

MAKING DARLINGTON SAFER

Safer People, Safer Places

Darlington Community Safety Partnership

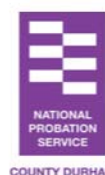


Community Safety Partnership Plan

2012-15

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Foreword

As Chair of the Darlington Community Safety Partnership (CSP), it gives me great pleasure to introduce you to the Partnership's Community Safety Plan 2012-15.

Current figures show that Darlington is a safe place to live with falling rates of crime and anti-social behaviour. As a Partnership however, we know that we still have work to do to build upon our success and to focus upon some new priorities. This Community Safety Plan sets out our aims and objectives for the coming year showing what we want to achieve and how we plan to achieve it to ensure that Darlington becomes even safer and people feel safer.

The plan also shows some of the many achievements made in the past year and highlights the wide range of activities and partners who come together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the town. Darlington has an excellent track record in respect of partnership working and this is reflected in the current crime figures.

This Plan supports Darlington's Sustainable Community Strategy, 'One Darlington: Perfectly Placed', which sets out the longer term vision and priorities for the Borough. Community Safety impacts on many other plans and service areas and every effort is made to ensure that this activity is joined up. The Partnership is represented on a number of Boards including the Youth Offending Service Board, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team Board and the Children's Trust Board.

Darlington has a great history of working in partnership and has achieved many successful outcomes by working collaboratively. Crime and disorder is no exception, as this document shows. I am confident that by continuing to work in partnership with agencies we will deliver the aims and objectives set out in the Plan.

I hope you will find the Plan interesting and informative.

If you would like further information about this Plan please Contact the Safer Communities Unit at Darlington Borough Council or log onto the see website:
<http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm>

**Councillor Bill Dixon, M.B.E.
Leader of Darlington Borough Council and
Chair of the Community Safety Partnership
Executive Board**



Executive summary

The Community Safety Plan 2012-15 aims to inform residents and agencies of the key aims and objectives set by the Darlington Community Safety Partnership.

The next 18 months will see major changes that will impact upon how the CSP operates. However, the Partnership is a strong one and is well placed to deal with the implementation of changes as they occur.

The CSP sets its priorities annually. The five priorities for 2012-15 are:

1. Reducing the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol.
2. Tackling anti-social behaviour.
3. Reducing offending and re-offending.
4. Working with families with multiple problems.
5. Supporting vulnerable people (the focus here is upon addressing domestic abuse, sexual violence and hate crime).

Our work Locations shows that some places have disproportionately higher levels of ASB, domestic abuse, serious crime, vulnerability, substance misuse and disadvantage. These locations will be given a renewed focus by the CSP to ensure that resources are being properly targeted.

Resources are limited but effective mechanisms are in place to target those resources and to ensure that the available funding is spent on sustainable projects that deliver the Partnership's priorities.

Over the last four years, crime levels in Darlington have been falling. Over the last 12 months, the Partnership has had many successes as a result of working together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

On a daily basis partners will continue to support victims of crime and ensure that effective enforcement and rehabilitation methods are used where they are needed.

Ensuring that public confidence is maintained through awareness of the Partnership's work is essential and the Partnership will ensure that effective communication channels are in place to keep residents informed.

The Partnership is keen for residents to be involved either by sharing views or ideas or by more active participation, i.e. joining Neighbourhood Watch or becoming a volunteer. Details of how to contact relevant members of the Partnership are set out at the end of this strategy.

Equalities

This plan will be progressed through a wide range of programmes, action plans and other activities implemented by the various partner agencies involved in the Community Safety Partnership. The plan provides the co-ordinating framework directing this wide-ranging activity towards shared outcomes and targets. It is essential that the strategy is implemented in ways that any outcomes are fair and help advance equality. The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council and other public agencies to 'have due regard' in their decisions, services and programmes to eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation; to advancing equality of opportunity; and to fostering good relations between people of different backgrounds. The duty applies specifically to age; disability; religion/faith; race; sex; sexual orientation; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; and marriage and civil partnership.

The Council carries out Equalities Impact Assessments to identify the potential impact of strategies and proposals on these groups, and to fulfil its equality duty. Where appropriate, it will carry out impact assessment on the programmes and actions in this strategy, and it will encourage partners to carry out equalities impact assessments on their own proposals. All partners are subject to either the public sector equality duty or similar duties under the Act.

DRAFT

What is the Darlington Community Safety Partnership?

Darlington has a long tradition of partnership working, both in the community safety arena and in the wider community through the work of the Darlington Local Strategic Partnership.

In Darlington the CSP brings together a range of partners from the public, private and third sectors who are all engaged in activities which contribute towards making Darlington a safe place in which to live and work.

Community Safety Partnerships have at their core six responsible authorities which have a legal duty to work together to tackle crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, environmental crime and issues around re-offending. The Responsible Authorities are responsible for ensuring that the CSP has a Community Safety Plan in place setting out priorities and key areas of action.

The six responsible authorities are:

Darlington Borough Council

Durham Constabulary

Durham Police Authority

NHS County Durham and Darlington

Durham and Tees Valley Probation Trust

Durham and Darlington Fire Service

How does the Darlington Community Safety Partnership work?

What are the top five priorities?

Following the production of an annual assessment and subsequent consultation, the following five priorities were determined by the Community Safety Partnership:

1. Reducing the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol.
2. Tackling anti-social behaviour.
3. Reducing offending and re-offending.
4. Working with families with multiple problems.
5. Supporting vulnerable people (the focus here is initially upon addressing domestic abuse and sexual violence).

The priorities will be driven via series of working groups representing the Partnership's five key priorities for 2012-15. Each of the groups has an individual delivery plan setting out their key actions and objectives for the current year. These groups currently report into the CSP Executive Board. However this reporting arrangement will change during 2012 to reflect the changes in how the Darlington Partnership organises itself as well as reflecting the reduction in capacity among public sector organisations.

Priorities will be reviewed on an annual basis and may change to reflect the current needs in the Borough.

In taking the priorities forward the CSP has to be mindful of the significant reduction in resources in the public sector. This has meant working even more closely in focusing resources to those areas of greatest need. Available funding looks set to reduce in the coming years and so the plans put in place this year have had to take account of issues around sustainability.

A changing context

The Plan is being written in the middle of a changing policy landscape. For example: proposed changes to the Primary Care Trusts have implications for the commissioning of drug and alcohol services and the proposed introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners, from November 2012, has significant implications for the way that community safety will be led in the future.

Current Crime Levels

Over the past 12 months, the CSP has achieved a great deal of success as a result of working together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. As the performance table below shows, many crimes show significant reductions including burglary dwelling, theft of a motor vehicle, drug offences and sexual offences.

There are some significant increases in offences such as shoplifting, robbery, theft from a motor vehicle and burglary other. The major increase is the much publicised increase in metal theft, which has increased by 69% during the 12 months between January 2011 and January 2012.

The areas in red are priority areas for Darlington and action is already being taken to halt the increasing trends. Success has already been seen, for example in the case of metal theft, which peaked in May 2011 and which is reflected in the current percentage increase. However, a great deal of work has been done to address this issue including shared work between, Durham, Cleveland and Northumbria Police Forces and figures for January 2012 show a marked decrease in the number of metal thefts occurring in Darlington.

