

## **SAFER SUNDERLAND PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17**

### **REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE POLICY LEAD FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY**

#### **1.0 Purpose of the report**

1.1 This purpose of this report is to share the progress made by the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) in 2016-17. This added value multi-agency activity is contributing to achieving the long-term outcome of making Sunderland a city which is, and feels, even safer and more secure, where people can enjoy life without the concerns of being a victim of crime or being harmed.

#### **2.0 Background**

2.1 The Safer Sunderland Board is statutory. Membership of the Board consists of the 6 responsible authorities:

- Sunderland City Council
- Northumbria Police
- Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS)
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

2.2 The Safer Sunderland Partnership is supported by a number of delivery networks such as the Sunderland Domestic Violence Partnership (SDVP); the Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) Groups; and time limited task and finish groups.

2.3 The Safer Sunderland Partnership had 2 key strategic priorities for 2016-17

- Priority 1: Prevent crime and disorder, re-offending and maintain high levels of feelings of safety
- Priority 2: Protect and support our most vulnerable people and places from harm

Underneath this, there were 5 key work areas around which its 2016-17 delivery plan was structured:

- Work Area 1: Substance misuse
- Work Area 2: Domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women & girls
- Work Area 3: Citywide and local area problem solving with a focus on LMAPS and responses to crime, community safety and cohesion issue
- Work Area 4: Safeguarding and feelings of safety as cross-cutting issues with a key focus on sexual exploitation; trafficking; and preventing violent extremism and radicalisation
- Work Area 5: Partnership development and collaboration – focusing on the Safer Sunderland Partnership's contribution to new and existing statutory duties and new and emerging threats such as novel psychoactive substances; serious and organised crime; cyber-related crime; and Public Space Protection Orders.

2.4 Section 3 of this report provides a summary of some of the progress made against key improvements actions in the Safer Sunderland Delivery Plan 2016-17.

### **3.0 Summary of improvement action taken during 2016-17**

#### **3.1. Substance misuse**

##### **3.1.1 Action the Safer Sunderland Partnership has taken**

- The Wear Recovery service provides treatment for substance misuse in Sunderland and has now been in place for one year, following the commencement of the contract on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016. It operates from bases in central Sunderland, Washington and Houghton-Le-Spring. Each base offers a single access point for all relevant interventions. The public health commissioning team worked on the implementation phase alongside the new provider to ensure the new specification is fully embedded and performance is on track.
- Work has continued to tackle novel psychoactive substances through use of new tools and powers with novel psychoactive substances prohibition included in the city centre Public Space Protection Order, which was agreed for inclusion by the council's Cabinet in January 2017.
- The Safer Sunderland Partnership has supported the Health and Wellbeing Board around the development of a whole system approach to tackling alcohol harms across Sunderland by investigating Cumulative Impact Policies (CIPs). These are a means of reducing access, availability and protecting the population from alcohol-related harm. An intelligence-led approach has been developed so that the responsible authorities under the Licensing Act can maximise their responses to licensing reviews where there are concerns around the licensing objectives for crime and disorder, public safety and safeguarding children. The council's intelligence hub developed an evidence base to inform the consultation phase for a Cumulative Impact Policy. Members, licensing committee, partners and licensees were consulted on the rankings and data mapping in order to inform potential Cumulative Impact Policies areas by December 2016 and the Cumulative Impact Policies engagement work was completed by March 2017.
- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) arrangements in Sunderland have undergone significant change in the past 12 months. It is still a well-staffed team which continues to manage some Prolific and Priority Offenders, Alcohol Treatment Requirements and Drug Rehabilitation Requirements across the city. There is still a clear commitment from all partners to ensure they continue to deliver dedicated and intensive interventions to tackle the behaviour of some of the most active offenders in Sunderland. Wear Recovery set up a monthly Criminal Justice Stakeholders Group to discuss and plan operational and strategic delivery of drug and alcohol services in the area. Sunderland's Integrated Offender Management Team now work closely with Wear Recovery to ensure all offenders involved in substance misuse are given the opportunity to seek and receive the right interventions to support their recovery and promote an offence-free lifestyle. The Integrated Offender Management Team provide a Probation member of staff two days a week to support the Sulgrave and Concord neighbourhood management project to help reduce reoffending and improve community cohesion. Wear Recovery also work one day a week from Sulgrave and Concord.

##### **3.1.2 Performance data 2016-17**

- Since commencement of the new contract, the substance misuse service has remained very busy throughout the year. The numbers of individuals accessing the service for help with alcohol has doubled from 200 to 425. The number of individuals accessing the service for help with drugs has risen from 640 to 750.
- Measured at June 2016, waiting times for assessment have been maintained at 100% within contract expectations. Following assessment, access to treatment interventions has been maintained at 97% within contract expectations. In the latter case, exception reports have been received providing circumstances of any excess waits reported.
- As anticipated in the early months of the contract, successful completions of treatment (also known as discharges) slowed. This is mainly due to the need to re-assess all clients and ensure that access arrangements are functioning correctly and all risk issues are managed. However, as the service has stabilised it has enabled a total of 147 successful completions since the contract began.

