





**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	Environment & Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 January 2009
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Morgan (Chairman), Janio (Deputy Chairman), Davey, Davis, Drake, Rufus, Smart and Wells
Contact:	Mary van Beinum 01273 - 29 - 1062 mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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51. ITEMS TO BE TAKEN FORWARD TO CABINET MEMBER, CABINET OR COUNCIL MEETING

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Mary van Beinum, (01273 - 29 - 1062, email mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Friday, 16 January 2009

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS.

A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Commission is unable to attend a meeting for whatever reason, a substitute Member (who is not a Cabinet Member) may attend and speak and vote in their place for that meeting. Substitutes are not allowed on Scrutiny Select Committees or Scrutiny Panels.

The substitute Member shall be a Member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the Member who is unable to attend the meeting, and must not already be a Member of the Commission. The substitute Member must declare themselves as a substitute, and be minuted as such, at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as they arrive.

B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at meeting of that Committee where –
 - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
 - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
 - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
 - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:-
 - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
 - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and
 - (c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:-

(a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence,

(b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee, or

(c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

C. Declaration of party whip

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4.00PM 10 NOVEMBER 2008

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Morgan (Chairman); Janio (Deputy Chairman), Davey, Davis, Drake, Rufus and Smart

PART ONE

30. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

30A Declarations of Substitutes

There were none

30b Declarations of Interests

There were none

30c Exclusion of Press and Public

In accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it was considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in section 100I (1) of the said Act.

RESOLVED – That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

31. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

32. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

32.1 The Chairman reminded the Committee of the Joint workshop with the Culture Tourism and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the London Road Supplementary

Planning Document to be held on January 7th. A start time of 3pm would be convenient for the Members present.

32.2 The Chairman also noted that he had received complaints from residents about missed waste collections and would be asking for information at the next Committee meeting.

33. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

34. PERFORMANCE REPORT

34.1 The Head of Performance and Improvement Barbara Green introduced the report on the Comprehensive Performance Assessment Environment service block and gave details on the table of indicators. Further performance reports were scheduled for this Committee for January and March meetings.

34.2 Asked about satisfaction with waste collection, she said the 68% was based on a survey undertaken in 2006; a local survey in 2007 showed a satisfaction rate of more than 77%. As regards Indicator E12, reducing road casualties, she said actions were being taken.

34.3 The Chairman said he would like to focus on waste collection in discussing performance at the next meeting.

34.4 Committee asked how satisfaction levels were measured and why and how some indicators were adjusted for deprivation. More information would be provided.

34.5 RESOLVED – (1) That the Committee be updated on the Council's performance against the Environment CPA service block and continue to monitor performance.

(2) That Committee approve the plan to bring performance reports before them as follows:

Q2 Performance report – meeting of 26 January 2009

Q3 Performance report - meeting of 23 March 2009.

35. STREET LIGHTING

35.1 The Chairman welcomed Mr Nigel Hall of EDF to the meeting to discuss street lighting. EDF is the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) for Brighton and Hove.

35.2 The Head of Network Management introduced the report. The street lighting service had been moved to 'Network Management' in April. Action was being taken to improve performance and business processes including staff support were being updated. Brighton and Hove had a wide variety of street lighting columns and a high proportion that were more than 40 years old; this caused complex difficulties.

35.3 Members noted that lighting provided by Council Housing or Housing Associations was not within the remit of Highways. The Highways specialist contractor Colas was set up for working only on the road network. The Senior Engineer, Highways and Streetworks said that all Highways street lighting was numbered and marked.

35.4 The Committee expressed the view that customer service could be improved by simplifying the process for reporting lighting faults wherever they occur.

35.5 Replying the questions on rising energy prices and the environmental and financial costs of street lighting, the officers said faulty lights needed to be given first priority and day burning lamps would be dealt with as soon as possible.

35.6 Meanwhile a number of more environmentally-friendly initiatives such as lower-wattage lamps and solar powered options were being investigated and more cost-effective alternatives would be introduced where possible. However the financial cost of repair/maintenance and replacement of lighting columns was significant.

35.7 Mr Hall thanked the Committee for inviting him to discuss street lighting and referred to his paper that had been circulated with the agenda. He said Local Authorities had common issues, especially with rising energy costs, and it was important to develop energy efficient lighting schemes. He also pointed out that heritage stock usually had heritage cables.

35.8 He said EDF had done a lot of work this year towards 'Excellence in Unmetered Connections.' There were more staff working on repairs, different work practices and changes to contracts. Other major steps forward were the new Service Level Agreement and a new system of performance reporting. As regards Communications, bi-monthly meeting with officers are being scheduled.

35.9 Mr Hall said this had been a challenging year. He had had positive feedback and he felt there was the basis of a good working relationship between EDF and the Council.

35.10 Answering questions Mr Hall said unmetered connections were normal practice, where the loading was steady. The new service standards published by regulator Ofgem applicable to all DNOs were 'stretched' in certain areas – for example emergency attendance within 2 hours could be a challenge

35.11 The Committee noted that EDF own the power cable, electricity supply system and plant and the Council owns the street lights. The maintenance contract with Colas was due to expire in 4 – 5 years.

35.12 Members remarked that street lighting in itself did have equalities implications in that it can enhance the quality of life for people using the public highway especially those with visual impairment.

35.13 The Committee considered whether to set up a scrutiny review, in good time before the current maintenance contract expires, to including different lighting options and best practice elsewhere.

35.14 Taking into account the new team, new service level agreement, new performance monitoring system and current trials with lights it was agreed to ask for an officer progress report in one year.

35.15 The Chairman thanked Mr Hall for speaking to the Committee.

RESOLVED (1) that the contents of the report be noted.

(2) that a progress report, including simplifying fault reporting, be requested to a meeting in one year.

36. INTEGRATED TRANSPORT

The Head of Transport Strategy and Projects gave a presentation on Integrated Transport in Brighton & Hove.

RESOLVED – That the presentation be noted.

37. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT 2008

37.1 The Head of Transport Strategy and Projects and Head of Transport Planning introduced the report, which will be considered by the Environment Cabinet Member at the meeting on 11 December.

37.2 Members were particularly concerned about the number of road casualties and heard about the measures being taken to reduce casualties.

37.3 Officers answered queries as follows:

1) Q. Is the Rapid Transport System (RTS) viable? Why would it cost £13million? How are major developments along the way, factored into the feasibility?

A. Modelling was in progress to assess the RTS practical delivery, operation and patronage and value for money. Investment would be needed in both road and vehicles. The current option seeks to use buses though it would be possible to convert if appropriate.

2) Q. Can the Council have any control of bus routes in the City – eg along the seafront, north-south routes, and east-west other than via Palmeira Square and Churchill Square?

A. It is the bus operators, rather than Local Authorities, that indicate the bus routes around the City.

3) Q. Why are there not more bus services on the outskirts of the City?

A. As almost all bus routes are run on a commercial basis, bus services in areas on the outskirts of the City are mostly commercial decisions; a few are being subsidised to enable any level of service. The Bus Strategy is posted on the Council's website.

4) Q. Is it possible for a private promoter to introduce a Monorail to complement the rapid transport system?

A. Yes, potentially.

5) Q. What is the latest on Park and Ride?

A. No preferred site has been identified for Park and Ride, which forms part of the strategy. Discussions are on-going with regard to development and potential delivery of park and ride.

6) Q. What is the role and remit of the Traffic Commissioners and how can they be contacted?

A. This information would be forwarded to Members.

7) Q. I have heard concerns about road safety and cycling along the cycle lanes in Grand Avenue; what is being done?

A. We are undergoing a post-implementation review. After analysis in the coming weeks, some modifications may be made to the scheme. Further information to be forwarded to the Committee.

8) Q. There seems to have been a doubling in number of cycling trips. What progress are we making?

A. Manual counts were previously done but now working with Cycling England new automatic traffic counters have been installed to enable valid comparisons to be made in future.

37.4 Officers would provide access to the key elements of the Local Transport Bill, soon to be enacted.

37.5 The Committee wished to add Buses, Cycling and Rapid Transport System to the Committee's Work Plan.

37.6 RESOLVED; (1) that the comments/queries made at this meeting be taken into account by the Environment Cabinet Member.

(2) That further information on Traffic Commissioners, Grand Avenue cycle lanes review and Local Transport Bill, be forwarded to the Committee Members as minuted above.

38. OLDER PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY - PROPOSAL FOR SCRUTINY PANEL

38.1 The Committee agreed to set up a scrutiny panel on Older People and Community Safety. Councillors Mo Marsh, Bill Randall, David Smart and David Watkins would serve on the Panel and the Older People's Council co-optee would be John Eyles.

38.2 It was noted that individual older people as well as agencies would be invited to contribute to the review.

38.3 RESOLVED: (1) that a cross-party scrutiny panel on older people and community safety be established.

(2) that the panel comprise four elected BHCC councillors and one non-voting co-optee of the Older People's Council

(3) That the remit of the Panel as set out in the report Appendix 1 be agreed

(4) that Help the Aged be added to the list of initial consultees.

39. ECSOSC WORK PLAN

39.1 Members noted that there were a number of issues they wished to pursue and they would need to prioritise items for consideration at future meetings.

39.2 An officer report on allotments would be brought to the January 26 meeting.

39.3 The Chairman asked for additional information on missed waste collections, particularly in the East Brighton area, to be included in the next meeting.

39.4 The Committee was asked to forward comments/queries regarding buses to the Scrutiny Support Officer, for an officer report to a future meeting.

40. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR COUNCIL

Comments on Item 37, the Local Transport Plan Progress Report 2008 to be taken forward to the Environment Cabinet Member Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 6.40pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 46

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Local Area Agreement Delivery – Quarter Two
2008 /2009

Date of Meeting: 26 January 2009

Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance

Contact Officer: Name: Lisa Shaw Tel: 29-1131
E-mail: Lisa.shaaw@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report updates committee on the progress of the Local Area Agreement Delivery plan (Q2) for Environment and Community Safety.
- 1.2 The report tracks progress against key actions and milestones to provide elected members with a fuller picture of progress and an early indication of 'performance drift' for environment and community safety.
- 1.3 Direction of travel to date is highlighted using a 'traffic light system'. The definitions for performance rating are outlined on page 2 of Appendix 1.
- 1.4 This report covers the period up to September 08. Q3 report will be presented to committee on 23 March 09. This will detail the main areas of concern only and a 'year one' update is anticipated after June 2009 (date to be confirmed).
- 1.5 The majority of information measured by the National Indicator Set and the Local Area Agreement is only available on an annual frequency. We have worked with partners to agree targets and milestones for the period of the agreement.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 (1) That the Committee notes progress against the Local Area Agreement and the main areas of concern within the delivery plan.
- (2) That the Committee notes that report on progress against the Local Area Agreement for Q3 will be brought before committee on 23 March 09 and this will highlight the main areas of concern.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The report contains extracts from the full Q2 Performance Improvement Report that went before Cabinet on 18 December 08.

- 3.2 It highlights the direction of travel for environment and community safety national and local indicators within the Local Area Agreement and also summarises progress and any risks associated with delivery of targets.
- 3.3 This year (08/09) is subject to transitional arrangements as the new national indicator set is in its infancy. This set of indicators will represent the indicators assessed as part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment in future years, with particular focus on the 35 measures that have been selected as improvement priorities for Brighton & Hove in the Local Area Agreement.
- 3.4 Comprehensive Performance Assessment will be superseded by the Comprehensive Area Assessment from April 2009. Progress and delivery within the Local Area Agreement is integral to this new way of assessing local authorities and the way they work with associated partnerships.
- 3.5 In the report brought to 10 November 2008 ECSOSOC it was suggested the Environment Service Block for the Comprehensive Performance Assessment was on track for scoring 3 out of 4. After validation this score is now confirmed.
- 3.6 National Indicators for environment and community safety will be primarily assessed through the reporting of the national indicator set and through the delivery of the environment and community safety elements of the Local Area Agreement, progress on the latter is summarised within Appendix 1.
- 3.7 Committee on 10th November 2008 asked for waste collection performance information to be brought before ECSOSOC at the next meeting. This was in context of the refuse round restructure that took place in October and there was some concern that initial problems with missed collections had not improved.
- 3.8 Missed collections data for the city suggests there has been a significant increase in the number of reported missed collections per month during and after the refuse round restructure, as expected. In September just before the changes came into effect there were 249 missed collections, in October this increased to 1397, in November this decreased to 752 and respectively fell to 687 in December.

4. CONSULTATION

None.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

None directly in relation to this report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendix: ECSOSOC – Q2 Local Area Agreement Delivery Plan Extracts







Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Local Area Agreement Delivery Plan Quarter 2 (July to September 2008)
- Environment and Community Safety Extracts -

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Definitions of performance rating

Direction of travel incorporates an assessment of both performance against target and progress against the milestones in the delivery plan as follows:

 RED	Performance is significantly off target
 AMBER/RED	Performance is off target and progress against delivery plan milestones is off track/ won't deliver required improvement
 AMBER	Performance is off target and progress against delivery plan milestones unknown or uncertain
 AMBER/GREEN	Performance is off target and progress against delivery plan milestones is on track to deliver required performance levels
 GREEN	Performance is at or better than target
 GREY	No judgement possible (Targets may be missing or it is the baseline year for an indicator)

An indicator could be off target but if there is evidence the delivery of the planned actions will enable performance to reach the level targeted it will be colour coded AMBER/GREEN

1.0 Reducing crime & improving safety

LAA outcome	Baseline	08/09 target	Latest	Direction of travel	Lead Directorate
NI 17 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	36% (City views proxy)	32.5%	Place Survey data avail early 2009	● GREY	Environment
NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	285 convictions	205 convictions (-27%)	HO data awaited	●/● AMBER/GREEN	Environment
NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence	New indicator	Baseline year	N/A	●/● AMBER/GREEN	Environment
NI 38 Drug-related (Class A) offending rate	New indicator	Baseline year	N/A	●/● AMBER/GREEN	Environment
NI 40 Drug users in effective treatment	1067	1078	981 (Sept 08)	● GREEN	Environment
NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	165	159 3.6% reduction	N/A	● RED	Environment/ ESFRS
L 5 Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence (NI 26)	New indicator	Baseline year	N/A	● GREY	Environment
L 6 Assault with injury crime rate (NI 20)	2,191	2,081 5% reduction	1048 (Sep 08)	● GREEN	Environment
L 7a Arson incidents (NI 33) – primary fires	204	184	103 (Sept 08)	● RED	ESFRS
L 7b Arson incidents (NI 33) – secondary fires	347	312	213 (Sept 08)	● RED	ESFRS

LAA outcome	Baseline	08/09 target	Latest	Direction of travel	Lead Directorate
L 8 Number of police recorded LGBT hate crimes and incidents	184	193 (+5%)	89 (Oct 08)	●/● AMBER/GREEN	Environment
L 9 Number of police recorded racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents	554	526 (-5%)	226 (Oct 08)	● GREEN	Environment
L 10 Number of police recorded total sexual offences	283	297 (+5%)	201 (Oct 08)	● GREEN	Environment

Summary of progress

Progress on milestones is good.

Risks

- The NI indicators linked to crime, community safety, drugs and alcohol issues (NI 17,30,32,38,40, and local indicators 5,6,8,9 and 10) are all delivered and / or supported by staff who are funded by initiative funding streams and for which the funding for their posts is not currently confirmed beyond March 2009.
- Unless funded, multi-agency services which have strong evidence of successful crime reduction outcomes, such as the ASB Team, Operation Reduction, Priority and Prolific Offender Project, Environment Improvement Team, Communities against Drugs Team and others will not be able to continue.
- Impact of recession on opportunities for Young Offenders to obtain employment may also undermine engagement in education and training.
- In addition it is known that the main funding streams available up until 2008/09 are reducing in 2009/10 and then ceasing completely from 2010/11. Whilst work is underway to look for alternative sources of funding and to try and mainstream posts where possible this

is a significant risk to delivering this area of work over the life of this delivery plan. The impact on achievement of targets will need to be closely monitored.

- Data is not yet available to access the first year's progress on NI 47. However when looking at progress against BVPI 99 (which NI 47 supersedes) the risk for not achieving targets is high and this can be used as an indication for NI 47's result. The LTP1 delivery report published in 2006 identified that the number of KSI does not appear to be reducing in line with the target trajectory. There are a number of factors that may have contributed to the current level of progress, including the significant amount of essential roadwork's and other improvement schemes that have been taking place in the city. Also, the contributory factors that can cause collisions and casualties can be complex and may not be resolved simply through an engineering scheme or education and training. These can include errors of judgement, weather conditions, irrational behaviour due to drink or drugs or lack of familiarity with surroundings.

2.0 Strengthening communities and involving people

LAA outcome	Baseline	Target 08/09	Latest result	Direction of travel	Lead Directorate
L 18 Adult participation in sport (NI 8)	25.1% (Active People Survey 05/06)	To be set at review in 2009	Active People Survey	● GREY	Environment

Progress

A range of participatory sports events e.g. Take Part festival of sport, Active for Life sessions, Health Living Day, Under 21 World Volleyball Championships and Get Moving (mental health) day have been held in order to encourage participation in sporting activities.

Risks

None identified.

3.0 Promoting resource efficiency & enhancing the environment

LAA outcome	Baseline	Target 08/09	Latest result	Direction of travel	Lead Directorate
NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness - levels of graffiti	9%	8%	5%	● GREEN	Environment

Progress

There has been increased community involvement and partnership working to clear areas and enforcement against criminal damage. Good progress with adopt-a-box scheme with 57 adoptions so far. Target of 8% is being exceeded by 5% unsatisfactory streets (low good).

Risks

None identified – progress good.

4.0 Promoting sustainable transport

LAA outcome	Baseline	Target 08/09	Latest result	Direction of travel	Lead Directorate
NI 167 Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak	3 min per mile	3 min per mile	N/A	● GREY	Environment
NI 175 Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling	91%	92%	N/A	● GREY	Environment

Summary of progress

- NI 167 – this is a completely new indicator and the target is based on there being no increase in the average morning peak hour journey time on 5 key strategic routes entering the city centre. Latest results are not available until 2009 and there has been no progress to date on the actions and milestones
- NI 175 – This national indicator supersedes ltp1 and is a stretched target that now seeks to increase the proportion of the population that are within 10 minutes of a doctors surgery (using public transport and walking). Data is not yet available to monitor the first year’s progress and no progress to date has been made on the actions and milestones.

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 47

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Local Transport Plan Progress Report 2008

Date of Meeting: 26 January 2009

Report of: Director, Environment

Contact Officer: Name: **Andrew Renaut /** Tel: **29-2474**
Paul Crowther **29-2479**

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 At its meeting on 10 November 2008, Members of the Committee asked for further information in respect of local public transport services, the role of the Traffic Commissioner, and an update on the Local Transport Act 2008.
- 1.2 The attached report seeks to answer those questions, and provide an update.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 (1) That Members note the report and its content.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

Current national policy framework

- 3.1 Members of the ECSOSC received additional information about the 1985 Transport Act and the role of the Traffic Commissioner following issues that were raised at the November 2008 meeting with respect to the operation of bus services in Brighton & Hove. These are attached for reference in Appendices A and B. Additional and new information is outlined below.

Future national policy framework – 2008 Local Transport Bill

- 3.2 The 2008 Local Transport Bill received Royal Assent on 26 November 2008, and has now been published as the Local Transport Act 2008.
- 3.3 The main aim of the 2008 Act is to encourage and facilitate improvements in bus services through varying levels of “partnership” between bus

operators and local authorities. The first level is described as a “Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA)”, which is, in effect, similar to the voluntary Quality Bus Partnership which exists in Brighton & Hove. The second level is called a “Quality Partnership Scheme (QPS)”, whereby the local authority introduces bus priority measures, but only allows bus operators who meet certain quality standards to use those measures. The final level, known as a “Quality Contracts Scheme (QCS)” is, in effect, the franchise model currently in use in London, whereby some or all of the existing commercial network is run under a contract to the local authority.

3.4 The Local Transport Act 2008 will give additional powers to the Traffic Commissioners. For example, if in future an operator is called to a Public Inquiry on the grounds of bus service unreliability, and that operator cites traffic conditions as the reason for unreliability, the Traffic Commissioner will have the power to call the Highway Authority to give evidence at the Inquiry. He may require the Highway Authority to state what actions they are proposing to remove bottlenecks, introduce bus priority measures, or any other actions to assist the bus operator in running a reliable service. Unfortunately there is no indication that the Traffic Commissioners will be given any increase in their current (considered to be inadequate) resources to carry out their functions.

3.5 The Local Transport Act 2008 no longer statutorily requires local authorities to produce a Bus Strategy. The Act also sets up a new representative body for bus passengers, and this role will be taken on by Passenger Focus, which already performs a similar function for rail passengers.

3.6 **Local issues**

A number of specific issues have been raised by Members of the ECSOSC. These are summarised below together with explanations.

3.7 **Responses to Specific Questions**

a) Getting best value from routes financially supported by the council

The council tenders every four years for its supported route network, following consultation. The Tenders are advertised in a local newspaper, in a national trade journal, and through the Official Journal of the European Union. Council officers monitor the financial performance of these routes.

b) Dealing with requests for bus companies to change to routes

Council officers work closely with bus operators in cases where requests have been made for route changes. In some cases these requests have been accommodated commercially; in other cases the city council has entered into “de minimis” financial arrangements with operators; in other cases there are operational or commercial reasons why the request cannot be accommodated.

c) Opportunities to reduce the numbers of buses in the city centre

There are two major constraints which shape the city's bus network : the London to Brighton railway line, which significantly restricts the number of suitable east-west roads crossing the railway, and the fact that there is no bus station in the city centre, nor any suitable network of roads within the central area that allow buses to turn round. Hence a very large number of bus routes are run as "cross city" routes, through lack of any choice, but this feature does provides passengers with the option to undertake convenient cross-city journeys, without the need to change buses.

The city council's Legibility Strategy, also referred to as the 'Public Space Public Life' Study', does identify the impact of the significant number of buses that use city centre corridors such as North Street to deliver passengers to key central destinations such as Churchill Square, and beyond.

d) Bus routeing

This is purely a commercial decision for bus operators. The role of the local authority is to review the commercial network, identify missing links which are socially necessary but not commercially viable, and, subject to budget availability, to seek tenders to operate these routes.

e) Lack of bus services along the length of the seafront.

