

Safe Newcastle Board

Wednesday 19th January 2011 – 10.00am – 12.30pm

Meeting to be held in Swan Parsons Committee Room, Civic Centre.

Contact Officer: Lynne Camsell - Telephone (0191) 232 8520 ext. 25166

Draft Agenda

	Time	Item	Enc	For	Dist	Lead
1	10.00	Welcome, introductions, apologies				Chair
2	10.05	Safe Newcastle Strategy 2011 - 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Assessment 2010 Endorsement of themes/priorities Copy to follow • Update on Strategy development - Presentation 		Approval		Robyn Thomas Spencer Chainey Gillian Tullock
3	11.05	Financial Management	x	Approval	Board Only	Robyn Thomas Paul Woods
4	11.40	Policy Update	X			Robyn Thomas
5	12.00	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Update report ii) Improvement Plan 	X	Approval	Board Only	Christine Knox
6	12.15	Minutes and Action list of Meeting held 30 September 2010	X	Approval		Chair
7	12.20	Any Other Business (Please advise Chair before start of meeting)		Information		Chair
		Date of next Meeting 30 March 2011				



SafeNewcastle

Better Lives,
Stronger Communities.

Strategy Development 2011-2014

- **Community Safety Partnerships** still have core duty to develop a strategy refreshed every year which sets out the key crime and disorder issues of the area and what will be done to tackle them (reaffirmed in Govt letter dated 17 Dec 10)
- New strategy by 1 April 2011
- Informed by
 - Strategic Assessment (and others e.g. Drugs JSNA)
 - Consultation

Strategy Development 2011-2014

Our Current Priorities

- Create confident, cohesive and safe communities
- Reduce vulnerability and promote healthy communities
- Prevent offending and reduce reoffending
- Reduce levels of acquisitive crime
- Reduce levels of violence

Strategy Development 2011-2014

- **Strategic Assessment 2010**

- Joint with Northumbria Police
- Spencer Chainey
- Analysts Group

- **Key Milestones**

- Workshop 1 December
- PMRG 8 December
- Stakeholder Forum 9 December
- Final draft 24 December
- Safe Newcastle Board sign off – 19January

Strategy Development 2011-2014

Consultation Work Planned

- **Safer Communities Survey**
 - Joint Partnership -Police led
 - Postal Nov 2009 – Aug 2010
 - Telephone only from Oct 2010
 - 1/4ly reports Initial results for April - Sep 10 now available
- **Street work** in specific locations of interest e.g. Byker, City Centre, Scotswood
- **Neighbourhood Charters** – local priorities
- **Focus Groups** – groups of interest/identity/geography /time
- **Stakeholder Forum**
- **Community Crime Fighters**
- **Overview and Scrutiny**
- **Other** -wide range of other consultation used to support the SA

Proposed Priorities 2011-2014

Reduce Crime and Anti Social Behaviour

- Reduce serious and other acquisitive crime
- Tackle organised crime
- Reduce anti social behaviour
- Reduce violent crime including domestic violence and sexual violence
- Reduce crime in the city centre
- Reduce crime in priority neighbourhoods - narrowing the gap

Young People

- (Link to young peoples partnership)
- Strategic focus on risk/vulnerability of young people
- Strategic focus on preventing young people form offending

Proposed Priorities 2011-2014

Improve Confidence and feelings of safety

- Reduce community tensions
- Contest
- Safe Neighbourhoods
- Tackle hate crime

Reduce Vulnerability and Promote Healthy Communities

- (link to wellbeing and health)
- Reduce levels of repeat victims and repeat victimisation
- Reduce the harm and impact of drugs
- Reduce the harm and impacts of alcohol

Prevent Offending and Reduce Reoffending

- Reduce the number of repeat offenders
- Prevent people from becoming offenders

Strategy Development 2011-2014

Strategy Key Milestones

- Strategy Development Group meeting monthly
- Initial narratives - 24 December 2010
- Communities OSC 17 January 2011
- Action plans developed by SDGs Jan/Feb 2011
- First draft to PMRG - February 2011
- Council Executive Committee - 11 March 2011
- Safe Newcastle Board sign off -30 March 2011
- Implementation date – 1 April 2011

**Safe Newcastle
Performance Management and Resources Group**

9 February 2011

Community Safety: Legislative and Policy Changes and Impact on Safe Newcastle .