### 3.1.3 The impact this activity has had on the Safer Sunderland Partnership key priorities

- More effective practice across the entire substance misuse treatment and prevention system.
- Increased numbers of substance misuse clients recovering from their dependence and not re-presenting into treatment
- Improved intelligence and sharing of intelligence on novel psychoactive substances, illicit and other harmful drug use, and alcohol misuse
- Improved understanding of the harm of illicit and other harmful drugs and novel psychoactive substances
- Greater collaborative work to maximise the available tools and powers in the Statement of Licensing Policy; and improved responses (from the responsible authorities) to licensing reviews where there are concerns around the licensing objectives for crime and disorder, public safety and safeguarding children.

## 3.2 Domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG)

### 3.2.1 Action the Safer Sunderland Partnership has taken

- 770 multi-agency staff have been trained around domestic violence and abuse (levels 1, 2 and 3) between 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017. Evaluations have been extremely positive with a significant increase in learners' knowledge, skills and confidence (96% increase for level 1; 95% for level 2 and 100% for level 3).
- The number of domestic and sexual abuse champions in the workplace in Sunderland has increased from 66 to 85 across 22 different public, private and third sector organisations in Sunderland. There has been an on-going programme of training and development for champions.
- Sunderland was successful in its expression of interest to become one of 3 national pilot areas to develop and deliver the Women's Aid 'Change That Lasts' delivery model. This involves placing victims at the heart of the response and focusing on victims' strengths and needs, working in a trauma informed way. A

multi-agency Implementation Group was established in December 2016 and is meeting every 2-3 months. During 2016-17 a pilot co-ordinator was appointed by Women's Aid and has carried out stakeholder engagement and mapping work. This is a 5 year pilot programme.

- Multi-agency partners continue to deliver a co-ordinated community response to domestic abuse through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC); the Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) and the Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVCs). Partners work together in the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) to manage violent domestic abuse offenders. There is really good commitment to the panel in Sunderland and it provides the statutory forum to manage high and very high risk perpetrators
- The hospital-based Independent Domestic Violence Advisor service commenced in November 2016 with 'meet and greet' sessions delivered across staff teams in the Hospital to promote the service, and delivery of specific training sessions for key staff teams including A&E and maternity. In the first three months of the project going live there were 11 referrals into Wearside Women in Need directly from A&E, with the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor case load supporting 33 individuals. This service has now been built into the city's domestic abuse provision contract (July 2017-July 2019).
- Operation Encompass is now live in Sunderland and significant preparatory work for this took place during 2016-17. The purpose of Operation Encompass is to safeguard and support those children and young people who have witnessed and/or been present at the time of a domestic abuse incident. The aim is to share information with schools the following school morning so that they can support and safeguard children in school that day. All 118 schools in Sunderland signed up to Operation Encompass. During February-March 2017, over 200 Sunderland school staff were trained to become key adults so that they can provide support in school for any of their pupils affected by domestic abuse.
- Preparatory work took place around the joint commissioning (council and health) of Crisis Refuge Accommodation and Specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach Support including Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Provision.
- Sunderland, as part of a Northumbria-wide consortium, led on a successful bid to the Department of Communities and Local Government domestic abuse fund and secured £660,000 for Northumbria for a project focused on domestic abuse victims with complex needs. It will provide assertive outreach, specialist complex needs refuge accommodation and resettlement support linked to dispersed and move-on accommodation. Sunderland's allocation was £162,928.
- A Sunderland multi-agency domestic abuse referral pathway and staff guide was produced and distributed to agencies to disseminate to all key staff. The guide aims to help staff enable a disclosure and make safe enquiries by safely and confidently asking about domestic abuse and knowing how to respond. It provides guidance on carrying out a risk assessment and how and where to make referrals according to the levels of risk and vulnerability; good practice when working with victims, children and perpetrators; safety planning advice and links to a range of local, regional and national help and support agencies; advice on what intervention approaches are most appropriate according to the stage of change the victim may be at, and their needs; and links to relevant on-line procedures, risk assessment tools, referral forms, training and further guidance.

- Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating (MATAC) meetings were piloted in 2016-17 which focus on the city's serial domestic abuse perpetrators. There has been improved engagement in these meetings from the Community Rehabilitation Company and Wear Recovery. Northumbria University completed a positive initial evaluation. Between January 2016 and December 2016, 31 serial perpetrators were identified and discussed at the Sunderland Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating group where a range of intervention and tactics were deployed to try and reduce their re-offending. Approximately 70% of offenders have shown reductions in the frequency, recency and gravity of their offending.
- The BIG Programme (Barnardos, Impact Family Services and Gentoo) is Sunderland's non-statutory perpetrator programme for male offenders aged over 18. In 2016-17, BIG submitted a successful Big Lottery application and were awarded £490,610 over 5 years to run the programme locally for 2 days a week.

