



**Notice of public meeting of
Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Gunnell (Chair), Richardson (Vice-Chair),
Funnell, Kramm, K Myers, Mason and Orrell

Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2016

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare:

- Any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- Any prejudicial interests or
- Any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they may have in respect of business on the agenda.

2. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2015.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to under the Council's Public Participation Scheme may do so. The deadline for registering is **5.00pm on Tuesday 19th January 2016.**

Members of the public may register to speak on:

- An item on the agenda
- An issue within the remit of the Committee

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4. Attendance of the Executive Member for Environment

Councillor Waller, as Executive Member for Environment, has been invited to attend to provide a verbal update on the recent floods.

5. 2015/16 Second Quarter Finance and (Pages 9 - 14) Performance Monitoring Report

This report provides details of the 2015/16 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance across services within City & Environmental Services and Communities and Neighbourhoods.

**6. Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual (Pages 15 - 26)
Performance Report**

This cover 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 which is attached at Annex A.

**7. Safer York Partnership Report on (Pages 27 - 34)
Domestic Violence**

Following a request from the Committee for an update on Domestic Abuse, this report provides Members with domestic abuse data, adds the context to allow more accurate understanding of the data and outlines the work that has been taking place in York and also at a sub-regional (York & North Yorkshire) level.

**8. Consultation report on Review of (Pages 35 - 40)
Neighbourhood Working Arrangements**

This report seeks input from the Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee into a review of the Council's neighbourhood working arrangements.

**9. Report on York Tenancy Strategy and City of York
Council Allocations Policy**

Members are asked to agree to defer this item until the meeting on 15th March 2016.

10. Workplan 2015-16 (Pages 41 - 42)

Members are asked to give consideration to the committee's work plan for 2015-2016.

11. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972

Democracy Officer:

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting, contact details outlined above:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports
- Copies of reports in other formats

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim (Polish)
własnym języku.

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی میا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date	17 November 2015
Present	Councillors Gunnell (Chair), Richardson (Vice-Chair), Funnell, Kramm, K Myers, Mason and Orrell
In attendance	Councillor Waller

26. **Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda.

- Councillor Richardson declared a standing personal interest in items on the agenda as Vice-Chair of North Yorkshire Fire Authority.
- Councillor Funnell declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 (Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed Domestic Waste and Recycling Scrutiny Review), as a member and former Chair of St Nicks.

27. **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising

- It was noted that the Member visit to Hazel Court depot, which had been instigated by Councillor Richardson, had been very useful (minute 24 refers).
- Members were informed that the average saving achieved by households participating in the Collective Switch was £200 per annum. Whether this saving off set the impact of welfare reforms was dependent on the circumstances of the household (minute 19 refers).

28. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

29. Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed Domestic Waste and Recycling Scrutiny Review

Members considered a report which provided an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Domestic Waste and Recycling scrutiny review. Members were asked to consider signing off the review recommendations. Members noted that the remit of the review had been very narrow and that it had been difficult to identify the value for money achieved by different strategies because of problems in establishing control groups.

The Executive Member for the Environment was in attendance for this item. It was noted that he had commissioned a more comprehensive review of the service, which aimed to incorporate the recommendations of the scrutiny review. A report on this was due to be considered at a Decision Session on 18 November 2015 and was included at Annex A. Members questioned the Executive Member about aspects of the report and were asked to give feedback on its contents. Issues raised included:

- The need to ensure that environmental impact assessments were carried out when any changes to collections were considered.
- The role that Community Involvement Officers could play in raising awareness of issues in respect of recycling arrangements.
- There remained some issues regarding calendars not being delivered – officers would follow up these incidents.
- The work carried out by the Community Furniture Store had not been referenced in the report.
- The inequity in respect of green waste collections, as some areas of the city did not receive this service. The Executive Member confirmed that consideration would be given as to how to increase access to garden waste collection whilst working within budgetary constraints.
- Issues in respect of the recycling of plastics.

Whilst some concerns were expressed that more work could be done to address some of the recommendations arising from the scrutiny review and hence they should not be signed-off at this stage, most Members agreed that the way forward was for the remaining recommendations to be addressed through the planned development of the service.

The Executive Member was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

- Resolved:
- (i) That the planned development of City of York Council Waste Services, as detailed in the Executive Member report (Annex A) be noted.
 - (ii) That the recommendations arising from the Domestic Waste and Recycling Scrutiny Review be addressed through the planned development of the service.
 - (iii) That the previous review recommendations be signed off and that it be agreed that no further updates specific to that scrutiny review are required.
 - (iv) That, as part of his regular reports to the Committee, the Executive Member provide an update on progress in promoting recycling in York.

Reason: To complete the work of the Domestic Waste and Recycling Scrutiny Review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocol.

30. Overview of Public Health Substance Misuse Services

Members considered a report that provided an overview of the role of the Public Health Team in relation to substance misuse, together with information about the public health commissioned substance misuse services.

The Chair stated that the committee had requested further information on this issue having been concerned to receive only limited information on the issue of drug misuse, and in particular legal highs, in the report from the Safer York Partnership that had been presented at the previous meeting.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report, which outlined local authorities' responsibilities for substance misuse treatment services and the funding arrangements. Officers gave details of the two service providers who delivered specialist treatment services within City of York. Members gave consideration to the performance outcomes, as detailed in paragraph 13 and Annex A of the report.

Members questioned officers about the cuts in funding to public health and how this would impact on the services provided. They were informed the reduction in funding would present significant challenges but would also present opportunities to redefine priorities and look at ways of improving outcomes. Attention was also drawn to the contribution made by community and voluntary sector organisations in improving health and wellbeing outcomes including substance misuse. It was proposed to reprofile some expenditure to focus more on intervention and reducing the need for specialist treatment.

Officers were asked how the public health team worked with the Police and other organisations in order to gauge the extent of drug use among young people. They stated that they were part of the Safer York Partnership and included in the membership of the AVANTE Board.

Clarification was sought regarding the new Alcohol Strategy. Members were informed of the reasons why progress had been delayed. However, further work and consultation would be taking place on the draft strategy and this would be completed before services were recommissioned.

Officers stated that they would welcome the committee's comments on the work that was being carried out to tackle substance misuse, as the focus would not be solely on the health issues but also the causal issues and how the misuse impacted on the wider community.

Referring to the issue that had been raised regarding legal highs, officers stated that accurate data on this matter and the information gained was currently largely anecdotal. There was a need to obtain better intelligence on this issue, including feedback from the voluntary sector and schools as well as the Police and Ambulance Services.

It was noted that a number of issues raised during the discussions had fallen within the remit of the Health and Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee, although other aspects, for example drug related crime and disorder, fell within the remit of this committee.

Members agreed that a further report be presented to the committee to provide an update on the work that was taking place on this issue.

- Resolved: (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That a more detailed report from the Safer York Partnership be presented to the committee.

- Reasons: (i) To provide the committee with an overview of substance and misuse treatment services.
- (ii) To update the committee on the work of the Safer York Partnership in respect of tackling substance abuse and its impact on crime and disorder.

31. Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed A-Boards Scrutiny Review

Members considered a report which provided an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed scrutiny review on the use of A-boards.

Members noted the current situation and the consultation that would take place regarding a licensed approach.

Members commented that the scrutiny review task group had previously carried out consultation on the issue of A-boards and they queried whether further consultation was necessary. Officers stated the proposed consultation would focus on the proposed licensed approach and was also required because the intention was now to impose legally enforceable conditions.