The table below shows crime figures for the period January 2011 to January 2012

Crime	% Change	Status
Total Crime	+6%	Red
Serious Acquisitive Crime:	-4%	Green
Burglary Dwelling	-30%	Green
Robbery	+24%	Red
Theft of Motor Vehicle	-12%	Green
Theft from Motor Vehicle	+23%	Red
Burglary Other	+20%	Red
Criminal Damage and Arson	-3%	Green
Drug Offences	-11%	Green
Sexual Offences	-12%	Green
Shoplifting	+13%	Red
Metal Theft	+69%	Red
Violence Against the Person	-6%	Green

While the above information gives an overall picture of progress in relation to crime in the Borough, the information below illustrates the wide range of the Partnership's achievements.

Partnership Achievements

- ✓ Crime in Darlington has been steadily decreasing over the last four years.
- ✓ Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents in the Borough have reduced by 4%.
- ✓ Low custody levels for young people (only 3.9% of all court sentences) have been maintained.
- ✓ The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system has been reduced.
- ✓ A Restorative Justice programme to work with young perpetrators of ASB has been developed.
- ✓ A Restorative Justice training programme for Probation Trust and Police staff has run successfully.
- ✓ The implementation of a volunteer mentoring scheme to work with prolific and priority offenders has begun.
- ✓ Operation Nevis - a pilot scheme for drug testing in custody brought 12 new offenders into treatment.
- ✓ Blue Delta, a multi-agency IT solution for integrated offender management, which enables greater co-ordination of information and service provision, was introduced.
- ✓ A successful Best Bar None Scheme was run in the town – This was aimed at promoting responsible management and operation of alcohol licensed premises.
- ✓ Evidence of reducing substance and alcohol use in young people has been collected via the Social Norms Survey.
- ✓ An integrated drug and alcohol service has been commissioned.
- ✓ Development of a new treatment centre on North Road and the implementation of the associated, co-located adult drug services has been successful.
- ✓ Volunteering opportunities have been promoted, such as Citizens in Action and Millennium Volunteers.
- ✓ The Neighbourhood Watch scheme was re-launched and now has approximately 1,400 members.
- ✓ Friday and Saturday evening sessions were delivered within the town centre for young people aged 11 to 19 as part of the Youth Community Action Plan scheme to tackle the growing concerns from Partners about the high number of young people congregating in the town.
- ✓ A successful Summer Nights Campaign was run, providing a range of activities for young people during the summer. (See picture below)

- ✓A multi-agency working group aimed at addressing issues in areas identified as hotspots for youth ASB has been established.
- ✓A domestic abuse strategy has been devised and written, along with a commissioning plan.
- ✓DeterInnovations are running a domestic abuse perpetrator programme in Darlington.
- ✓A Sexual Violence Strategy for County Durham and Darlington has been written and is being implemented.
- ✓The number of secondary fires has been reduced.
- ✓There is a strategy aimed at the prevention of fire deaths.
- ✓A successful bonfire campaign was run in autumn 2011, including talks to school children, media coverage, and visits to premises by Trading Standards Officers



Pictured above the successful summer nights campaign event for young people

Community Safety Partnership Priorities

As stated on page 5, the CSP highlighted five priority areas to focus upon during 2012-5. Single Needs Assessment and the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment carried out in the autumn of 2011 show the need to retain the current priorities into the new year 2012/13.

1. Reducing the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol

In England and Wales, since 1996, the use of illicit drugs among adults aged 16–59 has generally decreased, except for cocaine and magic mushrooms. Local Darlington treatment data shows that under 25s are more likely to report cannabis, alcohol or cocaine use while over 25s are more likely to report opiates or amphetamine use. This could be a sign of emerging trends as opiates data shows that for those in treatment now, opiate use often started under age 25. Alternatively, it could be a sign that opiate users under age 25 are less likely to enter treatment.

Recent trends in drug use nationally have shown increase in the use of so called legal highs; particularly mephedrone before it was made illegal. It is suggested that recreational drug users are choosing these drugs as an alternative to cocaine and ecstasy due to decreasing levels of purity of these drugs and because they have been easy to buy through the internet.

These national trends have been mirrored in Darlington with increasing concern around the use of so called legal highs. However, police intelligence tells us that there is a large amount of cocaine coming into Darlington for use by Darlington residents and this is not reflected in our treatment system. There is a need for early warning systems among the service user community, treatment services and criminal justice agencies to identify these new trends and respond appropriately. There have also been recent indications of mephedrone contaminated with heroin, suggesting dealers in Class A substances are also dealing in so called legal highs. Use of these drugs is a particular concern because it is unclear what the effects of long term use may be.

Substance Misuse and Crime

The majority of offenders who commit acquisitive crime do so in order to fund lifestyle habits, in particular a heroin dependency. Prolific offenders tend to commit a range of crimes. Prolific offenders have the biggest impact on shoplifting across the Durham Force area. Prolific shoplifters may include those with PPO status and who tend to shoplift to fund a drug and/or alcohol misuse problem and will regularly commit low value shop thefts such as alcohol and food. Analysis of offender data has confirmed that this group commit the most number of offences and the decision to successfully target this group will produce a significant decrease. Of 65 burglary – dwellings in the database from October 2008 to September 2009, 46% were known to be dependent drug users (60% of these in treatment) and 23% were known to be dependent alcohol users. Sixty two percent of those in the Probation Service data for burglary dwelling from October 2008–March 2009 had drug misuse issues. Problem Profiles of specific areas have shown that a number of repeat offenders commit

acquisitive crimes in the areas and that the majority of these have drug / alcohol problems.

A profile of all arrests in May 2010 showed that out of 464 arrests, in 147 (32%) of cases, the offenders was drunk or under the influence. The majority of alcohol / drug related arrests were on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Over the weekend the peak times for arrests were between 8pm and 2am. This suggests that even premises without late licences could be contributing to disorder; and that alcohol from supermarkets could also contribute to disorder; if people are already under the influence when arrested at 8pm.

Alcohol is a factor in domestic abuse; offenders are thought to be under the influence of alcohol in nearly half the incidents of domestic abuse. Research has been conducted into substance misuse and domestic abuse by interviewing women from the County Durham area. Findings clearly highlight the link between domestic abuse and substance misuse, by both victim and perpetrator.

Darlington Drugs and Alcohol Action Team

The work around the priority theme of drugs and alcohol is driven through the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) partnership structure. Whilst the majority of their work around substance misuse treatment and alcohol impacts on the broad community agenda, the outcomes and actions in this plan reflect those most relevant to the CSP. A complete description of the DAAT Partnership Plans to address substance misuse can be found within the Adult and Young People's Substance Misuse Plans and Alcohol Harm Reduction Implementation Plan. Further information on treatment plans can be found on the NTA website at www.nta.nhs and the alcohol strategy and action plan can be obtained from the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team on (01325) 346837



What do we want to Achieve?

Young People's Substance Misuse (including alcohol)

Locally, partners have agreed to adopt a three-year approach to addressing young people's substance misuse. The plan is structured around three complementary aims:

- to **prevent** young people's substance misuse.
- to **divert** young people at imminent risk.
- to **treat** those requiring specialist help.

In addition to improving outcomes for individual children and families, this work will reduce the number of young people whose substance misuse becomes problematic for society.

