

Doncaster Community Safety Strategy **2014 - 2017**

Making Doncaster safer together



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Foreword

We start this strategy from an excellent position, having reduced overall crime in the borough by 13.5% in 2012. Continuing this successful partnership working is undoubtedly the most effective way to reduce crime even further.

This strategy shows our residents what they can expect from the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership over the next three years. It outlines

our priorities and the methods we will use to achieve them.

We will continue to encourage our residents to tell us what is important to them through our established community engagement processes, to guarantee our priorities are shaped by those we serve. In addition, we welcome residents becoming a part of the solution, working with us and being an active partner in creating a safer and stronger Doncaster.

The current economic landscape encourages innovative practice as Partnership agencies strive to continue their high quality service provision with reduced resources. Combining new ways of working with proven established methods will ensure we are well placed respond to future challenges and continue to build on our success.

Chair of Partnership



Councillor Joe Blackham,
Doncaster Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Blackham". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Community Safety in Doncaster:

An Overview

Crime reduction and community safety are not the sole responsibilities of any one agency organisation or group. They are the responsibility of individuals and communities as well as all the agencies that form the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership, working alongside other local strategic groups such as the Safeguarding Children, Safeguarding Adults, and Health and Well Being Boards.

By working together we can make Doncaster a safer place to live work and visit.

By working together we can make Doncaster a safer place to live work and visit. Working together to reduce crime and disorder is vitally important as the effects damage individuals, families and the wider community.



Implementing this strategy effectively will help Doncaster thrive: helping drive down business crime, improving the economy, and enhancing the health and well-being of all residents.

A re-structure of neighbourhood boundaries has been implemented within the Partnership during the previous strategy. With key stakeholders now working with common boundaries this has strengthened the Partnership's ability to deliver on new agendas and responsibilities such as the Stronger Families agenda, and the One Team Working approach.

The work of the Partnership has also been enhanced through the development of a Stronger Communities agenda which focuses on community involvement; community activity and volunteering; and inclusion and fairness recognising that active, inclusive communities are safer and fairer communities for all.

Doncaster covers an area of 224 square miles and has a population of around 302, 400, an increase of 16, 400 residents since 2001. The town is located at the heart of national rail and road networks, and served by a local international airport, these can bring significant opportunities to the town. However it is also located at the heart of a large prison cluster with some of those released choosing to settle in the town despite having no local connection, which can create challenges for the Partnership.

Active, inclusive communities are safer and fairer communities for all.

Doncaster's population is becoming more diverse, the 'White British' population has fallen by almost 5%

between 2001 and 2011, with the main minority ethnic group being 'White Polish'. It is therefore a challenge for the Partnership as for all public services in Doncaster moving forward, to ensure that they are mindful of and responsive to the varying needs of our diverse communities.



Previously an outlier in crime levels, overall crime in Doncaster has fallen sharply by 13.8% in 2012/13 when compared to the previous year, thus narrowing the gaps with other areas of the county. Anti-social behaviour has also reduced significantly with figures showing a 25.1% decrease for the same period. These most recent reductions build on the success witnessed throughout the lifetime of the previous strategy, with crime and anti-social behaviour figures having reduced by 24.9% and 38.6% respectively over a four year period.

Levels of resident confidence and satisfaction in Partnership agencies remain high with 63% of respondents to the latest 'Your Voice Counts' survey agreed that 'Crime in Doncaster is not a very big or not a problem at all'.

Whilst many other factors combine to influence an individual's perception of crime levels and risk of victimisation, the Partnership continually strive to respond to these issues. In order to provide a more robust response to anti-social behaviour in 2011, the Communities Area Teams adopted an extended and more focused approach to the early intervention and prevention aspects, aiming to stop emerging patterns of negative behaviours escalating and worsening. Further work in 2011 saw the dedicated Neighbourhood Response Team significantly extended their working hours, and in 2013 they were again successful in enhancing the Partnership response to anti-social behaviour when they obtained Delegated Powers from the Police to allow them to be more involved in tackling key issues such as street drinking and underage drinking.

These are both highly visible forms of anti-social behaviour which play



a major part in affecting residents' perceptions of their area, so are key tools in helping to address the disparity between perception and reality.

Whilst overall crime continues to fall and is now at its lowest level for over thirty years, some significant challenges remain.

Reduce Crime, ASB and Re-offending

Implementing an integrated IT system that can effectively manage anti-social behaviour cases, capturing input from a range of key agencies.

To reduce the number of repeat adult and young offenders by providing effective enhanced support and timely access to services when they are released from custody.

Protecting Vulnerable People

To change attitudes and behaviour and reinforce the message across Doncaster that domestic violence and abuse of any kind will not be tolerated.

Reduce Substance and Alcohol Misuse and the Associated Effects on Crime

To better understand the new and emerging drug trends and provide an appropriate and effective service to a new demographic of drug misusers.

Doncaster will continue to respond effectively to these challenges and build on its track record of implementing new Partnership mechanisms in response to changing trends and patterns

A recent change was implemented in December 2012 following a rise in domestic burglary. Doncaster was the first area in South Yorkshire to adopt a more focussed analytical method of prevention and detection. This approach places highly visible resources into areas affected by burglary or where burglary is predicted and also undertakes visits to victims to provide reassurance and crime reduction advice. This approach has led to the lowest recorded burglary figures in January 2013 for the last ten years. Due to the success witnessed in the town, this approach is now being rolled out across the county.

CCTV in Doncaster



Doncaster has benefitted from the presence of CCTV since 1994 and whilst there is no Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership priority in relation to CCTV, its contribution to the work of the Partnership across all priority areas must be acknowledged.

CCTV can prevent crime, be instrumental in bringing offenders to justice as well as providing reassurance to residents and visitors to the town.

Where are we now?

The original aim of the Doncaster Town Centre CCTV System was described as follows;

“To implement a CCTV system through multi-agency funding and manage it through a multi-agency partnership and place this in an overall crime reduction strategy for the Town Centre.”

There have been many changes and enhancements to the system since its’ original inception in 1994, the most significant being that the Council has invested in a new ‘state of the art CCTV and Alarm Receiving Centre within its’ new Civic Office.

The Council and its’ partners can effectively monitor and react to incidents that occur within town centres, housing estates, road networks, car parks and also within public buildings.

The Partnership also has a stock of re-locatable cameras which it deploys across the borough, working closely with Safer Neighbourhood Teams which comprise of Communities Area Team Officers and South Yorkshire Police to react to emerging and on-going issues within particular neighbourhoods.

Where do we want to be?

The Partnership acknowledges the importance for residents to feel safe and be confident in the service we provide; therefore it is committed to the development and delivery of a jointly integrated and efficient CCTV service in one centre.