Members expressed some concerns regarding the resource implications of ensuring that the conditions were enforced. It was agreed that the conditions would need to be clear and enforceable.

- Resolved: (i) That the contents of the report, and the Council's agreed change to direction in regard to A-boards, be noted.
- (ii) That the recommendations arising from the scrutiny review be signed-off as being no longer appropriate.

Reason: To conclude the work on this review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols.

32. Horse Bailiff Scheme

Members considered a report which reviewed the impact of the council's new process for tackling horses that are fly grazing on council land through the work of the horse bailiff. Officers stated that the policy was working effectively. The aim was not to seize horses but to act as a deterrent.

- Resolved: (i) That the work to date through the appointment of a horse bailiff be noted.
- (ii) That no further update reports be presented to the committee on this issue.

- Reasons: (i) To update Members on the arrangements in place.
- (ii) Members were satisfied that the policy was working satisfactorily.

33. Stag and Hen Parties Scrutiny Review Interim Report

Members considered a report which presented the findings of the Stag and Hen Parties Scrutiny Review Task Group to date, together with a draft review remit for the committee's consideration.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraph 15 of the report, which detailed the original aim of the review. However, having attended a meeting of the Operation Erase Working Group which had been set up by the Alcohol, Violence and Night Time Economy Group (AVANTE) and having received feedback from CYC officers regarding the proposed work on the Alcohol

Strategy, the Task Group had agreed that this could be a more suitable topic for scrutiny to review and progress.

Members noted the suggested amended aim and objectives of the review as detailed in paragraph 15 of the report.

Members commented on the work that had been carried out as part of the Night Time Economy Scrutiny Review and suggested that aspects of this could be fed into the proposed review. It was also suggested that any review of alcohol related issues should include the off-licenses as well as other suppliers.

It was confirmed that Safer York Partnership was leading on the work to tackle alcohol related crime and disorder issues experienced across the city. Members therefore agreed that it would be useful to receive some detailed information from the Safer York Partnership on the resources available to deal with those issues, in order to assess whether or not those resources were appropriate and to inform the need for an associated scrutiny review.

Resolved: That a meeting be convened with the Safer York Partnership.

Reason: To inform the committee's decisions regarding a possible future scrutiny review.

34. Proposed Scrutiny Review on Goose Management

Members received a verbal updated from the Geese Management Scrutiny Review Task Group.

The Task Group had discussed the issues on which they would wish a review to focus. They were proposing that the remit of the review should include investigation of different measures of urban bird management and collection mechanisms for deposits from urban birds. The Task Group would like to focus on two specific areas of York, with the intention of improving the experience of visitors. It was hoped to include co-opted members in the membership of the Task Group. The Task Group would also arrange a meeting with the Friends of Rowntree Park as had been agreed at the previous meeting.

Resolved: (i) That the verbal update be noted.

- (ii) That a review of Geese Management be approved.
- (iii) That the Task Group draft a remit for the review for sign-off at the next committee meeting.

Reason: To progress the review in accordance with scrutiny protocols and procedures.

35. Workplan

Consideration was given to the committee's workplan for 2015-16.

It was noted that an item had been included on the agenda for the next meeting on York Tenancy Strategy and City of York Council Allocations Policy. The Chair suggested that this might be an issue on which the committee would wish to carry out a scrutiny review.

Concerns were expressed regarding the process by which Members had been invited to contribute to the Executive Member report on Promoting Recycling in York and the fact that this had been an annex to the report on the recommendations arising from a previous scrutiny review. Officers explained the reasons why this had happened and detailed the usual procedures for pre-decision scrutiny.

Members requested that, if possible, the date of the planned meeting with the Safer York Partnership be before the next committee meeting.

Resolved: That the workplan be approved.

Reason: To ensure that the committee has a planned programme of work in place.

Councillor Gunnell, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.05 pm].



Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee

20th January 2016

Report of the Interim Director of City & Environmental Services and Director for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

2015/16 Finance & Performance Monitor 2 Report

Summary

1. This report provides details of the 2015/16 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance across services within City & Environmental Services and Communities and Neighbourhoods.

Analysis

Finance – General Fund

2. The services that relate to the Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee cross two directorates (City and Environmental Services and Communities and Neighbourhoods). Service Plan variations which relate to services within this scrutiny are shown below:

	Budget £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000	Variance £'000
City & Environmental Services			
Waste	8,491	8,739	+248
Communities and Neighbourhoods			
Housing General Fund	2,081	2,127	+46
Public Protection	-1,014	-1,017	-3
Community Safety	894	894	0
Neighbourhood Working	2,506	2,455	-51
Community Centres	70	70	0
Communities and Equalities – Neighbourhood Management	936	936	0

Note: “+” indicates an increase in expenditure or shortfall in income
 ‘-’ indicates a reduction in expenditure or increase in income

3. Details of the main variations by service plan are detailed in the following paragraphs.

Waste (+£248k)

4. There is a forecast overspend of £153k due to the forecast shortfall in dividend from Yorwaste due to the company facing difficult trading conditions, £185k due to unachieved income targets from charges at the Household Waste Recycling Centre and a shortfall in income from green waste subscriptions (£59k). In addition there are forecast savings in waste disposal from lower tonnages (£116k) and additional income from landfill gas (£105k).

Communities and Neighbourhoods

5. The remainder of the Community and Neighbourhood Services are forecast a net underspend of £8k. There is a small overspend forecast across Housing Services £46k (2.2%) however this is offset by an underspend within Neighbourhood working following a management restructure.

Finance - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

6. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is budgeted to make an in year surplus of £2.6m. A review of the budgets in the area shows that, overall, a small under spend of £2k is forecast. This is made up of an over spend of £250k on repairs and maintenance due to the continued use of subcontractors mainly in connection with damp works and is offset by a range of other under spends mainly due to lower than forecast levels of arrears. This will continue to be monitored as further elements of welfare reform are introduced. The working balance of £14m at 31/3/15 will therefore increase to £16.6m by 31/3/16 in line with the HRA business plan.
7. Work is still in progress to update the HRA business plan following the recent government announcements to require councils to sell their high value properties when they become vacant and to reduce social housing rents by 1% per year for the next four years. While the full extent of the impact of these changes is not yet known, the HRA will be required to make significant efficiencies in order to mitigate the reduction in income without reducing the HRA balance below prudent and sustainable levels.

8. To give some idea of the scale of these changes and their impact on the HRA, the requirement to reduce housing rents by 1% could potentially reduce income by up to £12m over a 4 year period. This is because the business plan assumed annual rent increases of approximately 3% pa. The requirement for a 1% reduction therefore results in a swing of some 4%.

Performance

9. 535 missed bins were reported between July and September with 62% put right by the end of the next working day. Although the number of missed bins has decreased by 33% compared to the same period in 2014/15, the percentage put right within timescale has also fallen. In Q2 2014/15 there were 794 missed bins with 71% put right by the end of the next working day.
10. The number of families being accepted as homeless has increased by 2 to 25. Families, single females and males with children accepted as homeless has increased but the number of couples with children has fallen. The number of children in temporary accommodation has decreased to 82 (from 84), but the number of families in temporary accommodation remains the same at 47.
11. In November the Tenant & Leaseholder Annual Report 2014-2015 will be sent to about 8,000 residents in the city. This report produced by the Tenant Scrutiny Panel of six council tenants, shows that York is one of the best-performing local authority landlords in the country in a number of areas.
12. The average void period for council houses has reduced from 3.5 weeks in Q1 to 3.3 weeks in Q2 (3.9 weeks in Q2 2014/15) with the number of void council house properties reducing from 188 in Q1 to 160 in Q2 (176 in Q2 2014/15). The number of mutual exchanges of council houses has increased from 30 in Q1 to 40 in Q2.
13. Total crime in York is forecast to increase 11% compared to the previous year and projected to revert back to the figures of 2012/13 and 2013/14. Significant increases are forecast in violent crime, shoplifting and burglary non-dwelling categories. Latest benchmarking information show rates of crime at a national level have also risen significantly in Q2, and levels of overall crime in comparable authorities are increasing at greater rates than in York. Reports of domestic violence are predicted to be 6% greater than those reported during the same timeframe in 2014/15.