Adult substance misuse

The revised national Drug Strategy launched in 2010, shifts the emphasis on treatment services from retaining people in treatment towards recovery-based systems and drug-free outcomes. For the first time, this includes alcohol-dependent drinkers. Locally, partners have welcomed this focus on improved outcomes for both service users and our community and agreed to review existing provision and redesign and integrate all adult treatment services. This will include the delivery of effective interventions for offenders and those whose substance misuse causes problems for the wider community. A commissioning process has recently taken place to put in place an integrated drug and alcohol service.

In addition, there will be a continued focus on work to embed Integrated Offender Management and to reduce the supply of drugs.

Adult alcohol misuse

Treatment of adults who misuse alcohol will progress as part of the above integrated service. There is a strong focus on improving planned exits for those in treatment. The wider alcohol agenda will complement work around domestic abuse and the night-time economy. There will also be further developments to improve effective interventions and access to services for those whose alcohol misuse leads to criminal activity.

How will we achieve it?

Key actions:

All treatment services:

- Increase/maintain numbers in effective treatment; improve planned exits and improve outcomes – as set out in the treatment plans.

Young people's substance misuse:

- Enhance delivery of, and increase referrals to, Targeted Youth Support. This is a multi-agency project which aims to identify young people at risk of becoming involved with substance misuse.
- Support delivery of Tier 2 interventions for Youth Offending Service clients, i.e. those who are identified as needing a low level of intervention to deal with substance misuse.
- Sustain reduction in street drinking.
- Improve links between arrest referral and referrals to young people's treatment services, i.e. identifying those young people who present as having a substance misuse issue when arrested and assisting them to access treatment.

Adult substance misuse:

- Develop the county-wide 'reducing supply' of drugs initiative alongside local work with police and Offender Managers across the county to contribute to reducing the supply of drugs in Darlington.

- Aim to sustain financial support for the Drug Intervention Programme. The programme works with people in the Criminal Justice System who have a substance misuse issue.
- Implement the newly commissioned services to provide support and treatment for people with a substance misuse issue and their families and carers.

Adult alcohol misuse:

- Implement Best Bar None Scheme 2012.
- Secure Alcohol Arrest Referral beyond 2011-12.
- Implement newly commissioned treatment services.
- Work with Paramedic Project Steering Group to determine project viability.

Case Study

CLIENT

“I cannot begin to express how grateful I am to the Community Alcohol Service (CAS). I first met CAS after being referred by the alcohol team at Darlington Memorial Hospital following one of many admissions to the A+E department with alcohol related accidents and illnesses. My family have been put through sheer hell due to my drinking and had reached the point of despair. Alcohol is cunning, powerful and baffling, it destroys lives, families, societies and everything that we hold dear. When I was initially introduced to Tony, my alcohol nurse I was dubious about any help he could offer, but from that initial meeting things finally started to get better. CAS has given me and my family so much support and help. CAS has worked closely with my doctor and together they have put me on the road to recovery. The staff at CAS have always been extremely polite and have never been judgemental. Tony gave me the opportunity to go to a rehabilitation unit to help me recover. He completed all the reports and supported me during this period. In the time that I have been in rehab, Tony has contacted me regularly to make sure everything is ok and that I am doing ok. It is thanks to CAS that I am now on the road to recovery and have the prospect of a good future; this in turn has meant that my family no longer have to suffer. My family were distraught and constantly waiting to be told that I had either been in an accident, arrested again or had died through my alcoholism. I would strongly urge anyone with alcohol problems to approach CAS for help.”



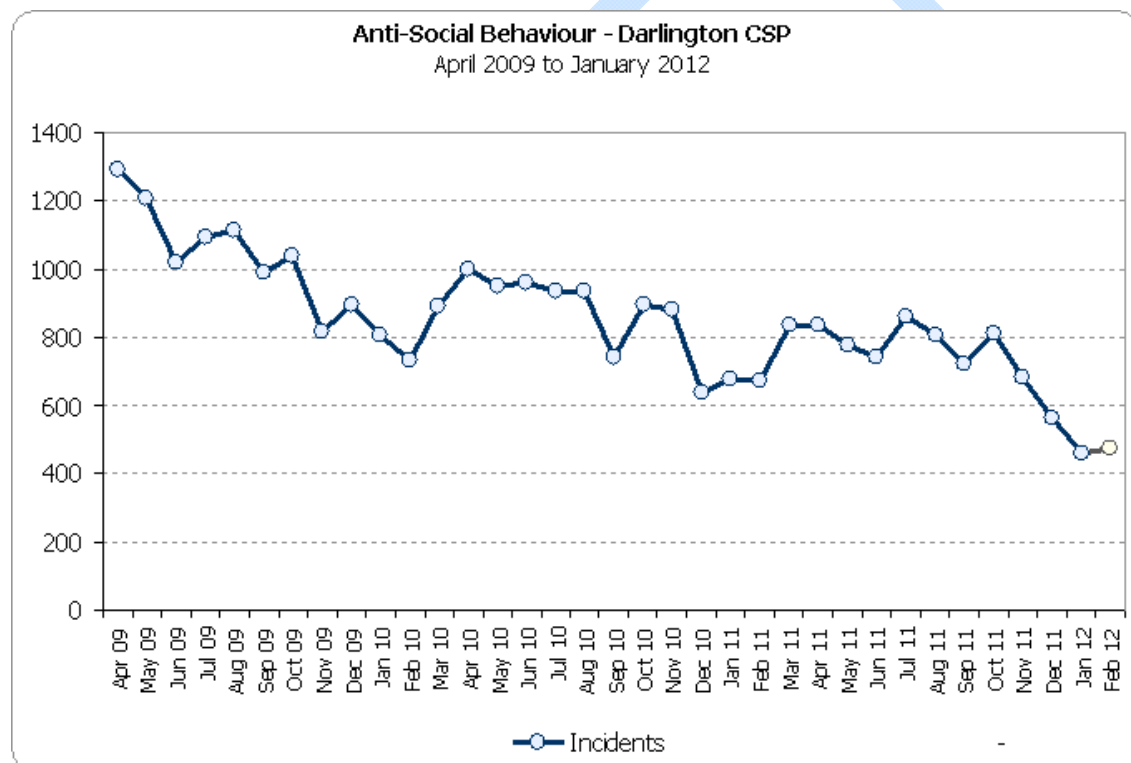
The Tapas Bar winner of Best Bar None two years running.

2. Tackling anti-social behaviour

Dealing with anti-social behaviour (ASB) is a complex issue. ASB doesn't just make life unpleasant, it holds back the regeneration of disadvantaged areas and creates an environment where more serious crime can take hold. It includes noise, graffiti, environmental damage, harassment, verbal abuse and alcohol-related nuisance.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that the Community Safety Partnership has to have a strategy for reducing crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, negative behaviour affecting the environment and re-offending.

Anti-social behaviour has shown a general downward trend since April 2009. The graph below shows that ASB has declined from a high of almost 1,300 incidents in April 2009 to just over 400 in January 2012. Current figures show that there were 8,610 ASB incidents between April and January 2011. For the same period up to January 2012, this figure has reduced to 7,262.



Darlington CSP will need to continue to focus on ASB to maintain this success and has developed a strategy and action plan setting out the priority actions for the coming year. The full range of actions can be found at the website: <http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm>

Perceptions

The number of ASB-related incidents reported to the police is falling across Darlington, and the perceived levels of ASB currently reflect this, with local confidence surveys revealing that the number of people who believe that ASB is a problem in their area has decreased from 17.8% to 7.6%.