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide PMRG members with an overview of the Coalition Government reform agenda with respect to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) including: individual Responsible Authorities and community safety policy. The report outlines potential implications of the national developments for Safe Newcastle.

2. Recommendations

2.1 PMRG is asked to:

- i. Note the legislative and policy developments in relation to community safety
- ii. Note the implications for Safe Newcastle and Partnership
- iii. Receive further reports on policy development and the Safe Newcastle Strategy 2011-2014, as appropriate

3. Introduction and background

3.1 Community Safety Priority and challenge

Community safety continues to be a key priority for the Government, and partnership working is acknowledged to be of vital importance to this agenda. The Government's view is that police reform will help ensure better services into and relationships with communities and help tackle crime when and where it matters. A cross governmental approach to cutting crime will be set out in a new Crime Strategy, to be published early in 2011.

The government's view is that many of the solutions to crime are rooted in prevention, early intervention, better education and rehabilitation which need to be addressed by partnerships. This approach is fundamental to Safe Newcastle. Analysis through the Strategic Assessment 2010 concludes that: the programme has a good range of activity, and the partnership is getting better at developing an evidence based process and at building evaluation into the delivery; there is good, targeted youth activity and early intervention work.

Although key elements of policy are still to be clarified; it is clear that there are significant strategic, policy, governance and operational challenges for Safe

Newcastle over the medium term.

3.2 **Partnership working**

Ministers have recognised that effective partnerships play a crucial role in helping to tackle crime and reduce re-offending. Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) will continue to be statutory and will retain the duty to be evidence-led, focused on taking actions that address local need and achieve key outcomes of cutting crime and reducing harm.

Section 17 (revised) duties of the Crime and Disorder Act (CDA) are being retained, therefore Councils will continue to have a duty to consider the crime, disorder, antisocial behaviour, environmental issues and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances affecting the area through all activities and to do all they reasonably can to prevent them.

CSPs will be given greater freedom from central reporting requirements and performance management and will need to work flexibly with other partnerships at a local and regional level.

4. **Current Position and Proposals**

4.1 **Home Office Structural Reform Plan**

The key elements are listed below, together with timescales where known:

Enable police and local communities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour

- Review of anti social behaviour services and powers – due 2011
- Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill incorporating:
 - Review of alcohol licensing
 - Police reform and reduced police bureaucracy
 - Increased accountability of the police to the public
- Strategy to prevent violence against women - published end November 2010,
- Review of approach to drug misuse – new National Drug Strategy published December 2010

Secure borders and control immigration

- New border police force
- Limits on number of migrants
- Changes to asylum process

Protect the public from terrorism

- Review of national security strategy – due 2011
- Review of Contest and Prevent strategies – due May 2011

Protect peoples freedoms and civil liberties

- Scrap proposals for ID cards
- Freedom bill to include regulation of CCTV

4.2

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill – December 2010

The purpose of the Bill is to make the police service more accountable to local people, create a dedicated Border Police Force and set out measures to tackle alcohol-related violence and disorder. Although the proposals in relation to licensing are beyond the scope of this report, there is potential for a positive impact on

community safety. The main proposals that relate to CSPs are detailed below.

4.2.1 **Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)**

The Bill proposes that:

- a) Police Authorities will be abolished and replaced with elected Police and Crime Commissioners for each police force outside London. Their functions will be broadly similar to those of Police Authorities.
- b) Elections for commissioners will be every four years from May 2012 and held on the same day as local elections.
- c) Commissioners will be required to produce a Police and Crime Plan, consulting local people on its content. Chief Constables will also have to have regard to the Plan.
- d) Commissioners will be 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and have a duty to co-operate with CSPs, including the local authority, and the criminal justice system.
- e) Commissioners will have to publish information to allow local people to assess their performance and that of Chief Constables.

From May 2012 the Commissioners will play a significant role in community safety. They will be responsible and democratically accountable for tackling crime at a local level, working alongside local partners. The public will be able to raise any concerns directly with them, and PCCs will have the power to respond. Once PCCs are in a position to commission services locally, the majority of central government funding for crime and community safety programmes (currently directly available to CSPs) will be devolved to them and they will work with CSPs and others to prioritise the issues that matter to local residents.