14. Levels of anti-social behaviour recorded by the police are predicted to be at similar levels to the previous year with the city centre cumulative impact zone seeing a small reduction in incidents. Since the ASB Hub started collecting data in February 2015, there have been 1005 new cases recorded. By August, there were 460 cases recorded that have now been classified as closed of which 430 had been resolved (93%) and 30 unresolved (7%).

Implications

15. There are no financial, human resources, equalities, legal, crime & disorder, information technology, property or other implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

16. The report provides Members with updates on finance and service performance and therefore there are no significant risks in the content of the report.

Recommendations

17. As this report is for information only, there are no recommendations.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee of the latest finance and performance position.

Author:

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Chief Officers Responsible for the Report:

Neil Ferris
Interim Director of City and Environmental
Services

Sally Burns
Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

**Report
Approved**



Date 11th January 2016

**Communities and Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 21st January 2016**

**SAFER YORK PARTNERSHIP BI-ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
REPORT**

COVER REPORT

1. Background

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.

2. Overview

Whilst crime levels are increasing in York in line with National trends, overall crime levels are predicted to be lower by the end of 2015/16 than they were in 2013/14. It has always been accepted that significant reductions in crime could not be sustained. However, York remains one of the safest cities within the UK and its overall low levels of crime are testimony to the well developed partnership arrangements and embedded multi-agency problem solving delivered through Safer York Partnership.

3. Violent Crime

Whilst violent crime has increased in the city, this is largely attributable to the range of incidents which fall within the Home Office Crime recording category of 'violent crime'. Violent crimes are those where the victim is intentionally stabbed, punched, kicked, pushed, jostled, etc. or threatened with violence whether or not there is any injury. The vast majority of violent crimes recorded in York fall within the lower levels of severity and do not indicate an increase in serious violence within the city.

- 3.1 As expected, the majority of these crimes are recorded within the city centre and 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 and includes the delivery regular operations such as Operation Erase.

4. **Domestic Abuse**

A separate report on this agenda sets out the work that is being delivered within the city to specifically tackle domestic abuse. Pilot projects developed through Safer York Partnership's multi-agency work on domestic abuse have now been used to inform the overall commissioning contract for support services across both York and North Yorkshire from April 2017. This is a positive step as it will ensure consistent service provision where victims or perpetrators are moved to neighbouring districts.

5. **Anti-social behaviour**

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. The ASB team utilise a range of tools and powers designated through the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act combined with additional powers given to the Neighbourhood Enforcement Team by the Chief Constable through the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme.

- 5.1 The team manage all cases on E-CINS – an electronic case management system that allows them to share information on cases between themselves and with other key partners such as Housing, the voluntary sector and Mental Health support within the NHS. Cases managed within the hub are identified and risk assessed through daily interrogation of incidents reported within North Yorkshire Police and City of York Council. These are then tasked for action either within the Hub itself or to the police Safer Neighbourhood Teams.
- 5.2 The Neighbourhood Enforcement Team works across the city in geographical area aligned to the police safer neighbourhood teams (SNT) . Officers carry police radios, allowing direct tasking from the force control room and work with the SNTs to carry out joint patrols and deliver operations aligned to issues identified through local intelligence gathering.

6. Other Information

Reporting on Serious acquisitive crime is a legacy of previous performance management systems required by the Home Office. Due to the change in policing style in North Yorkshire to focus more closely on levels of Harm, threat and risk, issues such as burglary, cycle theft and vehicle crime are now dealt with through routine policing activity and do not form the basis of sustained multi-agency response. However, it should be noted that the information, toolkits and advice packs produced through Safer York Partnership still provide the basis of information provided by SNTs to victims of crime and this advice is still available via the Safer York Partnership website www.saferyorkpartnership.co.uk

7. Future Performance Reporting

At a meeting of the Safer York Partnership Board in December 2015, it was agreed to review the Community Safety Plan 2004-17 and develop a refreshed version which more accurately reflects structures and changes which have been implemented within the last 12-18 months. This will significantly change the way in which performance is monitored and measured to demonstrate more clearly the outcomes and successes that are being delivered through partnership working. This will be reflected in the next bi-annual performance report provided to this committee. Detailed crime figures will still be provided as an appendix to these reports.

Jane Mowat
Head of Community Safety
City of York Council
Tel (01904) 555742

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INFORMATION BRIEFING



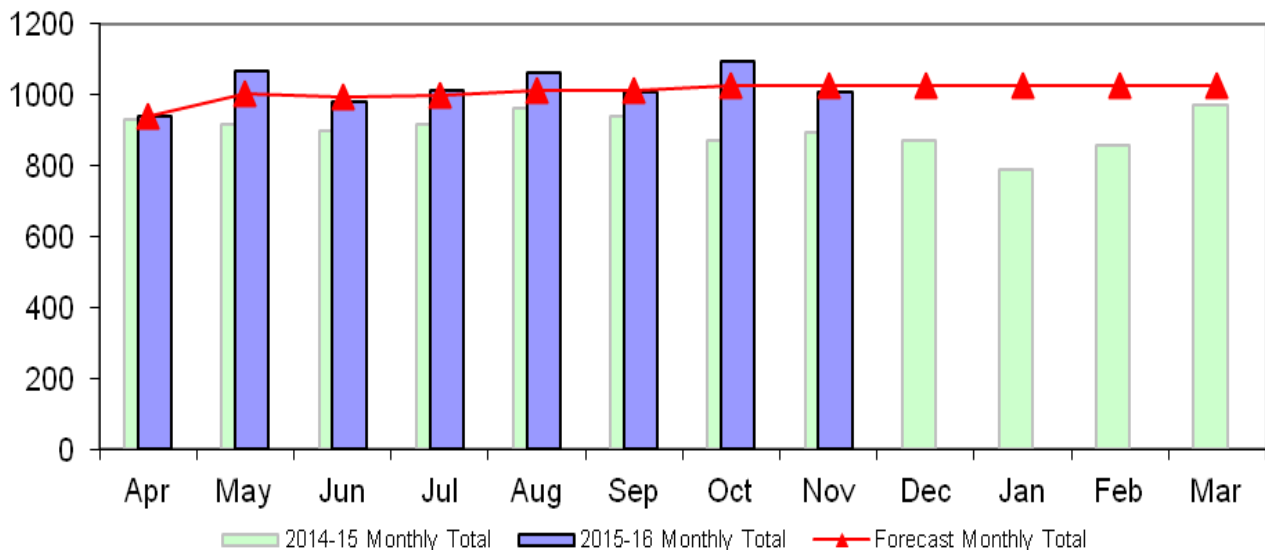
Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report for Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee

December 2015

1. Introduction and Overview

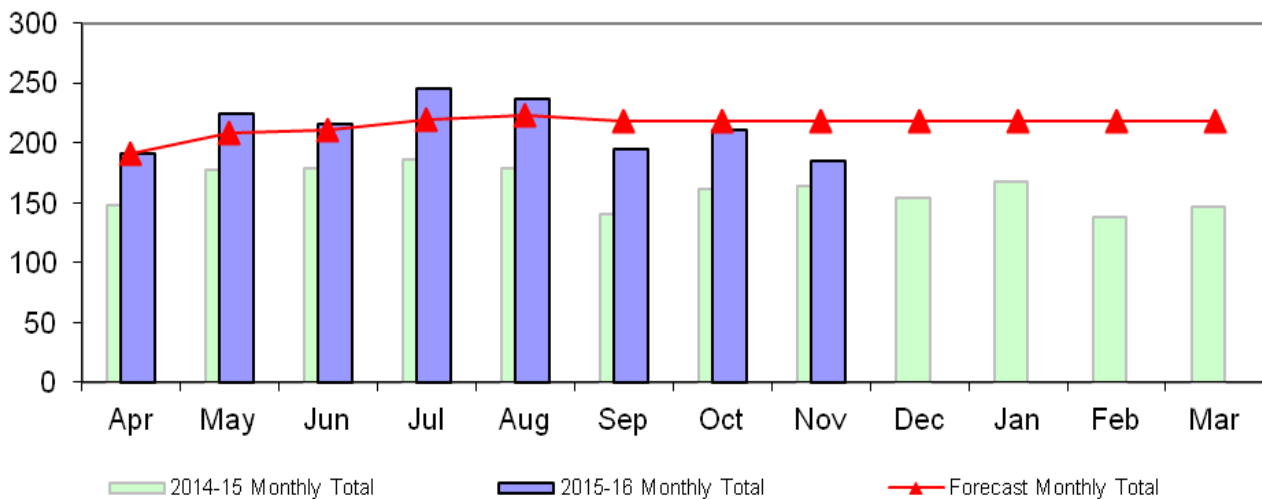
- 1.1. By the end of 2015/16, it is forecast that there will be an increase in total crime compared to the previous year of around 12%. Levels are projected to revert back to the figures of 2012/13. After the first 8 months of 2015/16, there were a reported 8174 crimes for the York region. Year end data for 2014/15 shows that total crime in York was 5% lower than 2013/14, which continued the trend over the previous 3 years
- 1.2. Significant increases are forecast in the violent crime, criminal damage and burglary of non-dwelling arenas.
- 1.3. Levels of acquisitive crime are forecast to remain in line with previous years, whilst domestic burglary and theft from a vehicle are both projected to increase marginally.
- 1.4. There has been a decrease in both the total level of shoplifting and anti-social behaviour reported during the first half of 2015/16.

Total Crime in York by Month



2. Violent Crime

- 2.1. Between April and November 2015 we have seen the increases seen in the previous year for violent crime continue with 1702 violent crimes recorded in the 8 month period. This is 17% greater than the number reported in the same period last year.
- 2.2. As at November 2015, York is currently in 5th place within its IQUANTA family for overall violence.

Total Violent Crime in York by Month

- 2.3. Between April and November 2015 there were 1279 alcohol related ASB incidents, 4% lower than during the same period in 2014. During 2014/15 there were 1,852 alcohol related ASB incidents across the City. This is a decrease of 21% compared against the figure reported in 2013/14.
- 2.4. Between April and November 2015 there were 1088 cases of criminal damage reported. This is 10% greater than the number reported in the same period last year. It is forecast that there will be an increase in criminal damage compared to previous years of around 16%. During 2014/15 1,389 incidents of criminal damage were reported across the City. This is a decrease of 14% compared against the figure reported in 2013/14.
- 2.5. As at November 2015, York is currently in 8th place within its IQUANTA family for Criminal Damage, this is an improvement of 1 place from the previous report, when York was ranked as 9th position.
- 2.6. Between April and November of 2015/16 there have been 468 violent crimes within the city centre ARZ recorded. This is 26% greater than the number reported in the same period last year. The number of violent crimes within the city centre ARZ dropped from 587 in 2013/14 to 561 in 2014/15, a decrease of 4%.
- 2.7. Between April and November 2015 there have been 1670 cases reported which is 126 fewer than the same period last year. The number of Incidents of ASB within the city centre ARZ increased from 2301 in 2013/14 to 2576 in 2014/15, an increase of 12%.
- 2.8. Since April 2015, there have been 45 reports of a robbery offence with the majority (40 cases) involving the taking of personal property. This is at similar levels to the same period in 2014/15.
- 2.9. Operation Erase – A meeting of the Operation Erase task group was held in October 2015 to review the impact of the new hard hitting approach in order to make the necessary changes before the campaign is rolled out in Spring 2016. All partners felt the new approach was having an impact:

- 2.10. BTP reported that 3 banners of the '*Had Enough? – We Have too*' campaign were displayed at the temporary ticket barrier and provided an opportunity to engage with passengers.
- 2.11. Poster versions of the campaign were displayed by the train operating companies in preparation for the weekends – at Teeside and Scarborough stations. Flyers of the artwork and Code of Conduct were also distributed and picked up by the local Press.
- 2.12. CYC Licensing reported that the licensees were on board with the new code of conduct and are self-policing their premises. Large groups are now being denied entry at many venues.
- 2.13. Alcohol Restriction Zone. In addition to the existing ARZ, a new Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) is being developed for the Groves area of the city to combat issues relating to street drinking. (PSPO's now replace ARZ's within the new ASB Tools and Powers legislation).
- 2.14. Operation Safari. North Yorkshire Police continue this operation to tackle violence and theft in the night time economy.
- 2.15. AVANTE: Funding has now been secured to continue the Alcohol Diversion Programme for another 12 months. Evaluation work has been undertaken and the Community Safety Manager will be working with Lifeline to ensure this project meets its requirements going forward.
- 2.16. River Safety. A dedicated River Safety sub group with its own action plan was established in 2014 and continues to meet on a quarterly basis. Much capital improvement work has been undertaken to improve river safety and both universities have worked to promote river safety messages amongst students. A River Safety Guide for schools was produced, including links to resources available to promote this message. We are currently working towards adopting the Water Incident Database which will allow for more accurate multi-agency recording of river-related incidents and assist in planning future safety measures.
- 2.17. Pub Watch. Pub Watch is currently seeking to increase its membership and to adopt a new electronic intelligence sharing intranet system.
- 2.18. Nightsafe Scheme. The very successful Nightsafe scheme continues to operate. Working in a similar way to the Street Angels this scheme provides a pool of student volunteers who are deployed in the city centre on student nights and can assist in caring for those under the influence of alcohol and get individuals home safely. The Nightsafe scheme was deployed during Freshers week.
- 2.19. Responsible Authorities under the Licensing Act 2003. Work has been undertaken to provide training to all the above organisations, including Public Health and Childrens' Safeguarding. This now means that all responsible authority representatives are aware of their responsibilities under the Licensing Act and can respond to Licensing applications in an informed way, giving a more robust response from a variety of partners.
- 2.20. New Psychoactive Substances ('Legal Highs'). A multi-agency sub group has been established to share information on the type and breadth of usage of NPS across the city and also where it may be being sold. To date, it does not appear that this is a problem in York, although there are pockets of usage amongst certain groups including the homeless

community. The New Psychoactive Substances Bill is currently progressing through Parliament.