Survey results with regard to ASB show Darlington has better perceptions in all aspects of ASB compared with force level scores. The three areas of ASB where this better performance is lowest are:

- Burglary, including sheds, greenhouses, farm buildings etc. – problem for 32.1% (1.6% less than force average).
- Nuisance/problem neighbours – problem for 11.8% (4.5% less than force average).
- People moving in and out of the area – problem for 10.6% (8% less than force average).

Durham Constabulary conducts quarterly surveys which include questions on perceptions of ASB, though the sample population is small. Data from June 2010 indicated that the percentage of people who perceived a high level of ASB in their area was 4.2% (± 4.0), suggesting the CSP is performing well.).

Although the above would indicate the public's perception of ASB is low, other figures show that over 40% of the public do not feel that the police and local authority are dealing with ASB and crime issues effectively. This is clearly an area where improvements need to be made. Satisfaction among ASB victims tends to be low and measures are being taken to address this.

Resolving ASB Incidents

The Government is reviewing the way that ASB is being addressed nationally and has outlined its vision in the recent green paper 'More Effective Responses to Anti-social Behaviour'.

The Home Secretary has announced reforms which focus on the way we deal with ASB and the legislation around it. These are:

- Reviewing ASB powers and tools.
- Re-defining ASB.
- Including the community in solving local issues.
- Encouraging young people to take responsibility for their communities.
- Reforming the licensing act to help tackle alcohol-related problems.

The CSP will ensure that it takes account of the above in carrying out its work in the coming months.

What do we want to achieve?

In tackling ASB, the CSP aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Effectively share information in order to identify problems, appropriate interventions and sanctions to reduce and tackle ASB.
- Reduce the public's perception that they are victims of ASB.
- Improve public confidence that the Partnership agencies are effectively tackling ASB.

How will we achieve it?

In order to achieve our objectives, partners will respond to nuisance and harassment quickly and effectively and will make every effort to resolve such situations at the earliest opportunity. If we receive a report that nuisance/harassment has taken place we will:

- Make sure that all complaints are taken seriously.
- Encourage those who are experiencing nuisance/harassment to play a full part in actions taken to deal with it. Their views will be taken into account in reaching decisions on courses of action and they will be kept informed of progress and also supported during any legal proceedings that may take place.
- Take firm and prompt actions against perpetrators, wherever appropriate, and work with partner agencies to support victims in their homes.
- With the victim's consent, work with other agencies wherever appropriate, to achieve a speedy resolution.
- Ensure a consistent approach to assessing and resolving ASB incidents.

Targets for 2012-13

Targets for 2012-13 have been agreed by the ASB Strategic Group and are set out below. The desired outcomes will be measured by the following Local Performance Indicators and will be monitored either against identified targets or via the direction of travel. These will be reviewed at the end of this period and new targets set to reflect the current trends.

Indicator	Baseline data	2012/13 Target
Reduce the number of ASB incidents	7262	Monitor direction of travel*
Dealing with local concerns about ASB and crime issues by the local Council and Police (Police confidence survey)	22.7	Monitor direction of travel*
Arson and deliberate and not known secondary fires	414	370
Reduce the number of criminal damage offences	1,579	Monitor direction of travel*
No of ASB incidents	10,117	9,612

***Due to changes in the way that ASB is now measured it is not possible to set targets from the earlier data, we will however monitor the new performance data to ensure that ASB incidents continue to reduce and take action if the data shows an increase.**

Case Study

The case study below highlights shows the impact of partnership working to tackle ASB

B was a 16/17 year old youth who was at the centre of serious anti-social behaviour (ASB) at his home address. The ASB incidents included:

- ***Loud, violent and drunken behaviour at parties that often spilled into the street.***
- ***Fighting in the street.***
- ***Abusive, insulting and intimidating language and behaviour directed towards residents.***
- ***Urinating in the street.***
- ***Allegations of drug taking at the property.***
- ***Parenting and child care concerns.***
- ***Reckless driving of vehicles in the street.***
- ***Household items used as weapons against members of the public.***

Joint Action taken

- ***Details passed from Police to ASB Team of nuisance behaviour.***
- ***Liaison with YOS regarding B and family.***
- ***Children's Services. Liaison with Children's Services. Parenting, YOS, Police and ASB Team attend Children's Services meetings.***
- ***Liaison with the Parenting Team.***
- ***Police pass on Police logs regarding nuisance/ criminal behaviour.***
- ***Family Intervention referral completed and meetings attended by ASB Team, Parenting and Children's Services.***
- ***Police assist ASB Team in letter drops and obtaining information.***
- ***Acceptable Behaviour Agreement arranged with the Police.***
- ***Police and YOS provide information of offences.***
- ***Residents meeting arranged with Police, ASB Team and YOS for reassurance, support and information.***
- ***ASB Team and Police serve court papers.***
- ***ASB Team and Police attend court for interim and final ASBO hearings.***
- ***ASB Team and Police Carry out ASBO leaflet drop after ASBO obtained.***

3. Reducing offending and re-offending

The integrated Offender Management Unit (OMU) in Darlington attempts to resettle and rehabilitate offenders on statutory supervision, who present the highest risk to their communities (Prolific Priority Offenders).

Its strength is in taking a multi-agency approach to managing offenders. The OMU ensures that offenders are assisted in their rehabilitation through positive support, but also ensures that deterrent sanctions and enforcement measures are quickly put in place for those who do not comply. Staff in the OMU are also using more innovative methods to persuade more offenders into drug treatment.

The challenge is to build upon the success to date and ensure that we keep re-offending levels low and look at how we support individuals to ensure that they are fully re-integrated into society, for example helping them to obtain work. However, this Unit is vulnerable due to budget cuts and a number of short term posts relying on grant funding. In particular the Youth Offending Service triage and DAAT alcohol arrest referral posts are key elements of both the OMU and wider Integrated Offender Management structures and are at risk.



Duncan Bannatyne visited the OMU as part of an initiative to encourage employers to give jobs to offenders

Single Measurement

New methods of measuring the rate of offending and re-offending have recently been introduced nationally. The data used for this is historic dating back two years and it shows performance in the north-east region as being low. In order to address this issue in Darlington the CSP has decided to hold a meeting with partnership analysts to develop a data set using current information from across the partnership to demonstrate current performance and help to identify any gaps in provision.

What do we want to achieve?

Priorities for 2012/13

The Reducing Re-offending Strategic Group has identified four priority areas which require specific attention over the next 12 months (the full action plan can be seen at [:http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm))

These are

- To improve Custody Triage (assessment upon being taken into custody).
- To further develop service provision for female offenders.
- To reduce offending and re-offending by those offenders who receive less than 12 months in custody.
- Roll out restorative justice as an alternative to existing criminal justice disposals.

How will we achieve it?

Custody Triage

- We will seek funding to enable Custody Triage to continue.
- We will consider the use of volunteers to take the work forward.

Female Offenders

- Identify the needs of female offenders entering the custody suite and signpost to relevant agencies.
- Identify gaps in service provision for adult and young women who may be remanded in custody or receive a custodial sentence who have caring responsibilities.