This centre is to host a centralised CCTV and Alarm monitoring for Doncaster, Rotherham and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Councils, working in partnership with South Yorkshire Police. This centralisation activity has been made possible by making effective use of available resources as well drawing in additional funding where possible.

The Partnership acknowledges the importance for residents to feel safe and be confident in the service we provide

This centralised service will provide residents of these towns with an enhanced and effective tool to assist in the prevention and detection of crime, anti-social behaviour, building security and traffic management. From this single site both the Council and Police staff will manage and utilise the cameras that are allocated to each organisation for their specific purpose.

Given the joint working involved,



each organisation will be responsible for ensuring that the data processed by their cameras is done so in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

How are we going to get there?

Teams from both the Council and South Yorkshire Police have been set up to progress the integration which will lead to an enhanced co-ordinated service for residents across three local authorities; Doncaster, Barnsley and Rotherham.

It is anticipated that further efficiency savings will be achieved through this process, together with the in-house provision of security arrangements for Doncaster.

In October 2007 a National Strategy for CCTV was implemented and subsequently in 2013 a new government led 'Code of Practice' was adopted in June 2013 which

identifies a number of Guiding Principles for the use of CCTV. The strategy and these principles have been embraced by the CCTV Partnership for Doncaster in order to develop and deliver a jointly integrated and efficient CCTV service. This guidance will ensure that residents in Doncaster, Rotherham and Barnsley can be confident that the surveillance camera system in Doncaster will always be used for a specified purpose which is in pursuit of a legitimate aim and is necessary to meet an identified pressing need.

The governance responsibility for CCTV in Doncaster and also in relation to the centralisation process sits with the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Executive Board and CCTV Theme Group Board. There are clear and effective review and audit mechanisms in place to ensure legal requirements, policies and standards are complied with.

Case Study:

Working in partnership with St Leger Homes, the CCTV team have improved safety in Balby Bridge estate in 2013 with the installation of CCTV in the stairwells and communal corridors of the flats. The secluded stairwells and corridors were areas in which some residents told us they felt unsafe.

These cameras are now monitored by the Council CCTV operators providing reassurance to residents and also deterring those who may enter the communal areas of the flats to commit anti-social or illegal acts such as fly-tipping, drinking or taking drugs.

Since the installation of the cameras, St Leger Homes staff who work on the estate have reported a significant reduction in such offences, from almost daily to less than weekly. This demonstrates that the quality of life for all residents on the estate has been greatly improved by the installation of CCTV cameras.



Prevention is at the heart of all Partnership action; work is needed to change attitudes to domestic abuse to achieve reductions in the future. But the focus is on the rights and welfare of today's victims and their children. Through delivery of a coordinated multi agency service the Partnership are committed to ensuring that:

Domestic Abuse is not socially acceptable and will not be tolerated in Doncaster.

- Domestic Abuse is not socially acceptable and will not be tolerated in Doncaster.
- Every report of domestic abuse is treated seriously from the point of disclosure.
- There is immediate action to assess the level of risk and make the victim and family safe, where needed.
- Every investigation and prosecution is conducted thoroughly and professionally
- Every victim of domestic abuse is treated with dignity, and has access to appropriate help.
- Help is available for the whole family to recover from the experience of abuse and to build the skills to cope into the future.
- Perpetrators are held accountable and are challenged to change their behaviour.

Case Study:

Sharon's story

Sharon* was referred to the IDVA service by the Probation Service as a high risk victim. Tim* her son, had been imprisoned after assaulting her, and was living in a bail hostel following his release.

An IDVA visited Sharon to discuss her safety and the way forward, and found her home was in a poor state of repair, leaving it insecure. Sharon was sleeping downstairs fearful of Tim returning at night. The landlord had failed to do the repairs he had promised to secure the property, and Sharon was unable to chase this up, she is registered disabled, and Tim had taken her mobile phone.

Sharon disclosed that Tim had been attending the property whilst drunk being abusive and harassing her for money. She was terrified, genuinely believing Tim was capable of killing her, he had previously held a knife to her throat and made threats to kill.

Sharon's two other children were living with their father, who was

seeking residency because of Tim's threats. This was obviously causing Sharon further distress.

The IDVA provided Sharon with a mobile phone and various home security devices, and advocated for her with her family law solicitor, landlord, and housing departments.

Agencies quickly worked together to support and safeguard Sharon. She moved into her new property within 8 days of being contacted by the service. Tim was moved to a hostel out of Doncaster due to his behaviour. Sharon's new home was modified to support her disability; and her children are set to move back in with her so they can be a family again.

Tim has not contacted Sharon recently and she is much happier. Sharon later said she could not thank services enough for all the support, and her life has changed significantly for the better.

*Names have been changed

How are we going to get there?

To deliver the vision of “An integrated response to the whole family” the various streams of work will come together and operate cohesively with wider strategic objectives such as One Team Working Plus and Stronger Families to deliver localised services in communities across Doncaster including:

- Prevention and Education including public awareness.
- A multi-agency Workforce Development Strategy and Capability Framework.
- Services to support Children and Young People affected by domestic abuse.
- A Domestic Abuse Hub.
- Housing and Refuge provision.
- Responding to Perpetrators.
- Consolidating the response to high risk victims.
- Commissioning.
- Outcomes based performance management and data collection.

Details of the plans for each of these work-streams are available in the Domestic Abuse Summary Strategy.

Sexual Violence and Abuse

Where are we now?

Sexual violence and abuse often occurs within the context of an intimate relationship; in about 45% of all reported rapes the offender is the current or former partner. However there are also a range of other offences and lower level abusive behaviour that occurs between strangers.

In addition sexual abuse is often not reported for years and - as demonstrated in recent high profile cases involving well known celebrities - attracts intense media interest.



Lower level, but equally concerning behaviour such as verbal abuse, indecent exposure and harassment is also unacceptable, and much of the work of the Domestic Abuse Strategy will address this type of offending behaviour.

At the more serious end of the spectrum, tackling rape and serious sexual offences is coordinated by a multi-agency county wide steering group chaired by South Yorkshire Police. In Doncaster there were 53 sexual offences recorded by the police between October 2012 and March 2013. There are increasing risks around sexual exploitation, affecting young people as well as adults, and the impact of pornography on attitudes to sex, and the inherent sexism which is at the root of much sexual harassment can lead to more serious sexual assault.

The Partnership is developing its own local strategy addressing non-domestic sexual violence and abuse.

In addition a Sexual Violence and Abuse Theme Group has been established which strategically oversees work to tackle all aspects of sexual abuse regardless of the age of victim or perpetrator. This will ensure a holistic response which brings together the work of both safeguarding boards and the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership.