### 3.2.2 Performance data 2016-17

- There has been a 4.3% increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents (261) which is the same % increase as the Northumbria Force area. There has been a slight increase in the number of victims (33), which is a 0.9% rise in Sunderland compared to 1.9% in Northumbria.
- The proportion of victims who are female is 76.7%.
- There has been an very small increase in the number of young victims (16-17 year olds) reporting to the Police; and a larger 23% increase in those aged 55+, with the proportion of all victims aged 55+ increasing from 7.2% to 8.8% (64 more victims). The 23% increase in older victims reporting in Sunderland is double that of the increase in the force area and likely to be as a result of Sunderland's awareness raising campaign work on domestic abuse and older victims.
- The number of victims assessed as being high risk at the initial point of contact with Police has risen by 1.6%, with a reduction in those assessed as medium risk of -7.4%
- The number of repeat high risk (MARAC) victims (34%) has fallen by -3.6% compared to a force wide reduction of -11%. The overall % of repeat victims (any risk level) has dropped by -1% in Sunderland and stayed stable at force level.
- There has been a small reduction in the reoffending levels of 22 of the 31 serial perpetrators discussed in the Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating meetings.

### 3.2.3 The impact this has had on the Safer Sunderland Partnership key priorities

- Increased staff awareness of the support available in the workplace for victims of domestic abuse
- Improved competencies of front line professionals (public, private and third sector) in understanding, recognising and responding to domestic abuse; and increased awareness of the help and support available
- Increased opportunities for earlier intervention with victims and offenders

- Improved awareness of domestic abuse in older people's relationships (for both staff and the wider community) and the help and support available
- Reduced repeat victimisation, improved outcomes and improved safety of high risk domestic violence victims
- Strengthened partnership working on tackling domestic abuse and wider violence against women and girls across community safety, safeguarding and health
- Increased opportunities for action to be taken to support perpetrators of domestic abuse in reducing their offending

### **3.3 Citywide and local area problem solving with a focus on LMAPS and responses to crime, community safety and cohesion issue**

#### **3.3.1 Action the Safer Sunderland Partnership has taken**

- New anti-social behaviour tools and powers have been embedded and a multi-agency guide developed around the processes and procedures. This was used to inform frontline staff training and Councillor briefings. It included guidance around Criminal Behaviour Orders, Civic Injunctions, Dispersal Orders, Public Space Protection Orders, Closure Order etc.
- Significant work took place in 2016-17 around the development of, and consultation on, a city centre Public Space Protection Order. The 12 week public consultation was completed by November 2016, and then endorsed by Council Cabinet. The Public Space Protection Orders covers prohibitions including consumption of alcohol, aggressive begging, bin raking, anti-social use of skateboards, dog control, unauthorised street trading and use of novel psychoactive substances.
- Sunderland was the first area to seek a Civil Injunction to protect a number of vulnerable shop keepers; and more recently a Criminal Behaviour Order was secured for a persistent offender causing anti-social behaviour. The Partnership is actively making use of Closure Order powers (e.g. the closure of a city centre shop selling novel psychoactive substances; and the closure of some residential premises causing excessive noise, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse). Dispersal Orders are also being used frequently in anti-social behaviour hot spot locations across the city.
- Cohesion issues are routinely monitored and appropriate multi-agency action taken around a number of significant cohesion-related issues including alleged sexual assaults; increased right wing activity; and demonstrations. The city has continued to experience sporadic demos since September 2016 and the Safer Sunderland Board has been routinely briefed on developments and on the range of multi-agency action taken. This has included the coordination of council services, strengthening links to local businesses and attendance at all police planning meetings. This work has continued into 2017-18.
- An anti-social behaviour volunteers project has been delivered to enhance the provision of emotional support to low / medium risk victims. The 2 volunteers received extensive training and supported 13 victims in their first 4 months. Initial feedback is that they are proving to be a valuable service to the council and residents. Further recruitment of volunteers will commence in 2017-18.