Reducing offending/reoffending among those who receive less than 12 months custodial sentence

- To analyse the number of offenders who received less than 12 months custody 2010-11 in order to identify needs and gaps in provision.
- Look at ways of filling gaps in services identified through the above analysis.
- Work with local prisons to identify prisoners and support needs upon release.
- To develop work within the custody suite to monitor offenders who have previously received a sentence of less than 12 months.

Roll out Restorative Justice (RJ)

- Use RJ to address offending behaviour both within prison and in the community.
- Embed the use of RJ by the police in dealing with low level offences.
- Use RJ within the conditional cautioning process within local police custody.

There has already been a significant level of success using Restorative Justice with Young Offenders as the example below illustrates. The piece below was written on 21st January 2012 by Tamasyn Guy-Jobson a journalist from the Northern Echo after observing how restorative justice works in practice.



Darlington Railway Athletic Club Cricket pavilion having a lick of paint from the Community Payback team.

Case Study

THE ATMOSPHERE is tense with anticipation at the beginning of the meeting between the victim, Peter Stockdale, parks and play area maintenance inspector for the Darlington Borough, and three young lads who damaged £2000-worth of play equipment. Mr Stockdale appears angered but also composed - the three boys that sit in front of him look ashamed. They are joined by one of the boy's parents, PC Deborah Goad, and two youth offender workers. In October, the three youngsters, aged between 15 and 16, caused damage over two nights in a play park in Brinkburn Dene, near Woodland Road. They let off a firecracker in one piece of play equipment, which spread sharp plastic shards around the area, and burned a hole in another, which spilled metal ball bearings all over the ground. The three boys are dressed smartly and speak eloquently. PC Goad carefully co-ordinates the meeting and liaises between all parties, prompting them to answer questions about how they feel about the situation. Mr Stockdale then gets his chance to speak. He says he is hurt by the boys' actions and has faced a lot of backlash from residents about the incident He says: "Just over £1m has been spent on getting the Denes in a nice state. I only have a limited budget for the play areas. If the stuff is vandalised then there is a possibility I won't get the funding to repair it." The boys seem to take in what Mr Stockdale says - it appears they are realising the impact of their actions. One of boys, who appears embarrassed, says: "It was something to do. It was stupid - it shouldn't have entered my mind. We were showing off." Another, equally as shame-faced, says: "I have lost mates by doing it, as well as their parents." After an hour the discussion ends, and it is decided the boys will carry out work in the Denes under the supervision of the Youth Offending Team, as directed by Mr Stockdale in the coming weeks, to make amends for what they have done. All parties seem satisfied with the way the meeting has gone. "I can see that you are genuinely remorseful - I want to draw a line under it," says Mr Stockdale. PC Goad agrees the meeting has gone well. She explains: "Often the victim lives in fear of the offender, but to come face to face with them leaves them in a less fearful position. "The victim can start to imagine the offender as a sort of beast but often the crime is undertaken without much thought." The meeting, part of a ten-month pilot ran by Darlington's Youth Offending Team has been funded by the Home Office Safer Communities fund.

(Tamasyn Guy-Jobson, Northern Echo, 21st January 2012)

4. Working with families who have multiple problems

Research done nationally and by Durham Constabulary shows that there are vulnerable households which lead chaotic, complex lifestyles and are often well known to the community in which they live. They have a disproportionate impact on the community through: anti-social behaviour; crime. alcohol and substance misuse; perpetrating and being victims of violence and domestic abuse; having behavioural problems at school; unemployment and welfare benefit issues; housing issues, e.g. failure to pay rent; health problems; and a negative environmental impact. As these families are some of the most vulnerable to becoming offenders or victims of crime it is important to provide an effective, multi-agency response to safeguard families and communities. The national research shows that of the 2,655 families which have accepted a Family Interventions Programme intervention:

- 60% of families headed by a lone parent.
- The majority are large families.
- 30% of families included at least one disabled person.
- 33% included one or more children with Special Educational Needs.

Recent research quoted by the DfE (DfE analysis based on information on families supported by 17 local authorities) found that a single family intervention could save up to £49,000. Further evidence suggested that for every £1 million invested in family intervention there could be a saving of £2.5 million. This is because high quality interventions work. The changes they bring are sustained and continue to improve 9-14 months after the initial intensive response.

Data from family intervention official statistics, from September 2010, shows reductions at the end of the intervention compared to at the start (for the first 1,788 families to exit an intervention) included:

- Marriage, relationship or family breakdown by 48%.
- Domestic violence between any members of the family by 54%.
- Child protection issues by 37%.
- Anti-social behaviour by 57%.
- Drug misuse by 39%.
- Alcohol problems by 48%.
- Truancy, exclusion or bad behaviour at school by 54%.

Services in Darlington

Darlington's family intervention service (FIT) provides a co-ordinated and personalised response to families. FIT has within it a range of professional skills and backgrounds including child care, social work, health, family therapy, working with sexually exploited people and people with mental ill health. FIT works closely with a wide range of agencies in Darlington and reports to a multi agency Board. Members include: Housing, YOS, Police, DAAT, DBC/PCT joint commissioner, Evolution, children's trust and Children's Social Care. There is a need to build on the FIT model and establish a broader multi-agency approach to working with families. The 'Think Family Board' together with Children's Commissioners have produced the "Think Families Approach" and an Action Plan to help to take this work forward.

Case Study

The family consists of seven people in two households: Mother A, Daughter C (age 6), Son D (age 4) and Daughter E (age 2). Son F (age 13) is currently residing in care and is waiting to move back with mother. Father B and Daughter G (age 14) reside in a separate property.

At one time all five children were placed in care with family members following concerns about neglectful parenting. The key issues included alcohol and substance misuse, a lack of supervision, domestic violence and inappropriate home conditions. However, only son F remains in care. This is not the first time the children were placed in care. According to the mother:

"The first time I failed completely, because I had no help. It was a breakdown I had a year ago. I had my children taken away twice that year. I was getting pressure from the family to have the children back too early, just before Christmas. And my mother died just before Christmas. I was telling them for years that I wasn't coping. The schools knew I wasn't coping. If I had had help then I wouldn't be in this position now. My son was with his father hitting the little ones. The older ones were hitting the ones below them, then they hit the younger ones and so on. I was charged with neglect because that was all going on in the house and I wasn't coping."

A gradual and phased return of the children to the mother's care is in place. However, if the plan is not successful there is a risk that the children will be permanently put into care.

The family were referred to FIT by Social Services in March 2010 because of concerns about the safety of the children. According to the case-notes issues included:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).***
- A child protection plan is currently in place.***
- Poor school attendance or attainment.***
- Children considered at risk of offending.***
- Relationship conflict or family breakdown.***
- Parental substance misuse – at risk and previously.***

- Parental mental health issues.**
- Domestic abuse – previously and at risk.**
- Parental longstanding worklessness.**
- Parental history of offending behaviour.**
- Poor housing conditions.**

When her children were in care the mother was given direct help from the FIT on a regular basis so she could prepare for the return of her children. According to the mother the family had issues with boundaries and rules:

“We never had boundaries. Because I had a bad childhood I wanted better for my kids and I was a little bit slack with them. I was in and out of care. My mother suffered domestic violence, had drink problems and lots of problems. I swore I would never get with anyone where there would be domestic violence, but it happens. It took me nine years to get away from that.”

