



Doncaster Council

Report

Date: 27.10.22

**To: the Chair and Members of the
Crime and Disorder Committee (Community and Environment Scrutiny Panel)**

Report Title: CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE REPORT

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision?
Rachael Blake	All	Yes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides a priorities and performance update in respect of the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) and an update position in respect of the Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) agendas.
2. Within each of the Theme Group updates, crime and performance data is included. In respect of overall crime, Doncaster has seen an overall increase in reported Crime during the period considered. Further details are included within each priority section of the report and data is displayed within the presentation.

EXEMPT REPORT

3. This is not an exempt report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. The Crime and Disorder Committee Members are asked to comment on and note the information contained within the report and presentation, which provides an update on the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) priorities and other requested subject matters as detailed above.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

5. The level of crime and anti-social behaviour incidents will impact upon residents' feeling of safety and their quality of life. This report provides information on these areas, with particular focus on the Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls agendas.

BACKGROUND

6. The Community and Environment Crime and Disorder committee receive regular performance updates relating to crime and disorder. It is a statutory requirement for partners to tackle crime and disorder and for the Community and Environment (Crime and Disorder) committee to hold the partnership to account. The Community Safety Strategy priorities and associated updates are provided below:

Tackling domestic and sexual abuse (including wider overview)

7. Increased reporting of Domestic Abuse in particular means that the work of this subgroup is important. The key actions for the group and the associated updates are detailed below:

Action	Update
Improving awareness of domestic and sexual abuse throughout Doncaster, particularly with young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed Red Flag Films for publication and circulation• Established Domestic and Sexual Abuse Education Sub Group• Continuing to provide DA Training to Council staff and wider partners• Developed Education Tool kit• Expanded RHSE work to improve awareness and knowledge
Managing the increase in demand. Secure funding for specialist domestic and sexual abuse services to meet the needs of victims and survivors	<p>New funding secured for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health domestic abuse workers <p>GRT Domestic Abuse Worker DLUHC money, which has also freed up council money for:</p> <p>Expansion of survivor work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serial Perpetrator Worker• OPCC awarded funding for ISVA/child sexual abuse support
Improve collaboration with survivors of domestic abuse with a commitment to learning from their experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Survivor Liaison Service has expanded• Annual Report produced• Focusing on increased work in communities and intersectionality

Action	Update
Increased amount of safe accommodation for victims of domestic abuse, including people with complex needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning underway to potentially more than double the amount of accommodation currently available and make it accessible for people with complex needs. New contract to commence May 2023 • Sanctuary scheme due to commence this Autumn • Two needs Housing Options workers specialising in DA recruited to St. Leger
Secure additional funding to support for children that have experienced domestic abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Abuse Navigators (DANs) mainstreamed • Additional DAN recruited with DLUHC funding • Funding application submitted to CADA - unsuccessful
Production of a Doncaster multi-agency domestic abuse perpetrator protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft strategy produced with mapping and gaps

Action	Update
Prevention of repeat incidents of domestic abuse through multi-agency working, information sharing, and proactive engagement with victims, providing longer term support for survivors of domestic abuse and management of perpetrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of repeat being explored to understand 'repeats' • Serial Perpetrator project due to commence
To also prevent people from becoming a victim of abuse again having ended one abusive relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom Programme being delivered • Survivor Liaison Service
Produce a new Domestic Abuse strategy and a new Sexual Abuse Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic abuse strategy launched • Sexual abuse strategy group established • Will be all age • Good links with safeguarding unit • Will include sex workers • Draft to be produced by December

8. Our domestic abuse teams are working well at tackling the highest risk offenders. The dedicated police Domestic Abuse Team take responsibility for safeguarding the victims in conjunction with partners. These teams have become proficient in identifying risk, supporting victims and prosecuting high-risk offenders.