- There was close working with businesses, taxi companies and licensed premises around the termination of the taxi marshal scheme and whilst replacement funding could not be secured the impact effects have been mitigated by close working between licensees, taxi-trade, Police and Council.
- The Partnership has a well-established escalation policy around anti-social behaviour and in 2016-17 there were 78 Acceptable Behaviour Agreements issued to adults and young people causing disorder.
- LMAPS continue to meet every 10 weeks to problem solve repeat local issues such as anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, high risk victims, and prolific offenders. The Partnership moved from 5 LMAPS to 4 following merger of the Washington and Coalfields LMAPS to mirror police neighbourhood police team boundaries. Examples of some key LMAPS activity in 2016-17 has included:
  - **City centre and East LMAPS:** Mowbray Park, Park Lane and the civic centre car park area suffered from a range of community safety issues ranging from youth and adult anti-social behaviour and substance misuse to a number of serious sexual assaults. LMAPS facilitated a variety of responses around the area. Intelligence mapping allowed for a live digital mapping process of partners' data to be produced. This led to the intelligence-led deployment of multi-agency resources and environmental changes e.g. installation of more litter bins at hot spots locations; thinning of shrub beds to ensure clear view of access points; and work around the Winter Gardens to tackle adult disorder and rough sleeping. Changing Lives changed the working hours of their outreach workers to tackle the rough sleeping to ensure they could engage with individuals at key times. Youth workers were deployed to educate young people around novel psychoactive substances and sexual exploitation. Wear Recovery deployed outreach workers to engage with those misusing substances.
  - **West LMAPS:** In 2016-17 there were over 30 calls to the fire service compared to 5 the previous year relating to King George's Playing Fields. Issues raised included the setting of fires, large groups congregating, alcohol misuse and criminal damage. The LMAPS initiated a number of actions ranging from: deployment of 4G talking cameras; increased uniformed and non-uniformed patrols; and identification of 20 young people and relevant action taken (some of these were referred to take part in the fire service anti-fire setting course). Targeted talks in schools took place as did work with residents in the area around channels of reporting and communication. As a result, anti-social behaviour in this area has reduced and relationships with residents have improved.
  - **Washington/Coalfields LMAPS:** Due to an increase in burglaries in the area, burglary packs were purchased which contained comprehensive advice on all aspects of crime prevention as well as useful contact numbers. Hotspot areas were identified and leaflets hand-delivered by Police Community Support Officers and Police Cadets – the use of door knocks, rather than the standard delivery of the leaflet was more impactful as officers were given the opportunity to speak to residents direct and give them security advice and tips on how to be more vigilant. Feedback from residents showed that they acted more on the advice from face-to-face contact rather than a leaflet through the door. In the one month period following the leaflet distribution the police recorded a significant reduction in burglaries in the areas targeted. As a result of its success, this initiative was rolled out city wide.

- **North LMAPS:** The LMAPS group coordinated and supported Northumbria Police on obtaining a Closure Order on a privately owned property. The property involved various issues caused by a high risk domestic abuse relationship involving two alcohol dependent individuals who were in the top three domestic abuse relationships in the Southern Area Command based on police calls. The property attracted a lot of noise, with other criminals visiting the property, and general anti-social behaviour resulting in an impact on the wider community. Prevention work also took place around supporting the needs of the victim. There were no further incidents at this address since the individual returned, after the end of the closure order.
- The Sulgrave and Concord Neighbourhood Management project saw an expansion in the services offered in 2016-17 with Welfare Rights, Wear Recovery and the Locality Team joining the project. The latter has provided better outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children. The team is starting to see the lives transformed of some of the most vulnerable individuals and families with complex needs. Residents are starting to take responsibility for their area and are actively engaging in the formation of an established residents group. Moving forward, the project will continue to expand the services offered and increase community empowerment to improve the quality of life for residents in the area.

### 3.3.2 Performance data 2016-17 (also see sections 4.1 and 4.2)

- Reported anti-social behaviour to the police has fallen by 12%
- The percentage of residents identifying at least one community safety problem in their local neighbourhood has remained relatively stable at 33%
- The percentage of residents who think anti-social behaviour is a fairly or very big problem in their local area has improved from 16% to 12% in 2016-17
- The percentage of residents who think crime is a fairly or very big problem in their local area has improved from 9% to 7% in 2016-17
- Recorded crime in Sulgrave and Concord has increased 22% and 21% respectively for the two years following the pilot neighbourhood management project's inception against a backdrop of the Force crime rate going up 29% and 31% respectively. Recorded anti-social behaviour in Sulgrave and Concord has reduced by 7.8% and 25% in the two years following the project's inception.

### 3.3.3 The impact this has had on the Safer Sunderland Partnership key priorities

- Increased use of new tools and powers to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Improved safety of vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour
- Improved safety plans that are tailored to needs of the victim and thereby reducing risk and improving outcomes
- Improved residents' perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour at a neighbourhood level



- Improved information sharing across agencies has resulted in increased intelligence and co-ordinated work leading to a more joined-up, tailored approach