She described how she felt uncomfortable when the FIT first got involved, but soon “connected” with her FIT Key Worker. She explained that she had never had such a good relationship with any other agencies but relies on the FIT for help:

“I’ve been getting lots of help. They’re constantly there helping. I felt they were like a friend. I was able to talk to them a lot more than to Social Services. Even though they are professionals they come over as a friend. Even my children are comfortable with her. They connected with her. They never were like that with social workers. It’s what families like mine need. It’s helped every one of us. They love their jobs and are so positive and that makes a difference. I feel 100% better and that’s down to them, they have definitely saved my family. Similar to the above, the mother highlighted the coordinating role of the FIT: They sorted out so many things. They talk to agencies for me and sorted things out for me. I trust what they write about me. They see what is really happening and you see the same person. Before, I had about four or five social workers over a few months. You hardly ever see the Social worker but FIT are always there. “

She spoke about how the FIT has made a difference to her life:

“If I hadn’t had the FIT I wouldn’t have got my kids back. Now I know they’re there it makes such a difference. They don’t tell you what to do – they help you see what to do. My life would have been so different had they been involved when I was a kid. But that’s the past. Because of my past I found myself getting in the same routine as my mother did. I had to look after myself and walk from pub to pub to find my mother and sit and wait on the door step. But my kids have never had to sit on the door step, as I’ve always been in. But when they were taken away I started drinking and taking drugs. It was a nightmare. Had the FIT been there the first time I wouldn’t have gone down that road.”

Finally, she suggested that FIT offers good value for money, but needs to be publicised better:

“It’s better if the FIT goes into families and helps, rather than having the children taken off them and causing more problems. Also, it will save so much money. It costs an absolute bomb to have a child in care. The FIT will save a heck of a lot of money.... [But] I would change the fact that more people need to know about them. Agencies don’t even know about them. Probation never mentioned them, Health visitors didn’t. Even some in Social Services didn’t have a clue.

High Impact Households

This initiative began in 2011 as a response to the findings of Operation Balham, which investigated the reasons behind the murder of George Akers by two young males in Darlington.

The initiative is led by Durham Constabulary and is a multi-agency initiative which aims to address identified issues facing households, which are having a serious detrimental effect on the family itself and the local community.

The Institute for Local Government are funding academic research into this in order to develop an enhanced model of early intervention and identification in order to reduce the number of households that fall into the high impact category. At the same time the multiple and complex needs of the individuals and households who are assessed as requiring immediate multi-agency intervention will be addressed.

What do we want to achieve?

The direction of national policy development is towards early or earlier intervention in families. The data gathered from a variety of sources strongly supports not only the savings that can be made for public agencies but also the likely improvements in life chances for all family members.

The CSP recognises the need to work more effectively with the most challenging families in the town ensuring a co-ordinated and personalised approach based upon the needs of individual families.

How will we achieve it?

The CSP will support and contribute to ongoing work to:

- Continue and build upon the FIT model.
- Explore additional working practices/models to address the issues faced in providing an effective service to families with multiple problems.
- Explore and pilot initiatives for identifying young people who may pose the threat of harm and test ways to support them.
- Support the aims of the “Think Family” Approach as set out below.
- Support the implementation of the “Troubled Families” and High Impact Household Initiatives work with partners to ensure that the various initiatives as detailed above are co-ordinated.

Think Family Approach

Aim

The aim of this strategy is to champion a culture within agencies that will provide a whole family approach to interventions ensuring the best outcomes for families.

This aim will be achieved by:

- Embedding the 'Think Family' approach into all service delivery.
- Ensuring that the Key Principles underpin all family interventions.
- Workforce Development.
- Strategic Commissioning Intentions.

How does the Approach work?

The Think Family Approach is based on evidence-based practice and multi-agency support to families in need. Assessing and identifying the broader needs of the family and providing support in a coordinated way can minimise duplication by services, free up resources and provide additional support to the families most in need.

A small number of families create a disproportionate amount of workload across many different agencies in Darlington and although the agencies may have regular contact with the same family this does not mean that all the families' needs are being met.

Contact with any service should open the door into a broader system of support. Practitioners from all agencies that work with Children, Young People and Adults will:-

- Have meaningful conversations with families so that they can consider the wider family context and how they affect the individual they are working with by involving families within the decision making processes.
- Have knowledge of how to access other relevant services to support families and make appropriate referrals where necessary.
- Share relevant information with other services/agencies with the child, young person or adult's consent, (within the remit of the information sharing protocol/procedures).
- Undertake a holistic assessment of children, young people within the context of their family using CAF.
- Offer appropriate services to support the identified needs and ensure that all services are working towards the same outcomes.
- Focus on partnership working to meet the needs of family members and not lose sight of the family by referring them on to other services.

The "Think Families Approach" document will be available on the Children's Trust website:www.darlington.gov.uk/Children/childrenstrust/Childrens+Trust+Board.htm from spring 2012

5. Supporting vulnerable people (supporting victims of domestic and sexual abuse)

Government Perspective

“In the last year alone, there were over 1 million female victims of domestic abuse in England and Wales. Over 300,000 women are sexually assaulted and 60,000 women are raped each year. Overall in the UK, more than one in four women will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime, often with years of psychological abuse. This is unacceptable.”

Almost one in 20 women were stalked last year and one in five women will experience stalking in their lifetime” (British Crime Survey 2009/10).

The Local Problem

In 2010-11 there were 2,224 incidents of domestic abuse in Darlington. For the period April 2011 to January 2012, reported incidents total 2,021. Darlington is over-represented in the figures for the Constabulary area. The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process heard 78 cases between April 2010 and March 2011, which included 89 children. For the period April 2011 to January 2012, 62 cases were heard at MARAC, seven of which were repeats.

There was an increase in reports on the previous year but only half the number of repeat incidents compared to three years ago. The CSP target was 28% for 11/12 but in fact the figure for April 2011 to January 2012 shows only 11.3% of domestic abuse cases that were heard at MARAC were repeat incidents.

There has been an 18 percentage point increase in child protection plans where domestic abuse is a risk factor (47% in 2010 to 65% in 2011).

Services in Darlington

Services offered in Darlington have had a great deal of success in raising awareness of issues around domestic and sexual abuse and in supporting victims.

Some quotes from service users are:

“I felt safe and secure and had someone to talk to.”

“My support worker always had time for me and listened to what I had to say.”

“Without the support I would not have had the strength to leave my abusive relationship.”

The Vulnerability Strategic Group has been established to ensure that relevant good quality services continue to be provided for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual abuse.

What do we want to achieve?

It was recognised by the Community Safety Partnership that although progress had been made there was a lack of a coherent strategy and understanding of need. Therefore, following the creation of the Vulnerability Strategic Group in March 2011, a key priority was to carry out a needs assessment around domestic abuse, which has been developed into a domestic abuse strategy, with a comprehensive action plan developed in consultation with stakeholders.

The strategy has been used to inform the commissioning plan which went to tender at the end of 2011. Providers have now been selected to provide a floating support service to women and children and to provide additional support and confidence building through the Freedom Programme

How will we achieve it?