Sexual abuse is significantly under reported to the police, although higher numbers contact voluntary sector services. Current voluntary sector service provision for victims is through Doncaster Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Service, which provides specialist counselling and an Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy Service. In 2012-13 services were provided to 214 new clients (NB some of these will have also reported to the Police)

In addition, the Sexual Assault Referral Centre based at Rotherham Hospital, provides immediate care and support for victims across South Yorkshire. The South Yorkshire Police Apollo Unit supports victims going through the court process, and works in tandem with the Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy (ISVA) service to ensure a holistic service is provided.

Where do we want to get to?

- A coordinated multi agency response to sexual violence and abuse at all levels.
- Effective prevention and education programmes working to change the culture around sexual behaviour.
- Take appropriate action on sexual abuse at all levels, support victims and challenge perpetrators.
- Encourage and support reporting of abuse, and ensure that services are working together without duplication to provide a holistic response.
- Zero tolerance of inappropriate sexual behaviour, harassment and assault.

How are we going to get there?

- A new cross partnership strategy on Sexual Violence and Abuse by October 2013.
- Development of a new Partnership Theme Group focussing specifically on sexual violence and abuse regardless of the age of the victim or the perpetrator.
- More effective data collection and performance management, recording sexual abuse at lower levels to facilitate earlier intervention.
- Ensure continuing investment to maintain essential support services for victims e.g. ISVA service, SARC, Counselling
- Link with relevant sections of the domestic abuse strategy, e.g. prevention and education, workforce development and incorporate sexual abuse where appropriate.



Priority two : Reduce Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Re-offending

Where are we now?

There has been a reduction in police recorded anti-social behaviour from 21,584 to 16,042 incidents during the year 2012/2013. This represents a 26% reduction, significantly exceeding the Partnership's target of 5%. Anti-social behaviour is consistently one of the most important issues for residents, so this is particularly pleasing.

There are strong connections between the incidence of anti-social behaviour and levels of criminal damage. Consequently for a number of years partners in Doncaster have linked the two issues together when working collaboratively at both strategic and operational levels. This has contributed to a reduction in criminal damage incidents during 2012/2013 from 4740 to 3601 offences. This represents a fall of 24% over the year, which demonstrates very strong performance.

Hate crimes or incidents are distressing and can have profoundly harmful effects on their victims. Although the nature of hate crimes or incidents varies in gravity from anti-social behaviour to seriously violent assaults, the strategic responsibility for dealing with hate crime at a partnership level rests with the Anti-Social

Behaviour Theme Group. During 2012/2013 we have seen the number of hate crime offences rise from 86 to 110, an increase of 27.9%. This increase is a concern to the Partnership although it is also the case that this increase follows a sustained decrease experienced in previous years. The percentage of offences for which a perpetrator was brought to justice for hate crimes during 2012/13 stood at 51.8%, which is slightly below the target of 55%. Most recently, DMBC has been working with its partners to explore how services can be further adapted to better meet the needs of hate crime victims, to ensure all agencies continue to provide appropriate, accessible and responsive opportunities for greater reporting. In parallel, where identified, offenders are also robustly challenged with a view to appropriate enforcement actions being implemented to effectively tackle offending behaviour.

The start of 2013/14 has seen a continuation of the progress achieved in the previous year in respect of reducing anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. By the end of May 2013 anti-social behaviour was 13.3% lower than it had been at the same time the previous year (exceeding the 10%

target set for 2013/14). The reduction in criminal damage was 2% (592 incidents compared to 578 incidents) for the same period of comparison.

The Partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2012-15 recognises the importance of meeting the needs of victims of anti-social behaviour and properly reflecting these needs in the range of work it undertakes. A significant contribution to meeting victims' needs has been the introduction of a multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour Panel made up of senior representatives from a range of partners including Doncaster Council, South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Victim Support Doncaster, NHS Doncaster, South Yorkshire Probation Trust and St Leger Homes of Doncaster. This panel meets monthly to ensure that the needs of individual victims of anti-social behaviour who are deemed to be at significant risk of harm are being met. In undertaking its work the panel relies upon effective partnership working at a neighbourhood level so that when cases are referred the panel is made fully aware of the precise nature of a vulnerable victim's case, actions that have already been taken, actions which are planned and an

Doncaster's whole approach to managing vulnerable victims is consistent with good practice recommended by central government.

indication of input that may be required from the panel. In practical terms this valuable work at neighbourhood level is carried out by the multi-agency Case Identification Meetings (CIM's) and Multi-agency Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAG's). Doncaster's whole approach to managing vulnerable victims is consistent with good practice recommended by central government.

Since its inception the Panel has considered the needs of over 210 individuals and has been able to co-ordinate prompt and effective action to resolve a large number of issues that, if left, may well have resulted in serious harm to victims.

We have put significant resources into tackling anti-social behaviour related issues with, amongst other initiatives, the introduction of a co-located partnership Neighbourhood Response Team (NRT). This unit supports existing police and council resources, such as Safer Neighbourhood Teams and includes police and council staff working in partnership to provide a

24-hour response to anti-social behaviour. This round the clock coverage is important for residents who are victims, or are worried about becoming victims, of anti-social behaviour. We consistently share information relating to anti-social behaviour with partner agencies to make sure incidents are quickly and appropriately dealt with. The NRT recognises the need to regularly reflect on how it operates in order to make sure it continues to provide a service that meets the needs of the public. For example, recent changes have refined the way team members are deployed through the use of staggered shifts so that varying numbers of staff are on duty at different times. This ensures that staffing levels better reflect changing demands for service as they fluctuate throughout day and night. In addition, the team has widened its competency to deal with a broader range of incident types through its receipt of Accredited Powers from South Yorkshire Polices Chief Constable.

Case Study:

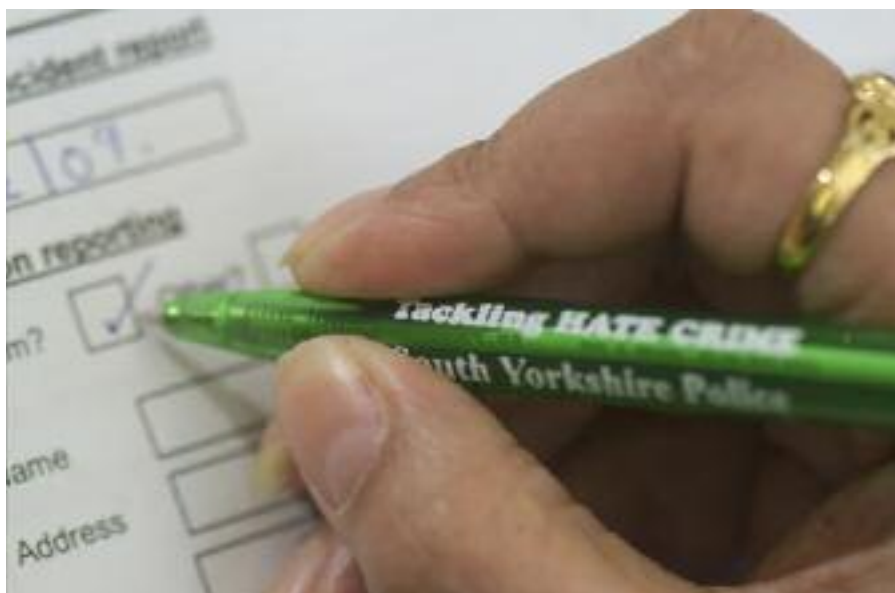
Partnership Work Pays Dividends

Children from three families were causing significant ASB on a daily basis within the South West area, which was causing considerable issues for other local residents. The children's parents refused to engage with services to improve the children's behaviour.