2.21. Sex Establishment Venue Licensing Policy. Consultation with the public on the above ended on the 5th August. Work is now ongoing to draft a policy for York. The policy will set restrictions on number and locality of premises and will also ensure that any such venues operate safely in terms of their staff and customers by setting clear operating guidelines.

2.22. The Street Angels continue to provide an excellent support in the Night Time Economy.

3. Domestic Violence

3.1. Between April and November 2015, there have been 1915 incidents of domestic violence. This represents a small increase of 2% on the 1881 incidents reported during the same timeframe in 2014/15. There has not been a domestic violence murder recorded in York since 2008/09.

3.2. Early Intervention - Following a meeting with IDAS an agreement to take referrals up to December has been agreed. A reduction in the Clifton and Westfield area has been noted in the Police Domestic Abuse profile 2015. Further exploratory analysis will be carried out to see if this can be attributed to the Early Intervention project.

3.3. IDAS have employed staff to focus on raising awareness, media engagement and multi-agency working. A meeting was held at West Offices recently to look at the hard to reach/hear groups and to identify where our gaps were in relation to this.

3.4. Awareness raising: Over the Christmas period a poster campaign was launched featuring the same designs used on social media platforms. This included 5 designs based on the Christmas Carol themes. We also linked up with the IDAS Thunderclap which spread the word via social media further.

3.5. MARAC development - A pilot with GPs has been agreed in the Selby Area to be part of Info Sharing at MARACs. If successful this will be rolled out across York and North Yorkshire. This is working in partnership with Health Safeguarding.

3.6. Perpetrator Pilot (Positive Steps) - This has now ended and has been very successful to the extent that two families were removed from the child protection register and one family from Child protection to Child in need. A further meeting was held to look at the long-term plan for positive steps. Funding was agreed to fill the gap until the end of the financial year with the OPCC looking to fund the 12 month programme in the new financial year and 2 programmes have been planned.

3.7. DVPN / DVDS - The Police tool DVPN has been implemented now and the Domestic Abuse officers and co-ordinator are actively assisting Police by attending court and providing overarching statements. DVDS, Right to Know, are now embedded and are used in MARAC if the Police are unsure whether to disclose.

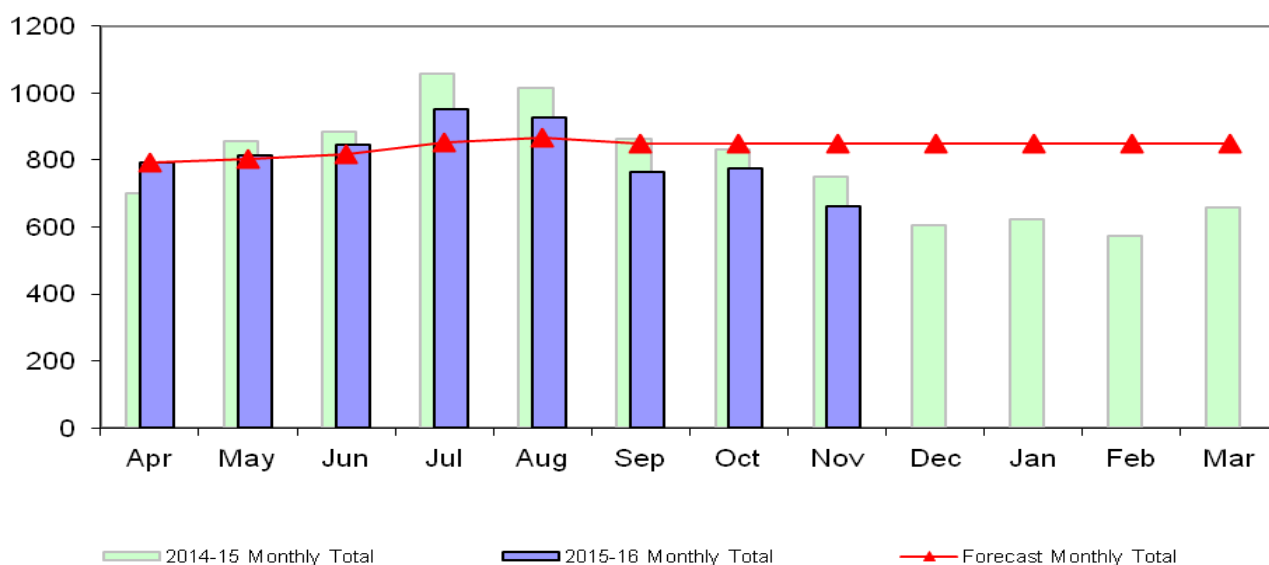
3.8. Training - MAPPA and MARAC is to be rescheduled. The Police have a rolling programme for PCSOs for Domestic Abuse. Training has been completed this year for Special Police Officers and 4 student Police Officers.

3.9. Making Safe - A set programme of work is now undertaken with perpetrators of domestic abuse and is called Foundation4change. Funding has been granted for Foundation to offer some form of emergency accommodation in situations where perpetrators are not able to find emergency accommodation straight from custody.

4. Anti-Social Behaviour

4.1. Between April and November 2015, there have been 6538 NYP recorded ASB calls for service. This represents a 5% decrease from the same period last year.

Total Police recorded Anti-Social Behaviour in York by Month



4.2. There have been 178 cases of graffiti between April and November 2015 which is 74 more than in the same period last year.

4.3. Between April and November 2015 there have been 992 cases of fly-tipping. This is a 3% increase on the reported 966 cases of fly-tipping during the same period last year.

4.4. Since the ASB Hub started collecting data in February 2015, there have been 1209 new cases recorded. Between April and November 2015 there have been 793 new cases of anti-social behaviour recorded. These new cases recorded were categorised as follows, 43% are nuisance, 10% personal, 21% environmental and 26% categorised as other.

4.5. By the end of November 2015, there were 603 cases recorded that have been closed by the ASB Hub, of which 567 had been resolved (94%) and 36 remained unresolved (6%). As at the end of November 2015 there were 465 ASB cases open.

4.6. Interviews took place for a new Anti Social Behaviour Officer in December to increase the number of cases that the team can deal with.

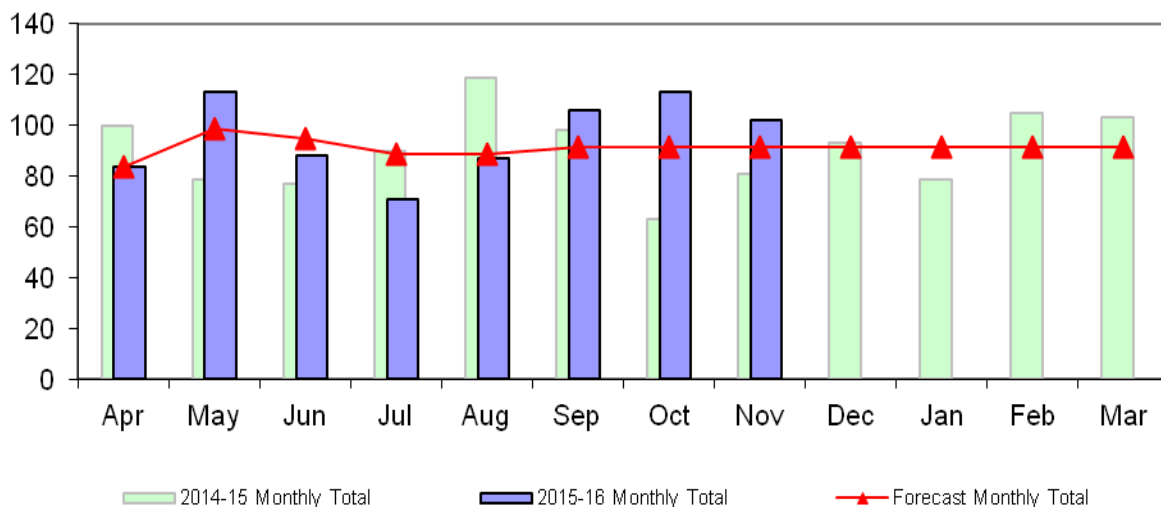
4.7. The University evaluation of the Community Safety Hub has re-started, and between now and the end of the year, the University will be talking with residents and staff about both the problems and outcomes that they have experienced. The University has now interviewed 4 victims of ASB, as well as carrying out focus groups with members of staff from both CYC and NYP.

