



REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an overview of community safety, to enable Members to scrutinise performance over the past year, and to outline the key priorities in this area of work for 2013/2014, as is required under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations.

Information and Advice

2. Performance Headlines (2012/2013)

- 2.1 There has been a significant reduction in crime figures within the County compared to this time last year. Specifically, there have been year to date (YTD) reductions (2011/12 – 2012/13) in the following headline crime categories:

Category	% Reduction 2011/12 -2012/13	Actual Reduction in Offences
• All Crime	14%	6149
• Domestic Burglary	10.8%	244
• Vehicle Crime	4.6%	207
• Robbery	24.3%	89
• Violent Crime	4.6%	412
• Criminal Damage	23.3%	1994

- 2.2 Since 2011, in addition to a countywide approach to tackle crime, disorder and anti social behaviour, the Safer Nottinghamshire Board has adopted a geographic approach and each year identifies 15 “Partnership Plus Areas” in the County. These are the areas of the County that experience the highest levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour and where Community Safety Partnerships are required to particularly target their efforts and resources. In 2012/2013 there has been a 16.9% reduction in all crime in the 15 Partnership Plus Areas.

- 2.3 Other important reductions to note, which have a significant and positive impact on the confidence of the communities of Nottinghamshire, are:

- Anti-social behaviour incidents down by 27.5%
- Racial hate crime offences down by 14.6%
- Total hate crime overall down by 26.3%
- Youth crime performance continues to be outstanding, with a 45.5% reduction in the number of First Time Entrants (FTE) when compared to the previous year.
- The rate of re-offending down by 14.7% to 13.2%.

3.0 Performance Risks (2013/2014)

3.1 Performance risks to highlight for 2013/2014 are:

- **Violent Crime.** The highest violent crime rates are in Ashfield and Mansfield, which accounts for 40% of violent crime in the county. There are increasing trends in domestic violence offences in Bassetlaw over the last 12 months. Domestic violence offences account for approx. 40% of Violence Against the Person (VAP) offences this quarter and approx. 50% over the last 12 months.
- **Substance Misuse.** 25% of clients in drug treatment have been in treatment for over 6 years. Re-presentations of those who had successful completions continue to exceed the national average by some margin.
- **Reducing Re-offending.** An ongoing risk to SNB performance is the violent offenders who are aged 18-21 years old. County performance is in line with national averages but shows a declining picture over the last 4 cohorts. Quarter 3 has seen an increase in reconviction rates, with 8 out of the 15 SNB priority areas not meeting their target. This compares to the previous quarter, where only 1 SNB priority areas did not meet their target. However, this performance has not had an overall impact on reconviction rates for the districts linked to these wards, which are all performing within target.

4.0 County Strategic Assessment for 2013/14

- 4.1 The 2013/14 Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment informs the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) strategic planning and commissioning process, through the identification of key priorities which will have a significant impact on crime, disorder and substance misuse.
- 4.2 This Strategic Assessment continues to utilise geographic prioritisation, the 15 Partnership Plus Areas, which have been refreshed using the latest data for 2013/2014. The approach will enable the causes of crime as well as symptoms to be addressed in each geographical area. Given current financial and resource concerns, this offers an efficient means of tackling crime; ensuring resources are targeted where they will have the largest impact on crime reductions and on communities.
- 4.3 At the SNB meeting on 15th February 2013, it was agreed that the following county wide thematic priorities and refreshed geographic Partnership Plus Areas will be the focus of work for 2013/14.

County Wide Priority Themes for 2013/2014

- Domestic Violence
- Violent Crime
- Reducing Re-offending
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Substance misuse
- Youth Issues
- Hate crime

In addition, SNB will be concentrating work in the area of Business Crime, an emerging area of concern, and will be formalising its links to the County Road Safety Partnership in order to maximise actions to tackle and reduce serious and fatal road traffic accidents/casualties.