The major focus for the CSP is the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Action Plan. The focus of the action plan has been based around the needs of six different groups to ensure that victims and their children are supported and that there is a heightened awareness among the general public of the issues surrounding domestic abuse. These are as follows:

- Adult victims of DA
- Children and young people
- Perpetrators
- External witnesses
- High Impact families
- The wider community

Each of the specific areas has then been further considered and how we can achieve our overall aim for everyone has been tailored within each section of the action plan which can be seen at:

<http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm>

The main areas for action are as set out in brief below

- Implementation of the new services for both victims and perpetrators.
- Development of a new Perpetrator Programme.
- Operating the MARAC (multi-agency risk assessment process) process.
- Developing promotional awareness raising campaigns.
- Developing comprehensive referral pathways.
- Carry out work in schools to promote healthy relationships.
- Ensure the involvement of early intervention teams with families where there is domestic abuse.
- Develop a more standardised approach to data collection across partner agencies to provide a more effective measure of the impact of domestic abuse services.

Sexual violence and exploitation

Sexual violence and exploitation is more common than people think, with many victims remaining silent about the abuse they have suffered. The official statistics (under-reported) for the average PCT show that 4% of women (which in County Durham and Darlington amounts to 10,232 people) have been raped (excluding attempted rape). 23% of women and 3% of men experience sexual assault as an adult.

Social networking provides access to vulnerable people without appropriate supervision. Partner agencies indicate this is of growing concern, and is underreported to the police. Analysis by Durham Police of sexual exploitation across the force area showed that numbers were low, with only 17 recorded offences since 2004, but these were predominately in Darlington..

Sexual violence and exploitation causes severe and lifelong harm to victims. Research has identified that sexual violence can be linked to alcohol and domestic abuse. Many of the most vulnerable members of society can be victims including:

- Children
- Young people who frequently go missing, in particular children within the looked after system
- Members of high impact households (HIH). HIH are households that have a disproportionate impact on partner agencies and communities as either perpetrators or victims of crime or anti-social behaviour. They tend to experience complex health, social, economic and behavioural problems which pass from generation to generation despite extensive and prolonged interventions from a range of agencies
- Women in abusive relationships
- Learning disabled people
- People involved in sex work
- People who have been trafficked, who may face additional barriers such as language and reluctance to report due to their immigration status.

A profile commissioned to understand the extent of sexual violence in County Durham and Darlington Constabulary area found that there are around 120 rapes and 300 other instances of sexual violence recorded each year (under-reported). The most common 'victim types' identified in Durham and Darlington included:

- Adult females:
Victims of domestic abuse who often suffer physical and sexual violence at the hands of their partner.
Women at social events often involving alcohol where the offender is likely to be an associate or someone they have very recently met.
- Under 16s in 'consensual' sexual relationships.
Sexualisation of young people is an increasing trend.
Victims were aged between 11-14 years and below the legal age to consent.
Offenders were aged between 15-19 years.
- Children (both male and female) abused by family members, or their associates or those in positions of trust.

- Learning disabled adults abused by family members, or their associates or those in positions of trust.

With regard to sexual abuse, a separate strategy has been developed by community safety partners from both Darlington and Durham, led by Durham Constabulary. The strategy was launched on the 12th August and again will help to inform future services. Representatives from the Darlington CSP sit on the Sexual Abuse Implementation Group and are involved in working groups which have been set up to progress the action plan. Linkages into the wider CSP are made via the Strategic Vulnerability Group.

Both strategies place a strong emphasis on prevention, provision and protection. They can be found on the CSP website: website:

<http://www.darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/communitysafetypartnership/dcsp.htm>



Victim of domestic abuse has needs assessed by support worker

Case Study.

Background

Ms W was referred to the Domestic Abuse Service by police. The referral followed a serious incident requiring armed response and air support following threats with a firearm by her husband. Mr W had been arrested and was in custody. Mrs W had five children. A joint visit was undertaken to discuss support available.

In order to minimise risks, in case Mr W was bailed, an application for an Occupation Order and Non Molestation order was sought. A security assessment of the property was undertaken by the Community Safety officer and work undertaken under the Sanctuary Scheme. A Tunstall alarm was also fitted to the property. Ms W stated she had been in a relationship with Mr W for approximately five years and married for four years. The abuse had started when she became pregnant (30% of abuse commences in pregnancy) with her daughter who was now nearly two years old. Initially the abuse had been emotional and financial but recently physical abuse had become evident.

A Risk Assessment was completed at the outset. Information was gathered from Ms W, Children's Services and Police.

Summary

Ms W's needs are reviewed on a regular basis and issues addressed. Ms W was supported by Project Worker to make an application for a Community Care Grant to finance her move to the new home. Ms W received £1200. An application was made for Housing Benefit and Discretionary Housing Payment towards the short fall in housing benefit. Prior to the move Miss W undertook the Pre-Tenancy Course. This supported Ms W to develop her skills to maintain her tenancy. Ms W also participated in a Spotlight Interview for Supporting People.

After several months Ms W felt ready to consider employment/training opportunities. A Project Worker discussed with Ms W what her aspirations and interests were. Ms W stated she had an interest Beauty Therapy. A 'taster' session at the local college was identified and Ms W was supported to attend. Ms W expressed an interesting undertaking a massage course but costs were an issue. The Project Worker identified funding available from Darlington Borough Council and an application was successful. Ms W passed the course and discussed setting up her own business, however recognised it would be beneficial to expand her knowledge and skills first.

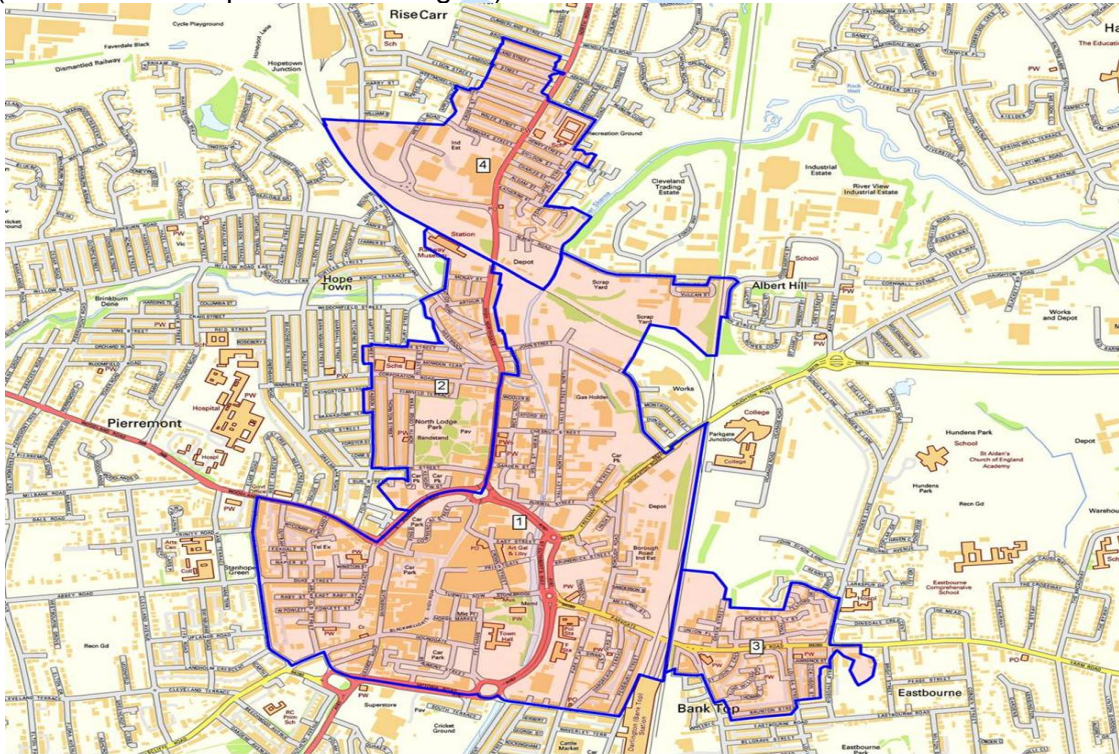
A further application was made to Crisis Saving Lives by the Project Worker. This application was also successful and Ms W undertook a course in Indian Head Massage and Beauty Therapy. Ms W has now set up her own successful business. Ms W was also supported through her application for divorce and is to receive a significant financial settlement. Ms W then intends to purchase her own property for herself and her children

High Impact Locations (HILs)

The Problems associated with the five priorities highlighted above are felt most acutely in some High Impact Locations (HILs) in the borough. An index of HILs has been developed by Durham Police for County Durham and Darlington, based on a methodology developed by the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science. The index highlights locations which require further analysis in order to fully understand their susceptibility to crime and disorder.