- 4.8. The Executive Member has agreed to introduce a Public Space Protection Order for the Groves to target anti social behaviour from people drinking in the area. Staff were briefed week commencing 14th December so that they were aware of the process
- 4.9. SYP have recently met with E-Cins, who deliver the IT system that staff use, we have made requests to further improve the system. These updates will be monitored against agreed timescales.
- 4.10. The ASB Hub Officers have now been given geographical responsibilities across bands to ensure that knowledge of cases and areas continue to remain high, and the Officers will be attending meetings with the local SNA's to both pass back and receive information.
- 4.11. Customer Feedback evaluation surveys are due to start at the end of the November, which will improve the feedback and enable the Hub to improve service delivery for local residents.

5. Other Information

- 5.1. Between April to November of 2015/16 there have been 764 cases recorded. This is an increase of 57 cases compared to the same period last year. Total levels for 2015/16, are projected to remain in line with those reported in 2014/15.

Total Serious Acquisitive Crime in York by Month



- 5.2. Between April and November 2015 there have been 302 reported incidents of domestic burglary, this is a slight increase in relation to last years reported figure of 292 for the same period. It is currently projected that levels will show a slight increase of around 4% by the end of 2015/16.
- 5.3. Non-domestic burglary rates have increased significantly in 2015-16, up by 56% with 571 Burglary's of a Non-Dwelling reported between April –November 2015 against the 366 reported for the same period in 2014. Total levels of non-domestic burglary are projected to revert back to the numbers seen in 2012/13 after two years of significant reduction.
- 5.4. Total cases of theft from a vehicle are projected to increase by around 4% by the end of the year. Between April and November 2015, we have had 316 reported cases, an increase of 38 from last years 278 cases reported during the same period. As at November 2015, York is

Annex A

currently in 3rd place within its IQUANTA family for theft from a vehicle, this is a decrease of 1 place from the start of the year, when York was ranked in 2nd position.

- 5.5. Between April-November 2015, bicycle theft has increased by 26% from the same period last year. With a total of 744 thefts reported between April-November 2015. Levels of cycle theft remain high in York and we are currently in 15th place in the IQUANTA family for this indicator.
- 5.6. To date in 2015/16 ASB levels at the University remain low with 13 incidents of ASB reported at the University between April-November 2015. Crime at the university is showing a significant increase with 55 incidents of crime reported year to date, this is an increase of 21 cases reported during the same period in 2014. Of the 55 crimes reported to date, 26 were reported during October and November 2015.
- 5.7. Data for York Hospital shows that between April-November 2015 there have been 45 reported crimes and 45 identified incidents of ASB. This is 26 crimes fewer and 9 ASB incidents greater than by the same period last year.
- 5.8. Work has recently taken place to update advice leaflets around: domestic burglary, shed security and cycle theft.
- 5.9. Hate crime data is currently unavailable. Work is being completed between City of York Council and North Yorkshire Police in order to create a comparable dataset.
- 5.10. Between April and November 2015 there were 947 cases of shoplifting recorded. This is 7% less than during the same period last year.
- 5.11. In the first six months of 2015/16 there were 26 people killed or seriously injured and 186 people slightly injured. This compares to 38 and 247 respectively by the same period last year.
- 5.12. Overall, York remains in 11th place within the IQUANTA crime family of 15 local authorities.
- 5.13. Members of York's IQUANTA family are:

Cheshire - Cheshire East	Hertfordshire - Welwyn & Hatfield
Cheshire - Cheshire West	Kent - Canterbury
Devon & Cornwall - Exeter	Kent - Maidstone
Essex - Brentwood	Kent - Tunbridge Wells
Essex - Colchester	Lancashire - Fylde
Greater Manchester - Trafford	Metropolitan Police - Hillingdon
Hertfordshire - Hertsmere	Wiltshire - Swindon

Report Written By:

Tanya Lyon, Crime Reduction Manager
 Paul Morrison, Neighborhood Safety Manager
 Jo Beilby, Domestic Violence Co-Coordinator
 Laura Campling, Senior Business Intelligence Officer
 Ian Cunningham, Group Manager, Shared Intelligence Bureau

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**Communities and Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Thursday 21st January 2016**

UPDATE ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

1. Background

At the Last Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee, an update report specifically on domestic abuse was requested from Safer York Partnership. This report provides the domestic abuse data, adds the context to allow more accurate understanding of the data, outlines the work that has been taking place in York and also at a sub-regional (York & North Yorkshire) level.

2. Data

2014-15

Key Statistics	Total
Total Domestic Incidents	2746
Repeat Incidents	1017
% Repeats	37%
Incidents involving arrest	593
% Incidents involving arrest	22%
Incidents with child present	660
% Incidents with child present	24%

2015-16 (April – December)

Key Statistics	Total
Total Domestic Incidents	2182
Repeat Incidents April – July*	269
% Repeats	27%
Incidents involving arrest	506
% Incidents involving arrest	26%
Incidents with child present	461
% Incidents with child present	24%

* Please note that North Yorkshire Police (NYP) are changing the way in which Domestic Abuse Data is collected and reported and therefore repeat victim data has not been available since July

Incident Levels 2014-2015

Incident Level	Total	%
Standard Risk	1095	55
Medium Risk	715	36
High Risk	188	9
Unknown	748	-
TOTAL	2746	100

2015-16 April - July

Incident Level	Total	%
Standard Risk	373	52
Medium Risk	261	36
High Risk	86	12
Unknown	283	-
TOTAL	1003	100

All Domestic abuse incidents are recorded according to the risk level. Medium cases are those which would immediately trigger a multi-agency response. High risk cases are those subject to significant intervention e.g. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) . Standard risk cases would normally be dealt with as any other reported police incident. However, York has an early intervention project in place which provides more support at this stage. More detail on this is provided later within the report.

- 2.1 Data sets for 2015-16 are incomplete as NYP is currently reviewing the way in which data on Domestic Abuse is collated and reported. This is referenced later in the report.
- 2.2 The number of recorded domestic abuse incidents in York increased by 3% between 2013/14 and 2014/15. Slight increases have also been recorded in the first eight months of 2015/16. This is in line with a national increase and has been attributed to more consistent crime recording by the police and more public confidence in reporting incidents to the police.

- 2.3 York continues to experience the highest level of reported domestic incidents in the force area representing no change from previous years. However, decreases have been recorded in Westfield, Clifton and Heworth Wards which are likely to be attributable to the Early Intervention work undertaken within these wards.
- 2.4 Weekend periods record the highest number of occurrences with July being the peak month closely followed by December. This corresponds to the school holidays where families will spend more time together. Anecdotally, Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) have identified an increase in reporting after domestic related storylines have been incorporated into popular television soaps.
- 2.5 Domestic occurrences containing contributory elements of alcohol, drugs, mental health or linked to vulnerable adults or children are difficult to measure. From data that is available, 22% have alcohol and 2% have drugs as a contributory factor. Mental health is a factor in 6% and vulnerability is a factor in 1%.
- 2.6 Although York has the highest number of repeat victims across the North Yorkshire Police force area, averaging at 30%. Whilst this may seem high, it is within the national norm (28-40%). Slight reductions recorded in repeat incidents are attributed to the success of the Making Safe Scheme.

