevent Schools Programme has been developed by the YOT to tackle areas of anti-social behaviour in years 5 and 6, good feedback has been received regarding this. The HMI Inspection Framework is changing from 1 October 2016 and it was noted that an inspection will be held before that date. A pilot Adolescent Perpetrator Programme has been developed with the PCC to work with adolescent perpetrators of domestic abuse and there is now a domestic abuse worker on the team.

In terms of performance there have been 15 first time entrants in Gateshead in the quarter ending September 2015, which is a 9.8% reduction and is below the regional average. The rate of custody for Gateshead is 0.23 for 2014/15, which represents 4 custodial sentences and a 0.06 decrease and is below the regional and national average. It was reported that to the end of September 2015 there was two remands into custody. Also, there has been a 77% reduction in re-offending since 2008, this has left the very complex, hard to work with young people so the team is currently dealing with very difficult young people. In relation to tracking of re-offending it was noted that there are 160 young people in the cohort, and to date 103 young people (64%) have not re-offended. 57 young people (36%) from this cohort have re-offended, a total of 183 further offences. Of these further offences, 52% were committed by 10 prolific offenders, the majority of which were done within the first five months. It was reported that 23 young people from the cohort are open to a YOT intervention, five of whom are classed as prolific offenders.

It was reported that the Youth Justice Board has confirmed that it will be clawing back some funding, therefore it is likely that some of the current prevention work will have to stop.

In terms of the Families Gateshead work it was confirmed that 1030 families are currently being worked with in phase one and two. There are another 170 families coming through the Referral and Assessment Team that meet the criteria, so there are approximately 1200 families to work with. The overall target is 2010 families by the year 2030, however this will mean working with around 12,000 families to ensure 2010 families show successful and sustained outcomes through payment by results. It was acknowledged that this is challenging in terms of effecting sustainable change and to take families forward to payment by results. It was confirmed that so far 46 claims have been made, which is the highest in the region so progress is good.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board noted that contents of the report.
 - (ii) That the Board agreed to receive future reports.

13. REVISED SUBSTANCE MISUSE STRATEGY 2015-2030

The Board received a report outlining progress on the Substance Misuse Strategy. It was noted that there has been slower progress than intended as there has been problems in terms of engagement and there is no solid core group as of yet. A Task and Finish Group has therefore been set up and is due to meet next week. Members of the Board were asked to speak to their organisations to check the right person is on the group.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board noted the contents of the report.
 - (ii) That the Board agreed to receive further updates on the strategy development.
 - (iii) That the Board reconsider representation from individual organisations to ensure full engagement.

14. DRUG RELATED DEATH KEY FINDINGS 2014 AND 2015 UPDATE

The Board received a summary report on the finding from the Drug-related Death Panel for 2014. It was noted that there was an increase in deaths from 8 the previous year to 11 in 2014. The profile characteristics remained the same; white males, aged 25-34 years living alone.

During 2014 guidance was issued to all GPs about misuse of prescription drugs, also new drug and alcohol services were commissioned to deliver guidance across Gateshead.

In 2015 there have been five confirmed drug related deaths and another eight awaiting post mortem, however it is likely these are drug related. From these deaths the average age has increased to 36 years, heroin deaths have increased from one to six. The majority of the deceased had been involved with mental health services and had a history of long term drug abuse, four had overdosed in the past.

It was noted that there is currently no process in place to monitor near misses, this will be looked at when the terms of reference of the group are changed.

A regional review of drug related death processes has taken place and Gateshead came out well. Public Health England has given guidance and work will be held with the panel from January 2016.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Board noted the contents of the report.
 - (ii) That the Board received further updates regarding the new suicide procedure, drug related deaths and implementation of recommendations from the Public Health England review.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board was advised that Dave Escott has taken over from Geoff Hagon as representative of the Fire and Rescue Service. The Board thanked Geoff for his work.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 18 December 2015 at 10.00 am in the Blaydon Room, Civic Centre.