The strategic assessment states that “ASB remains disproportionately higher in the High Impact Locations (HILs), locations that also have above average domestic abuse, serious crime, vulnerability, substance misuse and deprivation levels...In Darlington, where HILs also represent 6.3% of the population, they generate approximately 25% of the ASB incidents. The HILs in Darlington actually represent the top three in terms of a high level of the above issues across the Force area.” Furthermore, the four most impacted areas in Darlington sit adjacent to each other, as illustrated below. Partners have agreed to carry out more analysis into these areas in order to help focus partnership working

Darlington Locality – High Impact Locations (1st to 4th most impacted in Darlington)



Rank in Locality	Rank in Force	Lower Layer Super Output Area Code	Lower Layer Super Output Area Name	Local Name (allocated by FIB)
1 st	1 st	E01012308	Darlington 008A	'Central South'
2 nd	2 nd	E01012354	Darlington 008C	'Northgate North 2'
3 rd	3 rd	E01012304	Darlington 012A	'Bank Top South'
4 th	8 th	E01012349	Darlington 004A	'North Road South'

CSP Targeting Resources 2012-15

With regard to the general budget for community safety, the CSP received details of the Home Office funding allocation for 2011/12 and 2012/13 early in 2011. This would be the last allocation to CSPs as the funding is due to pass to the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2013.

The Home Office funding consolidated the Stronger, Safer Communities Fund (Home Office element), Young People's Substance misuse (Home Office element) and Community Call for Action. The Home Office confirmed that the funding should support the protection of vulnerable people, the provision of better services and to limit the impact of tightening public budgets. Given that the government transfer of CSP funding to Police and Crime Commissioners it was important to ensure that the resources were used strategically and with an eye on future sustainability.

The Police committed a further £79,500 from the Business Command Unit for 2011/12, and 2012/13. The police contribution was committed to support: the Offender Management Unit Researcher (£28,500) and Mentor (£20,000) and Domestic Abuse (£21,000).

Total CSP Resources for 2011-13

Funding Source	Amount Allocated
Home Office (revenue only, yr 1)	148,012
Home Office (revenue only, yr 2)	74,880
BCU (Police – flexible funding, yr 1)	10,000*
BCU (Police – flexible funding, yr 2)	10,000*
Total	242,892

*represents the balance from the BCU funding after it had been allocated to the projects named above.

Commissioning process

In order to make the best use of available funding the CSP decided to set the following funding criteria:

- That all proposals must contribute to one or more of the five CSP priorities **and** must demonstrate that they are based upon one of the following:
- Releasing and developing community capacity/reducing future demand on local services.
- Generating efficiencies from existing services.
- Transforming or re-designing existing services.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of our interventions.

The table below shows the amount of funding allocated to projects in 2011/12 and the sum remaining for 2012/13. Funding has been allocated to projects in each of the five priority areas and to both public and third sector organisations.

Total funding	£242,892
Total allocated 2011/12	£154,368
Total remaining for 2012/13	£ 88,524

What happens next?

As stated, early 2012 sees the introduction of Police and Crime and Commissioners (PCCs) in November. There is a lot of work to be done in the interim period to prepare for this new post. Representatives from the Darlington Community Safety Partnership are supporting this work which is led by the Police Authority.

The first of these is the establishment of a Police and Crime Panel to oversee the performance of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Secondly a number of working groups have been established to consider a range of issues that need to be addressed to ensure a smooth transition following the election of the Commissioner.

The panels are considering the following issues:

- Governance arrangements
- Financial budgeting and auditing
- Transfer of staff and assets
- Communications and community engagement
- PCC Induction
- Capacity building
- Partnerships
- The Police and Crime Panel

Monitoring Performance

The Community Safety Plan is a living document and will be reviewed annually and updated in the light of data provide by the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment and the Single Needs Assessment.

With regard to the priorities, these are broken down into more detailed actions and included in actions plans developed in each of the strategic groups discussed on page 6 of the plan. The action plans will be monitored by the strategic groups at their bi-monthly meetings with any emerging problems being highlighted at the Public Sector Planning Group

How you can get involved

Community Safety affects everyone living in Darlington and the Community Safety Partnership would like to encourage you to get involved.

There are a variety of ways you can do this. Firstly if you would like to comment on this plan or on the priorities set by the Partnership, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please send your comments to judith.morton@darlington.gov.uk or contact one of the people named in the contact list below.

You can have more direct involvement in the work of the Community safety Partnership through volunteering or becoming a member of Neighbourhood watch. Details of volunteering opportunities and how to get involved are available on the Community Safety Partnership website [http://: www.Darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/safercommunities/saferdarlington](http://www.Darlington.gov.uk/Living/Communities/safercommunities/saferdarlington)

Key Contacts:

The table below sets out the key contacts from each of the responsible authorities. The contact details are also given for the Community Liaison Officer, who runs the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Darlington. Please contact her if you are interested in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch volunteer.

Name	Email	Telephone
Hazel Willoughby (Director of Public Protection, chair of the Reducing Offending Group)	hazel.willoughby@dtv.probaton.gsi.gov.uk	(01642) 230 533
Andy Reddick (Chief Superintendent, chair of the ASB Strategic Group)	Andy.Reddick@durham.pnn.police.uk	(01325) 742500
Chris Sivers (Assistant Director – Development and Commissioning, chair of the Vulnerability Strategic Group)	Chris.sivers@darlington.gov.uk	(01325) 388013
Miriam Davidson (Locality Director of Public Health, lead contact for Drugs and Alcohol)	Miriam.davidson@darlington.gov.uk	(01325) 388463
Colin Bage Area Manager, Operational Delivery	cbage@ddfired.gov.uk	(0191) 3324397
Sarah Harris (Partnerships Officer, Police Authority)	Sarah.Harris@durham.gov.uk	(0191) 383 6529
David Plews (Head of Communities)	David.plews@darlington.gov.uk	01325) 388023
Judith Morton (Community Safety Officer)	Judith.Morton@darlington.gov.uk	(01325) 346773
PCSO Louise Buckley, Community Liaison Officer, (Neighbourhood Watch)	Louise.Buckley@durham.pnn.police.uk	(01325) 346832

Please contact the author Judith Morton on (01325) 346773 if you have any queries or if you require the document in a different format.