

TITLE OF REPORT: Community Safety Board – 6mth Progress Update

REPORT OF: Paul Dowling
Strategic Director – Communities and Environment

Summary

The Community Safety Board is required to attend the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee (OSC) on a six-monthly basis to provide an overview of the activities that have been undertaken to address its strategic priorities (as set out in the statutory Partnership Plan for 2018/19).

1 Background

- 1.1 The Community Safety Board is a standalone themed partnership that has the legal obligation to address the key crime, disorder and substance misuse (drug and alcohol) issues that are impacting upon the Borough.

3. Strategic Priorities

- 3.1 The Committee received information at its meeting in June 2018 of the strategic priorities that the Board had confirmed for 2018/19. As a reminder, these are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour & Environmental Crime
- Domestic Abuse
- Restricting Supply – Drug Misuse

- 3.2 In addition, there were also several workstreams which the Board will monitor during 2018/19. These include:

- Hate Crime and Tension Monitoring
- Preventing Violent Extremism
- Disruption of Serious and Organised Crime
- Repeat Victimisation and Vulnerability
- Reducing Re-offending

4 Current Performance

- 4.1 The table set out in Appendix 1 shows performance of crime and disorder within Gateshead from April to August 2018. Crime levels have continue to rise with a further 9% increase on last year with notable increases in violent crime, theft of vehicles and drugs offences. In addition, acquisitive crimes (such as burglary, shoplifting and other thefts) have also seen increases in the first five months. There have reductions in shoplifting and criminal damage offences. **Additional data will be made available to Committee at the meeting (to account for the period up to September 2018).**

5. Progress to date

- 5.1 Some highlights of the work undertaken in the last six-months include:

Anti-Social Behaviour & Environmental Crime

- Gateshead identified as one of the areas where ASB has decreased the most across Northumbria. Force communications is looking at how they can highlight some of our work through 'What matters to you campaign'.
- Weekly Operational Tasking Meeting continues to improve in terms of remit and attendance and deploys operational resources based on hotspot locations and need.
- Planning commenced around 2019 ASB campaigns and how partners can come together to support.
- Operation Vienna is operational, looking at issues in the new landlord licensing area in Bensham – and is working well.
- Four World Café engagement events have taken place, looking at how communities can increase capacity and tackle low-level issues themselves, and has resulted in positive engagement with residents about what issue matters to them.
- Drafted 4 x additional Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) designed to combat anti-social behaviour, soon to go out to consultation.
- Operation Clasper established which provides partner agencies with the names of young people involved in anti-social behaviour.
- First ASB Injunction on a young person granted with positive requirements.
- Platform Outreach Project (POP) continues to engage with young people in hotspot anti-social behaviour areas.
- Borough-wide operation around taxis and scrap metal carriers.
- Continue to proactively use anti-social behaviour tools and powers.

Domestic Abuse

- Continued to progress with the statutory Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) into Adult D.
- Secured funding in collaboration with the six Northumbria Local Authorities to further strengthen accommodation-based support for victims.
- Gateshead Council in collaboration with Respect, the national charity, have co-ordinated an Adolescent to Parent Violence Conference to promote the positive work undertaken locally.
- Concluded internal review of Domestic Abuse functions and established a revised working model (*separate agenda item) – which has included the creation of a Strategic Domestic Abuse Executive Board.
- The partnership arrangements to support high-risk victims through MARAC and addressing offending behaviour via MATAC continue to be effective.
- Continued support around the Northumbria-wide Whole Systems Approach to Domestic Abuse.
- Reviewing our approach to Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programmes.
- Working with Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner to re-introduce specialist Domestic Abuse workers into Magistrates Court.
- Commissioned specialist training to upskill frontline staff in relation to cyber related stalking, coercive control and risk assessments.

Restricting Supply – Drug Misuse

- This workstream is a new priority for the Board and is progressing well.
- Establishment of Northumbria Central Drugs Alliance, looking at increasing the amount of drug information available to partners.

- Training partner agencies around what is useful intelligence – resulting in over 50+ staff trained around what intelligence is and how to report
- Reporting framework and pathway established for partners, ongoing work to raise awareness.
- Ongoing work to lobby the Police and Crime Commissioner to highlight the impact of drugs on anti-social behavior and crime.
- New Drugs Strategy being developed by Northumbria Police
- Increases in needles found in the community and subsequent efforts with partners to tackle this including harm reduction measures, education and more punitive approaches with service users, where necessary.
- More reactive Drug-related Death inquiry process being trialed.
- Training for services/users around poly-drug use has been developed.

Hate Crime and Tension Monitoring

- The Workplace Hate Crime Champion Scheme continues to be rolled out across Gateshead with the last session taking place in September 2018 – 50+ champions identified in total.
- Delivered a series of Hate and Mate Crime Awareness Training sessions, attendance has been good and feedback positive.
- Developed a bespoke Hate Crime Tracking Database to identify and respond to hate crime and provide an enhanced service to victims.
- Activity will take place around National Hate Crime Awareness week launch event will take place at Gateshead Stadium. This will include a walk of solidarity to demonstrate support for those in our community who are affected by hate crime.
- We are working with several individuals who have been affected by hate crime to deliver a 'Experts by Experience' event to take place on 17th October 2018.