TITLE OF REPORT: **Community Safety Board:
Communication and Engagement Plan**

REPORT OF: **David Bunce
Strategic Director – Care, Wellbeing and Learning**

Summary

The Community Safety Board is responsible for co-ordinating and delivering a range of activities and interventions to tackle crime and disorder issues within the Borough – and is committed to improving perceptions of crime and disorder to ensure Gateshead residents continue to feel safe. The introduction of Communications and Engagement Framework is designed to improve residents' awareness of the breadth of work that is undertaken in partnership to demonstrate the impact of our work on local communities.

1 Purpose

- 1.1 As a reminder, at the last Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October 2015, members requested additional information on activity that has been undertaken by the Community Safety Board to positively address feelings of safety within the Borough.
- 1.2 This report provides an overview of the Communications and Engagement Framework that has been produced on behalf of the Community Safety Board to ensure that we are proactively raising the profile of the work that is routinely undertaken by its partners to make residents feel safe. It will also set out how the Board intends to engage, consult and feedback outcomes to local residents and community groups throughout the next twelve-months.

2. Background

- 2.1 Gateshead continues to be one of the safest boroughs within Northumbria and still remains one of the best performing Community Safety Partnerships (when compared to its 15 Most Similar Family Groups). Latest Safer Communities Survey findings show the vast majority of residents feel safe and are satisfied with the services delivered by the Police and Council to address crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area.
- 2.3 Despite this, reported crime has started to increase, deliberate secondary fires have risen as have reports of complex ASB. Although this is not too dissimilar to the rising trends found across the whole of Northumbria, it is something the Board will need to be mindful of when implementing its future Communication and Engagement Framework.
- 2.4 The Board have continued to stress the importance of tackling fear of crime and improving feelings of safety, which is particularly crucial in light of diminishing resources coupled with the potential impact of wider changes to organisation

delivery models and structures. Board members agreed that we must also be able to effectively manage resident expectations of the services that can be offered by partners working under the community safety banner in order to ensure that public confidence remains high.

- 2.5 We need to reassure local residents and community groups that agencies continue to work in partnership on their behalf to drive down crime and anti-social behaviour and improve public safety – and agreed to try and involve local communities in supporting crime reduction and community safety agendas.
- 2.6 It was important to recognise that partners have their own processes in place in relation to promoting the work that they do, but that more could be done to demonstrate to local residents the breadth of joint working that is being undertaken across the Partnership. To achieve this, the Board has started to map out all proactive campaigns and media that are being undertaken by the different partners throughout the year – which has been included in Appendix 1.

3 Next Steps

- 3.1 Effective communication is important if the Partnership is to continue raising the profile of the good work it does which includes getting key messages, advice and information to specific targeted groups. The current arrangements are working well, however the following actions have been identified to further develop communications:
- Implementation of a CSB Communications and Engagement Framework (set out in Appendix 1 for comment);
 - Production of a multi-agency Action Plan and Campaign Calendar that will set out the key seasonal trends that warrant additional media attention. This will consider historic crime and disorder statistics as well as specific national and regional campaigns and will ensure we have a coordinated approach to the Partnership's communications activity.
 - Development of a Task and Finish Group to look at how best to progress the communications activity on behalf of the Board.
- 3.2 The following priorities as areas to be developed in the near future:

Communication and Engagement Framework

- A Communications and Engagement Framework has been drafted to reaffirm the role of communications for the Board. The Framework will support the priorities of the Board and ensure that communications support targets and maintain the profile of partnership working. It will also help re-establish the communication protocol between partners and give us the base from which to develop a Communications Plan for year ahead, making sure media linked with Community Safety is valuable, informative and meet the needs of our priorities.

Website

- Community Safety section of the Gateshead Council website will be updated to ensure the right information and links are relevant. The Web and Digital Team have recently trained a Community Safety Officer to become a

website editor, to ensure that information is uploaded onto the website in a timely and consistent manner.

