

**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
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Annex A - Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report