3.0 **Victims**

Female victims continue to dominate, although the number of male victims has increased. The age profile for both is similar i.e. between 22 and 28 years.

- 3.1 The early intervention project implemented within York 2013- 2016 has reduced repeat incidents for victims graded as standard risk, preventing them from increasing to a higher risk level. The project enables an IDAS early intervention worker and Police Community Support Officer to visit standard risk victims to provide support and advice. Between December 2014 and December 2015, 129 victims were contacted by the Early Intervention Worker of which 103 (80%) engaged with the service. These were then signposted to triage services or safety planning. Of those cases monitored

through Early Intervention, 124 victims (61%) did not experience repeat occurrences of domestic abuse and 86% experienced less than three calls for service. Prior to the piloting of this service, victims recorded as 'Standard' would not have received contact from a support worker and would most likely have resulted in a repeat incident. The project has been deemed successful and will form part of the specification for domestic abuse victim support services commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for York and North Yorkshire from April 2016.

- 3.1 Emotional abuse is most prevalent amongst victims in York, followed by physical abuse, verbal abuse and control.
- 3.2 The Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator works other support agencies/groups to support communities where research suggests domestic abuse is more prevalent. Literature highlighting all local services available to victims is made available to these groups.
- 3.3 A new awareness campaign was launched by IDAS in November which includes information on how they intend to raise awareness and provide additional services to 'hard to reach' or overlooked groups experiencing domestic abuse. This includes parents who are victimised by their children, male victims and those who wouldn't normally report to the police. The service provides a single point of contact for self referrals via a 24 hour, 7 day week helpline and is intended to add value and enhance the services of IDAS by completing a victim needs assessment at point of contact. Increased access to the current Live Web Chat facility and additional outreach resources will be embedded into existing services provision.

4.0 **Perpetrators**

Male perpetrators continue to dominate with most aged in their mid 20s. The number of repeat perpetrators has decreased

- 4.1 In York, Safer York Partnership has been piloting a perpetrator project in conjunction with IDAS and Probation. Implemented in April 2015, Positive Steps is a 15 week programme specific to perpetrators, delivered in a safe, non-judgemental environment. The project enables them to build on their strengths and skills in order to make positive changes in current or future relationships. Subjects covered include relationships/communication and

feelings, children, parenting and co-parenting together with managing emotions and non-violent conflict resolution. Positive results within the first four months include one child returned to parents, one child moving from child protection to child in need and one family removed from any social care involvement due to the work that the victim and offender have undertaken. The pilot has been deemed so successful that it will form part of the specification for domestic abuse victim support services commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for York and North Yorkshire (OPCC) from April 2016.

5.0 Children and Young People

In 2014-15, York held 176 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs). This is a decrease from 199 in the previous year but recognises the work that has been in done on earlier intervention to reduce the risk level of domestic abuse cases. Data is not available for 2015-16 at this time although this will form part of ongoing work to improve the quality of future performance reports

- 5.1 City of York Council recorded 660 North Yorkshire Police incidents where children were recorded as present in 2014-15. This represents almost a quarter of domestic abuse incidents and is a 19% increase on the previous year. Within enquiries to York Childrens' Social Care, 1.44% were listed as 'Concern: Domestic abuse by child' with 13% as 'Concern: Domestic Abuse by Parent/Carer'. Detailed analysis of other factors relating to the remaining cases is not available. These figures place domestic abuse within the top three reasons for the enquiry alongside neglect and parental mental health. These issues are all the focus of multi-agency work within the city to tackle Domestic Abuse and its underlying causes.
- 5.2 The Family Focus (Troubled Families) programme in York has identified 160 children from 74 families supported by the programme as affected by domestic abuse. It should be noted that specific national criteria apply to those cases which are picked up through the troubled families programme. Those cases involving children who fall outside the remit of the Family focus cases are
- 5.3 IDAS have reported an increase in the number of parents presenting because of domestic related issues with their children,

consequently they are offering increased support to parents and young people, the latter via the 'Respect' programme. Although Respect funding was only available until March 2016, this will form part of the victims support service commissioning process for domestic abuse by the OPCC from April 2016.

6.0 Forced Marriage/Honour Based Abuse

The number of honour based abuse occurrences reported remains low. However, the number of calls made from York to the 'Honour Network Helpline' increased from 4 in 2014 to 14 in the first six months of 2015. Of these calls, 40% were from victims and the remainder from professionals e.g. NYP, Education, Safeguarding etc.

7.0 Improving the Governance arrangements for Domestic Abuse

In June 2015, a conference call took place as a result of a meeting between the Deputy Chief Constable and Safeguarding Adult and Children's leads for York and North Yorkshire. This followed concerns about the lack of clarity of governance arrangements for Domestic Abuse. Previously, York had a Domestic Abuse Strategy Group and the County received reports through the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership with separate reports being presented to the respective Safeguarding boards for the City and County. The result of the conference call was the establishment of a task and finish group comprised of representation from City of York Council, North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The remit was to review governance arrangements and report findings and recommendations to the Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) for York and North Yorkshire.

- 7.1 The group met in July 2015 and reviewed the existing arrangements and reporting channels. The resulting report was submitted to both North Yorkshire CSP and Safer York Partnership in September 2015. The proposed model was to review the existing York and North Yorkshire Joint Coordinating group (JCG), comprised of operational leads on domestic abuse. It also proposed that the JCG collate a comprehensive quarterly performance report which presents both the statistical picture alongside the context and progress reports of work supporting

delivery of domestic abuse services. This report would then be submitted to both North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership and Safer York Partnership where safeguarding children's' and adults' representatives could then take the same report to their respective boards. The CSPs would have the overall strategic governance responsibility for domestic abuse with safeguarding boards reporting on their activities through their representation on the partnerships.

- 7.2 Both CSPs have approved the proposal and work is being led by Odette Robson, Head of Safer Communities for North Yorkshire County Council and Jane Mowat, Head of Community Safety for City of York Council to revise the JCG and develop the performance structure.

8.0 **The Future of Domestic Abuse Services**

Domestic Abuse support services are commissioned by the OPCC. Until March 2016, this is confined to victim services, although other services in York such as the Perpetrator programme have been funded via Safer York Partnership from their allocation of OPCC funding. The OPCC has collated all information relating to both directly commissioned services and those funded as projects through the community safety partnerships in order to develop a single comprehensive specification for all domestic abuse support from April 2016. This will include extending the York perpetrator and early intervention projects across York and North Yorkshire and continuation of the 'Respect' training programme.

9.0 **Conclusion**

Domestic abuse continues to be a priority within City of York council and Safer York Partnership. The revision in governance arrangements will clarify reporting processes and ensure that consistent information is provided to both the community safety partnerships for York and North Yorkshire and also to the respective county and city Safeguarding Boards. Work has continued in York to further develop services provided to both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse, recognising that this dual focused approach delivers the most beneficial outcomes. Projects funded through Safer York Partnership have included the continued development of the Early Intervention project, the pilot of

the Perpetrators Programme and the extension of IDAS's helpline for emergency support and advice to a 24 hour, seven days a week service. As a result of success achieved in York, these projects have informed the development of the overall service specification for domestic abuse from April 2016 to be extended across the city and county.