### **3.4 Safeguarding and feelings of safety (cross-cutting)**

#### **3.4.1 Action the Safer Sunderland Partnership has taken**

- The Safer Sunderland Partnership has continued to support the Missing, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked (MSET) work of the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB). It has identified disruption targeting processes and raised awareness of, and use of, disruption powers such as relevant sexual offence orders, injunctions, anti-social behaviour tools and powers, trafficking offences, proactive deployment of CCTV, as appropriate in child sexual exploitation disruption and prevention work. A number of disruption packages in relation to key perpetrators have been put in place using extraordinary LMAPS and wider Council and other agency services (Health, Fire, Probation etc.) where appropriate. This has resulted in disruption actions against perpetrators, locations and increased protection of victims.
- Team Sanctuary a new multi-agency police led team was established to tackle offences of child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and trafficking. This team includes dedicated detectives, children and adults social care staff, health staff and voluntary sector staff (Changing Lives and Barnardos). The team cover south of Tyne but are based in dedicated non-Police station premises in Washington which has victim friendly suites and meeting space.
- The Partnership has supported work to tackle adult sexual exploitation and adult sex work by maintaining an operational information sharing group facilitated by Changing Lives. The Partnership has also supported the Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) through a time limited transitions group. In February the Council successfully bid for £70,000 to support a pilot project in conjunction with Team Sanctuary and Changing Lives to develop new ways of service engagement with vulnerable young adults exiting the young people's arrangements to tackle sexual exploitation.
- Sunderland participated in Operation Border in October 2016, a force wide operation into modern day slavery, and a number of Sunderland premises were raided and arrests made in relation to modern day slavery offences.
- The Safer Sunderland Partnership supported and helped shape the programme for the Whole Family Safeguarding Conference in May 2016 with a number of community safety related topics being covered including: the psychology that underpins sexual exploitation; psychoactive substances; cyber-crime; elder abuse; and the Prevent duty.

#### **3.4.2 Performance data 2016-17 (also see section 4.1)**

- Maintain residents' feelings of safety living in their local area by at least 96%. The outturn for 2016-17 was 97%

#### **3.4.3 The impact this has had on the Safer Sunderland Partnership key priorities**

- The Partnership is fully contributing to tackling sexual exploitation through its work around disruption, and addressing community tensions

- Maintained high feelings of safety at a neighbourhood level
- Reduced victimisation and repeat victimisation of vulnerable people

### **3.5 Partnership development and other collaboration**

#### **3.5.1 Action the Safer Sunderland Partnership has taken**

- The Safer Sunderland Partnership has supported the CONTEST Board (which oversees counter-terrorism work) through the specified agencies meeting their new Prevent duties (to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism).
  - Each partner with the Prevent duty has self-assessed themselves around compliance with the duty, and their action plans were shared with the Prevent Coordination Group in April 2016. The citywide Prevent Action Plan was then developed and delivered during 2016-17.
  - The Foundation4Peace were contracted to deliver a 'Holding Difficult Conversations conference' in July 2016, aimed at schools and other relevant frontline staff in order to help improve their skills and confidence around holding difficult conversations around extreme views.
  - Preventing people being drawn into terrorism is now embedded into children's and adults safeguarding procedures; and is embedded into the adult safeguarding adult concern form.
  - In February 2017, Prevent was added to the Safeguarding Children Board's Section 11 Audit Tool to monitor compliance with the Prevent duty.
  - Schools have been supported to understand their role around Prevent; to equip them with tools to assess compliance; and encourage them to embed Prevent into their safeguarding policies. This has also included briefings in the Governors Handbook; and disseminated information to all Head Teachers on indicators of vulnerability and risk to radicalisation in children and young people; and information of terrorist and extremism emblems and symbols
- The Safer Sunderland Partnership has supported the implementation of the Home Secretary's plan in relation to serious organised crime (SOC). A serious organised crime profile was shared by Northumbria Police with local authority leads and the Partnership's contribution to tackling this issue will further develop in 2017-18. The Safer Sunderland Partnership will provide the local governance in relation to this area of work.
- The Partnership has continued to meet its core statutory duties around its strategic board; the annual partnership strategic intelligence assessment (PSIA); the partnership (delivery) plan; performance management; and information sharing. The Safer Sunderland written partnership agreement and Induction Pack were refreshed in June 2016. The Partnership has a duty to cooperate with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and joint working has included setting up an anti-social behaviour volunteer network, and consultation work on a domestic abuse practitioners training standard.

#### **3.5.2 Performance data 2016-17**

- 100% compliance with the Prevent duty. Self-assessment/audit tools have been developed and completed. Named Prevent / Channel single points of contact in each specified and non-specified agency

- Multi-agency safeguarding procedures incorporate Prevent (children's and adults) and the Section 11 Audit Tool now includes Prevent
- Prevent Referral process map in place and widely disseminated
- Strategic assessment, delivery plan and Safer Sunderland annual report produced
- Briefings produced on new policy and legislation
- Safer Communities Survey carried out quarterly
- Police and Crime Panel member supported in their scrutiny role
- Scrutiny committee recommendations for the Partnership are implemented