This reflects the fact that operators currently consider that this route could not be run commercially given the other alternative east-west routes (Church Road/Western Road). The proposals for the future Rapid Transport System, linked to development opportunities, will address these issues.

f) Current bus service provision and patronage.

The current level of bus patronage within the city (39.4 million passenger journeys in 2007/8) gives us the second highest *per capita* usage in the country. In terms of the two statutory satisfaction indices (bus services and bus service information) the city's scores are the highest in the country. Car ownership in Brighton & Hove is the lowest in the south east (2001 Census data), and in many cases this is a deliberate choice, reflecting the comprehensive nature of bus services. Over 95% of the population live within 400 yards of a bus stop. With a service frequency of every 20 minutes or better, it is important that bus services continue to give passengers what they want, in order not to undermine these statistics.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 There has been no consultation in connection with this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no equalities implications associated with this report.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 There are no sustainability implications associated with this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no crime and disorder implications associated with this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 There are no risk and opportunity management implications associated with this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 There are no corporate / citywide implications associated with this report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

- A. Local Transport Bill, summary
- B. Deregulation and Traffic Commissioner

Documents In Members' Rooms

- 1. None.

Background Documents

- 1. Local Transport Act 2008, available on Office of Public Sector Information website (www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - ECSOSC 10/11/08

Local Transport Bill – Summary

The Government is committed to ensuring that it is well equipped to meet not only today's transport challenges, but also those of ten or twenty years' time. The Local Transport Bill [LTB] is a key part of the Government's strategy to meet this commitment, empowering local authorities to take appropriate steps to meet local transport needs in the light of local circumstances.

If approved by Parliament, the LTB would:

- Give local authorities the right mix of powers to improve the quality of local bus services, as proposed in *Putting Passengers First* last December following an extensive bus policy review;
- Allow for the creation of an influential new bus passenger champion to represent the interests of bus passengers;
- Give local authorities the power to review and propose their own arrangements for local transport governance to support more coherent planning and delivery of local transport;
- Update existing legal powers so that, where local areas wish to develop proposals for local road pricing schemes, they have the freedom and flexibility to do so in a way that best meets local needs - whilst ensuring schemes are consistent and interoperable.

Consultation on bus partnership guidance and regulations

The LTB includes measures to promote more effective partnership working between local authorities and bus operators, including through voluntary partnership agreements and quality partnership schemes. The DfT has published a consultation on draft Guidance which it is proposing to issue, and drafts of Regulations which it is proposing to make, assuming the Bill receives Royal Assent.

Quality partnership schemes - draft regulations and guidance

The Quality Partnership Scheme model was introduced by the Transport Act 2000 as a means by which a local authority agreed to invest in improved facilities at specific locations along bus routes (eg, bus stops or bus lanes) and operators who wish to use those facilities agree to provide services of a particular standard (eg, new buses, or driver training standards). Under proposals in the Bill, quality partnership schemes would be able, for the first time, to specify frequencies, timings and maximum fares as standards of service. This could only be done where there were no "admissible objections" from "relevant operators". The Bill includes a power for the Secretary of State (and the Welsh Ministers) to make regulations defining the terms "admissible objections" and "relevant operators".

Further detailed information can be found on the DfT's website at :-

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/localtransportbill/>

AJR 17 November 2008

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - ECSOSC 10/11/08

Public Transport – Deregulation and the Traffic Commissioner

Background

The 1985 Transport Act privatised and de-regulated the bus industry, with effect from October 1986. Prior to this date all buses were operated by the public sector : through the National Bus Company (state owned), through Passenger Transport Executives (run by Metropolitan authorities), or through local authorities (such as Brighton, Eastbourne, Portsmouth, Southampton, each of whom had their own bus undertakings). From October 1986 these undertakings were either directly privatised (most being sold through management buyouts) or were set up as “arms length” companies, and subsequently sold.

Prior to the 1985 Transport Act a bus operator had to apply, to the Traffic Commissioner, for a Road Service Licence [RSL] to run a bus service. Once granted this, in effect, gave the operator a monopoly. Powers of objection were granted to existing bus operators, and to local authorities, and this was how some degree of control over routes was exercised by local authorities. The 1985 Transport Act abolished RSLs, and replaced them with a requirement to “register” local bus services. This was intended to introduce competition into the bus industry, by abolishing the monopoly inherent in the RSL process. There are no powers of objection to bus service registration, other than on the grounds of the intending operator “not being a fit and proper person”. Local authorities can no longer object on grounds of routes, stopping places, type of vehicle, or frequency.

Apart from privatisation and de-regulation, the 1985 Transport Act also put the bus industry under the control of the Office of Fair Trading [OFT]. The OFT has ruled that bus operators cannot run loss-making services and cross-subsidise them from profitable routes. It is for this reason that local authorities were set up as “tendering authorities”, to contract for the operation of socially necessary but unprofitable bus routes. The OFT has also ruled that local authorities must not act in an “anti-competitive” manner, which is why city council supported bus services have to charge commercial fares, to avoid “abstraction” of revenue from commercial operators.

Traffic Commissioners

The country is divided into eight “Traffic Areas”. Each traffic area has a Traffic Commissioner, who is appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport. The Traffic Commissioners are independent “quasi judicial” officials, most of whom

have legal qualifications. Their role is to receive and determine applications for Operator Licences, to ensure that registered bus services operate reliably and punctually, to ensure that vehicle maintenance standards are appropriate, and to ensure that Operator Licence holders continue to be “of good repute”, and have adequate financial resources. The Traffic Commissioner can call an operator to a Public Inquiry if the required standards are not met, and has a range of remedies available to him : from a public warning through to revoking the Operator Licence, and putting the operator out of business. Details of the Traffic Commissioners work is published through a fortnightly publication “Notices & Proceedings”.

Brighton & Hove comes under the South Eastern & Metropolitan Traffic Area, whose office is in Eastbourne. Until three years ago each Traffic Area was self-contained and autonomous, and dealt with all aspects of the licensing regime. However, the Department for Transport decided, in the interests of efficiency, to centralise all Operator Licensing and bus service registration activities to their office in Leeds.

This means that the “local” office now only deals with enforcement issues, and has a reduced level of staff. Additionally, the staff at the Leeds office are not organised on a “regional” basis, which means that there is not an obvious contact with whom officers can discuss local issues, either formally or informally. Officers do not consider that this overall arrangement is very satisfactory.

The Future

The 2008 Transport Bill is currently going through the Parliamentary process. If enacted in its current form it will, amongst other things, give the Traffic Commissioners greater powers. For example, if in future an operator is called to a Public Inquiry on the grounds of bus service unreliability, and that operator cites traffic conditions as the reason for unreliability, the Traffic Commissioner will have the power to call the Highway Authority to give evidence at the Inquiry. He may require the Highway Authority to state what actions they are proposing to remove bottlenecks, introduce bus priority measures, or any other actions to assist the bus operator in running a reliable service.

PJC/AJR

17 November 2008

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 48

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008 – 2011		
Date of Meeting:	26th January 2009		
Report of:	Director of Environment		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Linda Beanlands: Head of Community Safety	Tel: 291115
	E-mail:	Linda.Beanlands@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All	All	

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 There is a statutory requirement that the local authority, on behalf of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, undertake regular audits and strategic assessments of crime and disorder, consult with local communities and communities of interest and prepare a three year Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy. The crime reduction and safety priorities within the 2008-2011 Strategy are based on evidence of the scale and nature of crime and disorder in the City, the findings of the strategic assessment and of consultation as well as reflecting national priorities and those of the divisional and force wide police.
- 1.2 This covering report introduces Brighton & Hove's Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy for 2008 –2011 (appended) and provides an opportunity for the ECSOSC to consider the work being carried out and receive further information if required.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the ECSOSC receive the report and following consideration, indicate if further information is required.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 In 2006, consultation with local residents ranked a low level of crime as their most important priority in selecting 'what makes a city a good place to live' and reduced crime levels as top of five issues that need improvement. Addressing

community safety issues are prioritised in neighbourhood action plans with anti-social behaviour, street condition, alcohol and drugs misuse being the crime/safety types that appear most frequently.

3.2 Nationally, the government acknowledges that since 1998 (Crime and Disorder Act), partnership working on crime and disorder has substantially contributed to a sustained fall in crime and that the landscape against which Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP's) are required to deliver has substantially changed. Other national key messages upon which our current Strategy is based include :

- New statutory requirements and recommended best practice about how the CDRP works, in the form of 'Hallmarks for Effective Partnership Working '
- The priority outcomes which were set out within the Comprehensive Spending Review and which are also reflected within the Local Area Agreement
- A need to achieve a stronger focus by CDRP's on the most serious crimes and those which have the greatest impact (includes building resilience to violent extremism tackling sexual and domestic violence and more serious violent crimes).

3.3 The Strategic Assessment for Brighton & Hove showed that total police recorded crime remained stable between 2004/05 and 2006/07 at 32,500 crimes per annum. However, recorded crime began to reduce from early in 2007 and has consistently decreased since then. By the end of November 2008 our performance monitoring reports show a 9% decrease compared with the same period in 2007. The Assessment also profiled the results of resident surveys on their perceptions of crime levels which found that only 7% of people thought that the level of crime had improved (50% thought it had got worse and 43% thought that it had stayed the same during the previous three years.) These findings clearly require us to significantly improve our communications and feedback to residents about the achievements of the CDRP.

3.4 The Strategic Assessment also analysis in detail, each crime and incident type and checks those findings with what we know is of greatest importance to those who live and work in the City. Consultation with local communities and communities of interest is integrated within our day to day CDRP and Partnership Community Safety Team delivery arrangements including feedback from Local Action Teams, the Racial Harassment and Domestic Violence Forums, the Community Safety Forum, the neighbourhood work of our Communities Against Drugs and Environment Improvement Teams and so on. We concluded then, that the priority crime areas which should be contained within our 2008 –2011 Strategy are:

- a) To build and maintain a crime resistant city and neighbourhood infrastructure, reduce criminal damage and improve feelings of safety (p14)

- b) To deliver a balanced programme of interventions to deal with anti-social behaviour and address community concerns: and: To work in partnership to assist in the prevention of first time entrants into the youth justice system(p.19)
- c) To protect children and young people from risk and increase their safety: and: To reduce youth disorder, anti-social behaviour and reduce offending (p26)
- d) To promote a safe, sensible and social drinking culture that reduces harm and violence and improves health: and: To reduce crimes and incidents of disorder where alcohol is a contributory factor (p.27)
- e) To reduce and where possible, prevent the harm to individuals, families and communities associated with the use of illicit drugs (p.28)
- f) To reduce acquisitive crime including burglaries, thefts of and from motor vehicles, cycle theft and business crime (p.32)
- g) To reduce crimes and incidents which are motivated by hatred and protect victims (p.37)
- h) To prevent and reduce racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents : and: To increase trust and confidence and to build resilience to violent extremism (p.39)
- i) To reduce homophobic, biphobic and transphobic crimes and incidents: and: To improve trust and confidence of LGBT people in CDRP agencies and the work to develop community cohesion (p.46)
- j) To prevent and reduce domestic violence through an effective co-ordinated community response that reduces social tolerance of domestic violence, increases the safety of survivors, reduces the harm caused and brings offenders to justice (p.50)
- k) To prevent sexual violence and abuse, improve acute and ongoing victim care and criminal justice responses (p.58)
- l) To reduce the nature and volume of crimes committed by prolific and other priority offenders and to prevent those most at risk of becoming the prolific offenders of the future from doing so (p.64)

3.5 Clear delivery arrangements for each priority crime area are established. Targets and performance indicators are set and action plans describe outcomes sought and the specific actions which aim to achieve those. Members of multi- agency task or 'expert' groups take responsibility for delivery of individual actions with lead officers keeping a check on performance supported by the Partnership Community Safety Team (PCST) who maintain an overview across all crime areas. Quarterly reports on crime levels overall

and on each crime and incident type contribute to assessments of effectiveness of delivery, identification of trends and new problems to be identified and actions are adjusted accordingly. Brighton & Hove Police routinely assess, identify and analysis crime within the City according to the police National Intelligence Model. That information is shared with teams within Public Safety and increasingly facilitates partnership working throughout the CDRP, working in 'fast time' or alongside the police in special Operations to deal with crime and safety problems.

- 3.6 The Partnership Community Safety Team, Environment Improvement Team, Drug and Alcohol and Communities Against Drugs Teams, directly deliver services for some priority crime area. Examples are: the prevention, diversion and enforcement interventions to deal with anti-social behaviour in both adults and young people; Family Intervention Projects to meet the needs of those families who are most in need; casework to victims and community work with BME and LGBT community to deal with hate crimes, improve trust and confidence and prevent extremism; improvements to the physical environment particularly in neighbourhoods and working closely with local people and neighbourhood work to reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol.
- 3.7 For other priority crime areas, effective delivery is achieved by commissioning work from other service providers. Examples are RISE (Women's Refuge Project), the Business Crime Reduction Partnership (Retail Crime Initiatives), Crime Reduction Partnership (street outreach workers dealing with street drinking and begging, priority and prolific offenders and partnership drugs operations). The PCST also supports in kind, co-locating and providing accommodation within its offices Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (RISE) and Victim Support.
- 3.8 Targeted initiatives and developing multi-disciplinary teams are proving very successful. Since the start of the new Strategy, there has been particular progress in integrating the work of the PCST with that of the Children and Young Peoples Trust and the area based Targeted Youth Support Service which incorporates youth crime prevention and enforcement; new care pathways for those young people drinking to excess and family support is one example.
- 3.9 While delivering the priority crime areas within the current Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy, the CDRP and PCST need to retain a capacity to be able to respond to new concerns or emerging crime problems within the city and its localities and to new central government directives. For example, we are making good progress in developing work to deal with sexual violence in the City but are now expecting that central government are to require us to extend that work and that of domestic violence to address the wider issues of violence against women.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Consultation with local communities and communities of interest are integrated into the day to day work of the Partnership Community Safety Team and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The findings of consultation are reflected within the priority crime areas within the Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008 –2011. New community concerns are responded to while continuing to deliver the planned work set out in the Strategy.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership receives funding from the Area Based Grant City Council, Sussex Police, the Home Office and DCSF and other funding streams which fund the planned partnership work set out in the Strategy. Clearly statutory services such as the Probation and Police services also seek to reduce crime and improve safety through their day to day services.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jill Spedding. Date: 14th January 2009.

5.2 Legal Implications:

The powers contained within the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent guidance are those which set out the statutory duties for the local authority and for the CDRP. The Police and Justice Act is to further introduce new and additional powers and guidance including the introduction of a 'Call to Action' and extending the scrutiny role within local authorities. These new powers are to be the subject of a further report.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon. Date: 14th January 2009

5.3 Equalities Implications:

The priorities within the Strategy specifically seek to address discrimination and inequality particularly for women, those young people and adults who are most at risk of becoming offenders or victims of crime, the Black and minority ethnic communities and the LGBT communities.

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

Consideration is always given to interventions and operations which will address underlying causes and achieve long term change and improvement of peoples quality of life.

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

Contained within the Report

5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

The risks to the City of failing to reduce crime and improve safety are constantly assessed and interventions identified and delivered to reduce that risk.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy is a city wide Strategy and requires a corporate commitment to its objectives and priorities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendix:

The Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008 –2011.

Brighton & Hove

Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy

2008 - 2011



Brighton & Hove
Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy
2008 - 2011

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April 2008

Our thanks go to:

All partners who have contributed to the development of this Strategy
All residents and organisations who have participated in the consultation process

**Brighton & Hove
Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11**

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F oreword

Aim of the Strategy

This strategy aims to make the city safer by

- > reducing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour;
- > reducing fear of crime;
- > reducing harm from drugs and alcohol; and
- > improving community safety

.... and so improve the quality of life for all those who live in, work in or visit Brighton & Hove.

Why we are producing the Strategy

In 2006, from a list of twenty attributes that make somewhere a good place to live, a low level of crime was the one most frequently chosen by Brighton & Hove residents. In the same survey, people ranked the level of crime in the top five of those issues that needed to be improved in the city. There has been some improvement in this position since the previous strategy when it ranked second most in need of improvement, but crime issues clearly remain of concern for local people.

Local residents in 'neighbourhood renewal areas' across the city have been involved in identifying what needs to be done to improve their neighbourhoods by feeding into their Neighbourhood Action Plans. Again, a good proportion of the actions listed in their plans concern crime and disorder issues. Community safety issues most frequently featuring in Neighbourhood Action Plans are anti-social behaviour, street condition (eg. criminal damage, graffiti, litter, etc.), alcohol misuse and drugs misuse. Most areas also flagged up the need for improved communication and working structures to carry work forward within their neighbourhood.

We are also required to produce a strategy by legislation and government guidance. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 stipulated that following an audit of crime and disorder and consultation with local communities and communities of interest, a Strategy be published every three years and delivered by Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) which cover local authority and policing areas. That statutory duty remains and recent guidance now requires us to produce our Strategy based on the findings of an annual Strategic Assessment and the priorities and concerns of local people and then to review and refresh the Strategy each year. This is our fourth Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy and covers the period from April 2008 to March 2011.

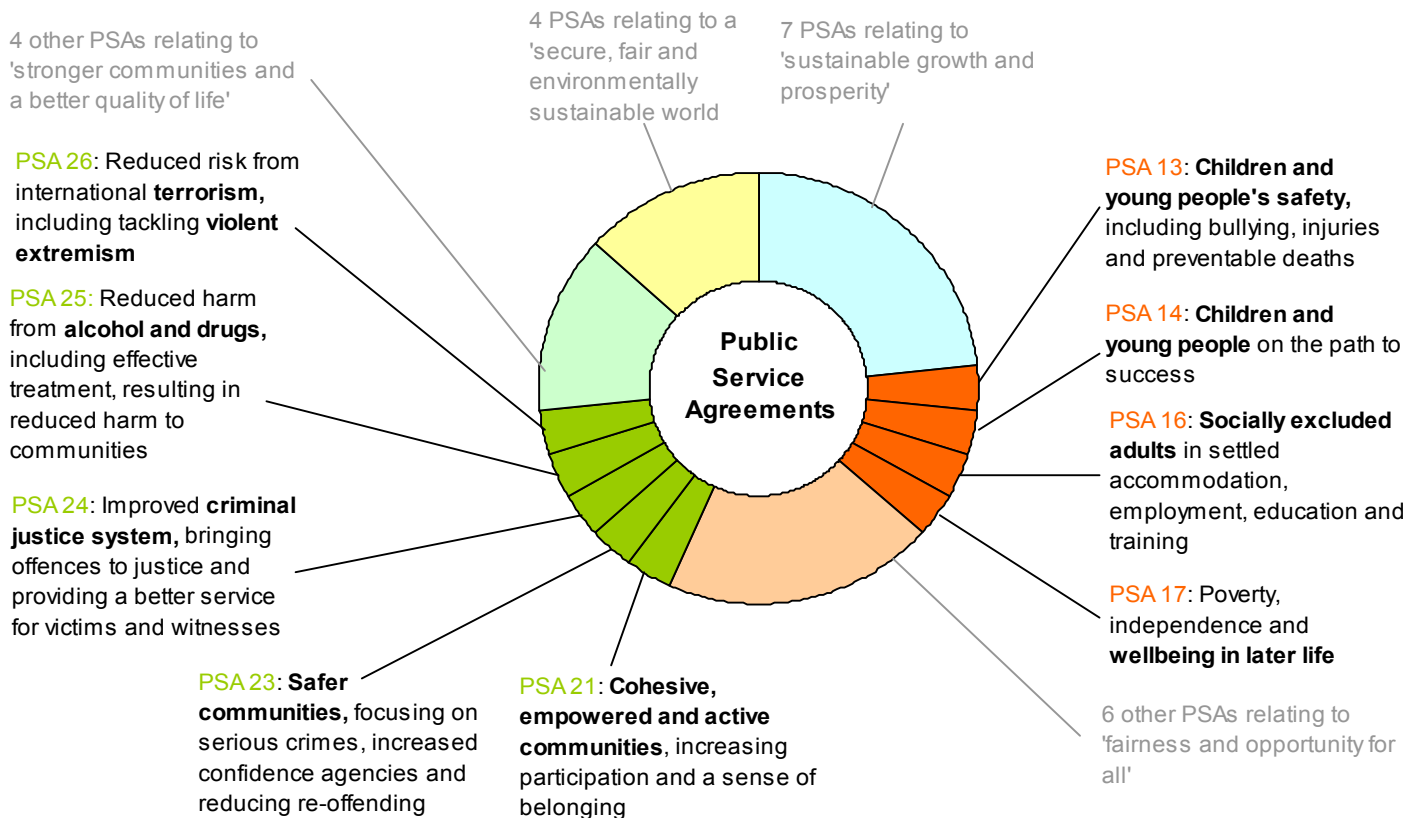
National context

Nationally, the government acknowledges that since 1998 partnership working on crime and disorder has substantially contributed to a sustained fall in crime and that the landscape against which local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) are now required to deliver has significantly changed. A formal review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been carried out and new requirements about **how** local CDRPs deliver their duties is set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006 and in subsequent regulations. In addition, the Home Office 'Guide to Effective Partnership Working' (2007) provides new statutory requirements and recommended best practice for CDRPs in the form of 'Hallmarks for Effective Partnership Working'. We have taken these into account in preparing this Strategy and particularly in establishing the way the CDRP works in Brighton & Hove (see next section on page 8).

Foreword

The government has also described in its national strategy, 'Cutting Crime: A New Partnership 2008–2011 (Home Office, 2007) the areas of focus that it requires and is seeking over this period. The new Public Service Agreements Priority Outcomes set out in the Government's 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review are shown below. A significant proportion of these have bearings on crime and community safety.

Priority Outcomes set out in the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, showing those which relate to crime and community safety



These government priorities are reflected in the Local Area Agreements which are negotiated between central government and each local authority area for the period 2008-11. The 35 targets in the Brighton & Hove Local Area Agreement include targets around alcohol harm, drugs misuse, perceptions of anti-social behaviour, first time entrants to the youth justice system, domestic violence and prolific offenders. However, there are a total of 198 National Indicators (NIs) on which all Local Strategic Partnership areas are required to report and on which performance will be monitored. The work in this strategy will help deliver on many of these 198 indicators. Those indicators where the CDRP has the lead role or are most relevant are listed under each priority area in the present strategy.