Jane Mowat
Head of Community Safety
City of York Council
Tel (01904) 555742

Glossary of Abbreviations

CSP – Community Safety Partnerships

JCG – Joint Coordinating Group

IDAS – Independent Domestic Abuse Service

MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

NYP – North Yorkshire Police

OPCC – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner



Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee

20 January 2016

Report of the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Review of Neighbourhood Working Arrangements

Summary

1. This report seeks input from the Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee into a review of the Council's neighbourhood working arrangements. The committee's experience will be fed into the review that is to be considered by the Executive Member for Economic Development and Community Engagement at his 8 March meeting.

Background

2. In July, 2015 the Executive agreed a new approach to community engagement, supporting ward members to:
 - Work with local communities to develop local priorities and help deliver on these
 - Help empower local communities and devolve more budgets to residents
3. The Executive agreed that the approach be kept under review and that a report be brought back, after 6 months, in the first instance to the relevant scrutiny committee, this report to cover all aspects of the system including progress with ward spending, the impact of the spend and the outcomes and benefits that it has achieved.

Key Elements of the Approach and Questions for the Review

4. This section of the report identifies the key elements of the Council's neighbourhood working approach and suggests key questions for the review. Officers will bring examples of good practice to the meeting for discussion and committee members are also invited to identify examples of good practice under each heading in order that learning can be shared.
5. **Ward Committees:** Central to the new approach was the re-establishment of Ward Committees, chaired by the ward councillors, in order to:

- Engage residents on issues affecting the ward and draw up priorities to address these issues
- Agree expenditure and services from budgets allocated to the ward
- Stimulate community schemes that tackle local issues,
- Engage with local residents about some of the big issues facing the Council
- Work with communities to scrutinise the delivery of local services
- Select ward planning panels where required

6. Questions / Examples of good practice:

- How effectively have members been able to engage with their communities through the new arrangements?
- What examples of good practice are there in establishing ward priorities?
- How effectively have we been able to communicate with local residents through these arrangements about the issues facing the city / the Council?
- To what extent are residents able to hold the Council to account through the new arrangements
- What styles of meetings have worked best?

7. **Ward Teams:** Designed to complement Ward Committees, Ward Teams are there help ward councillors by bringing to the table:

- Feedback from residents about their views and ideas
- Local knowledge from partner organisations
- Statistical data and other ward information in the form of a ward profile
- Awareness of key agenda that would not normally crop up in ward meetings such as resident health and experience of adult social care services
- Ideas for projects and solutions

8. These will help highlight priorities for the ward member(s) and guide use of the ward budgets.

9. Questions / Examples of good practice:

- Which partners have ward members brought to the table?
- What have members done to get voluntary / community groups involved?
- How effective has the ward team been in gathering information?
- What good examples exist of effective action planning?

10. **Devolved Budgets:** Additional budgets were devolved to wards to create a single pot that wards can use flexibly to help address their priorities and to develop community initiatives which benefit local residents and reduce reliance on Council services. A total of £925k was devolved. The ward pots are made up of:
 - The general “Ward Budget”
 - The “Pride in York Fund”, made of both one-off and recurring elements, for the purpose of supporting environmental initiatives
 - The “Community Care Fund” aiming to support the prevention or delay of people needing to access formal care packages and statutory support
11. The ward pot can be spent as wards see fit within Council policies and procedures. The budgets may be used to give grants or to buy services.
12. In addition:
 - A Ward Highways Programme was instituted partly localising the process for allocating highway improvements through the ward committees
 - The grounds maintenance spend in each ward was devolved to the ward
13. Questions / Examples of good practice:
 - How have members got word out to their wards about the budgets available and how people can get involved in discussions?
 - How have members been able to use ward budgets effectively to tackle local residents’ priorities?
 - What evidence can be shown of impacts, outcomes and benefits from ward spending?
 - To what extent have the “local services options” developed by officers proved useful?
14. **Publicity:** The current arrangements are that we use *Our City* where to can to publicise meeting dates, as well as social media, flyers where appropriate, residents’ email distribution, residents’ associations, councillors’ own publications, notice boards, and the Council’s website.
15. Questions / Examples of good practice:
 - What have been the best ways of making local residents aware of the opportunities to get involved in the new arrangements?

- What ways have members found to increase attendance at Ward Committees?

16. **Other Questions:**

- What further support would members like to receive in operating the new arrangements?

Next Steps

17. Feedback from the committee will be fed into the report to the Executive Member and will inform plans for 2016/17.

Recommendations

18. That the scrutiny committee comment on their experience of:
- Engaging their communities and holding effective ward committee meetings
 - Establishing ward priorities
 - Leading ward teams to deliver action against priorities
 - Using ward budgets effectively

The scrutiny committee is asked to identify examples of best practice that can be shared with other members.

The scrutiny committee is asked to identify any additional support that they would find useful in working within these arrangements.

Reason: To provide feedback for the Executive Member and inform plans for 2016/17.

Contact Details

Authors:	Chief Officer responsible for report:
Mary Bailey Head of Communities & Equalities Charlie Croft Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and Public Realm)	Sally Burns Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods
Report Approved ✓	Date: 7 January, 2016
Specialist Implications Officer: N/A	
Wards Affected:	All ✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: None

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Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee – Workplan 2015-16

Dates	Work Programme
16 June 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductory Report inc. Ideas on Potential Topics for Review in this Municipal Year 2. Verbal update on the Costs Associated with Fly-tipping 3. Further Implementation Update on Recommendations from Community Resilience Scrutiny Review 4. Workplan 2015-16
27 July 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Executive Member for Environment 2. Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report (Jane Mowat) 3. Briefing Paper on Domestic Violence (Jane Mowat) 4. Report on Proposals for New Community Engagement Model (CC/MB) 5. Workplan 2015-16
22 Sept 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods 2. CYC Year End Financial & Performance Monitoring Report 3. CYC First Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Patrick Looker) 4. Update on the work of AVANTE (Alcohol, Violence & Night-Time Economy) (Tanya Lyon SYP) 5. Feasibility Report on Proposed Scrutiny Topics: ‘Geese’ and ‘Stag & Hen Parties’ 6. Implementation Update on Recommendations from Domestic Waste Scrutiny Review 7. Workplan 2015-16
17 Nov 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation Update on Recommendations from Domestic Waste Scrutiny Review 2. Overview Report on Work of Substance Misuse Team 3. Implementation Update on Recommendations from A-boards Scrutiny Review 4. Update report on work of Horse Bailiff 5. Update Report on Stag & Hen Parties Scrutiny Review – Proposals for Review Remit 5. Proposed Geese Scrutiny Review - Feedback from the meeting with Friends of Rowntree Park 6. Workplan 2015-16
20 Jan 2016 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Executive Member for Environment 2. CYC Second Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Patrick Looker) 3. Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report (Ian Cunningham/Jane Mowat) 4. Safer York Partnership Report on Domestic Violence (Mowat) 5. Consultation Report on ‘Review of Neighbourhood Working Arrangements’ (Charlie Croft) 6. Report on York Tenancy Strategy & CYC Allocations Policy (Steve Waddington) 7. Workplan 2015-16

15 March 2016 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CYC Third Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report2. Update on Anti-Social Behaviour Hub3. Workplan 2015-16
17 May 2016 @ 5:30pm	