Social Media

- Gateshead Council's social media channels (Facebook and Twitter) are used to inform residents of immediate community safety issues (either directly from Gateshead Council or via the Community Safety Boards partners) and put a spotlight on larger pieces of work.

Communications in the community

- Discussions to be had with Neighbourhood Management and Volunteering Team to establish further communication opportunities with community groups.

4 Delivery of Communications and Engagement Framework

- 4.1 Gateshead Council Communications Team will lead on re-establishing the Communications Group between the partners, to ensure that opportunities to promote the message of partnership working between organisations.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 Members are asked to:

- (i) Discuss the report;
- (ii) Comment on Communication and Engagement Framework (set out in Appendix 2);
- (iii) Agree to receive six-monthly update in relation to the activity undertaken to promote CSB activity and improve feelings of safety within Gateshead;

Contact: Val Hall

Ext: 2782

Communications Framework

2015 – 2017
DRAFT

Communications Framework

Foreword

This is the Communications Framework for the Gateshead Community Safety Board. It outlines how the Partnership will communicate and engage with the residents of Gateshead, its partner organisations and others to help achieve its objectives.

Effective communications and meaningful engagement, both internally and externally, are vital to identifying, understanding and tackling the community safety issues affecting local communities. Failure to communicate and engage properly is likely to mean that the services provided may not be those that are needed or wanted by local residents and communities.

This Framework sets out our objectives, our guiding principles and the key methods of communication that we need to use if we are to have a positive influence on community safety matters in Gateshead. Our main aims are to:

- To raise the profile of the CSB and its activities;
- To engage, consult and feedback outcomes to community and partner agencies;
- To make residents feel safer and to reduce the fear of crime, and
- To highlight the positive work undertaken by the CSB.

Brand recognition

It is important to mention the CSB in external communications to raise awareness of the work that partner organisations are involved in and will contribute to achieving targets set out in the CSB Partnership Plan (e.g. in all press releases). The CSB should also be mentioned in all external communications by projects/work that has received or continue to receive ongoing funding from the CSB (e.g. Bonfire Initiative).

Commitment

This Framework aims to ensure that we:

- Promote the CSB vision and values, highlighting its activities and publicising its successes to local residents;
- Increase public awareness of the CSB and inform people about how they can get involved in its work and feed in their views;
- Provide feedback on how their views are being taken into account and to show accountability for the CSB decisions;
- Ensure open and honest communication with local residents, taking into account the diverse needs of the population;
- Encourage greater involvement in the CSB work by hard-to-reach groups within our community; highlighting the importance of inclusion and community cohesion.
- Co-ordinate messages of the CSB to ensure consistency, and
- To support national/regional agendas by organisations (e.g. Home Office, PCC and Ministry of Justice).

Guiding principles for effective communication

If communication and engagement is to be effective we must:

- Ensure all communication is of the best quality;
- Be honest, open, transparent and accountable;

- Use plain language that is jargon-free and expressed simply;
- Build and maintain trust by delivering strong and consistent messages linked to our strategic priorities;
- Encourage and support good two-way communication and engagement by listening to partners and communities and promoting participation;
- Ensure that our communication and engagement activity is equally accessible to all, using a variety of formats where practical and reasonable;
- Maximise our resources to provide cost-effective, high-quality information;
- Use existing networks and forums for consultation and whenever possible share information;
- Allocate resources and coordinate activity, and
- Regularly review our communication routes to ensure that we are engaging all sectors of the community and making best use of available technology within available resources.

Who do we want to communicate with?