Preventing Violent Extremism (Terrorism)

- Formal Preventing Violent Extremism (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) training continues to take place but attendance remains relatively low, despite being promoted regularly.
- Informal awareness sessions have started to be delivered to Council Team Meetings to support WRAP with 104 employees across Care, Wellbeing & Learning having received some input since the last Board.
- Commissioned voluntary sector organisation (Safer Vision) to deliver bespoke Prevent Awareness sessions to Governors and Designated Safeguarding Leads in schools across Gateshead.
- Community Safety are working closely with the Commissioning Team around delivering Prevent Awareness Sessions to all Commissioned Providers across Gateshead.
- Started to complete a Prevent Duty Toolkit for Local Authorities designed to provide practical information and examples of best practice to support the implement of the Prevent duty. This will help us to identify any significant gaps in our current provision around Prevent.
- Shadowed other Local Authority areas across Northumbria to ascertain how they run Prevent and Channel Panels what performance information is collected to ensure a standardised response.
- Arranged two sessions for Councillors to cover the purpose of Prevent, the

process of radicalisation, how to identify when someone may be vulnerable to radicalisation and how to raise concerns in Gateshead.

Serious and Organised Crime (Disruption)

- An analytical Problem Profile has been produced by Northumbria Police to help us to be able to better understand and quantify the impact of Serious and Organised Crime across our locality.
- A multi-agency Action Plan has been created to help embed a partnership response to Serious and Organised Crime.
- Alongside the Police and Crime Commissioner, we are bidding for funding to support the early intervention and prevention of serious violent crime and offending often associated with Serious and Organised Crime.
- Distributed several procurement checklist tools to ensure public bodies are not unwittingly using services of Serious and Organised Crime Groups.
- Delivered a series of sessions to County Lines to raise awareness of this emerging crime trend.
- Operation Magnet, the local partnership response, continues to be effective at a tactical level and is facilitating the effective utilisation of our partnership powers (e.g. Licensing, Housing, Probation and Gain Network).

Repeat Victimisation and Vulnerability

- The Multi-Agency Adult Referral Team (MAART) and Integrated Referral and Assessment Teams are now embedded and operational.
- Complex case meetings continues to take place to implement support and enforcement actions to address vulnerabilities.
- Vulnerable and repeat victims of hate crime are now identified via the Hate Crime Tracker and provided with support through VictimsFirst Northumbria.
- The ASB Volunteers Project continues to operate and provides bespoke one-to-one support to vulnerable and repeat ASB victims.

Reducing Re-offending

- Refreshed the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) process designed to address offending behaviour, anti-social behaviour and homelessness of the most prolific offenders within the Gateshead area.
- Offenders released from prison with no clear housing plan are signposted to attend TGHC premises, on their day of release, to increase likelihood of engagement with housing services.
- Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) are now working from Housing Services and provides an opportunity for offenders to receive a joined-up probation and housing service. This is best practice and has been commended by the CRC and has resulted in some positive changes for offenders.

5.3 Some of the areas that be prioritising and/or be developed further over the next six-months are:

- Produce the statutory Strategic Assessment as well as undertaking public consultation on the draft priorities.
- Finalise the Domestic Homicide Review into Adult D and implement any of the recommendations identified.

- Undertake a systems-thinking review of how we tackle ASB to ensure we have the right approach for supporting victims.
- Map and explore all meetings which look at complex individuals to assess the impact of actions and levels of duplication.
- Explore funding opportunities to support projects around youth diversion and engagement.
- Working with Special Branch to embed the new reporting form within referral processes which will strengthen our internal data collection and identification method to ensure that we are capturing all referrals.
- Launch the new Gateshead Hate Crime Reporting System making it easier and timelier for professionals to log hate crimes and encourage increases in self-reported or witnesses.
- Established a Strategic Hate Crime Supporting Victims Task and Finish Group to review referrals to VictimsFirst Northumbria and look at initiatives designed to increase the uptake of support services.

6 Recommendation

6.1 Members are asked to:

- (i) Comment on the progress made in relation to the strategic priorities of the Community Safety Board;
- (ii) Continue to receive six-monthly Community Safety updates;
- (iii) Identify any issues/areas that OSC want to scrutinise in greater detail at a future Committee meeting.

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* Appendix 1 – Crime Performance Table

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** received from Corporate Development Department at Northumbria Police*

1 April to 31 August 2018

Measure (Location)	Northumbria				Gateshead		
	Actual	Previous YTD	% Variance		Actual	Previous YTD	% Variance
Total crime	69865	63130	+11%		9322	8575	+9%
Violent crime	24053	20342	+18%		3154	2678	+18%
Violence against the person	21184	18013	+18%		2806	2329	+20%
Violence against the person - With injury	5755	5525	+4%		704	679	+4%
Most serious violence	363	306	+19%		60	41	+46%
Less serious violence	5392	5219	+3%		644	638	+1%
Violence against the person - Without injury	15429	12488	+24%		2102	1650	+27%
Possession of weapons	305	221	+38%		33	31	+6%
Robbery	354	296	+20%		65	47	+38%
Sexual offences	2210	1812	+22%		250	271	-8%
Vehicle crime	3431	3301	+4%		500	488	+2%
Vehicle interference	404	448	-10%		52	72	-28%
TFMV	2269	2173	+4%		342	346	-1%
TWOC	758	680	+11%		106	70	+51%
Burglary	3802	3844	-1%		561	558	+1%
Burglary dwelling	2427	2556	-5%		383	387	-1%
Burglary OTD	1375	1288	+7%		178	171	+4%
Criminal damage	10348	10433	-1%		1379	1455	-5%
Drug crime	1394	1070	+30%		199	130	+53%
Other crime	26837	24140	+11%		3529	3266	+8%
Shoplifting	6103	6093	+0%		687	894	-23%
Theft from the person	657	540	+22%		78	58	+34%
Serious acquisitive crime	5808	5705	+2%		896	850	+5%
Racially and religiously aggravated crime	565	550	+3%		84	77	+9%
Anti-social Behaviour	23419	22697	+3%				
Youth Anti-social Behaviour	5297	5879	-10%				