To tackle this anti-social behaviour a 10 week 'respect boot camp' was developed and delivered by partners. The sessions focused on instilling discipline and acknowledging positive behaviour with the children involved. The Area Team acted promptly to identify and support people that were suffering due to this behaviour and ensure appropriate support was put in place. Activities included re-assurance visits to victims, target hardening measures to properties, additional CCTV monitoring to gather evidence and educational talks in schools and other youth settings as to the consequences of ASB.

The Area Team and Police were also successful in obtaining a 'Dispersal Order' which gives powers to disperse groups of 2 or more people gathering in a designated area, this power remains in force to ensure improvements can be sustained.

The young people were also put on an Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's). The parents have been offered parenting courses, and Parenting Contracts may be explored in the future if improvements are not sustained.





In addition to the work undertaken by the NRT which primarily aims to deal with live incidents of anti-social behaviour Doncaster undertakes considerable activity that aims to prevent anti-social behaviour before it happens or intervene early to stop any on-going anti-social behaviour becoming far more serious.

The partnership is committed to continue the good progress that has been made

For example Communities' Area Teams in collaboration with other partners such as South Yorkshire Police within Safer Neighbourhood Teams carry out a wide range of activities aimed at prevention and early intervention. These include the investigation of low level anti-social behaviour cases, working in schools to promote good behaviour, and the co-ordination and delivery of diversionary activities. Whilst highly successful the range of early intervention and diversionary activities will not be effective for all young people. The small number of young people who commit crime will be dealt with by the Youth Offending Service, a multi-agency service which works to reduce offending, re-offending, first time entrants to the criminal justice system, and the use of prison as a punishment for young people. The Youth Offending Service also provides tailored packages of support to young people with accommodation, employment, training and education to address the underlying causes for criminal behaviour. It does this by working to an annual Youth Justice Plan which is overseen at a national level by the

Youth Justice Board, and locally by the Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Board and the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership.

In March 2014, Doncaster YOS was recognised as a high performing YOS by the Youth Justice Board. It is currently exceeding all targets except for those around the use of prison sentences. Despite under-performing on this target, progress is being made and this figure has reduced.

Where do we want to be?

The partnership is committed to continue the good progress that has been made and has therefore set itself further robust targets of a 10% reduction in anti-social behaviour and a 17% lowering of criminal damage during 2013/14. We have also identified targets to reduce primary and secondary arson during 2013/14 to no more than 200 and 1021 actual incidents respectively, given the connection between both these incident types and criminal damage/anti-social behaviour.

We recognise that it is important for residents to feel safe and be confident that the services we provide will be effective in tackling the crime and anti-social behaviour that they are most concerned about. We are particularly committed to making sure that the most vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour are satisfied with the service they receive from Partnership agencies. This year therefore will see the formal introduction by the Partnership of a measure to monitor satisfaction levels of vulnerable victims in respect of the service they receive.





How are we going to get there?

We are facing particularly challenging times over the coming years, with reductions in the financial and other resources available to tackle crime and disorder. In order to achieve our objectives outlined above,

individual partners are prioritising resources and activity into dealing with anti-social behaviour. As well as the prioritisation of resources within individual partner agencies, collaborative working will continue to be undertaken in order to make most effective use of available resources. Activity on the ground is supported by robust performance management and strategic direction which is essential if the drive and commitment shared by partners to tackle anti-social behaviour is to result in the desired outcomes. To give added impetus to partners' focus on driving strong performance, specific stretching targets have been set around reducing anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, primary and secondary arson as well as detection rates for hate crime. These are set out in the table of performance measures below. The Anti-Social Behaviour Theme Group, accountable to the

Executive of the Safer Stronger Partnership, is made up of all those partners who have a contribution to offer in tackling anti-social behaviour. It meets bi-monthly and is split into two distinct areas of focus. The first part of the meeting concentrates on performance against a range of key indicators. Any areas where particular issues are identified, actions are put in place to address them. The second section of the meeting looks at wider strategic issues such as the partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and the identification and sharing of good practice. This meeting is supported by a regular partnership tasking meeting where local issues are dealt with by frontline officers. A key role of the group in this area of its activity is to make sure that our collective efforts maintain an appropriate balance between the three interconnected strands of prevention, intervention and enforcement.

Theme	Outcome: Reduce the number of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and increase customer satisfaction			
Anti-Social Behaviour	Description	Target /Outcome	Source of Data	Lead Agency
	Overall police reported ASB	10% reduction	Procad	SYP
	Criminal Damage offences recorded	17% reduction	Procad	SYP
	Primary Arson offences recorded	23% reduction	SYF&R	SYF&R
	Secondary Arson offences recorded	7% reduction	SYF&R	SYF&R
	Public satisfaction in partner agencies tackling ASB effectively	Baseline to be set during 2013/14	Surveys conducted by Area Teams and Safer Neighbourhood	Teams SYP / DMBC

Where are we now?

Statistically it is known that relatively small numbers of offenders, often repeat offenders, commit much of the serious acquisitive crime in Doncaster, in common with other areas. Managing them effectively can have a significant impact on both re-offending and acquisitive crime figures.

The strategic Reducing Re-offending and Serious Acquisitive Crime Theme Group is jointly chaired by South Yorkshire Police and the South Yorkshire Probation Trust. It meets bi-monthly and has a range of partners in attendance including South Yorkshire Police, Probation Service, Doncaster Council, St Leger Homes and voluntary groups.

Serious Acquisitive Crime

Serious acquisitive crime is the term used for crimes including burglary, theft from vehicles, robbery and theft of vehicles.

Although since 2010 there has been an overall reduction of 20% in serious acquisitive crime, there was a slight increase in burglaries towards the end of 2012 therefore burglary remains a priority for the theme group.

Up to 30% of burglaries occur due to insecure properties, and it is important to continue to raise public awareness around home security. Working with voluntary groups and partners including St Leger Homes of Doncaster on initiatives including media campaigns highlighting how residents can quickly and cheaply increase their home security has encouraged residents to become more security conscious.