9. **Safety for Women & Girls in Doncaster – key Domestic Abuse and Violence Reduction Theme Group activity over the last 6 months**

- Violence against women and girls survey complete and findings shared with partners.
- Community led VAWG group to re-launch VAWG survey (not including DA).
- South Yorkshire Police – No More campaign, regular NTE Operations and Knife Arch Operations.
- Safer Streets work – awarded significant funding to improve our parks and open spaces. Work carried out to date using a combination of solar lighting with CCTV has done much to reduce the fear of women and girls using parks and open spaces during the evening.
- VAWG statement in CCTV position statement.
- Community led VAWG vigil planned for November.
- VAWG Delivery Plan in draft with mapping against domestic and sexual abuse work to avoid duplication.
- Food parcels for sex workers agreed through the Amber Project.
- VAWG transport work ongoing.
- Ask for Angela re-launched.
- Town centre Taxi Marshals at high visibility waiting areas.
- Visible presence in parks being explored.
- Developing a new Sexual Abuse strategy due for publication in March 2023.
- Publicity campaigns to report Domestic and Sexual abuse and we have extended this to encourage victims to report to the DA Hub and other venues e.g. doctor's surgeries and chemists.
- Recruited additional IDVAs and DA caseworkers.
- Recently recruited a survivor liaison worker, who work with victims of DA. A highly successful service which is being expanded and noted nationally as excellent practice.
- Supported the re-establishment of the Best Bar None scheme for licensed premises – conducted Spiking, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse awareness training for venues.
- We have increased capacity for stalking advocates through victim support.
- Purchased personal attack alarms and safety packs for victims, distributed via DA services and community groups.

Reducing anti-social behaviour

10. Progress against Community Safety Strategy actions

Review multi-agency processes to support the needs of vulnerable victims and victims who are fearful to report anti-social behaviour.

SSDP partners have robust pathways for supporting vulnerable victims. Partnership data is reviewed at localities meetings to identify potential cases and these are tasked to the appropriate agency for assessment and management. Actions are reviewed at weekly threat, harm and risk (THRIVE) meetings. There is an escalation process managed by the safer neighbourhood services hub where more complex cases are managed.

11. **Effectively manage anti-social behaviour through proactive and responsive approaches, supported by improved mechanisms to report and respond to incidents.**

The Doncaster SSDP: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour Plan is designed to outline the approach to tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) throughout the borough. It ensures a proportionate and graduated response.

12. **Improve community confidence in reporting anti-social behaviour by providing reassurance that we will listen, understand and build relationships with victims and communities**

Early intervention and Prevention is one of the Community Safety Strategy Delivery Plan Actions and remains within our priorities to continue to monitor the impact this work has on the number of reports of anti-social behaviour and also vulnerable victims.

13. **Tackle the issue of illegal off-road bikes and quads through a partnership approach, utilising all available Tools and Powers. Results of deployment activity are published.**

Illegal off-road bikes and quads continues to be one of the highest reported issues together with the new issue around electric scooters. The ASB Theme Group look at various partnership approaches to tackling this.

14. **Monitor hate crimes, incidents and community tensions to provide an accurate picture of community cohesion within communities across Doncaster.**

Robust multi agency arrangements are in place for the reporting and management of hate crimes to ensure victims receive a comprehensive investigation and response to reported incidents. In respect of Community Tension monitoring, a weekly partnership assessment is compiled within a nationally agreed model to cover exception reports against any scenario that may negatively impact on community tension and cohesion.

15. **Tackle the issue of street homelessness and begging through joint locality working, recognising this is an issue affecting many areas of the borough.**

There are multiple strands to the comprehensive plan of activity to support people with complex lives, including the re-launch of the 'Real Help Scheme', which is aimed at raising funds from businesses and the public to support people in Doncaster experiencing homelessness. It is a partnership between local agencies, housing providers, charities and voluntary groups. Wider support includes work to prevent and tackle drug and alcohol misuse, mental ill-health, offending and anti-social behaviour and begging.

16. **Seek all available opportunities to gain additional funding for CCTV, for the benefit of communities. Improving our capabilities to gain evidence and reassure the public.**

We continue to exploit opportunities for funding to expand both our public realm and re-deployment camera capabilities and have successfully secured additional funding from the Safer Streets Round 4 funding initiative, which will be deployed at a number of hotspot locations across the Borough.

17. **Communicate the successful use of existing CCTV through local media and newsletters to demonstrate the benefits and value of our CCTV deployment.**

A CCTV Newsletter has been developed and is in the final stages prior to circulation.

