

Date: 6th November 2018

**To the Chair and Members of the
Cabinet**

COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018-21

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Chris McGuinness	All	Yes

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update regarding the 2018-21 Community Safety Strategy. The Strategy is a statutory plan which requires endorsement by Council but is produced and owned by the multi-agency Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) acting as Doncaster's Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The SSDP has a legal duty to work together to: tackle crime and disorder, including serious and organised crime; reduce re-offending; tackle anti-social behaviour and to tackle alcohol and substance misuse. The SSDP has a wider remit to address any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment, and to produce a plan outlining how this will be achieved.

In Doncaster this plan is known as the Community Safety Strategy which is produced every 3 years and refreshed annually. The attached document has been produced following consultation in respect of the partnership priorities and includes a summary of key achievements and outcomes we are seeking to achieve with, and for, the people of Doncaster. The plan also gives an overview of how we plan to address these priorities.

Key achievements to note over the last year include:

- **Tackling Hate Crime** – the partnership hate crime strategy was launched in 2017 and reflects a co-ordinated response to hate crimes and incidents in Doncaster. Additional reporting routes are also available to improve access to services.
- **County-wide Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme** - Doncaster has been chosen as the lead commissioner to provide a County-wide Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme, successfully securing funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the three other local authorities within South Yorkshire. Last year, the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme supported 177 clients during a 15-week programme.
- **Domestic Abuse Victim Services** - Last year our IDVAs and Domestic Abuse Caseworkers supported over 2000 clients and 480 high risk clients through the MARAC.
- **Criminal Damage** – there has been an 11% decrease in incidents from April 2017 to January 2018 compared to the same period the previous year.
- **CCTV** - plays a significant role in protecting the public and assisting the police in the investigation of crime. The CCTV system benefits from the latest technology that is available to ensure the system is robust and meets the needs of residents and visitors. Increasingly we are using CCTV in areas affected by organised crime, gaining evidence that may not otherwise be available.

- **Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Youth ASB** - Doncaster's approach is directed within three distinct strands: prevention (including education), intervention and enforcement. A targeted estate based intervention model is offered by Doncaster Children's Services Trust via Team EPIC. Doncaster continues to experience a decrease in reported ASB, with recent figures showing a 15% reduction over the last 3-month period.
- **Prisons** – a Prison Partnership Board has been created with agencies working collaboratively to tackle the issues affecting the prison estate and impacting in our communities. Early achievements include new working protocols and enforcement action to prevent mobile phones and illicit substances being smuggled into prison.
- **Community Tension Monitoring** - Doncaster has a partnership approach to its community tension monitoring and assessment process, involving a range of agencies, Departments and Elected Members. An assessment is developed and shared on a weekly basis, to include details of tensions across a wide range of categories. Doncaster's model is widely regarded as one of the most positive examples of tension monitoring due to its multi-agency contribution.
- **Asylum Seeker Support Services** – We have an established multi-agency support network to manage the welfare of asylum seekers and refugees. This group is chaired by DMBC and is attended by a range of partners to represent an asylum seekers' full journey.
- **Prevent Agenda** - The Doncaster Partnership Prevent Group meets on a quarterly basis to assess a range of factors, including the international/national/local risk assessments, emergency planning arrangements and training provision. The Channel Programme is Chaired by the Local Authority, supported by partners as determined by the requirements of the individuals concerned
- **Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation** - The Partnership supports the Children's Safeguarding Board in developing a range of initiatives to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation. We have excellent links with local businesses, hotels and the retail sector which has led to increased referrals and improved awareness.
- **Tackling Substance Misuse** – a range of initiatives are in place to tackle a range of issues, including safe havens, 'reduce the strength' campaigns, targeted interventions to address the use of NPS and Doncaster's status as an Alcohol Action Area.
- **Operations and signage to tackle motorcycle nuisance** - The Partnership has purchased three off-road motorcycles to be used by trained Police Officers to be used during Partnership Operations to tackle this issue.
- **Tackling Serious Organised Crime** - Partners work together across a range of established mechanisms and use their collective powers under housing, environmental enforcement, planning, trading standards, revenue and benefits, education and the Care Act to enable us to share information and jointly tackle organised criminality using disruption techniques and preventative based solutions.
- **Tackling Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery** - Modern slavery and human trafficking is a new agenda for the Partnership. The initial focus has been on raising awareness and training staff to recognise the signs and make appropriate referrals of cases. A successful operation has also taken place, which identified and supported potential victims.