The Partnership recognises the potential impact that the current financial situation and changes within the welfare system could have on serious acquisitive crime and all agencies will work together to minimise this risk.

Reducing Re-offending

Much of the work to reduce re-offending falls under the broad framework of Integrated Offender Management (IOM). The purpose of IOM is to ensure effective management of prolific offenders, and those offenders who have been assessed as causing the greatest harm to communities. This involves providing enhanced support to around two hundred of our most problematic offenders to reduce the likelihood of re-offending. At the same time it is made explicitly clear to offenders what is expected of them, i.e. not to re-offend.

Communication and sharing of information are the keys to the success of Integrated Offender Management, and in Doncaster the team, made up of Police and Probation staff, are co-located.

As well as the police and probation service and RDaSH other partners involved in IOM include:

- Drug intervention Programme
- Prison service
- Doncaster Council
- Youth Offending Service
- Third Sector Partners (such as Action Housing and Remedi)

Where do we want to be?

The Partnership is committed to continuing the progress that has been made and will continue to contribute to a reduction in overall crime by reducing the incidents of serious acquisitive crime, especially burglary.

Government policy is for shorter sentences for offenders, with the management of more offenders in the community rather than in prisons. Bringing together the



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acquisitive crime and reducing re-offending themes indicates the Partnership focus on those offenders who cause the most harm to our communities, and limit their own life chances through re-offending. Continuing to identify and intervene with these offenders, will positively impact on levels of acquisitive crime.

Doncaster's Integrated Offender Management Team consists of probation service staff and police and voluntary sector support services, working together with a focus on rehabilitation.

This includes signposting to specialist services and helping offenders to access appropriate mainstream services and opportunities including housing, benefits, health services, education training and employment.

Overall the aim is to engage partners and communities in tackling serious acquisitive crime, through public awareness-raising about prevention, intelligence gathering, Community Payback, and providing the support offenders need to change their behaviour.

The Partnership focus on those offenders who cause the most harm to our communities, and limit their own life chances through re-offending.

How are we going to get there?

Adopting a partnership problem solving approach and using the expertise of partners will help identify problem hot spot areas and any emerging issues and trends. The group can then focus resources towards these issues. We will need to work smarter and utilise all possible resources to achieve continuing reductions in the current financial climate.

Communication between partner agencies and residents is important to gather information about the most problematic offenders. Increasing the methods of reporting suspicious behaviour will enable the partnership to focus resources in hot spot areas. By harnessing the available Partnership resources including St Leger Homes estate staff, Council enforcement officers, and Stronger Communities officers, the Neighbourhood Response Team, as well as Neighbourhood Watch and other local community groups, residents will be encouraged to provide useful intelligence, in the knowledge that it is used to make their area safer.

The introduction of A-Optimal, an intelligence-led response to domestic burglaries, will be enable increased communication with residents by encouraging them to become more proactive with their personal and household security. It is important that residents are actively engaged in helping to tackle crime, through membership of Neighbourhood Watch, reporting issues to the police and/or Crimestoppers.

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Typically information about re-offending rates is out of date by the time it is received from the Ministry of Justice. A key objective is therefore to create a more robust method of information sharing between partners in order to develop a useful performance management framework to record the re-offending rate of both adults and youth re-offending. Through a combination of work to build relationships with residents, preventing crime by encouraging a greater responsibility for home security, tackling the most prolific and harmful offenders through IOM, to reduce re-offending, and providing support to victims, the Partnership will work together to try to sustain the reductions in serious acquisitive crime, and to address the behaviour and needs of offenders so as to reduce re-offending.



An example of campaign materials produced to help reduce burglaries

Case Study:

Operation A-Optimal

It is known that burglars return to homes and communities they have previously burgled to commit further crimes. When there is a report of a burglary the A-Optimal model uses analytical evidence to predict the most likely location and time that further burglaries will occur. These identified hot spot areas then benefit from 'super-cocooning' and increased visible patrols. Police Officers visit houses in the immediate vicinity of the burglary to deliver crime prevention information and make residents aware that a burglary has taken place. This means that they are able to personally discuss with the residents what crime prevention tips they can employ to help protect their homes. These increased patrols are resourced by staff from South Yorkshire Police, Doncaster Councils Communities Area teams and the Neighbourhood Response Team. When a burglary does occur victims are supported by Victim Support.

Since the initiative began in December 2012 there has been a 49% reduction in the number of burglary dwellings

Priority Three: Reduce substance and alcohol misuse and the associated effects on crime

Where are we now?

Doncaster has made great progress against achieving the aims outlined in the previous strategy in relation to both adults and children and young people.

Alcohol use is now more in the national spotlight with the dangers of heavy and frequent drinking rightly being held up as a cause for concern – given its links to personal health.



Operational delivery of the young person's drug service is now facilitated in community settings – with the young person being able to choose to be seen in venues such as youth centres, schools or at home. Specialist medical appointments are also community based, being conducted within a GP practice. This has made the service more accessible to young people, and also removed any stigma which may have acted as a barrier to treatment.

Locally alcohol misuse has also been identified as a priority for the Health and Well Being Board, going forward this will ensure an even more robust way of working to tackle alcohol misuse in the borough

Children and Young People

A bespoke training package has been delivered to over 620 front line professionals from a range of agencies; which ensures young people throughout the borough receive accurate and consistent advice and information about the dangers and criminal implications of drug and alcohol use. Since this training was implemented service referrals have dropped significantly which suggests that the training has been effective and young people with drug and alcohol issues are being identified earlier, preventing the need for specialist treatment. Reductions in levels of youth drinking will have undoubtedly contributed to the 26% reductions in anti-social behaviour seen across Doncaster in 2012/2013 (when compared with 2011/12)

Adults

The overall direction and purpose of the partnership strategy for drug and alcohol treatment is set out in the Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Plan 2013/16 which is supported by yearly treatment plans which set out the specific actions and deliverables.

There is now a fully integrated treatment service, which focuses on the issue of dependence rather than substance specific treatments. This fulfils one of the main aims of the previous strategy creating a more streamlined service to clients whilst also allowing for funding to be utilised more effectively to respond to changing patterns of use.

Heavy investment in workforce development in 2012 combined with a change in recording and reporting mechanisms has resulted in a 51% increase in the amount of psycho-social interventions being delivered. These interventions are an alternative to long term substitute prescribing and are enabling Doncaster to deliver a much more recovery focussed service.



Early intervention services have been established in outlying areas of the borough in order to make support more accessible. These services allow individuals to develop their recovery capital thus ensuring they are better placed to succeed in treatment.