18. Implement effective problem-solving approaches to reduce the impact of fly tipping and criminal damage within communities, particularly damage linked to anti-social behaviour e.g. graffiti.

Doncaster Council's enforcement team are continually working across the Borough to proactively identify fly tipping/littering incidents and deal with people responsible for such offences. We take a zero tolerance approach to this unwanted behaviour in the Borough and utilise all provisions of the legal framework to enforce the Environmental Protection Act 1990 section 33 on fly tipping and section 34 on duty of care offences. We have also adopted the maximum penalties for fly tipping FPN's under the legislation. The enforcement team have invested in various available hidden and overt surveillance fly tipping cameras, which are installed in strategic locations across the Borough following data lead intelligence. We have invested in the correct signage across the borough to assist as a deterrent / education of fly tipping as an approach to reduce fly tipping incidents.

19. Priority Theme Group activity over the last 6 months:

- Early Intervention and Prevention
- Rowdy and Inconsiderate Neighbours
- Off-road Bikes and Quads – Deployment of the Off-Road Bike Team
- Doncaster Town Centre including Youth ASB and Community Cohesion
- Fly Tipping – Facebook 'Caught on Camera'
- Young People/Arson – Emulate the successful 'Balby Fire Starters' initiative

Reducing crime and re-offending

20. The Reducing Crime and Reoffending Theme Group are working to the following strategic priorities:

- To further reduce the reoffending rate and average number of reoffending offences.
- Work closely with key partners to improve the public experience of reporting crime.
- To further reduce the rates of Serious Acquisitive Crime across the borough through targeted interventions in high crime areas.
- Implement the new National IOM strategy for managing the most prolific offenders in our community.
- Review the government's national crime plan and develop implementation priorities for Doncaster.
- Develop our pathways to support transition from the youth offending teams into probation services for those identified as prolific offenders.
- Effective management of first-time entrants into the criminal justice system to ensure low levels are maintained.

21. Key work and progress:

- The group has developed to include additional organisations and individuals who can improve the offer to those offenders who cause the greatest harm to communities through their offending, including forming links with the Localities.
- A key piece of work, currently in progress, involves the collation of services, resources and interventions that currently exist within Doncaster with a view to establishing a referral pathway that probation can utilise for those on the IOM cohorts, as well as identifying any key gaps.

- A significant development this period is the ability of the partnership analyst to extract and present reoffending data for each of the IOM cohorts. Although embryonic and in development, the initial findings are positive, particularly around those individuals who have been discharged from the cohorts.
- The current IOM cohorts are made up of Fixed 35, Flex 45 and Free 19 (total 99).
- Restorative Justice training was delivered by Remedi to all supervisors in Doncaster during the Leadership Days held in May 2022.
- Additional governance arrangements are in place within the police to focus on Neighbourhood Crime, supported by Problem Oriented Policing plans for the key locations identified through analysis.
- Use of conditional cautions to access diversionary services, particularly the 'female offender' condition to access the holistic provision at Changing Lives.
- Purchase of additional ANPR cameras to boost the capability and capacity within the area to prevent and detect crime
- Still work to do to engage the Youth Offending Service in the group to drive additional activity around transitional arrangements and first time entrants.

22. In the last quarter, Doncaster has seen a 12 per cent reduction in residential burglary compared to the previous quarter. More recently, August saw a 15 per cent reduction in commercial burglary volumes across the borough. Doncaster has seen a 9.5 per cent reduction in all vehicle crime types in the most recent quarter compared to the previous quarter. Specifically, in relation to theft of motor vehicle, Doncaster has seen a 25 per cent reduction in vehicle crime in the same time period.

Tackling serious and organised crime

23. There are currently 17 mapped Organised Crime Groups in Doncaster, which is a reduction from the previous 18. In the last year, we have continued to target and disrupt the groups that are seen as the biggest threat. There has been particular success against a Mexborough based OCG, where we still have 4 Active Gang Injunctions.