Key challenges remain and actions to address them are detailed within the Strategy:

- There has been a year on year increase in overall crime.
- Incidents of begging and rough sleeping in the Town Centre remains an issue, but have reduced following the introduction of the complex lives multi-agency team.
- There has been a small decrease in people in treatment for substance dependency. The use of Novel Psychoactive Substances by vulnerable individuals remains a challenge across the borough, but is particularly evident in the town centre and local prisons.

- Whilst there has been an increase in the level of Hate Crime, Doncaster has the lowest rate of offences in the county.
- The main categories for Doncaster Council enforcement cases are fly tipping, litter and noise nuisance.
- The use of illegal motorcycles and quad bikes remain an issue across the borough, but the seizure of illegal motorcycle and quad bikes has increased since the introduction of planned intelligence led operations.
- The number of reported domestic crimes and incidents has increased along with the number of repeat victims.
- The wider use of social media and technology has increased opportunities for 'cyber related crimes' such as fraud, theft and sexual offending.
- Prostitution related activity has decreased but remains concentrated in some areas.

2. EXEMPT REPORT

This is not an exempt report.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Cabinet are asked to comment on and endorse the content of the Community Safety Strategy 2018-21.

4. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

Our consultation process has been far-reaching and we have seen a large number of responses from residents, elected members and Partners throughout the Borough. Alongside traditional methods of consultation, we have also used social media and on-line surveys to increase our level of engagement, with particular focus on harder to reach and new/emerging communities to ensure the strategy is as representative as possible of our residents and their needs.

The content of the Community Safety Strategy has been identified through cross referencing the data captured within the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment and through a robust and comprehensive process of community consultation.

This consultation has identified that the current priorities should remain, as they continue to meet the needs of residents and Partners, but that an additional priority of 'tackling serious and organised crime' should be added to reflect the current challenges that this particular type of criminality presents. Therefore the priorities reflected within the strategy are:

- Protecting Vulnerable People
- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Reducing Crime and Re-offending
- Tackling Serious and Organised Crime
- Reducing Substance and Alcohol Misuse

This strategy will result in closer partnership working in respect of the identified priorities and will have a positive impact on the citizens of Doncaster who will see improved outcomes in terms of feeling safer; being safer and getting the support they need with access to improved services. We will also be taking a strong enforcement approach to reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse supported by early intervention and prevention, stopping issues from escalating at an early stage and targeting resources where they are most needed.

5. BACKGROUND

Crime reduction and community safety are not the sole responsibility of any one agency, organisation or group and it is important that we draw together all agencies and communities in a joint agenda to combine our shared resources, creativity and effort within a common framework and plan. This plan is owned by all agencies within the Partnership and the Community Safety Strategy provides an outline of this work and importantly how we as a partnership set out our ambitions to address local issues, whilst recognising the needs of our communities.

The results of the community consultation are encouraging and demonstrate that in general, residents have a positive perception of the work of the Partnership. However, many residents felt we could improve our services by being more visible, with a quicker response to incidents and improved communication. These areas will remain a focus for the SSDP in the forthcoming year and we will be examining how all partners can increase visibility and our response to incidents.

6. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The following options were considered:

- To not produce a Community Safety Strategy – this would mean that the Council are not complying with legal requirements;
- To produce a new Community Safety Strategy – enables the Council and partners to meet statutory requirements as well as focus partnership priorities over the coming year on issues that matter to the community and are based on evidence of needs.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

There is a statutory requirement to produce a local plan setting out how the Council and its partners are working together to tackle crime and disorder, including serious and organised crime; reduce re-offending; tackle anti-social behaviour; tackle alcohol and substance misuse, and tackle any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment. The Community Safety Strategy meets this requirement and will inform the Local Authority's priorities and ensure the service meets the requirements for all Communities within the Borough.

8. IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

	Outcomes	Implications
1.	Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better access to good fulfilling work• Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish• Inward Investment	The priorities within the Community Safety Strategy, particularly those of reducing crime (including serious and organised crime), anti-social behaviour and re-offending will help support the economy and businesses within the Borough to flourish and attract new investment.

	Outcomes	Implications
2.	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>It is important that residents feel safe within Communities and key areas such as the Town Centre. Residents who feel part of vibrant Communities are more likely to Enjoy spending living and spending time in these areas.</p>
3.	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	None
4.	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	<p>Delivery of the Community Safety priorities contributes to the improved safeguarding of all residents.</p> <p>Many of our priorities have a direct impact on families and vulnerable individuals.</p>
5.	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>The services provided as outlined within the Strategy are reviewed to ensure they are efficient, effective and deliver value for money. This includes working in Partnership with other agencies to tackle cross cutting issues in a co-ordinated way.</p> <p>The Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership provides strong and effective leadership to the Partnership agenda through effective governance.</p>

9. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The main risk to the delivery of this strategy would be pressures upon partnership resources and the ability to remain focused on the priorities identified. This will be addressed through regular discussions with partners and strong performance management.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (Initials: KW Date: 23/07/2018)

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 sets out the legal requirements for local authorities, the police and other key partners & agencies to work together to tackle crime and disorder in their area in partnerships. Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, a duty was placed on the partnerships to join together in a formal strategic group to undertake frequent strategic assessments of levels and patterns of crime and drug misuse in their area and to produce annual rolling three year community safety plans. This strategy assists in meeting the legal requirement.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (Initials: OB Date: 20/07/2018)

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any changes that are implemented as a result of the adoption of this Community Safety Strategy should be managed within existing budgets or be subject to a separate report.

46% of the Community Safety Service budget is currently funded by external funding including grants from the Police and Crime Commissioner, Public Health grant and funding from St Leger Homes. Exit strategies need to be in place, where appropriate, to deal with any future reductions in funding. The service has been allocated £192k of efficiency savings during the period of this strategy; £20k in 2018/19 and £172k in 2019/20.

12. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (BT 30/07/2018)

There are no immediate HR implications surrounding the endorsement of this Strategy; however there could be changes to the Community Safety Structure in its delivery during this period which has potential staffing implications for the current establishment. If this was the case, then a timely Joint Consultation exercise would be undertaken with the staff and Trade Unions under the auspices of the Council's Industrial Relations Framework.

13. TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS (PW 20/07/18)

There are no direct technology implications at this stage. Any requirements for technology to support the delivery of the Doncaster Community Safety Strategy would need to be considered by the ICT Governance Board (IGB)

14. HEALTH IMPLICATIONS (Initials: HC Date: 19/07/2018)

The Community Safety Strategy should improve and protect health, and reduce health inequalities. The Strategy contains a comprehensive range of measures with which the impact of the approach can be monitored, in the areas of interdependency between crime/ASB and health harms. Health investments in domestic violence, mental health and substance misuse issues produce net savings to the health and social care economy and contribute to crime/ASB reduction.

15. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

A Due Regard Statement accompanies the Community Safety Strategy 2018-21.

16. CONSULTATION

This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement		Crime & Disorder	x
Human Resources		Human Rights & Equalities	
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	
ICT		Capital Programme	

17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Community Safety Strategy 2018-2021.

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