Geographic Partnership Plus Areas for 2013/2014

- Worksop South East
Bassetlaw
- Portland
Mansfield
- Worksop North West
Bassetlaw
- Sutton-in-Ashfield East
Ashfield
- Carr Bank
Mansfield
- Castle
Newark & Sherwood
- Kirkby-in-Ashfield East
Ashfield
- Hucknall East
Ashfield
- Sutton-in-Ashfield Central
Ashfield
- Netherfield & Colwick
Gedling
- Woodlands
Mansfield
- Hucknall Central
Ashfield
- Magnus
Newark & Sherwood
- Eastwood South
Broxtowe
- Worksop South
Bassetlaw

5.0 Safer Nottinghamshire Board – Champions

5.1 The Safer Nottinghamshire Board has designated a senior officer, (from within partner agencies), to act as “Champion” for each of the countywide priority themes. Each Champion will act as the ambassador for their thematic area, developing relationships with partners to enable an effective alignment of activity to hot spot areas within the County. Working closely with the County Council Community Safety Team, Champions will promote an understanding of the key issues concerning their themed area, ensuring the use of good practice, a consistency of approach and the most effective use of resources to maximise results.

6.0 Targets for 2013/2014

6.1 Targets for reductions in crime and disorder and anti social behaviour have been agreed for 2013/2014. Wherever possible, these have been aligned with those of Nottinghamshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner. The targets reductions (from that of 2012/2013) are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| • All Crime | 10% |
| • All Crime in Partnership Plus Areas | 18% |
| • Violent Crime | 4% |
| • Business Crime | 5% |

- Anti Social Behaviour

8%

In addition, targets are currently under negotiation to achieve reductions in domestic violence, reducing re-offending, hate crime, substance misuse, youth offending and casualties resulting from road traffic collisions.

7.0 Perception and Residents' Satisfaction

- 7.1 An important indicator to the success of efforts to improve community safety and reduce crime, disorder and anti social behaviour, are the views of the residents of Nottinghamshire. This demonstrates how safe people feel, a key indicator to their ability to feel able to be part of the development of their local communities. The Nottinghamshire annual residents' satisfaction survey was undertaken in late 2012 and included several key questions relating to crime and anti-social behaviour and public perceptions of both.
- 7.2 It was planned to undertake 150 face-to-face interviews in each of the seven districts, making a total county sample size of 1,050. However, slightly more interviews were conducted and a sample size of 1,063 was achieved.
- 7.3 The initial findings indicate that the significant level of recorded reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour of the last few years are now being reflected in the public's perceptions. The table below compares some key results of the 2012 survey with the 2008 Place Survey.

	2012	2008
Feeling safe outside in local area after dark	74%	49%
Feeling safe when outside in local area during the day	95%	88%
Perceptions of ASB		
Rubbish /litter lying around	19%	34%
Groups (teenagers) hanging around the streets	16%	46%
People being drunk/rowdy in public places	14%	29%
People using or dealing drugs	14%	35%
Vandalism, graffiti, deliberate damage to property or vehicles	11%	35%

8. Key Challenges

8.1 There are some key challenges to maintain and improve the momentum of increasing community safety for 2013/14 onwards. These challenges will be addressed through the work of the County Council and the Safer Nottinghamshire Board in the year to come.

- Maintaining and improving the reductions in crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour will be challenging in light of continuing financial constraints and associated staffing pressures across all partnership agencies.
- The new arrangements involving the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) are continuing to develop. Building effective relationships with the PCC, especially through the programmes the PCC office will be funding directly, will be important to ensure continued positive performance development.
- Ensuring the adoption of good practice across the county, to ensure consistency of service and the most effective use of resources.
- Strengthening the relationships between key agencies that impact on the community safety agenda

Other Options Considered

9. The report is a requirement under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. To provide Members with the opportunity to scrutinise the performance and strategic arrangements, as per the Regulations.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- i) Members consider whether current community safety performance in Nottinghamshire is satisfactory
- ii) Members consider whether current strategic partnership arrangements in Nottinghamshire are satisfactory

**Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle,
Chairman of the Community Safety Committee**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Chris Walker, Temporary Group Manager, Safer and Engaged Communities, x 72460 or Tony Shardlow, Community Safety Officer, Safer and Engaged Communities x 73846.

Background Papers

12. Strategic Assessment 2013/14

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

13. All.