Target audiences (external)

- People who live and work in Gateshead
- Organisations working in and for the benefit of Gateshead
- The business community
- The media
- Regional and national organisations
- Other Community Safety Partnerships
- Central Government and/or other decision makers
- Anyone who wants to know about the work and best practice of the CSB

Target audiences (internal)

- Community Safety Board and its sub-groups
- All teams and agencies involved within the CSB structure
- All partner organisations, including those represented on the Partnership
- Councillors and portfolio holders

Methods of communication

- Regular coverage in Council News magazine
- • Local and national media (press, radio and TV) Digital communication (social media and website)
- Printed communication (flyers, leaflets and posters)
- Face-to-face/door-to-door community briefings
- Feedback – questionnaires, evaluation, including use of Viewpoint – Gateshead's resident panel.
- Meetings – agendas, minutes, reports and supporting documents
- Surveys – Safer Communities Survey and Residents Surveys

Responsibility for communication

The responsibility for populating the Action Plan and Campaign Calendar will rest with the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group (supported by the Communications Team within Gateshead Council) who will:

- Spread messages and actively promote the work of the CSB and its partners
- Develop a range of initiatives to involve and/or consult local residents
- Listen and provide feedback on resident views
- Provide communications appropriate to the diverse needs of our community
- Share our achievements and successes
- Create, develop and spread messages tailored to Gateshead
- Monitoring the results of the Safer Communities Survey and Residents Surveys
- Develop seasonal activity linked with historic crime and disorder trends
- Respond to emerging issues from a communications perspective (including issue such as community tensions).

All partner agencies involved within the CSB have a responsibility for implementing effective communication to address fear of crime within Gateshead. All partners will:

- Maintain a two-way flow of communication to ensure that everyone is kept well informed
- Advise of the copy dates for their publications
- Advise of opportunities for joint working
- Advise of their communication and consultation activity
- Provide publicity and display material
- Manage or facilitate public relations or media campaigns
- Provide skills and expertise in specialist areas where possible

Implementing the Communications Framework

The Framework sets out where the CSB aims to be in terms of communications. In order to implement this Framework and establish how we will get to where we want to be an annual Action Plan and Campaign Calendar will be developed. This will set out in detail the activities needed to fulfil our commitment and improve the way we communicate with the people of Gateshead, partner organisations and beyond.

Development monitoring and evaluation

- The ongoing development and monitoring of the Communications Framework will be undertaken by the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group which meets on a monthly basis and is chaired by the Chief Inspector (Partnerships).
- The Annual Action Plan will be the main tool to monitor and evaluate progress against the Framework and targets will be set where possible.
- Evaluation will be undertaken by the CSB when it considers the twice-yearly report from the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group.

Safer Gateshead

Safer People, Safer Communities



National
Probation
Service



Northumbria
Community Rehabilitation Company



Further Information

If you would like any further information relating to this Framework,
please contact the Community Safety Team on:

Telephone: 0191 433 3990

Email: communitysafety@gateshead.gov.uk

Post: Community Safety Gateshead Council, Civic Centre, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE8 1HH

TITLE OF REPORT: Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination: Addressing Offending Behaviour of Domestic Abuse Perpetrators

REPORT OF: David Bunce
Strategic Director – Care, Wellbeing and Learning

Summary

The Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination Group (MATAC) has been established by Northumbria Police to address the offending behaviour of domestic abuse offenders within Gateshead.