Questions still remain in relation to the PCC; in particular regarding the legal duties and accountability arrangements between Council leaderships, Chief Constables and Area Commanders, Elected Mayors and elected commissioners as well as the potential for competing electoral mandates to put partners in different policy positions within the CSP.

4.2.2 **Police and Crime Panels**

A new Police and Crime Panel will ensure an overview role at force level and that decisions of the Police and Crime Commissioners are tested on behalf of the public. Police and Crime Panels will be created in each force area and the Bill proposes these will have a minimum of ten councillors and two co-opted members. The Police and Crime Panels will be able to veto a Commissioner's proposed budget by a three quarters majority vote. They will also be able to veto any candidate recommended by the Commissioner for Chief Constable.

4.2.3 **Relationship of CSP to Commissioner**

Commissioners and CSPs will be able to enter into collaboration agreements covering more than one partnership, to produce strategies for reducing crime and disorder. A Commissioner will be able to compel partnerships to produce strategies if they are not doing so. Further clarification of the governance and accountability implications of this new relationship is being sought.

4.3 **Collaborative partnership working**

There is increased expectation of collaborative working between partnerships at a local level, for example between CSPs and the Health and Wellbeing Boards as well as through potential merger of partnerships at a regional level e.g through the

potential merger of CSPs and Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs) as both will have greater freedom to work more flexibly and innovatively together.

Safe Newcastle is well placed to meet these requirements, having strong links to the Children and Young Peoples Partnership and Health. However, the requirement to work at a regional level will pose challenges in relation to governance, accountability, finance and capacity.

By 2013/14, this should lead to increased collaboration and accountability, through the simplification and clarification of the partnership working and governance arrangements at a regional level. However the extent of change in the partnership landscape is significant and poses major challenges for Safe Newcastle and partners.

4.4 **Supporting Localism and Big Society**

Government will further develop and promote the ways citizens can get involved and work in partnership with the police and CSPs in keeping their neighbourhoods safe and encourage them to do so. This could involve supporting more active citizens: taking part in joint patrols with the police, looking out for their neighbours and passing on safety tips as part of Neighbourhood Watch groups or as Community Crime Fighters, advising the police as members of youth Independent Advisory Groups, coming together as communities to sign neighbourhood agreements, having more say in how money is spent (participatory budgeting) and in how offenders make amends (community restorative justice).

Much of the above is subject to further clarification but the localism agenda has the following implications for the Partnership

- a) Establishing local priorities through greater community involvement
- b) Developing local policy to meet local priorities
- c) Emphasis has moved away from central targets towards improving the quality of service and allowing residents opportunities to set priorities and challenge police performance. A local performance management framework therefore needs to be developed, aligned to national criminal justice frameworks as appropriate, to measure success against local priorities.
- d) Increased accountability to local communities, of interest and identity as well as location.
- e) The development of new frameworks for design and delivery (commissioning) of services with the use of the civic sector and service users to design and deliver services.
- f) Public cooperation and confidence in policing is essential for community safety. The focus is shifting to empowering individuals and communities not simply to be able to hold agencies to account, but to underline that crime prevention is a shared responsibility. This will require work with private individuals as well as business.

In addition, the role of local elected members will be strengthened as they will be able to take a close interest in ensuring that Commissioners are securing effective policing for every neighbourhood in their area.

The public will be able to see the performance of the police on crime, antisocial behaviour and on how they spend the public's money. From 1 February, crime data is being published at a level which allows the public to see what is happening on their streets and neighbourhoods.. A number of implications for Safe Newcastle have already arisen through this website Police.co.uk

4.5 **Implications of changes to Responsible Authorities of CSPs**

In addition to the changes outlined above for the Police Authority, each of the other Responsible Authorities of Safe Newcastle are also responding to significant change agendas as a result of the austerity measures and proposed legislation. As a brief overview, the most significant includes:

4.6 **Northumbria Police**

For Northumbria Police budget cuts will be substantial, although there will be a clearer understanding of the details and implications following the Local Government Finance Settlement.

Northumbria Police Authority and Northumbria Police are undertaking Value for Money reviews to ensure the Police Authority can maintain a sound financial position and protect front line policing these were initially: Basic Command Unit, