

Safer York Partnership Bi-annual Performance Report

Summary

1. This report provides a brief overview of the detailed data contained within the Safer York Partnership bi-annual performance report as produced by City of York Council's Policy and Performance Team attached at Annex A.

Overview

2. The Community Safety Plan is currently being re-drafted. Thematic priorities will be 'owned' by partners represented on the Safer York Partnership Board and therefore performance will be monitored through their reports on progress in delivering the strategic outcomes identified within the plan.
 - 2.1 Crime statistics will continue to be monitored by CYC Business Intelligence Hub and will help to identify emerging trends or concerns where the partnership can assist in delivery however, the partnership's primary focus on community safety has moved away from thematic crime delivery groups and more to assessment of threat, harm and risk and the mitigation put in place through partnership problem solving.
 - 2.2 Year end data for 2015/16 showed there was an 11% increase in total Crime compared to the previous year and levels had reverted back to those of 2012/13.
 - 2.3 Total Crime levels for 2016/17 are projected to be slightly lower than those of 2015/16. Between April and November 2016, there have been 7,704 Crimes reported; this represents a 6% decrease on the 8,171 Crimes reported during the same period in 2015/16.
 - 2.4 York remains one of the safest cities in the UK. The police and City of York Council have responded to changes in resourcing through the establishment of closer collaborative working arrangements to utilise

resources to best effect. This approach has contributed to the continuation of low crime levels in the city.

Violent Crime

3. Violent crime covers a wide range of offences, from minor assaults such as pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm, threats to kill and harassment, through to serious incidents involving grievous bodily harm, wounding and homicide. The vast majority of violent crimes in York fall within the lower levels of severity and do not indicate an increase in serious violence within the city.
 - 3.1 Year end data for 2015/16 showed significant increases compared to the previous year for violent crime with 2513 violent crimes recorded in 2015/16. This was 18% greater than the number reported during 2014/15.
 - 3.2 Overall violence levels for 2016/17 in York are predicted to be inline with those reported in 2015/16 with levels of Violent Crime in both the City Centre's ARZ and CIZ predicted to be significantly lower then those reported in 2015/16.
 - 3.3 A significant amount of the crimes occurring within the City Centre are heavily linked to alcohol and alcohol related Anti Social Behaviour. This is being addressed by Safer York Partnership through the Alcohol and Violent Crime in the Night Time Economy (AVANTE) multi-agency problem solving group that includes the delivery of regular operations such as Operation Erase.

Anti-social Behaviour

4. Anti-social Behaviour is managed through the Community Safety Hub based in West Offices. This includes six police officers, an anti social behaviour (ASB) Team - tackling high risk ASB cases and associated crime and a neighbourhood enforcement team focusing on environmental ASB and crime.
 - 4.1 Total levels of Anti Social behaviour for 2016/17 are predicted to be slightly higher then those reported during 2015/16. However, a reduction in the total number of alcohol related ASB incidents is projected by the end of 2016/17. As at Quarter 3, 2016/17, there have been 1,165 alcohol related ASB incidents, a significant reduction on the 1,402 reported during the same period in 2015/16.

- 4.2 Levels of Anti Social Behaviour within both the City Centres ARZ and CIZ are on trend with those reported during 2015/16, with alcohol related ASB accounting for approximately 40% of all ASB in the City Centre.
- 4.3 Between April and December 2016 there have been 733 new cases recorded by the ASB Hub. These new cases recorded were categorised as follows, 28% are nuisance, 9% personal, 25% environmental and 38% categorised as other.
- 4.4 Between April and December 2016, there were 254 cases recorded that have been closed by the ASB Hub, of which 94% had been resolved and 6% remained unresolved. As at the end of December 2016 there are 1,064 ASB cases open. The open cases are either where the Hub are investigating a case, currently taking action or monitoring whether actions that have been taken are working. There are a variety of reasons that cases have been closed but are unresolved, these include, that the hub have not been able to establish that an incident occurred, or there was no evidence about who carried out the incidents.
- 4.5 It should be noted that there has been an increase in the number of cases dealt with by the hub where mental health is a factor. This relates to both perpetrators and victims. These cases are often extremely complex and resource intensive. In particular, the hub has dealt with a number of cases relating to self neglect and as a result is working directly with housing and adult social care to produce a protocol for dealing with these cases.
- 4.6 The number of Fly Tipping investigations is predicted to have increased significantly by the end of 2016/17. Between April and December 2016 there have been 1313 cases of fly-tipping. This is a 34% increase on the reported 980 cases of fly-tipping during the same period last year.
- 4.7 Between April-November 2016 there have been 132 Hate Crimes reported; this represents a 22% increase on the 108 Hate Crimes reported during the same period last year. 73% of the Hate Crime/Incidents that were reported are of a racial nature, with the other 27% made up of a variety of disability, religious, homophobic and sexual orientation incidents. Post Brexit we have seen an increase in the levels of Hate Crime reported, this may be related to the increased media presence and increased awareness of Hate Crime and reporting.

- 4.8 The 'hub' concept is being rolled out across other areas of North Yorkshire following the success of the York approach. As part of the work to develop a new Community Safety Plan, York's hub is being reviewed to ensure that maximum benefit is derived from the close collaborative working between North Yorkshire Police and City of York Council.
- 4.9 Regular planned operations take place bringing together the Neighbourhood Enforcement Team with the police Safer Neighbourhood Teams to tackle issues which impact directly on communities. These have included work to tackle issues related to street drinkers and begging in the city centre, a more joined up approach to tackling fireworks offences on bonfire night and regular stop-search operations in relation to illegal waste carriers.

Other Information

5. Levels of Criminal Damage, shoplifting and Domestic Burglary are projected to be inline with those reported in 2015/16. Whilst we are projecting levels of Burglary in a Non Dwelling and Theft from a vehicle to be lower then those reported in 2015/16.
- 5.1 Levels of bicycle theft are predicted to be lower then those reported in 2015/16. Between April and December 2016, there have been 729 incidents of bicycle theft; this represents a decrease of 105 on the number of incidents reported during the same period in 2015/16.
- 5.2 Safer York Partnership continues to provide crime prevention advice and guidance to communities through the website and participation in local campaigns developed by police safer neighbourhood teams. In addition, the partnership has provided funding for a number of small target hardening projects using funding provided by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Recommendations

6. There are no recommendations as this cover report is for information only.

Reason: To update the Committee on the performance of the Safer York Partnership.

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Report Approved



Date

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Specialist Implications Officer(s) N/A

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: N/A

Annexes:

Annex A - Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report

Abbreviations:

ASB – Anti-Social Behaviour

ARZ – Alcohol Restriction Zone

AVANTE - Alcohol and Violent Crime in the Night Time Economy

CIZ – Cumulative Impact Zone

NHS – National Health Service

SNT – Safer Neighbourhood Teams