Whilst prevention and treatment are undoubtedly necessary, it must be recognised that there are a proportion of individuals whose do not wish to engage with services and it is here that the Partnership must continue to use its criminal and civil sanctions effectively to protect individuals and communities when a link is proven between substance misuse and crime.

In 2012/13 67 Drink Banning Orders were issued preventing people entering licensed premises, and 374 individuals have been put through alcohol interventions either by the police or the courts.

In addition to this – through Doncaster’s ‘Best Bar None’ scheme over 450 individuals working within the licensed trade have undertaken training at various levels which focuses on their legal duties around the responsible sale of alcohol in 2012/13. This on-going programme of training coupled with effective use of sanctions has contributed to the 17% fall in violent crime in the evening economy of the town centre (May 2013 compared to May 2012).



An example of campaign materials produced to raise awareness of the Best Bar None scheme

Case Study: Drug and Alcohol Action Groups

Getting it right when it comes to dealing with drug and alcohol misuse and related issues is an imperative. It will help reduce anti-social behaviour and crime levels, will improve the lives of vulnerable adults and children, and create safer, healthier and more productive communities.

The size of the Doncaster borough means that some outlying areas are closer to other counties than to where our drug and alcohol services are located. With this in mind, Drug and Alcohol Action Groups (DAAGs), a partnership between the Council’s Community Safety Team, Communities Area Teams and Public Health, have been established in Edlington, Thorne, and Askern. By offering these new services locally people will find it easier to take the first steps on the road to recovery sooner. These groups are a new addition to the high quality service provision in Doncaster.

DAAGs offer access to staff from specialist agencies that provide advice and support on housing, tenancy support, debt management and employment and training. Stresses caused by being homeless, in debt, or unemployed can be the reasons individuals continue to use drugs or alcohol.

A young couple from the Thorne Area attended the Thorne DAAG after being referred to the Area Team’s Well Being Officer by a PCSO from their local Safer Neighbourhood Team. The couple who both use drugs were experiencing problems with their accommodation and this stress had led to their drug use increasing in recent weeks.

Once at the DAAG the couple were given a food parcel and were able to engage with agencies for help and support with housing and debt. The couple continue to engage and have been taken onto the caseload of the tenancy support worker for on-going support

Where do we want to be?

Patterns of drug use are changing nationally and locally and it is a key challenge for all services to respond to these changes.

The use of new, less researched stimulant drugs – often termed ‘party drugs’ or wrongly referred to as ‘legal highs’ – is becoming more common. Alcohol use is more in the national spotlight with the dangers of heavy and frequent drinking rightly being held up as a cause for concern – given its links to personal health and crime. Doncaster has more adults who misuse alcohol than illicit drugs and our figures for alcohol specific hospital admissions in under 18’s is slightly above the national average. These are obvious areas of focus throughout the life of this strategy.

How are we going to get there?

Changes in the national landscape, the transfer of responsibility for public health from the Primary Care Trust to local councils, means that drug and alcohol services in Doncaster will have to be re-tendered in 2015. This provides the ideal opportunity for commissioners to work together with providers and service users to re-design services taking into account changes in national direction and complementary agendas such as the Stronger (Troubled) Families. Detailed work will continue whilst the commissioning process is on-going.

Children and Young People

Work is planned to develop a referral pathway between hospital accident and emergency departments and treatment services ensuring that young people accessing the department for substance misuse related issues are followed up and offered treatment.

A further area of focus will be to target the most at risk and vulnerable young people – those in local authority care or involved with the criminal justice system being



the main groups – to ensure they have access to treatment and support at the earliest possible stage. These populations are overly represented in the substance misuse treatment service despite being only a small percentage of the overall population. Protocols will be implemented to ensure continuity of care for young people leaving youth custody, and work to increase the amount of young people referred into treatment services from the ‘Looked after Children’ population will be undertaken.



Adults

In-patient detoxification capacity within New Beginnings is to be expanded which will greatly decrease waiting times. The facility will be able to offer socially supported detoxification to alcohol clients which will greatly increase outcomes.

Prevention efforts, both targeted and whole population are a cost effective way of ensuring that individuals are given accurate information about the dangers associated with drug and alcohol consumption. Borough wide campaigns are undertaken at key times such as Christmas, and through the summer months when patterns of alcohol use increase. Data from agencies across the partnership is also continually scrutinized to ensure that where trends are emerging or where links

between drug or alcohol use and certain crime types becomes evident then these geographical areas or sub-populations are targeted with campaigns on specific issues.

Further developments in Partnership working processes are required to ensure that individuals who are committing crimes linked to their drug or alcohol use are

identified earlier and dealt with appropriately. Planned changes to police operating practices for example will ensure that drug misusing adult offenders are put in touch with treatment services at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure that the cycle of drug use and offending can be stopped thus reducing victimisation and keeping communities safe.



Performance

Key Objectives		Target	Apr-12	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13
Into Treatment	Increase the numbers accessing alcohol treatment services by 5%	71	70	76	59	73	82	63	80	65	19	Not data available		67
	Increase the numbers accessing drug treatment services by 5%	50	42	53	40	55	51	43	58	65	53	66	55	46
	Increase the number of C & YP accessing substance misuse services	12	7	11	8	16	6	6	7	7	4	9	8	2
Exiting Treatment	Maintain or Increase the number of C & YP successfully exiting treatment as a proportion of those in treatment	26%	10.5%	11.0%	31.0%	31.0%	23.0%	27.0%	32.0%	26.0%	27.0%	18.0%	19.0%	26%
	Increase the numbers successfully being treated for alcohol to 15% or above	15%	8.9%	14.5%	7.6%	15.0%	15.5%	18.9%	12.5%	15.7%	17.3%	Not data available		18.5%
	Increase the numbers successfully being treated for drugs to 15% or above	15%	12%	12.3%	12.8%	12.2%	12.1%	11.6%	11.2%	11.1%	10.2%	11.3%	9.7%	9.3%
	Increase successful completions for CJ clients to 10% (Year end) or above	10%	n/a	2.9%	3.5%	n/a	3.8%	3.7%	4.3%	4.6%	4.4%	3.3%	3.6%	3.1%
Sub Objectives														
	Reduce the numbers accessing A & E for alcohol related issues by 5%	239	208	225	273	253	249	171	234	289	326	194	176	142
	Increase the number of substance misuse clients accessing training/education	3	2	3	6	3	1	2	3	2	5	5	4	4
	Increase the number of substance misuse clients accessing employment	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3

Community Consultations

Community Safety is an issue that concerns everyone, and the residents of Doncaster have a wide range of opportunities to inform Partnership agencies what matters to them most. It is this data together with information on recorded crimes and incidents which combines to set our three overarching community safety priorities.