24. Headlines - 1 January to April 22

- 25 OCG warrants executed.
- 255 arrests so far this year (84 by Tasking/Fortify, 171 by offender management).
- Sentences in total - 69 years in prison.
- 350 wraps of Class A and 18kg cannabis seized. 10kg Ketamine, 5kg cannabis and 1kg cocaine.
- 1 shotgun recovered, 9 x 9mm rounds, as well as numerous imitation firearms, machetes and other bladed articles.
- £136,000 in cash recovered.
- Ongoing investigations and disruptions have led to 50% of OCG members being incarcerated in prison (sentenced or remanded) or have cases pending. January to April saw OCG members sentenced to a total of 69 years in custody.

25. Other Partnership work

- EPIC –Team were seeing reduced issues in the Frenchgate centre and have opened a drop in centre for parents and young people to use if they require advice or guidance about child criminal exploitation.
- Resources of EPIC will now be moving focus to other parts of the Borough, whilst still maintaining attention in the town centre.

- Bronze and Silver Partnership meetings are working effectively and we are seeing an increase in Partnership Interventions in locations of interest.

26. In the next six months the Priority of the OCG theme group will be:

- to maintain our tight grip on the most active groups, who are responsible for the greatest threat and impact in our communities
- encourage the sharing of information between partners and update Communities on our key successes.

Reducing substance and alcohol misuse

27. Progress against Community Safety Strategy actions:

Increase the number of people choosing not to misuse drugs and/or alcohol

The Nitrous Oxide communication campaign has been refreshed and re-run, and the 'Rethink your Drink' Campaign has been nominated for the Doncaster Chamber marketing Campaign of the Year.

28. **Reduce the number of children, young people and families affected by drug and/or alcohol misuse**

Plans are underway for the recruitment of an additional specialist young person's treatment worker, and an additional worker in the EPIC youth outreach team.

29. **Reduce the number of people who experience crime and disorder related to the misuse of drugs and/ or alcohol**

The capacity of the criminal justice intervention services has been significantly increased to reflect the additional funding for Doncaster from the National Drug Strategy with services targeting people whose substance misuse is associated with offending behaviour

30. **High prevalence of people using drugs and drinking alcohol at harmful and hazardous levels with significant health and crime impacts on individuals, families and communities**

There is an established alcohol early interventions team targeting higher risk drinkers in liaison with primary care, which aims to tackle drinking problems early before people become physically dependent

31. **Increased levels of alcohol consumption and referrals for alcohol treatment during the covid-19 pandemic**

Capacity is established in the treatment and recovery system to meet the increase in demand for alcohol services and levels of unmet need are decreasing

32. Priority Theme Group activity over the last 6 months:

- The publication of the 10 year National Drug Strategy 'From Harm to Hope' brought significant increased funding for treatment and recovery services.
- A detailed 1 year plan and an outline 3 year plan for increased capacity and improved quality of treatment in Doncaster has been approved by the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities.

- The plan prioritises targeted work with people in contact with the criminal justice system, and an enhanced response for people with multiple and complex needs who experience the greatest health inequalities.

Reducing violence and violent crime

33. Progress against Community Safety Strategy actions:

Support the development and implementation of a strategic Doncaster Evening and Night Time Economy (NTE) Group to achieve Purple Flag status for Doncaster.

Doncaster Evening and NTE Group is in place. This group is chaired by Dan Swaine (DMBC) with membership from South Yorkshire Police; DMBC Enforcement, DMBC Licensing, DMBC Business Regeneration and Town Centre Planning. The Best Bar None assessment will start in September. Once Best Bar None has progressed the next step will be planning for Purple Flag.

34. Work to support all organisations and professionals working with children and young people to work towards becoming trauma informed & Support the development of a dedicated Trauma Informed working group in Doncaster.

A Task and Finish Group has been established – currently working alongside the Domestic Abuse services leads to identify how this service can become more trauma aware. A South Yorkshire wide mapping exercise has been complete by South Yorkshire Futures around trauma informed schools and education settings. The report explores the level of understanding, confidence, and coverage of trauma informed practices across all schools and settings in South Yorkshire. This information will help us to identify areas of strength in this field across the region and support partners to prioritise work going forward to the areas of most need. This report will be finalised by the end of September and work will commence in October via the task and finish group. Free level one trauma awareness training continues to be delivered across Doncaster.