New developments and key characteristics of this Strategy

Our strategy has taken into account and will deliver on the government's key areas as well as those that were identified as priorities within the Brighton & Hove Strategic Assessment. They are:

- > Sustaining those targeted initiatives where there is strong evidence that they bring good results in reducing crime: those activities include the Priority and Prolific Offender Project and

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

Operation Reduction which tackles illicit drugs misuse through combining enforcement with access to services and treatment.

- > Focusing on the drivers of crime and disorder, intervening at the earliest stage to prevent its escalation; this is particularly important in relation to dealing with violent crime and anti-social behaviour.
- > Increasing interventions to address the causes of offending and re-offending, including addressing excessive drinking and the harm that comes from alcohol misuse.
- > Delivering parenting programmes in order to support families, particularly where children and young people are identified as likely to offend and become first time entrants into the youth justice system: the interventions will include where appropriate, putting in place parenting contracts and Orders alongside other enforcement powers delivered by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team.
- > Identify and address the risks that can result in children and young people becoming victims and, in a minority of cases, offenders. The CDRP is working in close partnership with the Children and Young People's Trust as the new Targeted Youth Support Service and Youth Crime Prevention Service and panels are established throughout the city.
- > Delivering work to tackle sexual violence and abuse in all contexts and according to national guidance; this is a new priority for the CDRP and we recognise the variety of circumstances in which it can occur and in particular its relationship with domestic and gender based violence.
- > Continuing to build on the progress made in 2007 to deal with domestic violence. National accreditation has been awarded for Brighton & Hove's services which include our specialist domestic violence courts, risk assessment and case conferencing arrangements, independent advisors and outreach services. They provide a real opportunity to be increasingly effective in dealing with this unacceptable crime which damages many lives.
- > Developing further our work to 'build resilience to violent extremism' according to national requirements. This work has a close relationship with many of our existing activities that aim to foster trust and confidence in communities, protect those who suffer prejudice because of their race or religion, and to promote understanding between communities of different faiths and ethnicities. The work also makes a significant contribution to the wider agenda of community cohesion.
- > Sustaining the effective working Environment Improvement Team and the Communities Against Drugs Team which achieve excellent results in identifying and responding to local problems in neighbourhoods. Both teams aim to put in place improvements to the physical environment and support to local communities which make a real difference to people's lives and reduce the likelihood of crime and disorder.
- > Reducing fear of crime and perceptions of levels of crime and disorder. Many people have a disproportionate fear of crime. Therefore we need to provide accurate information about the actuality of crime levels, increase awareness of the work being done to create safe environments in neighbourhoods and in the city centre and reassure people so that they feel safe.

Links with other strategies

A wide range of work carried out by other agencies and strategic partnerships contribute to delivering the crime reduction and safety priorities set out in this Strategy. Action plans and work programmes of those partner agencies which overlap most closely with those set out in this Strategy, are identified in each priority crime area section.

In the delivery of our new Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy, the CDRP will pay particular attention to addressing and delivering within the context of the findings of the

Foreword

Inequality Review of Brighton & Hove. The Review identifies key issues and inequalities across the city as well as for particular neighbourhoods and communities. Findings that are particularly relevant for the CDRP to consider are broadly grouped within the following headings:

- > the changing demography of the city (a projected population increase of 300,000 by 2029)
- > a changing population profile (an estimated increase of 35% between 2001 and 2004 in the number of those within a Black and minority ethnic category)
- > a fast growing economy but the city having some of the most significantly deprived areas in England and high levels of inequality

Particular attention is also given to the way in which this crime reduction strategy supports the city's Sustainability Strategy and how our work will make a difference to addressing environmental, social and economic sustainability. The way in which this can happen is set out within each of our priority crime areas.

Taking the Strategy forward and monitoring progress

This strategy is divided into eleven crime reduction and safety priority areas. Lead officers have been assigned to each area who will co-ordinate and 'progress chase' actions within the work programmes. Those lead officers will work closely with partnership groups whose members have particular expertise. Those support groups meet regularly and help ensure progress is maintained.

Measures of success help us monitor and measure progress against targets and stated objectives for each area. Action Plans for each priority area provide details of the work planned to achieve outcomes. Full Action Plans are produced which set out outputs, targets, milestones and timescales, as well as who is responsible for individual actions and resources required.

Progress on performance related to the Strategy is reported to the Responsible Authorities Partnership/Drug and Alcohol Action Team on a quarterly basis and a summary report is available on the Partnership's website.

E nsuring an Effective Partnership

Objective: To ensure an effective Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership which maximises capacity to deliver the crime reduction and safety priorities of those who live, work and visit Brighton & Hove, as well as meeting statutory requirements

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) is required to ensure that it has the capacity and capability to deliver the priorities and objectives that are set out in this Strategy. While the CDRP in Brighton & Hove is regarded as a mature and effective partnership, it is imperative that we sustain our understanding of the full breadth of crime and community safety issues in the city and that we can demonstrate effective action to deal with them. We remain focused on continuing to improve our skills and processes to perform better and are, therefore, taking the opportunity afforded by the government’s introduction of ‘six hallmarks of effective partnerships’ to review and restructure the principles of the way in which we work. These hallmarks are set out below, together with some activities that we will be undertaking to achieve maximum capacity and performance in the coming three years.

Hallmark 1. Empowered and effective leadership

Brighton & Hove’s CDRP, led by the Chief Executive and Divisional Police Commander is the responsible authority group which ultimately signs off and commits to the implementation of this Strategy. The group merges the work of the Drug and Alcohol Action Team with that of dealing with crime and disorder and the focus is on the misuse of alcohol as well as drugs. The CDRP, which meets quarterly, includes senior representation from the five ‘responsible authorities’¹ as well as from other key experts and partners in the city including the elected portfolio holder for community safety and the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum. The group is focused on ensuring that strategically, all partners are working towards common goals, that performance is evaluated and problem solving is shared across the partnership. There are strong links with the Children and Young People’s Trust Board. The group is aligned with the Local Strategic Partnership, Public Service Board and their priority setting and business planning decision processes and with those of the Public Service and Local Area Agreement processes.

Empowered and effective leadership: Direct work to address current concerns while also building up sustainable solutions
Further actions to support Hallmark 1
1.1 Conduct an annual review to ensure that the partnership has the appropriate skills, knowledge and resources to meet the statutory requirements; consider the development of a work force development plan
1.2 Ensure that protocols and arrangements for information sharing, including for sharing personal information where necessary and proportionate, are in place and being utilised to full effect for all delivery partners, including for example registered social landlords and Women’s Refuge Project
1.3 Improve joint working with Sussex Criminal Justice Board

¹ The five responsible authorities are: Sussex Police Authority; East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service; Brighton & Hove Police Division; the Primary Care Trust and Sussex Partnership Trust; and the Local Authority.

Hallmark 2. Intelligence-led business processes

The CDRP is responsible for preparing an annual strategic assessment. Strategic assessments must include community intelligence, as well as recorded crime and information from a broad range of other sources (including from the police, demographic information sources, Accident and Emergency, ambulance, community surveys, public meetings, and so on). A 'stock take' on delivery of previous community safety activities is also included in strategic assessments. The findings of the 2007 strategic assessment provided the basis on which CDRP priorities were selected and fed into the Local Area Agreement process and it informed decision making about the allocation of resources.

A partnership Operational CDRP meets regularly to monitor and respond to trends and patterns of crime and disorder, consider performance and analysis reports and discharge partnership tasks to deal with hot-spots and problems identified. Day to day operational practice accords with the National Intelligence Model and arrangements are in place to deliver an intelligence-led, problem solving approach to enable accurate identification of problems and develop targeted solutions. An example includes the collation and analysis of information in relation to young people who are identified through youth disorder and anti-social behaviour operations, the purpose of which is to plan partnership operations and to identify those young people who are most in need of early interventions to support changes in behaviour as well as the small number for whom enforcement action is necessary. Dedicated analysts are in place for some areas, including for drugs and anti-social behaviour.

Intelligence-led business processes: Work is prioritised and targeted according to the findings of analysis, proven best practice and the views of local people
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Further actions to support Hallmark 2

2.1 Further increase sources of community intelligence. Develop and embed arrangements for analysing and utilising this and other local data in the identification of problems and targeted solutions

2.2 Consult, listen and respond to the views of local communities and communities of interest Those communities who are usually under-represented in consultation to be targeted where possible.
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2.3 Ensure the CDRP has flexibility to be able to respond to new analysis and findings
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2.4 Support and encourage information/intelligence sharing between members of partnership, ensuring compliance with legal requirements. Ensure that, as required by new regulations, data disclosure and analysis of depersonalised datasets are incorporated into the Operational CDRP arrangements on a quarterly basis

2.5 Distribute information on crime and disorder hotspots and victim profiles between all partners who can contribute to developing solutions through the Operational CDRP and other multi-agency groups and information sharing procedures

2.6 Learn about best practice through published material and adopt successful methods where they might translate to local circumstances

2.7 Monitor performance against targets and actions in the CDRP's strategy and keep track of other performance indicators. The Operational CDRP to receive regular progress updates

2.8 Plan for and carry out an annual strategic assessments to check priorities against new information, emerging trends and the views of communities and manage risk. Integrate more closely the production of the strategic assessment with the police National Intelligence Model annual assessment

2.9 Evaluate and explore lessons learned from previous projects and interventions, including those that have been successful, and use this information to inform the future direction of work

2.10 Monitor the performance of other comparable partnerships and learn from best performers
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Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

2.11 Contribute partnership data to www.BHLIS.org (the website of the Local Strategic Partnership/2020 Community Partnership), enabling public access to neighbourhood level information

Hallmark 3. Effective and responsive delivery structures

The Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008–2011 sets out the priorities that are to be the focus of the CDRP's resources, identifies indicators against which performance will be measured, the overall outcomes sought and headline actions that will be undertaken to achieve targets and outcomes. More detailed action plans sit behind each of the priority areas of the Strategy and a performance management framework is in place which enables the CDRP to review and monitor progress against targets and indicators. The Strategy is published through website access and a summary is to be available to communities.

Delivery of the priority areas of the Strategy and 'fast time' responses to new crime and disorder problems is managed through a structure of working or action groups which are mobilised around a particular issue, or through Joint Action Groups in the East, West and Central areas of the city and a network of Local Action Teams and community of interest groups. Information which feeds into regular meetings of an Operational CDRP (a 'tasking and co-ordinating group') is considered within a culture of performance management.

The CDRP is aware of the added value of drawing on all available resources to successfully manage delivery. Consolidating neighbourhood policing arrangements with those of targeted partnership work in localities together with multi-disciplinary services of the Partnership Community Safety Team have already significantly increased effectiveness, achieving outcomes that would otherwise have not been possible. The close working with Local Action Teams, community champions and private and voluntary sector organisations is achieving the same excellent results.

Effective and responsive delivery structures: A robust performance management framework and maximisation of resources

Further actions to support Hallmark 3

3.1 Revise the community safety, crime reduction and drugs strategy annually

3.2 Seek to integrate community safety concerns into service priorities, planning and work programmes of all agencies. In particular, develop our mainstreaming and Section 17 duties of the Crime and Disorder Act ensuring that all responsible authorities are doing all that they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, drug/alcohol misuse, and behaviour adverse to the environment

3.3 Develop further the opportunities for problem solving, joint approaches and sustainable solutions which come from neighbourhood policing and partnership work with local communities and communities of interest

3.4 Develop further, including through the Local Area Agreement process, opportunities for pooled budgets, particularly to achieve delivery of activities that achieve shared priorities across services

3.5 Continue to access external sources of funding for specific projects wherever possible

3.6 Develop further monitoring of the cost benefit and cost effectiveness of our work and the extent to which specific projects and areas of activity are economic, efficient and effective (value for money)

3.7 Increase transparency by developing a financial information section of the Strategy which states how resources are being applied to deliver the Strategy and how the CDRP ensures that resources are being applied to good effect

3.8 Plan a strategy to increase the visibility of the CDRP in order that communities and partners further understand the role and added value that the Partnership brings

Hallmark 4. Community engagement

There are new statutory requirements to 'consult and involve' communities, not only about what priorities the partnership should tackle and how delivery affects them, but also to consider the way

Ensuring an Effective Partnership

in which communities can help support the delivery of the priorities in the partnership Strategy. Brighton & Hove's CDRP considers that the level of joint working that is embedded within its practices provides a constant dialogue with many of its communities of interest and with those in neighbourhoods. The Neighbourhood Action Plans prepared during 2007/08, the local audits carried out by the Community Against Drugs and Environment Improvement Teams, the network of meetings with the Black and minority ethnic and faith based communities and those with the LGBT community all go a considerable way to achieving and sustaining high levels of community engagement.

The 48 Local Action Teams in the city are also an excellent way of directly engaging with local people about their day to day experiences which, together with the neighbourhood policing arrangements described above, provide a framework for dialogue and consultation at the sharp end. However, the CDRP will also take forward city wide consultation as necessary throughout the life of this Strategy.

Community engagement: Further development of communities' involvement in the work of the partnership and ensuring provision is accessible and suitable for all groups of citizens

Further actions to support Hallmark 4

4.1 Encourage and support participation by local people and businesses in community safety and crime prevention work

4.2 Increase our engagement with and support to Local Action Teams, providing a consistent framework through which local people and the partnership can jointly identify problems and deliver solutions. Provide practical support to those who are prepared to 'take a stand' and to those who give their time and expertise to assist the CDRP with enforcement to make support communities safer

4.3 Take into account the detailed findings of the Inequality Review ensuring that the delivery of this Strategy is targeted towards those groups and communities who are identified as most vulnerable, at risk and excluded

4.4 Incorporate within the work programme for 'building resilience to extremism', positive initiatives and events which build community engagement and cohesion, taking the learning from that work into the mainstream of community safety work

4.5 Target measures to increase reporting at those least likely to report

4.6 Target work to reduce fear of crime at those most concerned

Hallmark 5. Visible and constructive accountability

The CDRP is aware that an effective partnership is one that is visible and accountable to its community for the decisions and actions it takes on their behalf. Arrangements are already in place for people in neighbourhoods and communities of interest to meet with key decision makers from the partnerships. The quarterly public meetings of the Community Safety Forum which also provide the opportunity for dialogue with elected members, the 'Face the People' meetings and the multi-agency Forums which enable open information sharing and joint decision making are well established in day to day community safety practice. In many contexts, that openness and accountability has developed to community-led and partnership multi-agency working across the city (as with the Racial Harassment Forum) and targeted in neighbourhoods (as with the Local Action Teams). In that way, and through direct feedback to individuals and groups within communities from front line staff and caseworkers, we are letting people know about problems solved and actions taken.

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Visible and constructive accountability: Effective communication of the work and outcomes of the partnership

Further actions to support Hallmark 5

5.1 Increase and improve outward and visible performance management of the priorities and targets that are being delivered by the CDRP in order to further increase feelings of public confidence and reassurance amongst communities

5.2 Produce an accessible summary of the work in this strategy that encourages understanding within communities and supports improved visibility and accountability

5.3 Embed the new Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny arrangements within the local authority's processes and ensure its accountability

5.4 Further embed the use of the partnership 'Safe In the City' brand which identifies and raises awareness of work carried out by the Partnership, including that which is visible to communities as well as throughout the city

5.5 Use a variety of ways to publicise the work of the partnership, including the media and local neighbourhood networks; Utilise partnership meetings at district and local neighbourhood level and other opportunities to share information and develop solutions that support the objectives of the CDRP

5.6 Relaunch and maintain the CDRP website (www.safeinthecity.info) and encourage its use

Hallmark 6. Appropriate skills and knowledge

The CDRP is required to ensure that it has the necessary skills and knowledge to support effective partnership management, analysis, problem solving and the delivery of the Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008–2011.

Appropriate skills and knowledge

Further actions to support Hallmark 6

6.1 Reference the National Occupational Standards identifying any gaps in the skills and experiences of CDRP members and arranging for individual and partnership learning programmes.

6.2 Ensure elected members are kept abreast of key information to assist in decision making

Performance Indicators

- NI 3: Civic participation in a local area

A II Crime and Disorder in the City

Objective: To maintain an overview of crime and disorder in the city and keep up to date with local problems and concerns

All crime and disorder – whether serious crimes or low level incidents – directly or indirectly impacts upon individuals and communities and damages quality of life.

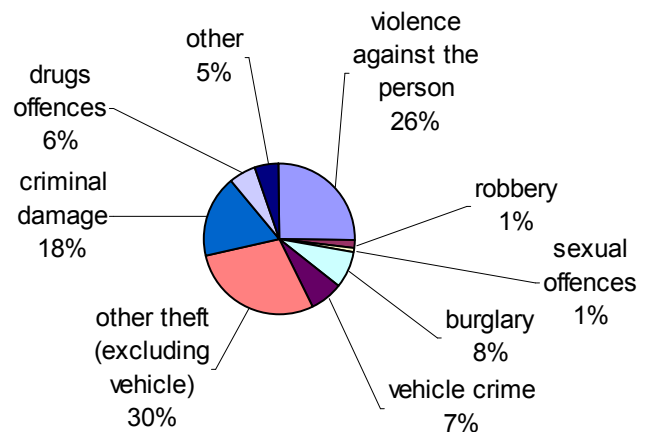
In 2007/08 there were about 27,500 police recorded crimes in Brighton & Hove. About 30% of the total related to theft (not including motor vehicles), a quarter were violence against the person offences and 18% were criminal damage. Over the period of the last three year strategy total crime levels remained fairly constant over the first two years, but dropped notably in the third year by about 15%.

For the three year period beginning in April 2008 there is no longer a national requirement for CDRPs to work to a target which measures overall crime. Instead, the emphasis is on focussing on local priorities through the Local Area Agreement. However, we are continuing to monitor total police recorded crime as a performance indicator locally so we can keep a check on any displacement of criminal activity from those areas being prioritised by the partnership.

There is a requirement to monitor – and Brighton & Hove is prioritising within the LAA – measures of public perceptions of anti-social behaviour. Anti-social behaviour is a priority area in this strategy and further information is found on page 19.

Below are a list of performance indicators which will reflect our success at dealing with crime and disorder overall in the city.

**Crime breakdown, Apr 2007 - Mar 2008
(n=27,536)**



Performance Indicators

- LI: Total police recorded crime
- LI: % of people who think that the level of crime has got better, worse or stayed the same over the last three years

Physical Environment, Infrastructure and Quality of Life

Objective: To build up and maintain a crime-resistant city and neighbourhood infrastructure, reduce criminal damage and improve feelings of safety

Why is this a priority?

The quality of our physical environment affects how safe we feel. Signals of neglect are an invitation to vandalism and anti-social behaviour. If deterioration is not addressed, affected areas can become places that people avoid, particularly at night, and fear of crime can curtail active use and enjoyment of neighbourhoods and the city centre.

The long term solution involves investing in careful design and planning of the city's physical infrastructure and this is important in ensuring sustainable solutions to crime and disorder reduction. However, it's not just about the physical infrastructure – it's also about building up the 'people infrastructure' in local neighbourhoods and improving communication with service providers.

Environmental quality issues are regularly highlighted as matters of concern by local residents. Central government has also emphasised the underlying importance of this area of work by headlining '*Stronger Communities and a Better Quality of Life*' as one of the four themes to be addressed through Public Service Agreements in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007.

The local picture

Police recorded criminal damage rose over the first two years of the previous three year strategy, but it declined during 2007/08. However, because it makes up nearly a fifth of total recorded crime, and considering the issue of underreporting, it remains a significant issue. In 2007 nearly 20% of Citizens' Panel respondents felt that criminal damage was a fairly or a very big problem in their neighbourhood. Nearly half of recorded criminal damage is against vehicles. The percentage of streets judged unsatisfactory for graffiti, fly-posting and overall has substantially improved over the last three years, although this still remains above the targeted level.

In 2006 85% of residents reported feeling safe in the city as a whole during the day and 45% after dark and this is also a clear improvement on the position three years before. However, we know that some groups and communities, for example, older people or those with limiting long term illness, feel less safe than others. Women tend to feel less safe at night than men, although this effect is not evident during the day. A survey in 2007 confirmed that on average people tend to feel at their most unsafe in the city centre at night.

When asked in the 2007 Citizens' Panel survey about the crime types people were most worried about, burglary and theft from motor vehicles were of most concern, followed vandalism, theft of motor vehicles

Main Partners

Brighton & Hove City Council, (including CityClean, Sustainable Transport and Public Safety divisions)

Sussex Police

Southern Railway

British Transport Police

Brighton & Hove Bus & Coach Co. Ltd.

Children and Young People's Trust

Local Action Teams

Physical Environment, Infrastructure and Quality of Life

and cycle theft. Although there were relatively low levels of worry in the general population of attack on grounds of apparent ethnicity or sexuality, these results are likely to be somewhat different among minority groups. Respondents were more worried about being physically attacked by a stranger than about being attacked by someone they know.

Current status of work

Over the last three years there has been significant development around targeted work in city neighbourhoods to address particular issues of local concern. Work in neighbourhoods has been particularly assisted by a gradual increase in the number of Local Action Teams (LATs). LATs are made up of local community champions who consider crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour problems in their neighbourhood and help work towards local solutions. LATs are linked directly into the CDRP's multi-agency working structure which provides two-way communication enabling community intelligence and concerns at one end of the chain to be linked with strategic approaches and decision-making at the other. The police have allocated named officers to cover every area of the city and these are easily identified on the Sussex Police website.

There have been advances around improving and maintaining the quality of the physical environment. The Environment Improvement Team have implemented local design improvements through closely working with residents in a number of prioritised neighbourhoods and these have resulted in people feeling safer, and input to the city's planning processes. In addition to city-wide street appearance work by CityClean, there have also been a number of 'community action days' carried out in the city during 2007/08. These have involved agencies and residents working together on tasks to tidy, clean and improve the local neighbourhood, reducing the opportunity for criminal damage, and encouraging local ownership and a sense of community. Integrated multi-agency environmental and vehicle enforcement work has also been carried out, focusing on particular areas in the city on a rotating basis to effect a real and noticeable change for residents.