It is equally important that the Partnership takes a pro-active approach to understanding the perceptions that residents have of their area. Every resident has the right to feel safe to enjoy Doncaster and all it has to offer.

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Even so, for some individuals; despite the fact that the risk of being a victim of crime is significantly reduced, this fear can still cause them to change their routines and activities and can affect their social interaction.

Many different factors – age, gender, culture and religion – combine with personal experiences, media reporting and perceptions of other social groups to shape individuals perception of safety. Further to this Doncaster is a mix of affluent, deprived, rural and urban areas, and such diversity will often mean that residents of these differing areas will have differing views and needs.



It is essential that in order to tackle crime and the fear of crime effectively, the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership consult with local communities and ensure that their views shape the local community safety agenda and contributes to helping Doncaster thrive.

Consultations will be undertaken across all areas of Doncaster with members of the public representing a diverse range of individuals and communities. These findings will form the basis of our priorities and delivery plan, and will be repeated annually throughout the lifetime of this strategy.

This work will contribute towards successful achievement of the three main Community Safety aims, as well as other cross cutting agendas.

Summarised below is information taken from the latest Joint Strategic Intelligence Document along with a consultation undertaken with Elected Members which outlines the current top 5 community safety concerns of residents in each area of the borough.

Central Area

- Anti-Social Behaviour and on-going community tensions
- Prostitution and drug related issues
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Protecting the most vulnerable
- Families with multiple problems

East Area

- Nuisance youths
- Noisy and nuisance neighbours
- Acquisitive Crime (burglary/car crime)
- Protecting the most vulnerable
- Environmental Anti-Social Behaviour (littering/fly-tipping)

South-West Area

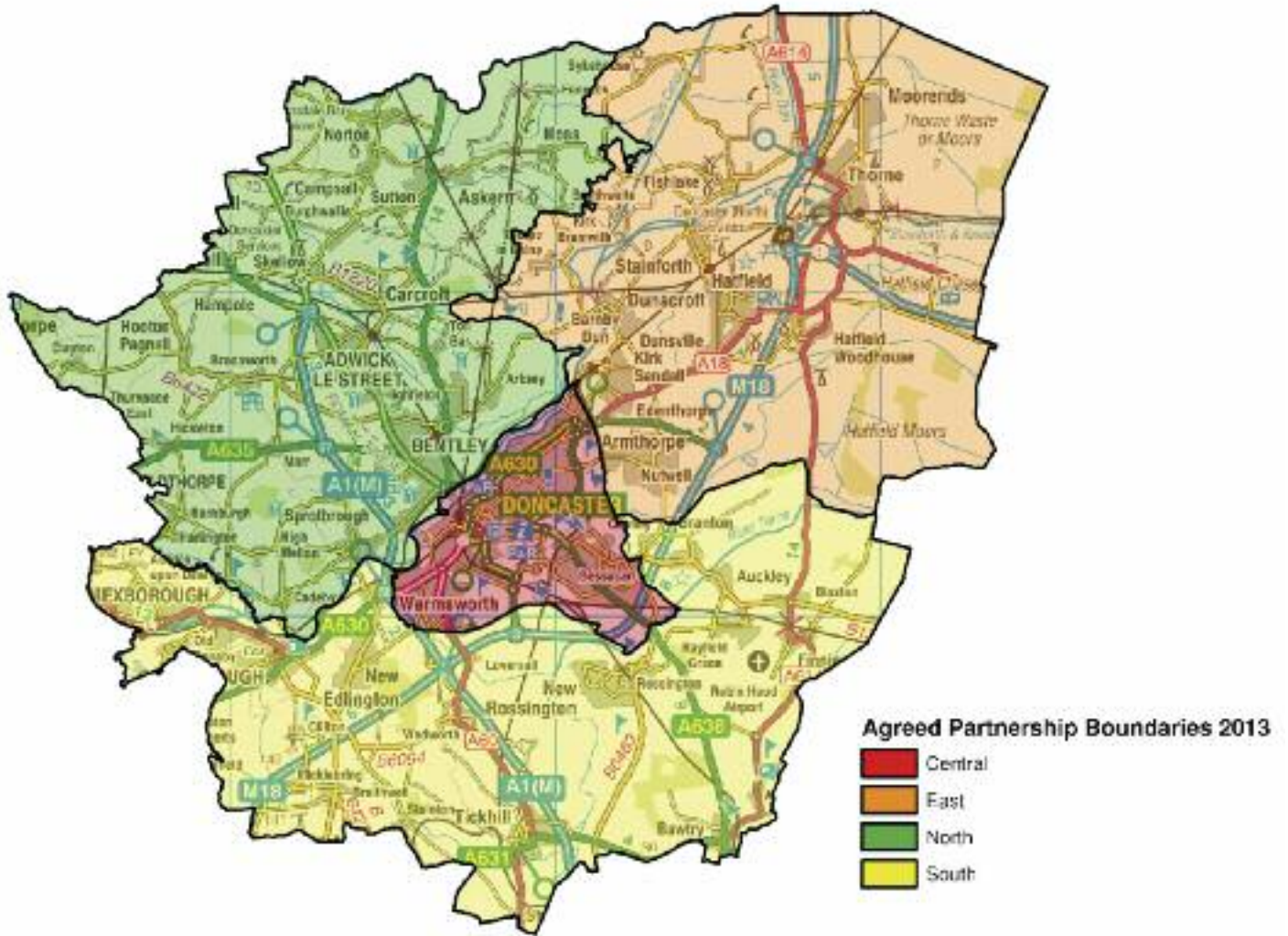
- Anti-Social Behaviour (all types)
- Families with multiple problems
- Speeding vehicles
- Drug related issues
- Protecting the most vulnerable

North Area

- Environmental Issues (littering /fly tipping)
- Highways Issues (speeding vehicles, parking issues particularly around schools)
- Anti-Social Behaviour (youth nuisance & neighbour noise nuisance)
- Protecting the most vulnerable

Agreed Partnership Boundaries 2013

This map shows you how Doncaster is divided in terms of Service delivery



Communicating with residents about our work

People receive information about crime and anti-social behaviour from many different sources, all of which contribute to how safe they feel in our communities. If they or their friends and family have had personal experience of being a victim of crime this may affect their views of crime generally. For most people, the media is the main source of information about local and national issues and perceptions are influenced by TV news reports, crime dramas, soaps, programmes such as Crimewatch and a wide range of other media sources.

We want people living and visiting to feel safe in Doncaster and this means informing them of accurate information about the work of the partnership.

It's important that residents also know who to call when they have an issue they need to report.