1 Background

- 1.1 As a reminder, at the last Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October 2015, members requested additional information relating to the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination Groups that have been established by Northumbria Police, in collaboration with partners, to address the offending behaviour domestic abuse perpetrators.
- 1.2 Latest national statistics relating to domestic abuse show in the last 12 months, there were in excess of 1 million calls for assistance to Police for domestic-related incidents – of which, 269,700 were classified as domestic-related crime and around 6,400 were domestic-related sexual offences. This equates to over 8% of all crime committed throughout the whole of England and Wales and on average, it equates to someone contacting the Police for assistance in relation to domestic abuse every 30 seconds. There were almost sixty-thousand cases referred into MARAC for high-risk of serious harm or murder cases; of which almost 45% involve children.
- 1.3 The figures above demonstrate the prevalence of domestic abuse at a national scale and highlights the devastating impact that it can have on lives of victims and individuals. In September 2014, the Home Secretary commissioned HMIC to conduct an inspection on the Police response to domestic abuse. The final report highlighted that although services and agencies are available to provide support to victims many forces missed opportunities to target domestic abuse perpetrators and programmes designed to change behaviour of perpetrators are often quite sparse.
- 1.4 The report provided a rationale for how improved targeting and management of perpetrators of domestic abuse would reduce victimisation and potentially prevent domestic homicides from occurring. It also highlighted best practice used Police Scotland regarding their methods of tackling domestic abuse perpetrators and use of the 'Recency, Frequency and Gravity' analysis tool alongside a Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination process. As a result of

these findings, Northumbria Police has recently implemented a similar early intervention model, which is the first of its kind within England and Wales.

- 1.5 Promoting early intervention work with perpetrators of domestic abuse remains a key priority within the regional Violence Against Women and Girls (VAGW) Strategy which has been implemented jointly on behalf of Northumbria, Durham and Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioners. Tackling perpetrators is also included within the strategic priorities identified within the Community Safety Board Partnership Plan for 2015/16 and sits comfortably with the introduction of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and Operation Encompass initiatives within Community Safety in Gateshead.

2 New Approach

- 2.1 Following consultation with partners, Northumbria Police submitted a proposal to the Home Office in an application for Police Innovation Fund, setting out a consistent process to identifying and targeting the most harmful/serial domestic abuse perpetrators. A significant proportion of the process is about preventing re-offending by perpetrators as well as prevention of escalation of violence at the very early stages – and includes:

- Identification of perpetrators and the production of in-depth subject profiles;
- Introduction of multi-agency MATAC approach to identify actions to try and curb offending behaviour (enforcement, preventive and support elements).
- Production of a domestic abuse toolkit and/or guidance document for use by operational staff;
- Commissioning of a voluntary domestic abuse perpetrator programme to ensure areas across Northumbria have some form of provision available;
- Implementation of 'live' monitoring / tagging offenders on a voluntary basis which will be able to assess the proximity of victims and offenders.

Analysis and Identification

- 2.2 Northumbria Police have a dedicated Analyst to produce target lists along with in-depth subject profiles for each target. The Analyst uses a method of analysis based on RFG – 'Recency, Frequency and Gravity' of offending behaviour to identify the most harmful/serial perpetrators to target. The definition of a serial perpetrator to be used by MATAC is an offender who is listed as an offender aged 16 years or over, has committed more than one domestic abuse incident against two or more different victims (partner/ex-partner, familial relationship as well as non-violent incidents) in the last 3 years. The development of a bespoke analytical package ensures Police and partners are able to implement a consistent and evidence-led way of targeting offenders who cause greatest level of harm within our communities.

Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination Groups

- 2.3 Once the perpetrators are identified using the RFG methodology, there needs to be a process for the tasking and coordination of resources to tackle these perpetrators effectively. The process mirrors the MARAC and MAPPA models that are already in place within Gateshead and ensures the Police and partner agencies resources are deployed in the most appropriate way. The MATAC meeting is held on a monthly basis and is chaired by Detective Inspector within Northumbria Police Protective Vulnerable Persons (PVP) Unit.

2.4 The membership of the MATAC is quite fluid and includes a range of Council services and partner agencies (depending upon the nature of the case) with membership including: CPS, Probation, Domestic Abuse Co-ordinators, IDVAs, Housing Providers, Prison Service, Police (including representation from PVP, Force Intelligence Unit and local Area Commands).

2.5 Only a maximum of 5 perpetrators would be worked with at any point in time and the MATAC would decide how each perpetrator should be targeted and which agencies should do it. It is envisaged the MATAC process will highlight more of the serial offenders who offend against a series of victims, who are quite often assessed as standard risk victims, therefore meaning these serial perpetrators are not highlighted by any other process (e.g. MAPPA).