There has also been a programme of work to specifically tackle criminal damage. This has included work to improve containerisation of waste, to keep a number of high profile areas of the city clear of graffiti and focused work with young people to tackle arson.

Where next?

The Action Plan below is seeking to achieve the following:

- > Greater influence in the planning process to build up a sustainable and crime-resistant city infrastructure and a review of compliance with the extended scope of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act.
- > An efficient structure which extends the co-ordination and targeting of community safety resources further into neighbourhoods and across the city. This will involve improving the partnership's resource to analyse information at a neighbourhood level.
- > Situational problem-solving through partnership working and community engagement
- > A well-maintained physical environment and further reductions in criminal damage. The Criminal Damage Working Group will produce a separate action plan and continue to meet to progress work in this area.
- > Effective communication of the work of the CDRP to the people of Brighton & Hove. A significant step forward will be the relaunch of the partnership's website (www.safeinthecity.info), but this needs to be supported by work to attract the attention of local people as well as partners. Further progress around 'branding' the work of the partnership will also be very helpful.

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

Links to other priority areas

Work in this area integrates with and supports work to tackle anti-social behaviour and promote community cohesion. It also helps people to feel safer resulting in them using open spaces more freely which, in turn, provides a natural guardianship of the area, deterring other types of crimes (for example, vehicle theft or violence).

Parallel plans

- Neighbourhood Action Plans
- The Core Strategy
- Local Development Framework
- Supplementary Planning Documents

Performance Indicators

- NI 33: Non-accidental fires
- NI 195: Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly-posting)
- NI 196: Improved street and environmental cleanliness (fly-tipping)
- LI: % of people feeling safe or very safe in their local neighbourhood (before and after dark)
- LI: % of people feeling safe or very safe in the city centre (before and after dark)
- LI: Number of police recorded criminal damage offences

Physical Environment, Infrastructure and Quality of Life Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Community safety and crime reduction implications are fully considered at the planning stage of all infrastructure developments and redevelopments

Areas of action

1.1 Continue to integrate community safety and crime reduction objectives within the work of the council's planning department. Investigate options, such as a requirement for all planning applications to have Design and Access Statements which include crime prevention measures, and seek changes that will routinely ensure these objectives are achieved citywide.

1.2 Seek to introduce a requirement for Safer Places Statements (developed by the Environment Improvement Team and Sussex Police) to be submitted in relation to developments in the London Road Central SPD/Master Plan.

1.3 Deliver training to officers and elected members involved in making planning decisions

Physical Environment, Infrastructure and Quality of Life

1.3 Determine whether training of officers and elected members involved in making planning decisions would be useful
1.4 The CDRP to proactively seek the prioritisation of an Supplementary Planning Document on community safety
1.5 The CDRP to input to the council's long term planning strategy (Core Strategy)
1.6 Monitor crime and disorder levels before and after planning developments to learn any lessons
Outcome Sought 2
There is an efficient structure, co-ordination and targeting of community safety resources in neighbourhoods and across the city
Areas of action
2.1 Maintain and develop the Local Action Team and Joint Action Group structure across the city
2.2 Provision of a mainstreamed resource for the analysis of crime and disorder and the presentation of information in a user-friendly, accessible manner
Outcome Sought 3
Information sharing and situational problem-solving are achieved through partnership working and community engagement
Areas of action
3.1 The Environment Improvement Team to continue to work in neighbourhoods, engaging with residents and undertaking small scale, local street appearance and design projects to reduce the likelihood of criminal damage (and other crime and anti-social behaviour) and to reduce fear of crime
3.2 Make information on local crime patterns available at a neighbourhood level
3.3 Continue to share information around community safety issues on public transport, taking forward projects to deal with new issues as they arise
3.4 Monitor the take up and use of information gathered through the reporting of ASB on buses project
3.5 Keep alert for opportunities for partnership working where an area of development can support shared objectives, for example, around sustainable transport or CCTV
Outcome Sought 4
There is less criminal damage and arson and a well maintained physical environment
Areas of action
4.1 Develop work with children and young people to deter them from committing criminal damage
4.2 Take forward opportunities afforded by community engagement
4.3 Undertake analysis of criminal damage against vehicles and respond to the findings through partnership work with different parties with relevant roles and interests
4.4 Continue partnership work to tackle graffiti through removal physical barriers to access, prosecution, etc.
4.5 CityClean to continue work around containerisation, flyposting, flytipping, etc.
4.6 Continue enforcement work around abandoned vehicles and multi-agency environmental action days
4.7 Support further educational work through the LIFE scheme

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

Outcome Sought 5
The widened scope of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act is promoted and compliance reviewed
Areas of action
5.1 Hold a seminar for key players to determine where further developments are necessary.
Outcome Sought 6
There is effective communication of the work of the CDRP to the people of Brighton & Hove
Areas of action
6.1 Launch and maintain the CDRP website
6.2 Encourage use of the website by residents and partners working in local neighbourhoods, noting that information about community safety work is much more meaningful to residents if it relates to their local neighbourhood
6.3 Ensure CDRP news is communicated through press releases and new items on CDRP website. (Endeavour to ensure that messages reach out to populations in the city who are most fearful of crime or who are most vulnerable to crime.)
6.4 Maintain flow of information to Local Action Teams, residents groups, etc. through forwarding community safety and crime reduction content for use in local newsletters and websites
6.5 Further promote city-wide 'branding' of enforcement agencies, technology, interventions, initiatives, etc. to enhance visibility and public reassurance

A nti-Social Behaviour

Objectives: To deliver a balanced programme of interventions to deal with anti-social behaviour in the city and to address the concerns of communities.

To work in partnership to assist in the prevention of first time entrants into the youth justice system.

Why is this a priority?

Anti-social behaviour has a negative impact on communities, undermines community cohesion and influences the extent to which residents are satisfied that crime and disorder is being satisfactorily dealt with. Where people feel confident, safe and supported, they are more likely to come together with others in their community to build trust, shared values and agree what is and is not, acceptable behaviour within their neighbourhoods.

The extent to which communities perceive anti-social behaviour as a problem is reducing. This is the outcome of successful partnership working between the statutory, community and voluntary sector who contribute to local problem solving and sustainable solutions.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent guidance, has required local Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships to prioritise the development of responses to tackle anti-social behaviour and ensure safer and stronger communities. The Together Action Plan in 2003 set the initial direction and this was followed in 2005 by the Respect Action Plan which confirmed the requirement that the approach of providing support and preventative interventions alongside enforcement was the most effective way of tackling problems. The recent launch of the Youth Taskforce Action Plan in 2008 now sets out a clear vision of integrated services delivering 'triple track' interventions of tough enforcement, non-negotiable support and better prevention targeted at children and young people at risk of, or involved in anti-social behaviour.

The local picture

The city's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team were established in 2003 based on learning and experiences of the multi-disciplinary team that was piloted in eb4u (New Deal for Communities funding programme).

Main Partners

Anti-Social Behaviour Team
Children a & Young People's Trust
Council Housing and City Support
Registered Social Landlords
Business Crime Reduction Partnership
Local Action Teams
Youth Offending Team
Environment Improvement Team
Brighton & Hove Bus Company
Sussex Probation Service
HM Courts Service
Parenting Pathfinders Team
Mental Health Services

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

The partnership approach is one that seeks to strike a balance in tackling anti-social behaviour through appropriate support, diversion, intervention and enforcement. There is clear evidence of the success of this approach that is now firmly embedded in day to day practice and the basis of further service developments.

Overall analysis highlights that extremely positive progress is being achieved across the city. In 2003/04 the city perception rate was at 46%; in that same year there were 462 actions taken by a range of partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour. In 2006/07 the perception rate was at 36% with over 1,500 different actions recorded.

The key partners, who together were directly responsible for delivering 1,500 interventions in 2006/07, were the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Sussex Police, Council Housing Management Services, eb4U Community Safety Team, the members of the Brighton & Hove Registered Social Landlord Forum, the Business Crime Reduction Partnership and the Hollingdean Programme.

Current status of work

Overall, there are approximately 20,000 calls generated by members of the public to Sussex Police about anti-social behaviour in Brighton & Hove each year. In 2006/07 the overall figure had reduced by 3.8% as compared to 2005/06. Community perceptions of anti-social behaviour problems being a problem in the city saw a reduction in 7 out of 8 categories.

The current work programme and planned priorities in service provision are:

- > Tackling begging & street drinking.
- > Anti-social behaviour casework services.
- > Anti-social behaviour legal, analysis and police support.
- > Youth Crime Prevention and 'Challenge and Support' Programmes for those most at risk
- > Parent support interventions, targeted to those most at risk
- > Targeted work with the most challenging families.

The anti-social behaviour approach in the city relies on integrated day-to-day partnership work by key agencies working together and alongside communities in generating sustainable solutions to local issues. It is therefore important that partnerships remain flexible, responsive and able to meet the changing needs of communities and to explain and give feedback about outcomes and performance.

Where next?

The Strategic Assessment of Crime & Disorder in Brighton & Hove (November, 2007) identified the contribution that the anti-social behaviour approach and service contributes to the delivery of wider crime reduction and community safety objectives, confirming that sustaining the approach and anti-social behaviour team is a high priority.

There are significantly improved perceptions of a reducing level of anti-social behaviour in the city. In 2003/04 46% of those surveyed perceived anti-social behaviour to be a problem: in 2006/07, 36% of those surveyed perceived anti-social behaviour to be a problem. We aim to reduce this further to 32.5% in 2008/09 and further by 2010/11.

The Youth Taskforce Action Plan: 'Give Respect, Get Respect – Youth Matters' sets a clear direction in 'working with local partners to drive forward a better response to those young people in serious trouble'. The requirements of the Action Plan and developing work programme provides new opportunities for the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Police and the Children & Young People's Trust to further develop integrated and targeted working to identify those young people who are most 'in trouble', address the underlying causes and through individual and family support, prevent and reduce youth crime. This initiative will be taken forward alongside the development process of the new Targeted Youth Support service (led by the Children and Young People's Trust) which, while maintaining its joint working arrangements with the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, police-led

Anti-Social Behaviour

youth disorder operations and Youth Offending Team, will deliver at neighbourhood level through six 'Hubs' in the East, West and Central Districts of the city. The principles of 'challenge and support' will be maintained within this new integrated service.

Targeting those parents and families most in need of support and in some cases, most at risk of losing their homes or of enforcement action will also continue to be a high priority. The Anti-Social Behaviour Team's Senior Parenting Practitioner works closely with the anti-social behaviour caseworkers and with the Youth Offending Team, giving guidance, offering and delivering parenting programmes where appropriate. Overall this helps to prevent the need for further enforcement action and reduces the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system.

This work is also of particular value in supporting the Family Intervention Programme, a project which delivers a systemic 'whole family' approach, seeking to bring about changes in behaviours which will improve and sustain over time. This means that hitherto unmet needs are frequently assessed and identified and appropriate interventions are delivered to all family members. Measurement of levels of offending and other outcomes (such as school attendance, children less likely to be on the child protection register, and so on) which are agreed with the family in advance are monitored. So far, the project provides clear evidence of the success of this approach, with positive outcomes recorded. This work makes a real contribution to the wider Parenting Strategy which is led by the Children and Young People's Trust. Extending the Family Intervention Programme city-wide and building on the successes of individual cases to achieve systems change across all services for children and families and for Adult Social Care is a priority for the coming year. We hope that a new bidding opportunity ('Think Family': Department for Children, Schools and Families) will enable that further development.

Implications for sustainability

It is very important that the city continues to be a safe place in which to live and visit and that residents and visitors alike are able to engage and participate fully in city life and all it has to offer. Reducing anti-social behaviour work and the joint work programme of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and its partners is integral to the city's work to deliver this outcome for all communities, including those most at risk.

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

Performance Indicators

- **NI 17: Perceptions of anti-social behaviour** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
- NI 22: Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for their children in the area
- NI 23: Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and dignity
- NI 24: Satisfaction with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
- NI 25: Satisfaction of different groups with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
- NI 27: Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
- LI: Local output key partner dataset covering use of tools and powers in response to anti-social behaviour
- LI: Begging & street drinking numbers

Parallel plans

- Neighbourhood Action Plans
- Sussex Police, Brighton & Hove Division Local Policing Plan
- Brighton & Hove Parent Support Strategy
- Brighton & Hove Children & Young People's Plan
- Brighton & Hove Youth Justice Plan
- Brighton & Hove Housing Strategy 2008-13

Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Sustain delivery by the multi-disciplinary Anti-Social Behaviour Team and, through targeted work with the police, Children and Young People's Trust and other key partners, deliver good practice interventions to prevent, divert, support and change the behaviours of those who commit anti-social behaviour.

Actions

1.1 Continue to resource and develop the skills and 'triple track' approaches of the ASB Team working towards a consistent level of service across the city.

Anti-Social Behaviour

1.2 Further develop effective partnership arrangements and integrated services within mainstream provision which positively contribute to anti-social behaviour outcomes for the city and ensure maximum value for money.
1.3 Continue to be accountable for anti-social behaviour performance, outcomes and objectives through the range of Forums, Local Action Teams, the Responsible Authorities Partnership (CDRP) and Committees.
1.4 Further develop targeted work to local communities and communities of interest, taking account of the findings of the Inequality Review
1.5 Increase support for the role and contribution of local communities and individual champions who 'take a stand', particularly in those neighbourhoods identified as needing most attention (Inequality Review and Neighbourhood Renewal), working with front line partners and stakeholders such as housing, and neighbourhood police officers
Outcome Sought 2
Increased effectiveness from targeted work informed by monitoring intelligence, crime and disorder analysis and intelligence on offenders and offences
Actions
2.1 Review, develop and improve performance monitoring of anti-social behaviour outputs and responses across the anti-social behaviour partnership programme and the outcomes achieved.
2.2 Review and develop the roles of the monthly ASB Multi-Agency Planning Meeting and the monthly Multi-Agency Parenting Order Panel.
2.3 Maintain current anti-social behaviour databases and wider partnership casework systems and improve and develop these information system structures to ensure a consistent and coherent integration with housing and Children & Young People's Trust systems.
2.4 Continue to ensure that anti-social behaviour 'hotspots' and the individuals involved or at risk of being involved are identified through crime and disorder analysis and reporting
Outcome Sought 3
Good practice interventions that comply with national and local standards are integrated within housing management services of the City Council Housing, Registered Social Landlords and, where possible, with private landlords.
Actions
3.1 Continue to ensure strong day to day working relationships between the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and partner service of City Council Housing Management Services and Registered Social Landlord's (RSLs) in providing anti-social behaviour services to residents and communities and supporting their delivery of the Respect Housing Management Standard.
3.2 Deliver specific and joint training events with housing partners aimed at improving practices and services.
3.3 Work with housing providers to develop the role of Parenting Support and using appropriate interventions such as effective targeting, parent support groups and parenting contracts/orders. Integrate these interventions with housing based legislative tools and powers.
3.4 Evaluate and scope the need for an Anti-Social Behaviour Victim/Witness Support & Advocacy Project in the city and learn from the findings of a locally based pilot project operating in the community
3.5 Ongoing prioritisation of joint work between the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and housing providers to ensure effective exchange of high quality casework guidance, support and access to appropriate and specialist anti-social behaviour and community safety legal advice services.

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Outcome Sought 4
Prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour by children and young people and their entry for the first time into the youth justice system.
Actions
4.1 Work with partners in the Brighton & Hove Children & Young People's Trust to achieve integration between the Targeted Youth Support (TYS), the Challenge and Support approach and Youth Crime Prevention Programme with the city's anti-social behaviour partnership work programme.
4.2 Continue partnership work with the Children & Young People's Trust and deliver the outcomes and objectives of the Brighton & Hove Parent Support Strategy by contributing targeted parenting interventions to those families involved or at risk of being involved in anti-social behaviour as part of the anti-social behaviour partnership work programme.
4.3 Deliver multi-agency training to the service providers of partners, including those within the Children & Young People's Trust, working towards shared knowledge, competencies and skills and a consistent and coherent approach.
Outcome Sought 5
Further reduced levels of public perception that anti-social behaviour is a problem, improved feelings of safety/reduced fear of crime and good performance against the national and local indicators set out in this Strategy
Actions
5.1 Reduce the public's perception of anti-social behaviour from 36% in 2006/07 to 32.5% in 2008/09 and further by 2010/11 through communicating effectively that national best practice is being delivered and that sustainable solutions are achieved which address community concerns.
5.2 All partner agencies to work effectively towards achieving significant progress in meeting all nine of the Local Indicators and National Indicators targets and objectives for anti-social behaviour.
5.3 Collect and share relevant performance information amongst key partners and provide feedback to communities with objective assessments of actions delivered and outcomes in response to community concerns.
Outcome Sought 6
Reduction of anti-social behaviour through the provision of intensive family support to families and households who are causing harassment, alarm or distress to communities
Actions
6.1 Continue to deliver the Family Intervention Project (FIP) to those households where anti-social behaviour is causing harassment, alarm or distress to communities and where those households have unmet complex needs
6.2 The Anti-Social Behaviour Team to participate in the 'Think Family' pilot
6.3 The Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the Children & Young People's Trust to work in partnership to integrate the good practices of both the 'Think Family' initiative and the 'IFIP' to create and sustain an agreed model of delivery
Outcome Sought 7

Anti-Social Behaviour

Community concerns to be responded to and national requirements around the development of partnership work to be met

Actions

7.1 Maintain and sustain the city's position as a positive example of how good, integrated anti-social behaviour services are delivered and continue to work with partner agencies and communities to showcase what works and to continuously seek to improve and develop.

7.2 Maintain positive relationships with government offices (national and local) and maximise inward investment into new and existing anti-social behaviour projects and overall work programme

7.3 Continue to improve and evolve anti-social behaviour services and actively seek community and stakeholder involvement in these processes.

Children and Young People

Objective: To protect children and young people from risk and increase their safety

To reduce youth disorder and anti-social behaviour

To reduce offending and first time entrants into the youth justice system

THIS WORK WILL BRING TOGETHER THE WORK OF PARTNERS WHICH DESCRIBE HOW WE ARE TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM HARM AND FROM BECOMING FIRST TIME ENTRANTS INTO THE YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM.

Performance Indicators

- **NI 111: First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- NI 19: Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
- NI 45: Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, employment or training
- NI 46: Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation
- NI 69: Children who have experienced bullying
- NI 70: Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people
- NI 110: Young people's participation in positive activities
- NI 115: Substance misuse by young people
- LI: Number of i) total crimes and ii) public place violent crime where the victims are under the age of 18

Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol-related Crime and Disorder

Objective: To promote a safe, sensible and social drinking culture that reduces harm and violence and improves health

To reduce crimes and incidents of disorder where alcohol is a contributory factor

AN ALCOHOL STRATEGY HAS RECENTLY BEEN COMPLETED, BASED ON A DETAILED ALCOHOL GAPS ANALYSIS. PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLANS WILL BE SET OUT HERE SHORTLY.

Performance Indicators

- **NI 39: Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- NI 41 Perceptions of drunk and rowdy behaviour as a problem
- NI 15: Serious violent crime
- NI 20: Assault with less serious injury crime
- LI: Police recorded crime where alcohol is a factor

Illicit Drugs Misuse

Objective: To reduce, and where possible, prevent the harm to individuals, families and communities associated with the use of illicit drugs

Why is this a priority?

Reducing and preventing drug related harms remains both a national and local priority. The use of illicit drugs has a direct impact on other priority areas in the Strategy (see below). It causes physical, psychological and social harm to the individuals concerned, as well as giving rise to significant disruption and cost to families and communities.

National policy continues to be based on efforts to reduce both the supply of, and the demand for, illicit drugs. The 2008 Drug Strategy "Drugs: Protecting Families and Communities", published in February 2008, identifies four responses to these twin challenges:

- > protecting communities through robust enforcement to tackle drug supply, drug-related crime and anti-social behaviour
- > preventing harm to children, young people and families affected by drug misuse
- > delivering new approaches to drug treatment and social re-integration
- > public information campaigns, communications and community engagement.

The local Strategic Assessment indicated that illicit drugs use among young people remains at a substantial level, with about a third of 14–15 year olds surveyed in city schools in 2007 reporting having used at some point, with an increase in the use of stimulants, including cocaine, between 2004 and 2007. Based on Home Office data, it is estimated that about 730 young people aged 10-18 inclusive in Brighton & Hove are "frequent" drug users (frequent being defined as use of any drug more than once per month in the past 12 months). Within Neighbourhood Renewal Areas, nearly one third of residents surveyed perceived there was a drug problem compared with one in ten in other neighbourhoods. The estimated number of problem drug users [who use opiates and/or crack-cocaine] in 2005–06 is 2,819, and of drug injectors, 1,553 (aged 15-64). The number of persons charged with Class A drugs supply rose eightfold between 2005 and 2007, reflecting increased investment by the police in effective enforcement measures.

Current status of work

During the last three years, work with young people has seen improvements in drug education via the Healthy Schools Scheme; in the provision of services

Main Partners

Drug and Alcohol Action Team
Communities Against Drugs Team
Substance Misuse Service
Primary Care Trust
Sussex Police
Crime Reduction Initiatives
RUOK?
Hove YMCA
Equinox
Brighton Housing Trust
Housing Services

Illicit Drugs Misuse

for families where there are drug misusing parents and carers with vulnerable children; in the integration of training and services addressing both teenage pregnancy/sexual health and substance misuse; and in the number of young people entering specialist treatment. Within local communities, local action plans have been produced in each of the ten Neighbourhood Renewal Areas, resulting in environmental improvements, while city-wide initiatives include the work of the Patched Family Support Service and, in partnership with the business community, a Shoplifting Project targeting drug-related acquisitive crime. These plans have been informed by detailed local drug audits, which have been the basis of additionally commissioned services targeted within local communities. Treatment services have benefited from the acquisition of new premises opened in 2006, together with a substantial increase in treatment places, with 1,417 people entering treatment in 2006–07 compared with 987 in 2004–05. The percentage retained in treatment for twelve weeks or more rose from 55% to 74% during the same period. With regard to reducing supply, the introducing of Operation Reduction in 2005 has contributed to an increase in the number of Class A drug offenders brought to justice for supply offences and in the number of potential arrestees diverted into treatment.