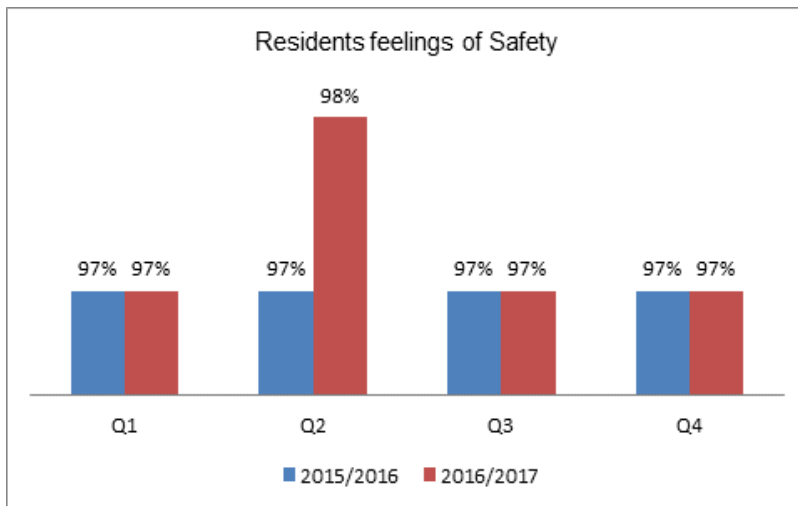
### 3.5.3 The impact this has had on the Safer Sunderland Partnership key priorities

- Multi-agency staff likely to come into contact with 'at risk' groups and people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism have a greater awareness and understanding of the risks radicalisation and how to make a safeguarding referral.
- Specified authorities are meeting their statutory duty to prevent people being drawn into terrorism
- Relevant partners are becoming engaged around supporting the Police's Serious and Organised Crime work around disruption and intelligence sharing through Operation Magnet.
- There is intelligence-led decision-making and identification of strategic priorities through a comprehensive strategic assessment
- Stronger and more efficient and effective partnership working to achieve shared outcomes, economies and scale, added value, greater collaboration and reduced duplication
- The Safer Sunderland Partnership responds to its statutory duties and responsibilities to make Sunderland a safer city.

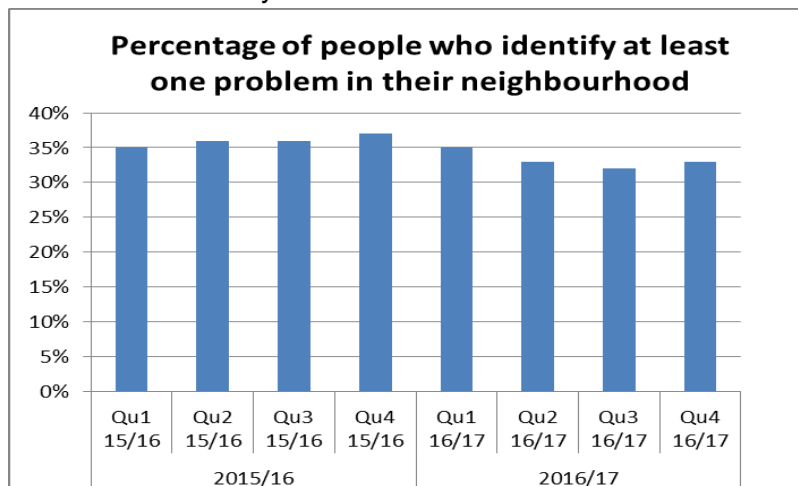
## **4.0 Summary of key data sets**

### **4.1 Residents' sentiment**

- #### 4.1.1 Residents' feelings of safety have remained stable at 97% throughout 2016-17 (see chart below)



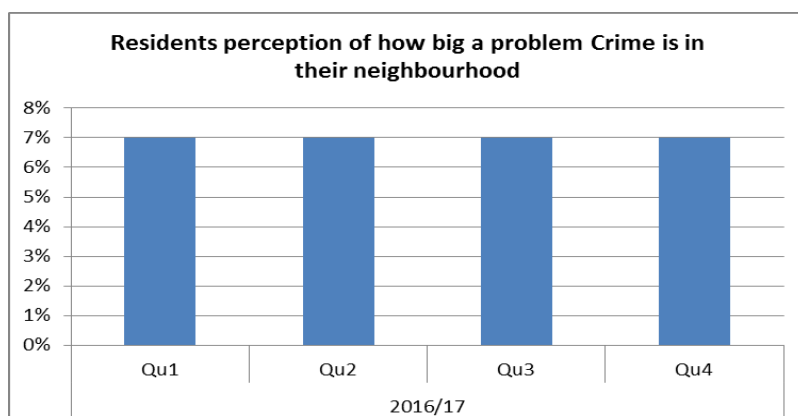
4.1.2 The percentage of residents identifying at least one problem in their local neighbourhood stood at 33%, at the end of 2016-17 which has remained relatively stable over the last year.