35. Ensure evidence based good practice from National and Regional sources are applied to Doncaster.

We are constantly horizon scanning for examples of 'what works' - recent examples include Police Officers attending Northampton to review their NTE policing operation.

36. Developing an effective multi-agency response to tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

Extensive work ongoing to develop our response to VAWG, for example a great deal of work has already taken place in the town centre and last year we upgraded CCTV cameras, which are monitored centrally. In Round 4 of the Safer streets bids we have been awarded significant funding to improve our parks and open spaces. Doncaster has been highlighted as good practice in terms of the successful use of solar lighting, which has been installed at Far Field Park Edenthorpe and Elmfield Park. Combining solar lighting with CCTV has done much to reduce the fear of women and girls using parks and open spaces during the evening.

37. Doncaster continues to expand our CCTV network and we currently monitor over 1700 cameras throughout the Borough. In the main these cameras are in public places, local parks and areas highlighted as being affected by Crime and ASB.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED






38. There are no specific options to consider, the report is for update and discussion.




REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

39. The report is for update and discussion.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

40.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change				✓
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work				✓
 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs				✓
 Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all	✓			
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. Delivery of the SSDP Community Safety priorities contributes to the improved safeguarding of all residents, helping to build happier and healthier lives.				
 Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs	✓			
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. Delivery of the SSDP Community Safety priorities contributes to the improved safeguarding of all residents, helping to build happier and healthier lives. The services provided as outlined within the Community Safety Strategy are regularly reviewed to ensure they are efficient and effective. The Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership provides strong and effective leadership to the Partnership agenda through effective governance to create safer and stronger communities.				

 Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough	✓			
It is important that families feel safe across the Borough – by continuing to address crime and anti-social behaviour, the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership helps to support and deliver places that are safe and attractive to families.				
 Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future				✓
 Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities				✓
Fair & Inclusive	✓			
<p>There is a wide range of information concerning the victims and perpetrators of crimes in Doncaster Specific groups and characteristics are more prevalent in certain crime types, examples include more women being victims of domestic abuse than men and significantly more men are accused of a crime than women.</p> <p>This information is mainly held on age, gender and ethnicity and although some of this information is sensitive in nature, the detail can be used to support decisions and the impact they may have on particular groups.</p> <p>A Due Regard Statement has been produced to support the new Community Safety Strategy 2022-25, which details further information in respect of criminality and its impact upon protected characteristics.</p>				

Legal Implications [Officer Initials: SRF | Date: 10.10.22]

41. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. Detailed advice can be provided in response to any issues raised by the Panel.

Financial Implications [Officer Initials: NC | Date: 11th October 2022]

42. There are no specific financial implications arising as a direct result of this report, any costs and funding streams associated with this strategy have been the subject of other decision records.

Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: SB | Date: 12.10.22]

43. There are no direct HR implications in relation to this report.

Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW Date: 05/10/22]

44. There are no direct technology implications in relation to this update report. Any requirements for new, enhanced or replacement technology to support the delivery of the actions and priorities outlined in the report will need to be considered by the Technology Governance Board (TGB).

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

45. Robust performance management arrangements ensure that priorities are achieved, and good quality services are delivered to the residents of Doncaster.

CONSULTATION

46. Consultation was not required for this report – this is a mid-year update for Panel members.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Presentation from Safer Communities and South Yorkshire Police.
- Glossary of acronyms and abbreviations (attached to this report).

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym	Meaning
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition
ASB	Anti Social Behaviour
CADA	Committee Against Domestic Abuse
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CMARAC	Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DA	Domestic Abuse
DANs	Domestic Abuse Navigators
DDAH	Doncaster Domestic Abuse Hub
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
DV	Domestic Violence
DVPO	Domestic Violence Protection Order
EPIC	Encouraging Potential Inspiring Change
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice
GRT	Gypsy, Roma and Traveller
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence/Abuse Advocates
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
ISVA	Independent Sexual Violent/Abuse Advocates
MSV	Most Serious Violence
NTE	Night Time Economy
OCG	Organised Crime Group
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
RHSE	Relationship, Health and Sex Education
SSDP	Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
THRIVE	Threat, Harm, Risk and Vulnerability

VAP	Violence Against the Person
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

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