Where next?

The next three years should see further inroads being made – into the challenges of the new national ten year drug strategy, taking into account a reduction in the allocation of expansion costs and an emphasis on efficiency savings and a more effective use of resources. For young people and families, there will be a continuing focus on supporting the children of drug misusing parents and carers in order to sustain family units and reduce substitute care, building on the promising outcomes of the first eighteen months of the initiative; further integration of substance misuse screening, assessment and non-specialist interventions into the Children and Young People's Trust; and restructuring of the under 19s treatment service. For communities, neighbourhood audits and interventions will continue, aimed at both assisting local populations to reduce drug related crime and at providing targeted support through, for example, family services and health training. The sustained investment in communities-based work over the last three years by the CDRP has provided a solid foundation for the partnership to use this to continue adding value to the enforcement, prevention and treatment strands of the new Drug Strategy. Treatment interventions will undergo a major review, in line with national guidance published by the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence, in order to deliver more effective and economical treatment. Enforcement activity, to reduce supply and to lessen the impact of drug dealing on community cohesion, will be sustained through Operation Reduction and further improvements in intelligence gathering and reporting in local communities.

Links to other priority areas

Illicit drug misuse, in the words of the Home Secretary's foreword to the new Drug Strategy "wastes lives, destroys families and damages communities. It costs taxpayers millions to deal with the health problems caused by drugs and to tackle the crimes, such as burglary, car theft, mugging and robbery which are committed by some users to fund their habit". The use of illicit drugs can be a significant factor in work with a number of other Strategy priority areas, including anti-social behaviour, acquisitive crime, public place violent crime, domestic violence, and preventive and support work with young people as well as having a negative influence on the quality of the environment.

Parallel Plans

- Children and Young People's Plan 2006–09
- PCT Operation Plan [Vital Signs] 2008–09
- Housing Strategy 2008–13
- Police Drug Strategy 2008–09

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Performance Indicators

- **NI 38: Drug-related (Class A) offending rate** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- **NI 40: Drug users in effective treatment** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- NI 42: Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem
- NI 115: Substance misuse by young people

Illicit Drugs Action Plan
Outcome Sought 1
Protection of communities through robust enforcement to tackle drug supply, drug related crime and anti-social behaviour.
Actions
1.1 Sustain the resourcing of Operation Reduction at a level commensurate with the continued achievement of outputs that occurred during the first two years of the project and reflecting the findings of independent research scheduled for completion by May 2008.
1.2 Interrogate data from Drug Market policing, CAD audits and reporting card campaigns at the level of the Joint Action Groups
Outcome Sought 2
Prevention of harm to children, young people and families affected by drug misuse.
Actions
2.1 Sustain effective provision of drugs education in both the school and youth service settings through universal [core] interventions.
2.2 Promote the further improvement, supported by the under 19 treatment service, ru-ok?, of Tier 2 targeted [enhanced] services for vulnerable young people – those who have ever been in care; those who have ever been homeless; truants; those excluded from school; serious or frequent offenders; and those whose parents or carers are problematic drug users – with effective screening and assessment at an early stage.
2.3 Increase the number of young people appropriately referred by the Police; Antisocial Behaviour Team; Detached Youth Work Team; Youth and Connexion Personal Advisors; hostel and other accommodation services; and from Accident and Emergency, into the under 19s treatment service, ru-ok?
2.4 Meet the eight NTA national targets relating to young people's treatment.
2.5 Improve treatment service delivery in respect of: general healthcare assessments; responding to diverse needs, including those who are victims of sexual exploitation; mental health assessments and treatment; and access to intensive Tier Four interventions.

2.6 Provide information and advice to local communities on what works and what they can do as a local community.
2.7 Run an annual Sussex-wide Families Conference.
Outcome Sought 3
Delivery of new approaches to drug treatment and social re-integration
3.1 Develop further the CRI community outreach, encouraging access to treatment.
3.2 Strengthen the role of key-worker in providing end-to-end management for service users moving through the treatment system.
3.3 Following an in-depth review of Guidance published by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, ensure that service users have access to appropriate and evidence based treatment interventions.
3.4 Improve further the collection of reliable data in order to better inform both service providers and service users about service delivery.
3.5 Increase access to treatment, including Black and minority ethnic groups; the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual [LGBT] community; and hostel residents.
3.6 Provide services, within existing resources, which target the perpetrators and victims of domestic violence who report problematic drug use as a factor, through the development of effective care pathways.
3.7 Improve take up of Hepatitis B vaccinations, Hepatitis C testing, and clean injecting equipment via needle exchanges.
3.8 Continue to integrate family support and treatment through local PATCHED services and through support groups at Lewes Prison.
3.9 Develop employment and educational pathways through peer mentoring and workforce development programmes.
3.10 Develop work that increases the self-esteem and self-image of those in recovery through arts and creative activities.
3.11 Create opportunities for health trainer support for those wishing to address other aspects of health behaviour change such as weight loss, exercise or nutrition.
Outcome Sought 4
Public information campaigns, communications and community engagement
Actions
4.1 Promote the use of the www.sussedcommunities.co.uk website amongst the local population.
4.2 Through CAD Neighbourhood Liaison work, engage with local communities at street level and, where appropriate, across neighbourhoods, in order to respond to expressed need by means of the audit, commissioning and review cycle.
4.3 Develop further local reporting campaigns.
4.4 Raise awareness of the risks of the night-time economy through the Safe Space project and the Spiked campaign.
4.5 Work with the Police/Highways Patrol to promote Drug Driving Campaigns.

Acquisitive Crime: Burglary, Theft and Business Crime

Objective: To reduce acquisitive crime including burglaries, thefts of and from motor vehicles, cycle theft and business crime

Why is this a priority?

Acquisitive crime, often motivated by drug abuse, is invasive. In particular, domestic burglaries have a significant impact on victims and business crime can jeopardise the prosperity of businesses in the city.

The Home Office estimates that the average financial cost (2003 prices) of each domestic burglary is £3,268, theft of a vehicle is £4,138 and theft from a vehicle is £858.

The local picture

In 2007, the Citizens' Panel Survey found that 29% of local people reported feeling fairly worried or very worried about their homes being broken into and a further 45% felt slightly worried. Roughly similar percentages of people were worried about theft of or theft from their vehicles. 12% of Citizen's Panel respondents had experienced or observed domestic burglary In the past twelve months and a similar percentage had experienced or observed attempted burglary.

Over the course of recent years levels of police recorded vehicle crime and domestic burglary have substantially fallen. While vehicle crime remains at relatively low levels, domestic burglaries are showing signs that they might be rising again, so it is important we continue with current work streams to maintain recent reductions. Cycle theft showed an upwards trend up to 2006, in line with the number of people cycling, but fell back in 2007.

Current status of work

Operation Reduction which targets drug dealers and users with a dual approach of enforcement and support has made a significant contribution locally to reducing acquisitive crime, as has work with prolific and priority offenders (described further in a separate section of this strategy).

Operation Inroad has been successful in increasing awareness of potential victims of distraction burglary. When incidents do occur, this initiative provides an enhanced response to victims and a quality focussed investigation.

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) appointed priority crime reduction officer has coordinated and delivered a wide range of activities and initiatives around acquisitive crime drawing on national best practice. This has included a programme of providing additional security to 486 homes over the past two years. These have mainly been in the city centre where properties tend to be more vulnerable.

Main Partners

Sussex Police
 Housing Services
 Neighbourhood Watch
 Trading Standards
 Victim Support
 Business Crime Reduction
 Partnership
 Sustainable Transport Team
 Bike Off

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Operation Corbett focuses the police response to the investigation of vehicle crime and continues to contribute to vehicle crime reductions. Automatic number plate recognition cameras, better car security and targeted plans concerning prolific offenders will continue to contribute to vehicle crime reductions.

In response to the rise in cycle theft, a multi-agency group was set up to tackle the problem. Work has subsequently begun on an action plan which includes improved cycle parking facilities and work to raise awareness among cyclist about best practice around cycle security.

The Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP), supported by the CDRP, continues to increase its membership and provides support to businesses in reducing crime. Areas of business supported include the retail sector and the night time economy.

CDRP activity has therefore made a significant contribution to crime reduction in this area. Underlying this is the day to day work of the police in Brighton and Hove in dealing with victims, gathering intelligence, targeting offenders, detecting offences and bringing offenders to justice.

Where next?

The CDRP priority crime reduction officer will continue to develop initiatives to maintain our reductions in these crime areas and we will continue to invest in Operation Reduction and work targeting prolific and priority offenders.

We will maintain current CDRP actions to reduce burglary paying particular attention to distraction burglaries which can have a serious impact on predominantly older victims.

Regarding vehicle crime, we will focus on developing systems which utilise automatic number plate recognition, targeting offenders and publicising good practice to vehicle owners.

A high profile cycle theft awareness campaign is planned to coincide with the summer cycling season during 2008.

The CDRP will continue to work with the BCRP developing the roles of the night time and day time coordinators to encompass wider crime reduction activity and to actively own, develop and coordinate the business crime reduction action plan.

Links to other priority areas

Work in this area is supported by work in the action plans relating to Priority and Prolific Offenders, drugs misuse, and physical environment, infrastructure and quality of life.

Sustainability issues

As shown above, many people have an underlying concern about the risk of acquisitive crimes, particularly those which are personally invasive. Also, business crimes are not victimless; small businesses particularly can be disproportionately disadvantaged by business crime and neighbourhoods where premises have closed down detract from the visual appearance of the area, can lose their attraction as places to visit and encourage criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

National research has found that if their cycle has been stolen, two out of three people will cycle less frequently and one in four will stop cycling altogether. A reduction in cycle theft rates therefore supports work to build up environmental sustainability and also has positive health benefits.

Since acquisitive crime levels have been relatively low in recent times, it would be easy to divert resources into other crime and community safety issues. However, the CDRP must continue with ongoing police operations and CDRP initiatives so as to maintain these low levels of crime. These are not currently resource intensive so this is achievable. The CDRP will continue to monitor crime trends in this area and where spare analytical capacity exists successful projects and operations will be evaluated to learn from their success.

Parallel plans

- Sussex Police and Brighton & Hove Policing Plans
- Sustainable Transport Plan

Performance Indicators

- NI 16: Serious acquisitive crime rate
- LI: Number of police recorded domestic burglaries
- LI: Number police recorded thefts from and thefts of vehicles
- LI: Cycle theft rate (accounting for increases in cycling levels) – 10% reduction in 2008/09 from 2007/08 baseline
- LI: Number of police recorded shoplifting offences
- LI: Number of Business Crime Reduction Partnership members

Acquisitive Crime Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Targeted crime prevention in burglary hotspots

Actions

- 1.1 Continue to promote and focus secure locks scheme in the most vulnerable properties
- 1.2 Ensure property is marked in hotspot areas
- 1.3 Promote NHW in hotspots
- 1.4 Increase awareness of capable guardians in hotspots
- 1.5 Ensure quality focussed investigations in hotspot areas
- 1.6 Provide high visibility patrols in hotspot areas

Outcome Sought 2

Increase active Neighbourhood Watch schemes

Actions

- 2.1 Promote Neighbourhood Watch across the city
- 2.2 Ensure PCSOs are all trained in setting up and supporting schemes
- 2.3 Maintain established Neighbourhood Watch schemes during transition management arrangements
- 2.4 Continue to support and promote Brighton and Hove Neighbourhood Watch Association

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2.5 Provide better communication to Neighbourhood Watch coordinators
Outcome Sought 3
Improved security standards in dwellings
Actions
3.1 Promote secure locks scheme across the city
3.2 Provide advice to householders on securing their property and good practices
3.3 Work with planning to ensure new developments, refurbishments and extensions meet specific standards of security
3.4 Improve security in dwellings occupied by vulnerable people
3.5 Take special measures to tackle distraction burglaries
Outcome Sought 4
Improved property marking and property recovery
Actions
4.1 Targeted work with householders to ensure property is appropriately marked
4.2 Targeted work to promote property marking and increase awareness of the benefits
4.3 Improve the use of technology and recording systems to identify covertly marked recovered goods
4.4 Work with second hand outlets to monitor stock and who they buy their stock from
Outcome Sought 5
Targeted vehicle crime prevention in hotspots and improved environmental design to deter vehicle crime
Actions
5.1 Make motorists aware of hotspots
5.2 Provide intelligence to capable guardians regarding hotspots
5.3 Improve the built environment in long term hotspots
5.4 Improve security and safety standards in car parks
5.5 Make car parks look secure, safe and clean
5.6 Through planning ensure all new environmental improvements maximise opportunities to reduce vehicle crime
Outcome Sought 6
Increased responsibility and improved crime prevention practices by motorists
Actions
6.1 Raise awareness of good crime prevention practices

Acquisitive Crime

6.2 Work with motorists to ensure property is appropriately marked
6.3 Encourage off street parking
Outcome Sought 8
Support the Business Crime Reduction Partnership in protecting businesses from crime
Actions
8.1 Increase the membership of the BCRP
8.2 Encourage existing members to report and record crime and incidents
8.3 Maintain and develop intelligence between the police, PCST and BCRP
8.4 Work with the BCRP to improve working practices to reduce crime in the night time economy
8.5 Work with the BCRP to improve working practices to reduce crime in the day time economy
Outcome Sought 9
Initiate effective business crime reduction activities and disseminate good practice
Actions
9.1 Equip businesses with the information needed to reduce crime
9.2 Give businesses access to best practice to reduce business crime
9.3 Reduce drive offs from petrol stations
Outcome Sought 9
Reduction in cycle theft rate
Actions
10.1 Carry out high profile publicity campaign on secure cycle locking practice
10.2 Promote registration of cycles to assist with retrieval
10.3 Continue to expand and improve cycle parking provision in the city, including in car parks and residential settings
10.4 Evaluate effectiveness of 'M design' cycle stands trial
10.5 Seek quality cycle parking provision in new planning applications and for this to be adequately enforced

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Objective: To reduce crimes and incidents which are motivated by hatred and protect victims

Hate crime is any incident which constitutes a criminal offence, which is perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate. It is an action that goes beyond causing offence or being hostile. It is a criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by an offender's hatred of someone because of their:

- >race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality or national origins
- >religion
- >gender or gender identity
- >sexual orientation
- >disability.

Hate crime can take many forms including:

- >physical attacks, assaults, damage to property, offensive graffiti, neighbour disputes and arson
- >threat of attack including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints
- >verbal abuse or insults, offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letter boxes and bullying at school or in the workplace

Brighton & Hove's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership is committed to dealing with hate crime and to the prejudice and discrimination that fuel such hatred. In the next two sections of the Strategy, work is described which tackles hate crimes motivated by racist and religious hatred and by homophobia, transphobia and biphobia.

During 2008, the Partnership will develop its plans to deal with crimes which are motivated by hatred of someone because of their disability and will include within that definition those that have physical, sensory or learning disabilities and those who are vulnerable because of mental ill health. This work is in the context of the Disability Discrimination Acts of 1995 and 2005.

Our sections of the Strategy which set out our work programmes for tackling domestic and sexual violence recognise the relationship between these crimes and gender-based violence and the new duties that are required by the Equality Act 2006. During 2008, the Partnership will consider how it can further integrate considerations of gender within the work on other priority crime areas. These considerations will ensure that the CDRP is fully compliant with all recent equality duties.

Performance Indicators

- NI 1: % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area
- NI 2: % of people who feel that they belong in their neighbourhood
- NI 23: Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and dignity
- NI 35: Building resilience to violent extremism
- NI 36: Protection against terrorist attack

Racially and Religiously Motivated Crimes/Incidents and Building Resilience to Extremism

Objectives: To prevent and reduce racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents

To increase trust and confidence and to build long-term resilience to violent extremism

Definition - 'A racist or religiously motivated incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist or religiously motivated by the victim or any other person.'

Why is this a priority?

Tackling racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents and building resilience to extremism is within the context of Brighton & Hove's changing population profile.

The 2001 Census estimated that there were just over 14,200 people from non-white ethnic groups – 5.7% of the city's population. However, BME groups were estimated to have increased in size by 35% over the period 2001 to 2004 (against a national increase of 13%). 15% of the city's residents were born outside of England (well above national levels) and 20% of all new births in 2005 were to mothers born outside the UK. The city ranks in the top 10 local authorities across England in terms of numbers of migrant workers with 5,000 registrations from overseas workers in 2005 alone (Inequality Review 2007/08, Brighton & Hove City Council). The city also hosts several thousand overseas students every year.

Assessing the extent to which this increasing population is vulnerable to racist/religiously motivated crimes and incidents is informed in part by national research which consistently shows high levels of under-reporting, specifically that police databases record fewer than a fifth of those incidents which are revealed through surveys.

The local picture

The Brighton & Hove Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) has consistently prioritised work aimed at increasing reporting either to the police, the caseworkers within the Community Safety Team, housing and school staff or to one of our community or voluntary sector partners. Our Strategic Assessment (2007) revealed an ongoing rising trend in reports. During 2006–07 there were 588 recorded racially or religiously motivated crimes and incidents. The most prevalent types of incidents were verbal abuse (37%), harassment (17%), physical violence (15%) and against property (11%). A deeper analysis of our common database revealed that between September 2005 and October 2007, 71 incidents were identified as religiously motivated. Of those 54% were identified as Islamophobic and 37% were identified as anti-Semitic. Overall, 90% of perpetrators were 'White European', more likely to be male and most likely to be in their teens or twenties. Victims were most likely to be the younger population (42% directed at 11 – 30 year olds).

Hate Crimes and Incidents

The central area of the city, which is the focus for visitors and businesses, has the highest concentration and increasing number of incidents (Regency ward) with other central areas (Queen's Park and St. Peter's & North Laine) and East Brighton also showing concentrations.

Our analysis also shows that rises or peaks in reported incidents correlate with international and national events and tensions. For example, in July 2005 following the London bombing incidents, Brighton & Hove had the largest number of reported incidents that it had recorded in any single previous month. We estimate that those incidents were particularly experienced by those who were perceived to be of the Muslim faith. However, other communities are also at an increased risk of targeted crimes or incidents, including gypsies and travellers, refugees and migrant workers, overseas students, health service workers and BME businesses, particularly those which work in front line occupations such as food and retail outlets and taxi drivers.

Community engagement and trust and confidence

Our work to prevent and deal with these hate crimes has also directly contributed to building increased trust and confidence by local communities in criminal justice and statutory partner agencies. Community engagement and supporting partnership work with communities is prioritised as one of a number of ways through which we build trust and confidence. That work and the positive direct relationships that our police officers and staff within the Partnership Community Safety Team have with the Muslim Forum, the Sudanese Coptic Association, the Jewish Representative Council and other faith based groups provide the opportunity for directly addressing the concerns and daily experiences they have and of delivering solutions which further protect them.

This work has anticipated some of what is now required of local authorities and CDRPs in 'building resilience to violent extremism'. The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) have provided local authorities with guidance and a framework within which to deliver the new requirements. The guidance seeks a 'step change' in activity at local level, targeting those communities who are most at risk.

Current status of work

Brighton & Hove CDRP will continue its active support of the Racial Harassment Forum, the 'multi-agency panel' which was identified as a key good practice initiative within the findings of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. The Forum is a partnership of community, independent sector and statutory service providers. An independent review of its governance and working practices in 2006 has ensured that the Forum is 'fit for purpose' to deliver its duties including all those which are set out in the detailed action plan of this Strategy which incorporates targeted work to build resilience to violent extremism as well as comprehensive actions to reduce racist/religiously motivated crimes and incidents.

A high priority is to sustain and further develop the provision of high quality police responses and casework services which provide the full range of criminal and civil justice remedies which resolve safety issues, protect victims and, where appropriate, bring offenders to justice. The added value that will come from closer working with Neighbourhood Policing Officers and Teams will be one of the initiatives in coming months which aim to improve responses.

Main Partners

Racial Harassment Forum
BME and faith community groups
and businesses
Sussex Police
Partnership Community Safety
Team
Primary Care Trust
Children and Young People's Trust
Social housing providers
Crown Prosecution Service
Court services

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We have done particularly well in taking forward projects which reduce risks for particularly vulnerable groups. A Home Office grant is awarded from the Victim Fund which has allowed an outreach worker employed by Friends, Families and Travellers to work with gypsies and travellers to increase reporting. Funding has also been secured to work with taxi drivers in the city and to increase their safety from racist abuse and attacks. The success of this initiative is a result of a strong partnership with community leaders and the members of Sudanese community in particular.

Mainstreaming good practice approaches has significantly progressed with expertise being shared from the Partnership Community Safety Team in the delivery of training programmes to many council services. The Healthy Schools Team (within the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT)) has led cutting edge work to tackling bullying in schools. The 'Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning' initiative has been delivered to primary schools and by September 2008 will be implemented in all schools in the city. As the local education authority, the CYPT has now analysed a full year of returns from schools, which together with the findings of the 'Safe at School' survey is providing important information on which we can base educational and preventative work with children and young people.

Where next?

Sustaining our multi-agency panel, the Racial Harassment Forum continues to be a high priority. We will provide support to those representatives of the community and independent sector who give of their time and expertise in helping in the delivery of the Forum's work which includes the work programme set out within this strategy and action plan. The Annual General Meetings provide important opportunities to review progress and to celebrate shared achievements. We will continue to strengthen the link with democratic processes through the Community Safety Forum and with stronger links within neighbourhoods.

Work to further increase reporting will continue and we will sustain and extend the delivery of good practice casework to victims and witnesses, co-ordinating effective multi-agency responses and remedies.

We will continue to meet Home Office requirements to record, monitor and analyse tensions and risks and submit monthly reports. We will also continue to address the particular concerns and experiences of those who are targeted and fearful because of their faith, hold regular faith based 'community concerns' meetings and provide opportunities for dialogue including with police intelligence services and for problem solving on issues that are of shared concern.

That work will be the basis of a 'step change' programme through which we will deliver the work to build our local communities resilience to violent extremism (as required by the DCLG). As well as further engaging and supporting those communities who are most at risk, we will progress the strands of work that seek to ensure the effective use of the education system, and where appropriate the youth service, to promote faith understanding in schools, colleges and universities. We will seek to increase the involvement of women from different faith groups in new initiatives, work with our partners to further introduce inclusive cultural initiatives, inter faith work and projects which build civic capacity. Our activities during Refugee Week in June and the 'City People's Day' in October 2008 will be two of the initiatives which will help take forward that work. At a strategic level, we will contribute to partnership work to help build community cohesion particularly where that will assist in targeted work to prevent extremism.