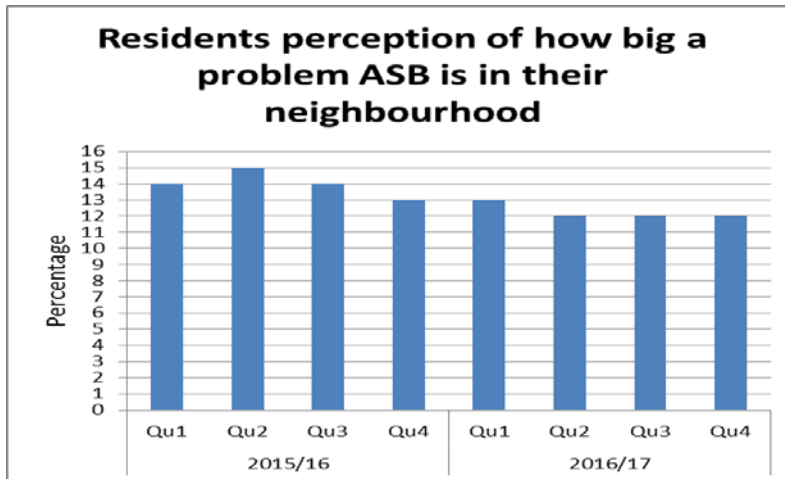


4.1.3 The top 3 community safety issues raised by residents in 2016-17 were:

- (i) young people being rowdy or a nuisance;
- (ii) litter or rubbish lying around; and
- (iii) dog fouling

4.1.4 In 2016-17, 12% of residents thought anti-social behaviour was a fairly or very big problem in their local area, and 7% thought crime was. These have been stable throughout 2016-17 and reduced (i.e. improved) from 16% and 9% respectively since 2014-15. Both remain in line with the force average.





## 4.2 Recorded crime data from the police

4.2.1 Total crime has increased by 29% during 2016-17, rising from 19373 to 25024 crimes; representing a rise of 5651 crimes.

4.2.2 There have been significant increases both for Sunderland and the Force in 2016-17.

- Northumbria +33%
- South Tyneside +30%
- Gateshead +39%
- North Tyneside +54%
- Newcastle +25%
- Northumberland +32%
- Sunderland +29%

4.2.3 Table 1 illustrates the recorded crime changes in 2016-17 compared to the previous year and also how the changes relate to those seen at a Northumbria Force level.

4.2.4 These increases are primarily as a result of improved compliance with the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). This aims to improve the consistency of police recording and to better reflect the demands made on the police by victims of crime.

4.2.5 Sunderland's monthly rises have fluctuated during 2016-17; peaking at 41% (in July 2016) down to 29% (by March 2017). There have also been variations for the Force. At the end of the year 2016-17 the gap between Sunderland and the Force has actually narrowed from 4.8 (in 2015-16) to 3.8 per 1000 pop (in 2016-17), compared with the previous year (Sunderland's rate was 70.2 and the Force 65.4).

4.2.6 The rate of anti-social behaviour has fallen from 43.8 per 1000 pop to 37.9 per 1000 pop. This represents a fall of 12.1%

Table 1: Change in Recorded Crime in Sunderland 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017					
Measure	Recorded Incidents: Sunderland				Force
	Actual 2016-17	Previous 2015-16	Variance	% Change	% Change
Total crime	25024	19373	+5651	(+29%)	(+33)
Violent Crime	7667	5222	+2445	(+47%)	(+48)
Violence against the person	6644	4414	+2230	(+51%)	(+52)
• Violence against the person with injury	2341	2178	+163	(+7%)	(+12)
• Violence against the person without injury	4303	2236	+2067	(+92%)	(+12)
Most serious violence against the person	126	94	+32	(+34%)	(+12)
Less serious violence against the person	2215	2084	+131	(+6%)	(+92)
Possession of weapons	193	176	+17	(+10%)	(+9)
Robbery	126	104	+22	(+21%)	(+39)
Sexual offences	704	528	+176	(+33%)	(+26)
Vehicle Crime	1322	1226	+96	(+8%)	(+18)
Vehicle Interference	138	95	+43	(+45%)	(+31)
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (TFMV)	900	845	+55	(+7%)	(+18)
Theft of a Motor Vehicle / TWOC	284	286	-2	(-1%)	(+11)
Burglary	1632	1596	+36	(+2%)	(+8)
• Burglary dwelling	715	668	+47	(+7%)	(+9)
• Burglary Other than a Dwelling	917	928	-11	(-1%)	(+8)
Criminal damage	4479	3938	+541	(+14%)	(+19)
Drug crime	558	665	-107	(-16%)	(-11)
Other crime	9355	6726	+2629	(+39%)	(+42)
Theft and handling	6387	5462	+925	(+17%)	(+22)
Shoplifting	2263	2039	+224	(+11%)	(+22)
Theft from the person	166	122	+44	(+36%)	(+20)
Theft of pedal cycle	344	312	+32	(+10%)	(+15)
Other theft and handling	3614	2989	+625	(+21%)	(+24)
Fraud and Forgery	38	27	+11	(+41%)	(+68)
Public disorder	2661	1038	+1623	(+156%)	(+135)
Miscellaneous crime	269	199	+70	(+35%)	(+37)
Serious acquisitive crime	2025	1903	+122	(+6%)	(+15)
Racially & religiously aggravated crime	243	164	+79	(+48%)	(+42)

## 5.0 Summary of analysis of data

- 5.1 It is important to note that the crime changes seen in Sunderland are mirrored across the rest of the Force area and also across most of the police forces nationally. Sunderland is either in line with, or performing better than the Force average in most crime categories. Total crime in Northumbria increased by 33% compared to 29% in Sunderland. The exceptions to this are for most serious violence; sexual offences; vehicle interference; drug crime; theft from the person; and public disorder; which is expected with Sunderland being a city compared to smaller neighbouring authorities.
- 5.2 The changes in crime levels were explored in-depth by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee in 2016. The continued increase in recorded crime is in the main still attributable to national crime recording standard compliance (across all crime types to varying degrees) and the number of crimes recorded per incident reported has continued to increase. So, whereas the number of incidents has reduced over the last year, a larger proportion of those incidents are now resulting in crimes recorded.