Domestic Abuse Toolkit

2.6 Good practice/guidance around domestic abuse and tackling of perpetrators has been produced which will include tactical options to disrupt and prevent further offending. This will complement the extensive work Northumbria Police and partner agencies currently carry out in support of victims of domestic abuse and seek to reduce victimisation and harm and increase feelings of safety. The domestic abuse toolkit includes multi-agency prevention methods, diversion, disruption and enforcement options (based on whether perpetrators choose to engage or not engage in the process). An example toolkit has been included in the Appendix for information.

Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programmes

2.7 Northumbria Police have commissioned a Respect-accredited domestic abuse perpetrator intervention programme within Sunderland, which is a consortium of Barnardos, Impact Family Service and Gentoo. Additional funding has been approved for additional programmes in all localities across Northumbria – and will complement the existing domestic abuse perpetrator programme that we already have located in Gateshead. Deter Innovations have been providing specialist support to domestic abuse perpetrators for a number of years – and were visited as part of the recent OSC Review into Domestic Abuse. The service receives referrals from a range of Council services – including Children Services and Community Safety – and the MATAC process will draw upon and complement the work already been undertaken by this agency.

Electronic monitoring of DA perpetrators

2.8 The Innovation Fund Bid provides funding for 10 x GPS Electronic Monitoring Proximity Devices. These devices are a unique design which provides a unit to both the victim and perpetrator (and also has the function of a mobile phone enabling Police to make calls and speak to the victim and perpetrator). The perpetrator is additionally tagged with a conventional type tag on the ankle.

2.9 The perpetrator can be given exclusion zones of particular areas which can be at designated times of the day. The unit also uniquely provides a 'live' proximity alert between the perpetrator and victim unit, so that perpetrators can also be given a condition not to be within a certain distance of the victim. As soon as the perpetrator and victim are within the designated distance of each other both the victim unit and the perpetrator unit will receive an alert informing them of the

proximity, the Police will also receive an alert. Both victim and perpetrator will be located via GPS and further appropriate intervention taken, if necessary. This device has been very successfully used by Spanish Police, who report victims increased feelings of safety and reduced perpetrator re offending. It is thought that Northumbria is the only locality in the UK to trial these devices.

- 2.10 There have been a couple of issues with the introduction of this approach. Firstly, the law is unclear around using GPS monitoring and requires some clarification from the Ministry of Justice. The second and most obvious barrier is that for the Courts or Probation Service to consider use of any type of tagging unit they need approval from the Secretary of State. Currently, the Secretary of State has awarded the national to Capita, who do not have this technology at their disposal. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria has raised the issue with representatives from the Home Office who have been asked to consider designating Northumbria a pilot area to trial the devices. Although, there are no issues in deploying these units on a voluntary basis but full cooperation, of both victim and perpetrator, is required.

3 Next Steps

- 3.1 The MATAC Model will be implemented within Gateshead in January 2016. A dedicated MATAC Co-ordinator has been employed by Northumbria Police to co-ordinate and facilitate the process – who will link in closely with Community Safety. Initial discussions have taken place with Council services and partners about their involvement and expected role in the MATAC process; whilst a specific Information Sharing Agreement has also been drafted/approved. In addition, a clear referral process has been created and shared with partners to allow agencies to submit domestic abuse perpetrators to be considered as part of the process.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to:
- (i) Discuss and comment on sections 1 to 3 in report;
 - (ii) Agree to receive a regular update in relation to the MATAC process;