Links to other priority areas

Work in this action plan feeds into broader work around equalities and community cohesion. It also supports and is supported by other work in this strategy around anti-social behaviour, children and young people and public place alcohol related crime disorder.

Sustainability

Racially and religiously motivated crimes and incidents significantly adversely affect the health, well-being and quality of life of individuals and families, damage lives and communities and undermine community cohesion. The importance of addressing individual safety concerns and carrying out targeted work to protect particular faith and race based groups is also recognised in the government’s requirements that we deliver on the aim to build communities’ long term resilience to confront and reduce their vulnerability to extremism. We firmly believe that is being achieved in Brighton & Hove, that we have the full support of our local communities in doing so and that sustaining community cohesion within all communities most at risk is a shared priority.

Performance Indicators

- LI: Number of Racist Incident Report Forms received
- LI: Number of agencies actively engaged in using the RIRF
- LI: Number of police recorded racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents
- LI: The detection, prosecution and conviction rate of racist and religiously motivated crimes
- LI: Number of racist and religiously motivated crimes where the victim has been a victim of a racist or religiously motivated crime in the last 12 months

Parallel plans

- Preventing Violent Extremism – Winning Hearts and Minds (DCLG: 2007)
- Commissioning Integration and Cohesion: Our Shared Future (DCLG 2007)
- Strengthening Opportunities – Promoting Cohesion (DCLG 2005/07)
- Inclusive Council Policy; and community cohesion and Reducing Inequalities Review
- Anti-Bullying Strategy: Children & Young People’s Trust and national guidance: ‘Safe To Learn’.
- Saving Lives, Reducing Harm. Protecting the Public. An Action Plan for Reducing Violence 2008–11.

Racially and Religiously Motivated Crimes and Incidents and Building Resilience to Violent Extremism Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Increased reporting of racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents and improved responses and services to those reporting.

Actions

- 1.1 Develop and distribute widely self-reporting packs to increase reporting of racist incidents
- 1.2 Expand web-based and on-line reporting opportunities
- 1.3 Enhance facilities to report and access services within the neighbourhood

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1.4 Further implement and mainstream the use of the Pan-Sussex Racist Incident Report Form (RIRF)
1.5 Increase reporting of BME taxi drivers and bus drivers in the city and implement appropriate safety measures
1.6 Increase reporting in the community and voluntary sector
1.7 Prioritise work with repeat victims to support and protect them and their families from further victimisation
1.8 Further develop the capacity of the multi-agency Casework Panel to improve the response to racist incidents and to support victims
1.9 Conduct client satisfaction surveys and act on feedback from the client in relation to the standards of service provided to them
1.10 Deliver a consistently high quality service to victims from wherever they access support
1.11 NHS Trusts to devise measures to increase reporting and embed it within their policies & practice
1.12 Publicise reporting centres, reporting schemes and support services. (Appendix attached with list)
Outcome Sought 2
An anti-racist attitude with all communities across Brighton and Hove, backed up by a work force that is equipped and motivated to challenge and prevent racist and religiously motivated behaviour
Actions
2.1 Provide targeted publicity and support to vulnerable groups to raise awareness about reporting and enable easy access to hate crime services. Translated information to be made available on support services and first contact
2.2 Prioritise promotion of clear and consistent anti-racist messages and raise awareness of racist bullying in young people's settings, particularly schools, using a variety of young person friendly media and training
2.3 Work with English language schools, higher education establishments, universities, and host families to raise awareness risks and of reporting mechanisms among overseas students and address their safety concerns. Examine this process and ensure that it is targeted at the right people
2.4 Deliver training to clusters of BME businesses across the city to address their safety concerns and increase reporting of racist and religiously-motivated incidents and purchase equipment to facilitate this process
2.5 Ensure clients are aware of statutory sector complaint procedures e.g. Council, Police, NHS, CPS and learn from complaints made
Outcome Sought 3
The prevention of deterrence of offending and re-offending through improved rates of detection, prosecution and effective court outcomes
3.1 To review policies and practices relating to the recording and referral of issues relating to repeat offending
3.2 Race/Faith caseworkers to work closely with Anti-Social Behaviour and Youth Offending Teams regarding known perpetrators
3.3 Develop a mechanism to identify and manage risk presented by racist and religiously motivated offenders

Hate Crimes and Incidents

3.4 Work towards developing early intervention programmes with young people in young people's settings
3.5 Work with perpetrators and their parents to address their racial or religiously-motivated anti-social behaviour by appropriate interventions and referral to appropriate services
3.6 Monitor records to ensure early identification and tagging of racist and religiously motivated incidents
3.7 Monitor the racist incident reporting process within Sussex Police and the Crown Prosecution Service to identify gaps in the system and develop a plan to address them
3.8 Monitor the number of racist and religiously motivated crimes recorded and detected along with the number of arrests, cautions, prosecutions and convictions
3.9 Develop and monitor tracking of criminal cases to check progress and provide feedback to the victims and communities
3.10 Map and analyse hotspots for racist incidents to assist in problem solving and to assess the effectiveness of work undertaken
3.11 Maintain the city-wide centralised monitoring system of racist incidents, produce regular updates on trends and patterns for monitoring by producing the Racist Incident Database Report to direct future preventative and development work
Outcome Sought 4
Robust mechanisms within housing and other contexts to combat Racial Harassment
Actions
4.1 Housing Strategy to continue to develop appropriate and specific housing policies and procedures and work with registered social landlords and the private sector to minimise potential risk of vulnerable people from Black and minority ethnic communities being housed in vulnerable locations
4.2 Housing strategy to develop strategy action points to combat racist and religiously motivated harassment
4.3 Ensure consistent response across all Housing Services to reports of RRMI
Outcome Sought 5
Build resilience to violent extremism and increase community cohesion through targeted work towards those most at risk, increased engagement with existing and new communities and building bridges and links across all ethnic groups and faiths
Actions
5.1 Participate in the delivery of national good practice initiatives which aim to build resilience to violence extremism and community cohesion. Ensure that those communities most at risk are identified and offered appropriate support with particular opportunities for increased dialogue and to seek assistance. This work to also be targeted towards young people in the city
5.2 Assess tensions, risks and potential conflicts in the city, engaging with community and faith based groups and complete returns to the Home Office. Ensure that risks and concerns identified are acted upon and feedback given, including adding to information that is regularly analysed in order to identify trends and crime and safety patterns.
5.3 Sustain and further develop regular 'Concerns' meetings, including those with the Muslim and Coptic Christian community, ensuring that their concerns are responded to with effective outcomes
5.4 Encourage community cohesion through support and positive relationships with Black and minority ethnic and faith communities to deliver a programme of community events & religious festivals

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5.5 The Partnership Community Safety Team and statutory partners to regularly consult and engage with communities in developing good practice of priorities and services with regard to dealing with racist and religiously motivated crimes and incidents and other services
5.6 Through joint work with the Refugee Forum and Migrant Workers Steering Group, engage with refugee, asylum seeker and migrant worker communities, addressing their particular safety concerns
5.7 Develop a youth section of the Racial Harassment Forum
5.8 Maintain support and further develop the role of the multi-agency Racial Harassment Forum in accordance with the recommendations of the 2006 independent review
5.9 Develop links with external agencies/individuals from around the UK to bring inspiration and expertise to the RHF

LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents

Objectives: To reduce homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic crimes and incidents

To improve the trust and confidence of Brighton and Hove LGBT people in Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership agencies and their work to develop community cohesion

Why is this a priority?

Brighton & Hove has an estimated LGBT population of 35,000 people. Official figures show a relatively low level of hate crime and incidents recorded. The level of under-reporting however, has been evidenced in “The Count Me In Too” survey of 2006. This showed that 73% of the 847 people taking part, had experienced at least one crime or incident within the previous five years. Of these, only 1 in 7 had reported it. During that five year period, 763 crimes and incidents had been officially recorded. Extrapolating that figure could mean that as many as 5,341 crimes and incidents actually took place during the period, over 1,000 per year. This research also shows a disproportionate impact on vulnerable, excluded or marginalised groups. There is therefore, a real danger that tackling homophobic/trans/biphobic crimes and incidents might not be adequately prioritised if recorded crime figures are the only source of information. The evidence shows that a sustained level of hate crime and incidents are not being reported. This has a cumulative and serious impact on individuals and LGBT communities.

While the city presents culturally as being socially inclusive and tolerant of sexual diversity, it also has a vibrant night time economy, and is a popular destination for short term visitors. The central area of Brighton, including the prominent LGBT area of Kemptown, is home to a transient community (as well as established residents). This mix of people from different backgrounds and levels of understanding reveals widespread prejudice. Discrimination ranges from verbal to physical abuse, much of which is unrecorded and therefore unaddressed. LGBT residents and visitors migrate to Brighton from less progressive places believing it to be safe and tolerant and can be disillusioned to find that this is not always the case. LGBT people need to have trust and confidence in services dealing with hate crime, and under-reporting is a sign that many may not. This, along with a criminal justice attrition rate which is greater than that of other hate crimes, combines towards a lack of confidence in the reporting process, and this is self perpetuating.

Current status

2007 saw the creation of multi-agency LGBT working groups, including a Casework Panel and an LGBT Community Safety Working Group, with standing groups around topics including mental health, housing and domestic violence and abuse. These groups will be instrumental in providing improved

<p>Main Partners</p> <p>Sussex Police</p> <p>Partnership Community Safety Team</p> <p>Crown Prosecution Service</p> <p>Courts service</p> <p>Primary Care Trust</p> <p>Housing services</p> <p>Children and Young People’s Trust</p>

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partnership solutions in reducing hate crime and incidents.

The Count Me In Too report of 2007 provided important information and further focussed analysis of the community safety data has also been undertaken. This provides further information on the LGBT community's perceptions of hate crime and assessments of agency responses as well as useful evidence for the development of service approaches.

One example of a specific development that has been informed by Count Me In Too data, is the setting up of weekly trans drop-in sessions, facilitated by a support worker to address trans community issues.

Efforts have been made to increase reporting of incidents, with specific initiatives including, 'True Vision', 'Blow the Whistle' and 'Where Do You Fit In' campaigns. In field work, a successful multi-agency project took place in 2007 under the name of Operation Reagan which specifically focused on reducing violent crime in a hotspot areas during the summer months.

Where next?

There is insufficient information about incidents which can serve as a basis for the development and design of future services to meet the needs of victims or change the behaviour of perpetrators. The implications are that repeat incidents are likely to go unchecked and escalate while opportunities to introduce good practice measures which educate, prevent and deter perpetrators are lost. Without good information, it is difficult to set meaningful benchmarks.

We need to reduce hate crime and make Brighton & Hove a safer place for LGBT people. A priority will be to increase reporting and improve recording. We will seek to increase opportunities for third party reporting through a common framework of shared reporting systems and improve recording by developing better recording systems. This will allow us to carry out analytical work on data collected across all agencies focussing on areas such as criminal justice and offending patterns.

We will continue to develop our community engagement processes and support the level of community capacity. In this way we will build stronger relationships which will improve the trust and confidence of LGBT people and community agencies. In turn, this will help to improve co-ordination and partnership work to implement strategic recommendations.

We will continue to support victims and witnesses and respond to the safety needs of multiple marginalised people and support counselling services for survivors. This will also involve sustaining development work on domestic violence, anti bullying and sexual offences.

Implications for sustainability

It is vital for the social, economic and environmental well being and for the overall health of individuals that the local LGBT community feel safe and are able to participate fully in the life of the city. Good community cohesion is achieved where cultural diversity is encouraged, strong and positive relationships exist between people from different backgrounds and where people trust one and other and have trust in; local institutions to act fairly.

Parallel plans

- Domestic Violence Strategy
- Brighton & Hove's 'Inclusive Council Policy'
- Housing Strategy
- CPS 'Delivering Simple, Speedy, Summary Justice' policy document

LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents

Performance Indicators

- LI: Detection, prosecution and conviction rates for LGBT hate crimes
- LI: Number of LGBT hate crimes where the victim has been a victim of an LGBT hate crime in the last 12 months

LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents Action Plan
Outcome Sought 1
Build and sustain multi-agency partnerships and intersectorial LGBT safety focused evidence led partnerships including on hate crime and domestic violence/abuse issues. Build capacity/joint working on LGBT safety issues among LGBT groups and services
Actions
1.1 Build and sustain evidence-led LGBT safety partnerships
1.2 Build capacity and joint working on LGBT community safety issues among LGBT groups and services
1.3 Monitor and decrease fear of crime within LGBT communities
1.4 Sustain LGBT domestic violence and abuse partnership and development work
Outcome Sought 2
Develop counselling, group work, advice and support for hate crime survivors.
Actions
2.1 Continue to respond to the support needs of LGBT hate crime victims/survivors.
2.2 Work in partnership to improve criminal justice outcomes for those reporting.
Outcome Sought 3
Understand and respond to the safety needs of marginalised and vulnerable groups within the LGBT population.
Actions
3.1 Continue to respond to victims of LGBT hate crime, with particular focus on marginalised groups within the wider LGBT community.
3.2 Address the safety needs of LGBT people who live, socialise, and work within the St James's Street and Kemptown area.
Outcome Sought 4
Mainstream LGBT Community Safety across all sectors particularly in relation to where people live and review, build on and incorporate learning from research and service data to ensure best practice.

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Actions
4.1 Mainstream LGBT Community Safety work.
4.2 Monitoring and analysis of hate crime statistics to improve services to those reporting.
4.3 Build on expertise within mainstream services and capacity to deliver effective casework services to hate crime victims.
Outcome Sought 5
Address the safety needs of LGBT school age children and young people by sustaining the LGBT anti-bullying partnership and development work.
Actions
5.1 Actively involve CDRP partners in further developing the work of the LGBT Anti-Bullying Working Group.
Outcome Sought 6
Continually review policies and practices relating to LGBT safety and addressing repeat offending including the development of programmes and practices to prevent hate crime.
Actions
6.1 Review build on and mainstream learning from research and service data to ensure best practice.
6.2 Review policies and practices relating to repeat offenders.
6.3 Work towards developing programmes and practices to prevent hate crime incidents.
6.4 Involve LGBT communities in decision making and scrutiny of service design and policy.
Outcome Sought 7
Understand and respond to the needs of LGBT sexual assault victims and LGBT people at risk of sexual exploitation.
Actions
7.1 Assess and scope the needs of LGBT people in relation to sexual assault and exploitation.
Outcome Sought 8
Improve community engagement with LGBT groups, services and individuals as well as increasing opportunities for reporting through third party reporting using mainstream and LGBT services and venues.
Actions
8.1 Build trust and confidence through outreach with high-risk groups, regular progress reports in LGBT media, on-line and at safety fora and other LGBT events/meetings etc.
8.2 Develop and improve integration of opportunities for reporting, through third party reporting using mainstream and LGBT services and venues.

Domestic Violence

Objective: To prevent and reduce domestic violence through an effective co-ordinated community response that reduces social tolerance of domestic violence, increases the safety of survivors, reduces the harm caused and brings offenders to justice.

Definition – ‘Domestic violence is physical, sexual and psychological violence that forms a pattern of coercive, controlling behaviour and takes place between adults who are current or former partners and/or their immediate family members.’

This includes rape, threats, intimidation, financial and emotional abuse, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and so-called honour killings, as well as elder abuse when committed within the family or by an intimate partner.

Whatever form it takes, domestic violence is rarely a one-off incident. More usually it's a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour through which the abuser seeks power over their victim.

Why is this priority?

“Too often the crime of domestic violence is hidden away, but we are determined to bring it out into the open and address its root causes. (Home Office, 2008)”

Domestic violence occurs across society, regardless of age, gender, race, sexuality, wealth and geography. It consists mainly of violence by men against women. Victims of domestic violence suffer on many levels - health, housing, education - and lose the freedom to live their lives how they want, and without fear.

There is a strong correlation between domestic violence, mental ill health, substance misuse, repeat attendance at A & E, the case histories of offenders, those families needing intensive parenting support and child protection issues. Children and young people face increased risk of abuse, injury or death if they are exposed to domestic violence and it severely affects their health and well being, achievement and development.

The total cost to society is an estimated £23 billion a year in England and Wales. The estimated costs of services and lost economic output in Brighton and Hove (based on the national estimates) could be as high as £30 million per annum. The estimated cost of individual pain and suffering caused by domestic violence in the city is £88 million per annum.

Main Partners

Women’s Refuge Project

Sussex Police

Partnership Community Safety Team

Crown Prosecution Service

Courts service

Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals
NHS Trust

Primary Care Trust

Housing services

Children and Young People’s Trust

Domestic Violence Forum

Sussex Probation

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National direction

The key objective of the 2007/08 National Delivery Plan for Domestic Violence is to ensure a coordinated community response in order to:

- > Increase early identification of – and intervention with – victims of domestic violence
- > Build capacity to provide effective advice and support to victims
- > Improve the criminal justice response to domestic violence by increased reporting, arrests and offences brought to justice
- > Support victims through the Criminal Justice System and manage perpetrators to reduce risk, harm and incidence

The Home Office Violent Crime Action Plan 2008 seeks to:

- > Double the number of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts by 2011
- > Roll out Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences ensuring sustainable support is available for all DV victims by 2011
- > Develop a national action plan to so-called honour-based violence' by the end of 2008
- > Establish a national working group to identify and develop actions to assist victims from Black and Minority Ethnic groups

The local picture

Brighton & Hove police recorded 3,392 crimes and incidents of domestic violence in 2006/07, of which 1,373 were crimes. This is 18% of total violent crime locally. Of those 1,373 crimes, there were 915 detections which resulted in 292 finalised court cases and 170 convictions.

There were 289 presentations to the Housing Service related to domestic violence of which 62 became homeless applications and the Women's Refuge Project supported 181 children and young people in 06/07 and in total they received 2,244 referrals last year.

Domestic Violence was identified as a primary 'underlying cause' in 24% of registrations on the Child Protection Register.

Based on national estimates that only 23% of domestic violence is reported to the police, we could expect that over 27,000 women locally could be experiencing domestic violence as could one in four LGBT residents - a further 8,000 people.

Current status of work

Significant areas of development in the past year have been initiated following the completion of a 'Gaps Analysis'. They are:

- > Establishing the Specialist Domestic Violence Court programme in Brighton and Hove which has achieved national accreditation. This means that the city is on track to fulfil the eleven requirements of a coordinated community response some of which (below) have also been achieved this year
- > The Specialist Domestic Violence Court which has been running since August 2007, provides the opportunity for weekly 'clustering' of cases and improved case management and support for victims, witnesses and court and criminal justice processes.
- > Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing Panels are in place, chaired by a senior police officer which enables case planning within the context of assessed levels of risk and support needs

Domestic Violence

- > Increased capacity within the Anti-Victimisation Investigative Unit from an additional caseworker post
- > Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) who support victims through the criminal justice system. We are close to achieving the numbers of IDVAs required from accreditation with one post focusing on the needs of Gay, Bisexual and Transgender victims
- > Brighton and Hove's perpetrator programme, '*Living Without Violence*,' (piloted in East Brighton but now delivering city-wide) is formally evaluated and successes and areas for development identified
- > Increased funding from the City Council has enabled the Women's Refuge Project to extend its work to schools and youth centres and to roll out the *Safe As Houses* service model across the city and in neighbourhoods
- > '*Count Me in Too*', a report on the findings from LGBT lives in the city, has been launched and given direction to the new Domestic Violence Strategy (2008-2011)
- > Housing Services are running a 'Sanctuary Project' which seeks to protect women and children from perpetrators while enabling them to remain within their existing homes

Where next?

Led by the Senior Officer Strategy Group for Domestic Violence, the new strategy (2008-11) aims to sustain and further extend the capacity of existing initiatives and partnership work, including the good practice initiatives which were established during 2007 and which increase protection for survivors and the potential for increased rates of prosecution and conviction.

In addition there will be an increased focus on publicising the unacceptability of domestic violence in order to encourage women and men to report and seek assistance and redress at an earlier stage. We will also seek to take further our existing partnership work with the Children and Young People's Trust and with health providers and are looking forward to the possibility of locating domestic violence specialists within health care and clinical settings, including within Accident and Emergency.

Links to other priority areas

There is a strong relationship between domestic violence and sexual violence in some contexts. The Senior Officer Strategy Group for Domestic Violence is to consider developing and leading actions to deal with sexual violence and abuse that occurs within domestic settings.

In dealing with domestic violence, there are also connected concerns and services with those for children and young people, young offenders, prevention of homelessness, health care and maternity services, substance abuse programmes and mental health services.

Implications for sustainability

Preventing domestic violence is central to successfully meeting targets in relation to public and primary health, reducing crime and the fear of crime, reducing the harm caused by serious violent crime, bringing offenders to justice, safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, education and violence prevention, and promoting equality within diverse communities.

