

**TITLE OF REPORT:**           **Community Safety Board – Strategic Assessment 2017**

**REPORT OF:**               **Paul Dowling  
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### **Summary**

This report provides Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee with an overview of the 2017 strategic assessment process and the proposed strategic priorities for the Community Safety Board to address in 2018/19. The report also forms part of the consultation process on the strategic priorities.

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report provides Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee with an overview of the 2017 strategic assessment process and the proposed strategic priorities for the Community Safety Board to address in 2018/19.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 As a reminder for members, the Community Safety Board has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual Strategic Assessment and Partnership Plan. The Strategic Assessment is an analysis of key crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour issues within Gateshead in order to assist in identifying community safety priorities.

## **3 Strategic Assessment**

- 3.1 The 11<sup>th</sup> Strategic Assessment was completed in December 2017. Following the success of using the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) process for the 2016 assessment, a similar approach was proposed for completing the 2017 assessment. In order to build on this success, it was suggested that members of the Community Safety Boards from Gateshead and Newcastle could come together to discuss a range of issues. The respective Chairs of the Board agreed to this and, in November 2017, a joint meeting was held. Invites were circulated to those organisations who would ordinarily attend a Community Safety Board meeting.
- 3.2 Attendees at the meeting were given three tasks:
- To review progress against the 2017/18 priorities
    - Attendees were provided with the agreed actions set out in the 2017/18 Partnership Plan. Many of the actions had already been completed, or were in the process of being completed.
  - To consider new issues and decide, based on collective knowledge, whether or not an issue should be considered as a priority for 2018/19

- The groups were presented with a list of issues, some of which were new and some of which were already included within existing priorities. This task generated quite a lot of discussion, not least because it was recognised that although some of the issues were considered quite low level for the Community Safety Board to prioritise, these issues were the ones that members of the public consider very important.
  - To identify ways each of the priorities could be addressed by the partnership
    - The focus of this task was to think practically about how each priority could be addressed by the Community Safety Partnership rather than individual agencies. This will be further developed with practitioners in the next couple of months and will help inform the Partnership Plan.
- 3.3 No data was provided to attendees at this meeting. Instead, participants were asked to use their current knowledge of the issues, of their organisation and resources, and their instincts about what issues should be tackled by the Community Safety Boards. Following the identification of the draft priorities, data has been collected to either confirm or contradict each of the issues. This is available on request from the Community Safety Team.
- 3.4 The assessment process identified similar issues and problems to those found in previous years, providing reassurance that work undertaken by Community Safety partners remains appropriate and relevant.

#### **4 Draft Strategic Themes and Priorities for 2018/19**

- 4.1 The strategic themes identified for 2018/19 are shown in the table below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>
Substance Misuse	✓	✓
Anti-social Behaviour and Environmental Crime	✓	✓
Mental Health	✓	
Reducing Re-offending	✓	
Repeat Victimisation	✓	
Protecting Vulnerable People (including hate crime, all forms of vulnerability and repeat victimisation)		✓
Serious and Organised Crime (including sexual exploitation disruption, modern day slavery and human trafficking)		✓
Domestic and Sexual Abuse (including domestic homicide reviews)		✓
Prevent/Contest		✓

#### **5 Consultation**

- 5.1 Public consultation is a statutory requirement in the development of strategic priorities (as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998). The draft priorities will be presented to relevant Portfolios, a number of resident and community groups as well as members of the public (via Gateshead Council's Consultation Portal, website and social media pages). This meeting of the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee also forms part of the consultation process.

5.2 A copy of the consultation document has been included as Appendix 1 for members' information. Members are encouraged to feed in their views by completing the online questionnaire and to promote this to their constituents so that as many people as possible have the opportunity to share their thoughts on the subject.

5.3 The consultation will run for eight weeks. Once it has closed, responses will be collated and a definitive list of priorities will be presented to the Community Safety Board to be formally agreed. More than 650 responses were received last year so we're hoping to receive more responses in the 2018 consultation. The Community Safety Board Partnership Plan will also be produced and made available to partners and members of the public from April 2018.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Comment on each of the proposed priorities
- (ii) Comment on the report (and consultation document attached as Appendix 1); and
- (iii) Identify if there are any specific themes, priorities and/or issues that do not feature within the proposed priorities

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