Contact: Val Hall

Ext: 2782

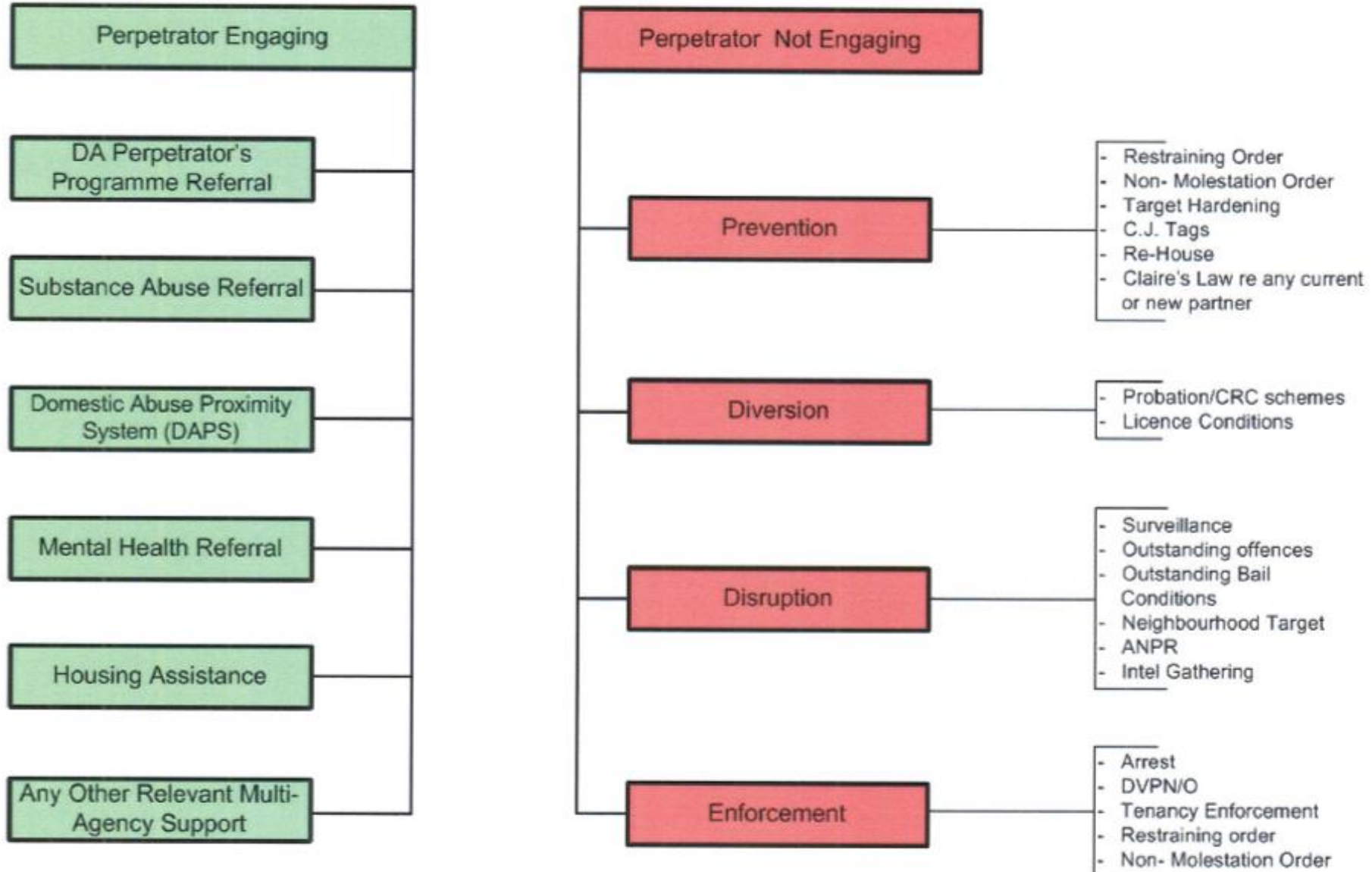
Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Toolkit



Safeguarding Objectives

Adopt a multi-agency approach to:

- Reduce re offending of domestic abuse perpetrators
- Safeguarding adults and children at risk of domestic abuse



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