Parallel plans

- The Equality Standard for Local Government, and the Brighton & Hove gender, race and disability equality schemes
- Brighton & Hove Employment Plan, the Inequality Review and Regeneration Strategies
- Housing and Homelessness Strategies
- Supporting People

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- The Children and Young People's Plan and the plans of the CYPT including those of the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Local Health Care Plans
- Sussex Probation Business Plan
- The Parenting Support Strategy
- UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (local and national responsibilities)
- Sussex Policing Plan
- LGBT Community Safety Strategy

Performance Indicators

- **NI 32: Repeat incidents of domestic violence** (LAA top 35 indicator)
- NI 34: Domestic violence – murder
- LI: The detection, prosecution and conviction rate of domestic violence crimes

Domestic Violence Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Developed and sustain specialist and city-wide outreach services for survivors and children

Key Actions

- 1.1 Deliver local domestic violence services that meet the National Standards for Specialist Domestic Violence services
- 1.2 Sustain the Women's Refuge Project Refuge and Housing Support Service and ensure it is accessible for survivors needing a place of safety in a crisis
- 1.3 Sustain and seek to expand the Women's Refuge Project Domestic Violence Helpline to make it more accessible for survivors
- 1.4 Sustain and seek to expand the Women's Refuge Project Domestic Violence outreach service to provide citywide DV advocacy and support for survivors (adults and children)

Outcome Sought 2

Sustainable city-wide Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service that is nationally accredited

Key Actions

- 2.1 IDVA Service to seek to employ a minimum of 3 IDVAs that work to national standards and achieve national accreditation status
- 2.2 Police, health, CYPT, housing and other crisis response services to work with the IDVA Service to establish a system for referring high-risk victims to the IDVA Service to maximise opportunities for reducing risk in a multi-agency context
- 2.3 Develop systems to enable effective individual and institutional advocacy by the IDVA service, with a focus on increasing safety of high-risk survivors in a multi-agency context

Outcome Sought 3

Coordinated approach with development of good practice responses to deal with sexual violence and abuse in a domestic setting

Key Actions

- 3.1 Senior Officer Strategy Group to support the actions within the Sexual Violence and Abuse Action Plan set out within this Strategy

Domestic Violence

3.2 Senior Officer Strategy Group to develop the actions set out within this domestic violence Action Plan in order that they also deliver protecting and dealing with sexual violence and abuse in a domestic setting
Outcome Sought 4
Improved housing response to domestic violence and prevention of homelessness by domestic violence
Key Actions
4.1 Sustain and if possible, further develop the Sanctuary Scheme for survivors providing the option of staying safely in their homes if that is their choice
4.2 Continue to develop the specialist DV Housing Options role
4.3 Review housing assessments to ensure DV is routinely identified and flagged, and responded to, at an early stage
4.4 Develop, implement and monitor a domestic violence policy and operational guidance across housing services focussing on early intervention that enables routine enquiry, assessment and management of risk, and response and referral pathways to increase the safety of survivors (adults and children) and hold perpetrators to account
4.5 Through participation in the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference, Housing Services to provide effective referral routes for high risk victims
4.6 Work towards ensuring that appropriate and safe housing (temporary and longer term) is available for LGBT service user, BME service users and disabled service users reporting domestic violence, which takes into account the safety needs of individual survivors
Outcome Sought 5
Improved health service response to domestic violence focusing on early intervention and crisis response, risk reduction, safe and effective intervention and referral and prevention
Key Actions
5.1 Sustain and develop the health-based independent domestic violence advocacy service across A&E, midwifery and out of hours GP services.
5.2 Develop, implement and monitor a domestic violence policy and operational guidance across health trusts that focuses on early intervention to enable routine enquiry, assessment and management of risk, and response and referral pathways to increase the safety of survivors (adults and children) and hold perpetrators to account
5.3 Deliver a rolling programme of domestic violence training for health staff covering DV awareness, impact on survivors, DV risk assessment and management, safe interventions, referral pathways, MARAC and multi-agency working
5.4 Identify ways to achieve an improved mental health services response to domestic violence (informed by findings from the DH/NIMHE Violence and Abuse Project outcomes)
5.5 Develop and promote cross-sectoral work between domestic violence and substance abuse services
Outcome Sought 6
Develop further, the Children and Young People's Trust response focusing on early intervention and crisis response, risk reduction, safe and effective intervention and referral and prevention
Key Actions
6.1 Support the provision of the specialist domestic violence service for children provided by the Women's Refuge Project, in the refuge and across East/Central/West areas of the city
6.2 Integrate domestic violence into the work of all Children's Centres
6.3 Integrate domestic violence into the work of Connexions
6.4 Integrate domestic violence into the work on teenage pregnancy

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6.5 Integrate domestic violence into the work on parenting including domestic violence guidance and screening procedures for parenting group providers
6.6 Develop support and prevention work aimed at young people experiencing domestic violence in their own relationships
6.6 Ensure effective CYPT representation and a system for referral of high risk cases to the MARAC, and ensure effective links with the Local Safeguarding Children Board
6.8 Ensure the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework effectively addresses domestic violence when assessing and responding to children's needs
6.9 Consider identifying a local forced marriage champion, disseminate good practice and incorporate implementation of national guidelines on forced marriage into wider work
6.10 Work with the Women's Refuge Project to pilot a multi-agency community-based domestic violence group work for children exposed to domestic violence (based on the Canadian model, piloted in LB Sutton and being rolled out across local authorities)
Outcome Sought 7
Provision of safe child contact facilities (supervised and supported) for families where there is domestic violence
Key Actions
7.1 Implement and monitor locally the CAFCASS national domestic violence policy, risk assessment and safety planning procedure in domestic violence cases
7.2 Conduct a domestic violence safety audit of local child contact facilities (both supported and supervised) and take action to maximise safety across all facilities
7.3 Improve family court outcomes in cases of domestic violence
Outcome Sought 8
Improved service provision for survivors from discriminated-against groups: women, Black and minority ethnic survivors, LGBT survivors, disabled survivors, survivors with insecure immigration status, older and young survivors, survivors with mental health problems, survivors with substance abuse problems
Actions
8.1 Improve the capacity of domestic violence and other services to respond to LGBT needs, and of LGBT services and groups to respond to domestic violence issues.
8.2 Develop effective systems for signposting to services for LGBT survivors accompanied by support mechanisms that respond to the needs of LGBT people and relationships.
8.3 Review practices and if necessary, improve responses to and allocate resources for DV survivors without recourse to 'public funds' until their immigration status is secured
8.4 Consider undertaking research into the needs of Black and minority ethnic survivors of domestic violence and identifying appropriate action which will respond to their needs
8.5 Review arrangements for agencies to access an interpreter in cases of domestic violence and develop good practice guidance if necessary
Outcome Sought 9
Effective Specialist Domestic Violence Courts Programme
Key Actions
9.1 Ensure effective operational co-ordination of domestic violence cases through the Brighton SDVC in accordance with the national SDVC Programme guidance
9.2 Establish an effective referral system from the police to the Women's Refuge Project and IDVA Service so that independent support and advocacy is offered as near to the time of reporting the incident as possible
9.3 Implement the pan-Sussex SDVC Protocol locally and monitor partner agencies' compliance with their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the protocol

Domestic Violence

9.4 Implement the pan-Sussex Information Sharing protocol across CDRP and partner agencies
9.5 Implement and monitor the use of the DV risk indicator checklist across police, CYPT, Health and MARAC partner agencies
9.6 Reduce repeat victimisation in a multi-agency context through effective multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) system
9.7 Ensure family and civil court case progression and outcomes inform the SDVC case progression and vice versa so that victim safety is maximised at all stages of the proceedings
9.8 Deliver effective interventions through Probation and Community Perpetrator Programmes that work to national accreditation standards for perpetrator intervention and survivor safety work.
9.9 Review the national Violence Against Women Strategy for the CPS and implement locally
Outcome Sought 10
Effective Interventions with domestic violence perpetrators and associated partner support within and outside the Justice System
Key Actions
10.1 Increase reporting and arrest rates for domestic violence as a proportion of all incidents reported
10.2 Consider reviewing Sussex Police operational guidelines in response to domestic violence and embed ACPO Domestic Violence Guidance on responding to and investigating domestic violence incidents into local police responses to domestic violence
10.3 Ensure all frontline officers have easy access to cameras for effective evidence gathering
10.4 Train all local police officers in the national DV modular training package and deliver the training on a rolling programme thereafter
10.5 Develop, establish and evaluate MARAC operations ensuring the system prioritises the reduction of repeat victimisation amongst MARAC clients with a focus on risk/dangerousness rather than volume
10.6 Increase the number of recorded domestic violence prosecutions and the number of successful prosecutions; and reduce the number of discontinued domestic violence cases
10.7 Identify ways of effectively working with domestic violence perpetrators in the mental health system
10.8 Integrate domestic violence intervention into the work with drug and alcohol-related offending
10.9 Ensure the IDAP programme locally has sufficient capacity to meet need/demand and that associated women's safety work is equitably resourced and supported
10.10 Evaluate the effectiveness of the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme in terms of managing risk, completions, behaviour change and increase in victim safety, and disseminate findings
10.11 Secure funding to sustain and further develop the Living Without Violence community perpetrator programme and associated partner support. Seek if possible to pilot work to address same sex and LGBT domestic violence, ensuring it complies with national standards and accreditation requirements for community perpetrator programmes and associated safety services
10.12 Seek to develop individual intervention with perpetrators who are unsuitable for group work programmes
10.13 Support the development of specialist parenting classes for domestic violence offenders
10.14 Seek to develop individual and group intervention with young people who are at risk of or becoming violent in the home and who have a history of living with domestic violence
10.15 Maximise opportunities for interventions with DV offenders to enable their use by courts (court orders, sentencing) and provide more effective sentencing outcomes
Outcome Sought 11
Increased public awareness and understanding of domestic violence
Key Actions
11.1 Produce information for families, friends and employers to enable them to assist survivors, access help and provide more effective support
11.2 Produce information for families, friends and employers to enable them to challenge and not collude with perpetrators' abusive behaviour, and to encourage them to seek help and to stop the violence.
11.3 Develop a citywide DV public awareness campaign

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11.4 Support the roll out of any national poster campaigns on DV, SV and violence against women in recognition of the connections between domestic violence and other types of violence including rape, forced marriage, harmful cultural practices, female genital mutilation, prostitution, elder abuse and trafficking
11.5 Develop systems to enable effective institutional advocacy which challenges agencies' response to DV with a focus on increasing safety of survivors
11.6 Regular presentations on DV and the work underway/gaps in the city at partnership Forums
Outcome Sought 12
Developed and sustained domestic violence prevention work in schools and youth services
Key Actions
12.1 Sustain and further develop work within schools and youth services to address domestic violence
12.2 Work with the Children and Young People's Trust and the pan-Sussex DV Forum to develop an integrated approach to DV prevention education across Sussex.
Outcome Sought 13
Effective monitoring systems in all partnerships and compliance arrangements across agencies
Actions
13.1 Standardise domestic violence protocols and guidance across agencies to encourage early intervention, assessment and management of risk and effective responses that challenge perpetrators and increase safety of survivors.
13.2 Monitor relevant funding streams locally regionally and nationally to take forward domestic violence work in the city
13.3 Establish mechanisms to monitor compliance with domestic violence policy and operational guidance including the completion of a risk assessment following each incident/re
13.4 Establish mechanisms to monitor implementation of the police CPS and BHCC DV Workplace Policies
13.5 Ensure DV data recorded and monitored is broken down for victim(s) and offender(s) by gender (male, female and trans) and relationship between parties, ethnicity, disability and sexuality (lesbian, gay, bisexual)
13.6 Ensure B&H DV Forum and associated working groups are resourced and supported
Outcome Sought 14
Improved survivor consultation, service user involvement and community engagement
14.1 Implement recommendations from 'Hear Our Voices'
14.2 Ensure local LGBT research, services and groups inform local and national DV work to ensure LGBT needs and experiences are reflected in the development of research, services, policy, training and other resources
Outcome Sought 15
Implementation of a citywide domestic violence training strategy for statutory and voluntary sector agencies
Key Actions
15.1 Develop a modular domestic violence training programme for both multi-agency and single agency delivery.
15.2 Monitor effectiveness and take-up of domestic violence training

Sexual Violence and Abuse

Objective: To prevent sexual violence and abuse, improve acute and ongoing victim care and criminal justice responses

Definition - Central Government confirms the definition as:

- *Sexual violence and abuse which occurs in a domestic setting (includes forced marriage and honour killings).*
- *Rape and sexual assault which occurs in a public place or non-domestic setting*
- *Sexual exploitation*
- *Prostitution and trafficking*
- *Childhood sexual abuse*

The definition includes all of those affected by these crimes including women, men and children but also recognises the strong associations between sexual violence and gender-based violence which represent a significant cause and consequence of inequality for women. The relationship with domestic violence is clear. In 2004, the government's definition of domestic violence was extended to include acts perpetrated by extended family members which now includes honour crimes and forced marriage.

Why is this priority?

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships have been advised that tackling sexual violence is a government priority as set out within the following:

- > Cutting Crime: A New Partnership 2008-11
- > Tackling Sexual Violence: Guidance for Local Partnerships, June 2006
- > Cross Government Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Abuse, April 2007
- > Saving Lives. Reducing Harm. Protecting the Public. Action Plan for Tackling Violence, 2008-11
- > Developing Domestic Violence Strategies: A Guide for Partnerships, 2004
- > Local Area and Public Service Agreements, including Reward Element Guidance
- > Gender Equality Duty, 2007

In summary, government is seeking to prioritise those crimes which cause the most harm to individuals in society. In relation to sexual violence we are advised that CDRPs have a crucial role to play in the prevention of these serious crimes in providing services to victims and in bringing perpetrators to justice.

Findings from the strategic assessment

Sexual violence and abuse have a devastating impact on victims, their families and friends and wider society. Its impact is likely to affect mental, physical and sexual health. The severity of the impact is reflected in the high cost to the victims and to society. Home Office research published in 2005 estimated that the total cost of sexual offences committed in England & Wales in 2003-04 was nearly £8.5 billion.

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The government's guidance confirms that sexual violence and abuse in adulthood are massively under-reported by both male and female victims. The 2001 British Crime Survey Inter-Personal Violence Model found that only 15% of rapes came to the attention of the police and that 40% of those who had suffered had told no-one about it. Over half had suffered sexual violence perpetrated by a current or former partner. 98% of offenders are male and 82% of victims are female. Women have a greater fear of rape than any other crime.

The attrition rate is high. For example, of those rapes which are reported to the police, under 6% result in a conviction.

There is a strong correlation between alcohol and sexual violence. Research indicates that in a significant proportion of rape and sexual assault cases, the victim consumed alcohol prior to the assault. There may be a number of reasons for this association, one of those being that women may be specifically targeted by perpetrators because they are drunk, more vulnerable as a result and less likely to remember details of the attack. Research also indicates that many perpetrators have drunk alcohol immediately prior to the incident or have ongoing alcohol misuse problems.

In Brighton & Hove, the local Strategic Assessment confirmed that 327 sexual offences were recorded by the police in the year 2006/07 and 164 crimes recorded between April and September 2007. These figures compare with 399 in 2005/06 and with 416 in 2004/05.

Sex workers are amongst those groups who are a higher risk of being a victim of sexual violence and of being less likely to report incidents. Brighton & Hove does not have 'on street' prostitution activity. However, there are a significant number of prostitutes working from sex parlours and within an 'indoor' sex market. A local survey revealed that of those surveyed in the city, 57.5% of sex workers reported that they had experienced violence or abuse and, of those, only 12.5% had reported those incidents to the police.

Childhood sexual abuse and that experienced by young people is also included within the definition. The Local Safeguarding Children Board commissioned and received a report (2007) on the findings of a 'Joint agency audit into the incidence, recording and outcomes of child sexual abuse investigations in Brighton & Hove'. Its purpose was to ensure that sufficient safeguards are in place to protect children and to ensure that joint working mandated by the Board is effective and efficient. The review looked at ways that child sexual abuse is reported and recorded, the care pathways that are followed and processes of investigation, case management and support. The recommendations which come from the review of 38 cases are helping to inform good practice changes within the health, social care and police sectors.

Research and a report undertaken by Barnardo's (September 2007) and supported by the Children and Young People's Trust has also assisted in providing important information. The 'Pan Sussex study of Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking' audited 33 case studies from Brighton & Hove (as well as 10 from East and West Sussex). The findings identify reasons and evidence of the underlying causes as to why and how young people are drawn into sexual activity, including the exchange of sexual acts for money, drugs, a bed for the night/accommodation and so on. There is a strong correlation with their living circumstances and their vulnerability to sexual exploitation and with

Main Partners

Sussex Police

Sussex Criminal Justice Board

Local Safeguarding Children Board, 'Staying Safe' Group & Children and Young People's Trust

Adult Protection Board

Women's Refuge Project

Oasis

Sex Workers Strategy Group

Senior Officer Strategy Group for Domestic Violence

Alcohol Strategy Group

Women's Services Strategic Network

Sexual Assault, Sexual Exploitation, Prostitution and Trafficking

alcohol and drug abuse. The recommendations for action include those to identify and reduce risks as well as interventions to protect young people. In addition the aim is to address the invisibility for sexual exploitation of young people.

Current status of work

Brighton & Hove's CDRP has recognised the high priority that is being given to this work by government and that there are gender equality duties that are also required. The CDRP also recognises the cross-cutting nature of the work and that sexual violence can occur in a range of different contexts and circumstances. We plan therefore that actions to combat sexual violence are integrated within action plans and work programmes which are dealing with:

- > Domestic violence
- > Alcohol related violence
- > Violent crime
- > Prostitution & trafficking
- > Safeguarding children
- > Adult protection
- > Fear of crime
- > Gender equality duty
- > Public protection and the management of offenders

Where next?

While we co-ordinate the actions from the work programmes of those strategies identified above and work towards the development of a holistic CDRP Strategy to tackle sexual violence by January 2009, we will also take forward individual best practice initiatives such as the Sexual Assault Referral Centre. We recognise that sexual violence is best tackled through a multi-agency approach therefore we will seek to establish a Forum which will draw upon the expertise of both independent and statutory sector agencies as well as supporting the role of specialist voluntary sector services.

Implications for sustainability

Preventing sexual violence is central to meeting targets in relation to public health in communities, the health and wellbeing of individuals and their families and safeguarding children and young people. Women are most likely to be victims of sexual violence and those who are most excluded are more likely to be at risk, therefore preventing and reducing its incidence, is central to the delivery of the Inclusive Council Policy and of the Gender Equality duties.

Parallel plans

- Sussex Police Rape and Sexual Violence Strategy (December 2007)
- Brighton & Hove Alcohol Strategy
- Recommendations of 'Tipping The Iceberg' Study of Young People at risk of Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking (Barnardo's: Sept. 2007)
- Sex Workers Strategy
- Recommendations of report to Local Safeguarding Board on Inter-Agency Audit of Sexual Abuse Investigations in Brighton & Hove (March 2008)
- Domestic Violence Strategy
- Strategy and Action Plans of 'Staying Safe' Subgroup and Children and Young People's Trust
- Gender Equality Actions Plans

Performance Indicators

- NI 26: Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence
- LI: Number of police recorded sexual assaults

Sexual Violence, Abuse and Exploitation, Prostitution and Trafficking Action Plan
Outcome Sought 1
Achieve an understanding of the nature and prevalence of sexual violence in Brighton & Hove
Actions
1.1 By January 2009, the CDRP to have identified the nature and prevalence of sexual violence in Brighton & Hove, recognising the wide variety of contexts in which it can take place and the different profiles and circumstances of victims and offenders. A baseline is to be established together with a summary report
1.2 Each Strategy Group to gather information about the nature and prevalence of sexual violence within the domain of their strategy,
1.3 Consider the practicalities of establishing a multi-agency data capture system that includes information from local voluntary agencies as well as police, sexual health and other appropriate services.
1.4 Consider supporting research proposed by local universities that could support information gathering.
Outcome Sought 2
Prevent sexual violence through increased awareness of its nature and prevalence in all contexts and of the practical measures that can be taken to reduce risks and opportunities
Actions
2.1 Incorporate communications to potential victims about the association between excessive drinking and sexual violence within alcohol prevention publicity and education programmes which proposing safe drinking practices and appropriate personal safety precautions
2.2 Incorporate preventative measures within the good practice initiatives which are led by the Licensing Strategy Group and Violent Crime (Alcohol Related Crime and Disorder Group)
2.3 All Strategy Groups, including those which are addressing domestic violence, to incorporate information about sexual violence in their publicity
2.4 Target information towards young women and students in particular, utilising 'student nights; and fresher week events
Outcome Sought 3
Increase reporting of sexual violence through improved public confidence in the criminal justice system and lower rate of attrition which is well publicised
3.1 Support Sussex Police in the delivery of their Rape and Sexual Violence Strategy which aims to improve the investigation and prosecution of cases, identifying appropriate partnership and support action for the CDRP.
3.2 Raise awareness of the role of the police Sexual offence liaison officers
3.3 Consider publicising the hand book: 'From Report to Court : a Handbook for Adult Survivors of Sexual Violence ' which meets the needs of victims and witnesses to a greater extent .

Sexual Assault, Sexual Exploitation, Prostitution and Trafficking

3.4 Target information towards those groups who are most at risk and/or least likely to report, recognising gender, religious and cultural factors
Outcome Sought 4
Improved victim care and support services which also assist police investigations and prosecutions.
4.1 Participate in the Sussex Police led, steering group which is taking forward the development of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (in Crawley) working towards the establishment of effective arrangements for the care and support for victims in Brighton & Hove. This initiative will provide a link with NHS sexual health strategies and public health delivery plans
4.2 In partnership with the voluntary sector, consider supporting the provision of local crisis and immediate care provision as well as provision for sustained support and access to services ongoing establish -
4.3 Consider the feasibility (develop a Business Case) of establishing Independent Sexual Violence Advisors who provide independent support, risk assessment and safety planning, link with the specialist DV Courts, support clients through statement taking, pre-court visits and trials and who can refer clients to health services and assist with housing and childcare arrangements
4.4 Consider identifying and meeting the training needs of those who may come in to contact with victims, including those who may deal with first disclosures (GPs, A&E providers, Health Visitors, Mental Health providers, youth workers, voluntary sector agencies, community groups and so on)
4.5 Identify appropriate actions which will ensure compliance with Gender Equality duties, particularly those which require the provision of appropriate services for victims of crimes where the majority of victims are women: In addition, consider how services for male victims of sexual crimes can be delivered in an accessible and appropriate environment.
Outcome Sought 5
To support the work programme of the Sex Workers Steering Group which seeks to reduce risks and provide routes out of prostitution and related circumstances.
Actions
5.1 Continue to target those most at risk, through maintaining relationships with individual sex workers and their increased access into drug and alcohol services and alternative housing and employment options
5.2 Support the police led Operations which seek to identify and deal with trafficked women
5.3 Encourage the active and increased use of the 'Ugly Mugs' or 'Dodgy Punter' schemes and other national good practice initiatives which will increase safety of prostitutes, identify perpetrators and bring them to justice
Outcome Sought 6
Reduce fear, particularly by women, of rape and sexual assault
Actions
6.1 All work aimed at improving public perceptions of levels of crime and disorder and to reduce fear of crime, to particularly address those crimes of sexual assault and rape and others which are of most concern to women
Outcome Sought 7

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Safeguard and build the resilience of children and young people to sexual assault and exploitation
Actions
7.1 Continue the delivery of the five outcomes of the Every Child matters Outcomes and in particular, deliver the work programmes of the 'Staying Safe' and 'Be Healthy' work programme which are overseen by the Local Safeguarding Children Board . These programmes include actions to reduce the risks associated with unsupervised internet use by children and young people .
7.2 Education programmes within schools and those targeted towards young people which address alcohol and drug misuse, sex and relationship education, teenage pregnancy and other risks, to include awareness raising of the association with sexual violence and how those risks can be reduced through personal safety measures.
7.3 Implement the findings of the Joint Agency Audit into the Incidence, Recording and Outcomes of Child Sexual Abuse Investigations in Brighton & Hove
7.4 Identify appropriate and effective early interventions for young people who sexually abuse or are at risk of abusing and support the delivery of those interventions
7.5 Implement the findings of 'Tipping The Iceberg' – A Pan-Sussex Study of Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking
7.6 Support compliance as appropriate with 'Special Measures' in courts (compliance with 'Speaking Up for Justice' and Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999) which offers enhanced protection for child witnesses
Outcome Sought 8
Work towards the development of a holistic strategy for tackling sexual violence which accords to national good practice, builds on existing plans and expertise together with a structure which supports multi- agency delivery of an agreed work programme
Actions
8.1 Consider establishing a multi-agency Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum which receives reports from and co-ordinates actions being taken forward by the individual working groups that are identified within this Strategy

Prolific and Priority Offenders

Objective: To reduce the nature and volume of crimes committed by prolific and other priority offenders and to prevent those most at risk of becoming the prolific offenders of the future from doing so

Why is this a priority?