This is sometimes referred to as the conversion rate. There has been little change in the number of calls to the police but improved compliance with the national crime recording standard has led to more of these calls being correctly recorded as crimes.

- 5.3 Increased confidence to report is also likely to have influenced some of the recorded crime increases, especially around some elements of violent crime (e.g. sexual violence and domestic abuse). Since Her Majesty's Inspection of Constabulary published its review of every police force's handling of domestic abuse (Everyone's business), there has been a 31% increase in the number of domestic abuse related crimes recorded in England and Wales. The Office of National statistics suggests that this is due, in part, to police forces improving their recording of domestic abuse incidents as crimes and forces actively encouraging victims to come forward to report crimes.
- 5.4 In 2016, there was also the introduction of front-end crime recording; this involves the crime recording decision being made at the initial point of contact in the Police's Communications Department. The Home Office have recently revised the national crime recording standard so that crime recording 'must not routinely be delayed to facilitate deployment of resources or to enable further investigation to take place'. Anecdotally, Northumbria Police expect it will take approximately 3 years from the introduction of national standard until baselines can be established that they feel will be reliable for monitoring trend data.

## **6.0 Next Steps for the Safer Sunderland Partnership, Conclusions and Recommendation for Scrutiny Committee**

- 6.1. The Partnership has maintained its strong and effective multi-agency working in a landscape where all community safety partners have continually had to re-shape their organisations in the context of unprecedented cuts and change. There have been significant reductions in budgets and staffing with huge cuts in back office functions.
- 6.2 Nationally and locally we are continuing to see the crime profile developing away from traditional crimes (e.g. acquisitive crimes) and more towards exploitation of vulnerable people, e.g. organised crime, sexual exploitation, trafficking, cyber enabled crimes, increased reporting of domestic and sexual abuse, and hate crime.
- 6.3 There is a need to improve the use of data and intelligence sharing in order to understand need and risk and shape multi-agency response so that responses continue to be multi-agency in their outlook. Good multi-agency problem solving is crucial in this and will continue as the bedrock of the Partnership's work.
- 6.4 The Sulgrave and Concord neighbourhood management project is an excellent example of multi-agency working. It has continued to expand year on year in terms of services offered to the community whilst running costs have decreased. It is starting to see the lives of some of the most vulnerable individuals and families with complex needs be transformed. Residents are starting to take responsibility for their area and are actively engaging in the formation of an established residents group. Moving forward, the project will continue to expand services and increase community empowerment to improve services and quality of life for the area and its residents. Learning from the pilot has shown that where multi-agency staff are empowered to problem solve, significant successes can be achieved through co-location, sharing of information and intelligence, and working with the local community in a longer-term way, whilst making the service offer relevant to local need. Multi agency data

analysis is underway to determine which other areas might benefit from neighbourhood management approaches.

- 6.5 Community safety performance across a wide range of measures remains good with low fear of crime and anti-social behaviour; high levels of feelings of safety being maintained; and falling levels of anti-social behaviour. The increases in recorded crime are primarily as a result of the national crime recording standard, together with increased confidence to report in some crime types. The future is looking positive for community safety if a partnership approach is maintained and stays deeply rooted in problem solving.
- 6.6 Work began on the development of a new anti-social behaviour delivery model for implementation by the end of 2017-18. The Partnership will need to ensure the recommended model supports the delivery of the priorities contained within its delivery plan.
- 6.7 As at 31st March 2017, the Safer Sunderland Partnership is aware that Council has agreed that £100,000 be included to support youth activities, and to be allocated as £20,000 to each of the 5 Area Committees. Area Committees will be asked to formally accept their allocation of £20,000 which will enable the Area Committee to fund the local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) to deliver youth activity projects within the community. Once the delivery agents have been confirmed, the Partnership will need to explore if there are opportunities for future joint working with the LMAPS groups to tackle anti-social behaviour and consider the deployment of resources based on sharing data and intelligence around hot spot locations.
- 6.8 The annual Safer Sunderland Partnership strategic intelligence assessment (which informs the strategic priorities for the year ahead) has indicated that the current priorities and work areas remain relevant for 2017-18 and a delivery plan is currently being drafted for sign-off by the Safer Sunderland Board in July 2017.
- 6.9 Scrutiny Committee is therefore recommended to note the information contained in the annual report and agree to accept the next annual report in July 2018

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