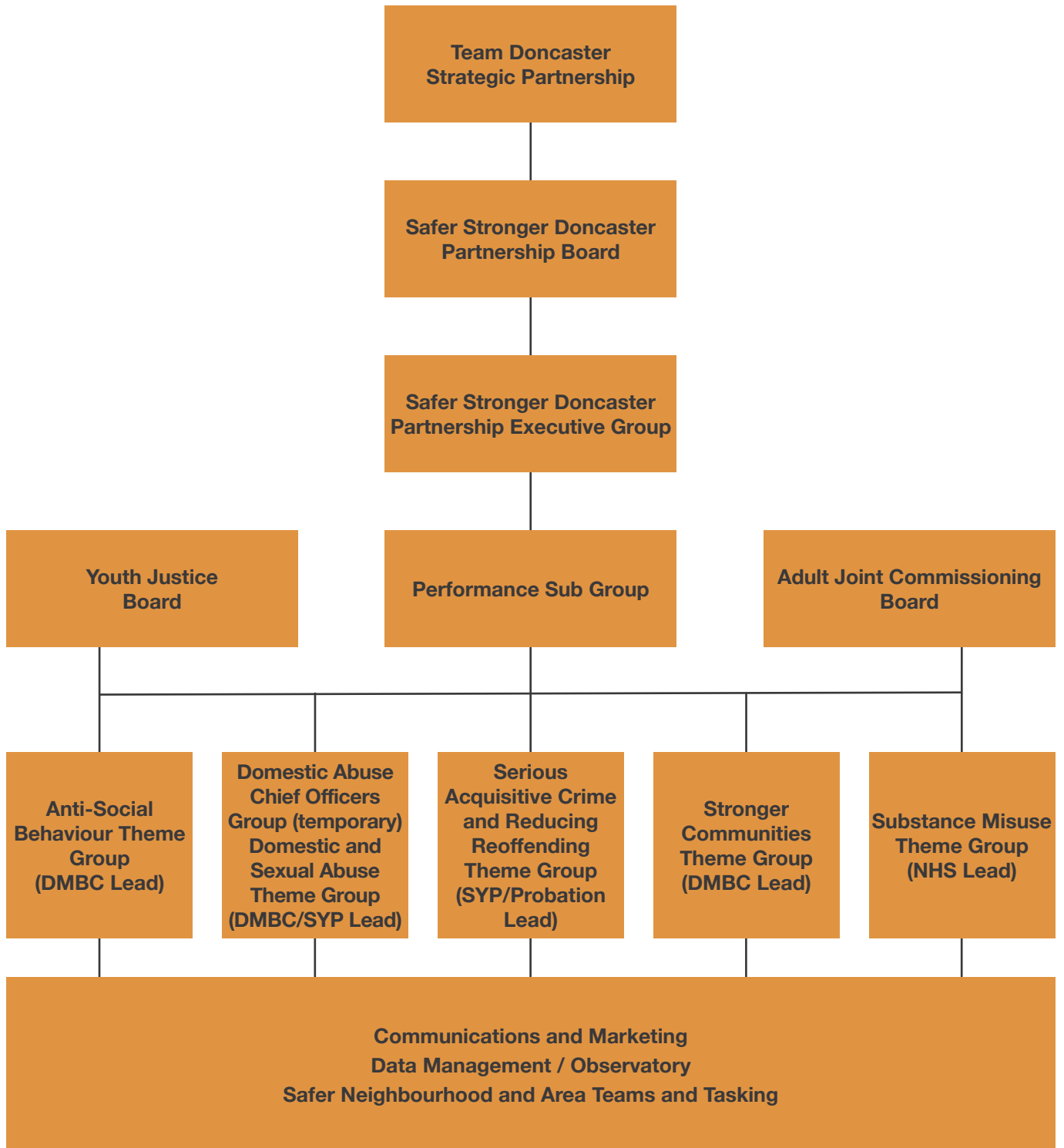
Communications departments in respective partner agencies work together to ensure key messages are effectively communicated and residents have the information they need to access services. Strong links have been formed with the media in Doncaster and South Yorkshire and by using these relationships press and marketing campaigns have proved to be effective. We also use a combination of traditional marketing techniques such as leaflet and poster campaigns and newer social media tools such as Twitter and Facebook which enable us to get our targeted messages to large numbers of people, free of charge.

Some examples of partnership marketing activity are:

- Awareness raising campaign to encourage people to report anti-social behaviour. This has included radio adverts and the design of a new logo to reinforce our zero tolerance approach.
- Developing existing domestic abuse campaign materials to help reach a wider audience.
- Press launch of the A-Optimal burglary initiative and associated advertising campaign.
- A Christmas crime prevention campaign.
- Best Bar None promotion of this nationally recognised scheme which aims to make licensed premises safer and reduce alcohol related crime and disorder.

- The launch of the regional Special Constables recruitment campaign.
- PR for the Neighbourhood Response Team including the launch of the Integrated Services Scheme when Doncaster Council became the first local authority in South Yorkshire to start using Police Powers to tackle street drinking and firework nuisance.
- Ongoing work to raise public awareness around the priority issues such as anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, crime prevention and criminal damage.
- Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletters.
- Targeted information sharing is undertaken by the Communities Area Teams through their information networks and established mechanisms such as parish and town councils, Partners and Communities Together (PACT) Meetings, Neighbourhood Watch and Tenants and Residents Associations Meetings.

By working together with operational officers, communications officers identify newsworthy items, and produce appropriate awareness raising campaigns to ensure that residents receive clear messages that in turn help them feel safer. This work is coordinated and managed by the Partnership and communications forms a key part of the work of all four Theme Groups.



Data Management in Partnership

In order to ensure an intelligence led approach it is important that we have access to and use accurate data. As a partnership we hold a huge amount of information which can help us to work more effectively, target resources where they are most needed, and ensure that we are getting value for money.

This information is appropriately analysed in order to help us to manage risk, pinpoint hot spots, identify vulnerable groups, or repeat victims and inform our problem profiling. It also helps us to evaluate the effectiveness of our interventions.



We will maximise the use of the Data Observatory, which will utilise resources from partner agencies, who work together to design and produce data products that meet the needs of partnerships in particular the annual Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment which informs the priorities for the partnership each year.

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Conclusion

At a time when all agencies are experiencing budget pressures, reductions in staffing levels, and increasing demands for services, the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership is adapting to these challenges to ensure that the significant progress that has been made over recent years is maintained.

Focused and prioritised partnership working is not a drain on our individual resources, it adds value and complements the work of individual agencies and has a greater positive impact for residents.

For more information on any of the work described here please contact:

The emergence of the Stronger Communities agenda in Doncaster, ensures that the Partnership can deliver more through developing its greatest asset – its residents.

Our development work is aimed at streamlining systems and processes, working more effectively together, reducing any duplication and achieving value for money. This will continue to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and will play our part in ensuring that Doncaster and its people thrive.

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