Nationally, it is estimated that 50% of crime is committed by 10% of offenders; the most prolific 0.5% commit 10% of crimes. Reducing the numbers of juvenile and adult prolific offenders and their rate and seriousness of offending is a central government requirement and a priority for Brighton & Hove.

The nature of offences committed, are largely crimes which are regarded as 'acquisitive crimes' and include most frequently, burglary, vehicle crime and shoplifting, the proceeds from which fund illicit drug use. These crimes have a significant impact on actual and perceived levels of safety by individuals and communities (including businesses). Reductions from successful actions to both prevent and reduce high rates of offending by prolific offenders, not only bring about changes in the behaviour and drug misuse and improved life opportunities for individual perpetrators but also significant benefits to communities in Brighton & Hove.

Current status of work

The Prolific and Priority Offender (PPO) project in Brighton & Hove was established in 2005. It is estimated that 114 offenders will have been engaged in the scheme between January 2005 and March 2008. Sustaining this successful project will continue to reduce rates of offending and of the long term drug misuse of those offenders.

PPO work was the subject of a Local Public Service Agreement. The targets set through this Agreement have been exceeded with steep drops in offending rates before and after joining the scheme. Monitoring of offenders who commenced intensive supervision from April 2006, has shown that for the 15 who have completed 12 months at liberty, there has been an 83% reduction in convictions. An overall measure of acquisitive crime has shown a year on year decline since the scheme began, with an 11.4% reduction achieved in 2007/08 compared with 2006/07.

The Brighton & Hove multi-agency project which closely monitors and targets the offenders and which has achieved the good results described above,

Main Partners

Steering Group of the Prolific Offenders Supervision Scheme

Sussex Police

Sussex Probation Area

Partnership Community Safety Team

Youth Offending Team

Crown Prosecution Service

Court and Prison Services

Drug and Alcohol Action Team

Primary Care Trust

Crime Reduction Initiatives

Housing Services

Business Crime Reduction

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complies with national good practice in that it incorporates three elements of 'Prevent and Deter': 'Catch and Convict' and 'Rehabilitate and Resettle'. There is therefore a focus on:

- > Preventing young people from becoming offenders and deterring young people who are already within the criminal justice system from becoming prolific offenders
- > Ensuring effective and prompt investigation, charging and prosecution of adult offenders with a swift recall to prison should they re-offend
- > Assessing needs and offering as an alternative, engagement with services including drug treatment and health interventions, education, training and employment opportunities, assistance with housing and other opportunities.

Where next?

For the period 2008-11, central government has included a national indicator on prolific offenders within the set of 198 indicators on which all local authority areas are required to report. In Brighton & Hove we are seeking to include this within the prioritised subset of 35 indicators which will be subjected to negotiations with central government over their targeted level. Although the definition of who is to be considered a PPO is decided locally the way in which it is measured is defined by central government, and the stringency of the target attached to this indicator is subject to negotiation with the government local office. At time of writing is still to be agreed.

Links to other priority areas

Due to the prevalence of substance misuse among PPOs, this area of work is closely linked to that around acquisitive crime, illicit drugs, alcohol misuse and children and young people.

Implications for sustainability

Because prolific offenders are responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime, they also have a significant effect on fear of crime and overall levels of crime. Preventing young people from entering the criminal justice system and concentrating resources on those young people and adults who are committing high numbers of crimes has the potential to divert them from offending, improve their life opportunities and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors in the city.

Parallel plans

- Sussex Policing Plan
- Brighton & Hove Youth Justice Plan
- Sussex Criminal Justice Board Delivery Plan
- Sussex Probation Business Plan

Performance Indicators

- **NI 30: Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders** (LAA top 35 indicator)

Priority and Prolific Offenders Action Plan

Outcome Sought 1

Prolific and Priority Offenders

Procedures for managing identified all prolific and priority offenders are in place
Actions
1.1 Prolific and priority offenders to be monitored and tracked through the stages of liberty, voluntary rehabilitation, proactive targeting by the police, entry into the criminal justice system, supervision in the community, custody and enforcement proceedings. Their level of risk to the community also monitored.
1.2 Resources prioritised to enable the management and supervision schemes to be fully operational and effective, particularly in the provision of dedicated police and probation officers
1.3 PPOs who are under active supervision in the community to be monitored and tracked and successful completions or other outcomes to be considered by the Supervision Scheme.
Outcome Sought 2
Young people are prevented and deterred from entering the criminal justice system
Actions
2.1 Prioritised the delivery of a full range of protective and preventative programmes and interventions which reduce the risk factors experienced by young people (as set out in Children's Service Plan and the 'Every Child Matters' outcomes, the Children and Young People's Prevention Strategy and the 'Staying Safe' and 'Be Healthy' action plans).
2.2 Enable children and young people, in particular those who are at risk of developing offending behaviours, to benefit from early intervention initiatives, including Parenting Programmes, the Targeted Youth Service and the 'Challenge and Support' youth crime prevention work
2.3 Work to consistent systems of referral, assessment and intervention targeted to those most in need and the 'at risk' group of young offenders.
Outcome Sought 3
Young people who are in the criminal justice system and are persistent offenders, commit a reduced number of offences
Actions
3.1 The YOT to identify the most high priority prolific offenders through the ASSET assessment tool, fully consider their circumstances within individual supervision and the YOT Management of Serious Harm Group, prioritise these young people for delivery of interventions and refer into the PPO management group, if necessary.
3.2 Identify interventions that will 'make a difference', highlight gaps in services and barriers which prevent young offenders accessing mainstream services. Maximise arrangements with schools, Connexions and the Learning and Skills Council.
3.3 Draw up exit strategies for those completing YOT interventions to ensure that presenting risk factors are addressed.
3.4 Offer all offenders the opportunity of restorative justice interventions, as appropriate
3.5 Improve outcomes for targeted offenders in terms of accommodation, health, family support, education training and employment.
3.6 Ensure all (prolific) offenders have maximum opportunities to engage with/enter education, training and employment
Outcome Sought 4
PPOs are prioritised through the criminal justice system and timeliness is improved
Actions
4.1 The court service, police, Crown Prosecution Service, Youth Offending Team, probation and prison service to work in close partnership to achieve the above outcome.

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4.2 Monitor numbers of PPOs who are charged and brought to justice against key indicators.
4.3 Reduce timescales from arrest to sentence.
4.4 Reduce number of PPOs who are released without charge and the number of PPO cases that do not result in a conviction because the last trial was ineffective.
Outcome Sought 5
Improved status, engagement and personal circumstances of offenders in the areas of housing, health and education
Actions
5.1 Work to an approved scoring method to assess status and circumstances.
5.2 Local services and agencies prioritise housing, healthcare (mental/physical), drug and alcohol services, benefits/finances, education, training, employment and other provisions for PPOs – and their families.
5.3 Set outcomes and targets for each PPO within an agreed rehabilitation plan which includes actions to address the causes of their offending behaviour and their attitudes to offending behaviours as well as those which will help accommodation to be sustained.
5.4 Increase the number of PPOs who engage in and are retained in treatment.
5.5 Increase the number of PPOs in employment by the end of their intervention.

About the Partnership

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 specifies that community safety strategies must be carried out through Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs). The statutory responsible authorities within CDRPs are: the police, police authorities, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, and primary care trusts. However, the Brighton & Hove CDRP works very closely with many other partners from the statutory, community/voluntary and business sector. Local residents also play a key role.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Organisational Structure



The diagram above provides a basic organisational chart for the way in which the Brighton & Hove CDRP is structured. (A more detailed version of this chart and further information is available on our [website](#).)

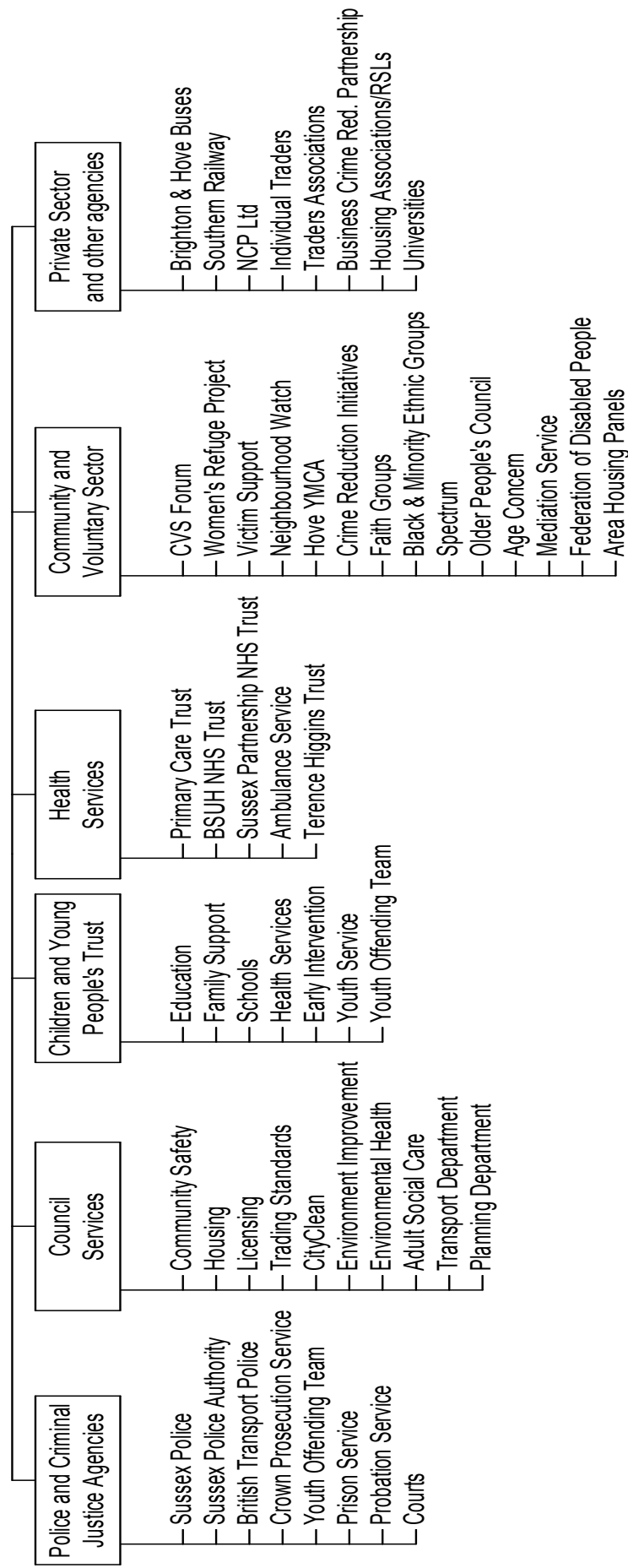
The RAP/DAAT (Responsible Authorities Partnership/Drug and Alcohol Action Team) has overall responsibility for the work of the CDRP, while each priority area within the strategy is supported by multi-agency working groups made up of specialists in the relevant area. In some areas there are also dedicated staff to drive forward the work.

The CDRP links with the democratic process through the Community Safety Forum and the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008-11

The diagram below shows the different sectors of the city's structure with whom we work in partnership and list the main partners involved.

Partner Agencies



There is a lot more detail about the Partnership and how it functions on our website at the following link: http://www.safeinthecity.info/?q=about_us

Abbreviations and Terminology

- NI National Indicator. There are 198 National Performance Indicators (across all areas of business) defined by the government which all local areas must measure and report on. A collection of up to 35 of these National Indicators and targets are chosen by negotiation between local areas and the area Government Office to reflect the local area's priorities. These are contained within the Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008/9 – 2010/11 and are monitored closely. In this document National Indicators which are contained in the Brighton & Hove LAA are shown in **bold type**.
- LI Local Indicator. Local Indicators have been defined locally and reflect priorities where a suitable equivalent is not available in the National Indicator Set.

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 49

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Review of Cabinet Member Functions for Community Safety
Date of Meeting:	26 January 2009
Report of:	Director of Strategy & Governance
Contact Officer:	Name: Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis Tel: 291500
	E-mail: abraham.ghebre-ghiorghis@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected:	All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Community Safety has been an important function of the Council and is likely to increase in importance with new initiatives, such as the creation of a Crime and Disorder Committee and proposals in the Green paper on policing issued by the Home Office in July 2008. This report proposes a realignment of the Cabinet Member responsibilities to reflect this and to achieve greater co-ordination with related functions around equalities, inclusion and community affairs by transferring the Community Safety function from the Cabinet Member for Environment to the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion and Internal Relations.
- 1.2 This report is for consideration at 13 January Governance Committee and 15 January Cabinet. A verbal update will be provided for ECSOSC.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the **Governance Committee** considers and comments on the proposals from the Leader as set out in this report regarding the transfer of community safety functions currently delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environment to the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion and Internal Relations.
- 2.2 That the **Cabinet** agrees the proposals and authorises the Head of Law to make the necessary amendments to the Council's constitution.
- 2.3 That **Environment and Community Safety O&S Committee** notes this report.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Under the Council's constitution, Cabinet responsibility for Public Safety, which includes Community Safety and Civil Contingencies, is delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environment. The community safety functions are described in the constitution as including the co-ordination of the Council's functions regarding the police and public safety, making consultative arrangements under the Police Act 1996, drawing up community safety plans and co-ordinating the Council's functions under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This will expand to include initiatives relating to the Crime and Disorder Committee when section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 comes into force. A full description of the functions as they appear in the Council's constitution is attached in appendix 1.
- 3.2 Although Community Safety has historically been part of the Environment Committee/ Cabinet Member portfolio, there are emerging issues that make a re-alignment of the functions necessary. They tend to suggest that it would be more appropriate for these functions to be discharged as part of the functions of the Cabinet Member for Community Affairs, Inclusion and Internal Relations (CAIIR). In particular:
- 3.2.1 There is a recognised link between community safety (including the reduction of crime and disorder) and policies on community engagement, equalities and inclusion. These already form part of the Cabinet Member for CAIIR's portfolio.
- 3.2.2 The Environment Cabinet Member portfolio, covering as it does Public Safety, Parks and Open Spaces, Travellers and Gypsies, Highways and Traffic, Parking, Waste, Conservation and Design, Coast Protection, Seafront, Environmental Health, Building Control, Trading Standards, Planning and Licensing, carries an extremely heavy workload. In order to provide Community Safety greater focus at Cabinet level, and given the overlap between community safety and the functions encompassed in the Cabinet member for CAIIR's remit, it would be more effective for these functions to be discharged as part of the same portfolio.
- 3.2.3 Part of the Policing Green Paper, issued by the Home Office in July 2008, is about improving the connection between the public and the police. The Council responded to the Green Paper consultation and has an interest in proposals for directly elected crime and policing representatives, neighbourhood policing and holding the police to account through Councillor Call for Action.
- By taking on responsibility for community safety matters, the Cabinet Member for CAIIR would be well placed to assimilate the Green Paper proposals that affect the Council and to give a political lead where required.
- 3.3 Under this proposal, Cabinet level responsibility for Civil Contingencies would remain with the Cabinet Member for Environment.

- 3.4 Under the Local Government Act 2000 the decision about individual portfolios remains with the Leader and with his/her permission, with the Cabinet. When the constitution was adopted, it was agreed that any permanent changes to the scheme of delegations should be considered by the Governance Committee who then makes recommendations to the decision-maker. The Leader is minded to introduce the changes outlined in the report with the decision taken at Cabinet. This report is therefore coming to the Governance Committee for comments/recommendations before going to the Cabinet for a decision.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Leader of the Council and the relevant Cabinet members were consulted and they are supportive of the proposals.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 17.12.08

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The proposals in this report are in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 and the Council's constitution

Lawyer Consulted: Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis

Date: 17.12.08

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The proposals will have positive equalities implications by enabling the discharge of community safety functions alongside equalities, inclusion and community affairs.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no sustainability implications arising from this report

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 The proposals will enable issues around crime and disorder to receive a more focussed attention and achieve greater co-ordination between crime and disorder and the wider community engagement agenda.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The proposals will provide the opportunity for greater co-ordination of related functions.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The proposals will assist the Council by providing greater focus and co-ordination at Member level between community safety and the wider community engagement agenda.

6. Evaluation of Alternative Options

- 6.1 The retention of the existing arrangements was considered, but for reasons set out in the report, the proposed changes will enable a more effective discharge of Council functions regarding Community Safety

7. Reasons for Report Recommendations

- 7.1 These are set out in paragraphs 3.2.1-3.2.3 of the report

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix 1: list of community safety functions currently delegated to Cabinet member for Environment

Background Documents

1. The Council's constitution

Delegated Functions – Cabinet Member for Environment

1. Public Safety

(a) Community Safety

To co-ordinate the Council's functions regarding the police and public safety and to take such action as is necessary, including:

- (i) making consultative arrangements under the Police Act 1996;
- (ii) drawing up community safety plans;
- (iii) co-ordinating the Council's functions under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 including the formulation, with other responsible authorities, of strategies for reducing crime and disorder and the making of child curfew schemes providing that this shall not include the adoption of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

(b) Civil Contingencies

To exercise the Council's functions in relation to emergency planning and business continuity, including the Council's functions under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OSC WORK PLAN 2008 - 2009

Issue	Date	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Progress And Date	Outcome And Monitoring /Dates
Developing Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny				
Establishing working relationships between Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny	From 15 May 2008, new Leader and Cabinet Constitution	Joint discussions, agreed priorities, shared information, invitations to relevant meetings	Cllr G Theobald invited to Sept 15 ECSOSC. Positive discussions and suggestion for scrutiny action. Councillor Dee Simson invited to 23 March ECSOSC	Suggestion added as potential item to the work plan
ECSOSC Work Plan with built-in flexibility	Every meeting	To check progress against Outline Work Plan		
Performance Monitoring				
Performance Monitoring	10 November 2008 26 January 2009	Receiving Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Score for Environment Receiving Q2 LAA Delivery report	Further information requested	

Issue	Date	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Progress And Date	Outcome And Monitoring /Dates
	23 March 2009	Quarter Three		
Holding to Account: Overview and Scrutiny Of Functions Of Environment				
Impact of LTP and LDF on addressing the City's air quality challenges including traffic	15 September 2008	Update on air quality monitoring and improvement	Report welcomed	
Integrated transport	10 November 2008	Short presentation then further details to subsequent meetings	Presentation noted	
Second Local Transport Plan Progress Report 2008	10 November 2008 26 January 2009	Commenting on report to Cabinet Member Meeting Receiving further information	Comments taken into account by Cabinet Member 11 December	Further information requested to following ECSOSC meeting
Community Safety	26 January 2009	Progress report		

Issue	Date	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Progress And Date	Outcome And Monitoring /Dates
	23 March 2009	Discussion with Cllr Dee Simson Cabinet Member		
Allotments	23 March 2009	Officer report		
Controlled Parking and Parking Enforcement	23 March 2009	Monitoring strategic performance		
Street Lighting	10 November 08	Investigating performance and making recommendations	Action taken noted	Monitoring report requested after one year
Night-time economy. Cumulative Impact Assessment	June 2009	Overview following one year's implementation.		
Scrutiny Reviews/Requests				
Mixed Priority Route North Street	15 September 2008	Investigating part of a decision made at July CMM	Report received	
Street Trees	15 September 2008	Receiving feedback following recommendations of former scrutiny review.	No further monitoring needed	

Issue	Date	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Progress And Date	Outcome And Monitoring /Dates
Matters referred from Community Safety Forum, Cabinet, Council				
Proposal for Scrutiny review of Older People and Community Safety	10 November	To agree topic for scrutiny review	Scrutiny Panel established and first scoping meeting scheduled.	
Policy Development and Review - Overview and Scrutiny of Budget and Policy Framework (Plans and Strategies)				
Development Plan Documents 20 – year Framework		Commenting on draft documents		
Supplementary Planning Document London Road	Joint workshop CTEOSC/ECSOSC 7 January cancelled	To comment on draft. Date to be confirmed.		
Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan	23 March 2009	Commenting on draft		
Food Law Enforcement Plan	23 March 2009	Commenting on Food Law Enforcement Plan		

Issue	Date	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Progress And Date	Outcome And Monitoring /Dates
Health and Safety Annual Service Plan	23 March 2009	Commenting on Health and Safety Annual Service Plan		
Other strategic items				
Accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers	13 August 2008	Call-in of decision made by Special Cabinet on 31 July	Recommendations made to Cabinet 18 September	Cabinet 18 September approved ECSOSC recommendations
Public Toilets opening hours, referred from Older People's Council via HOSC	To be confirmed	Requesting information		

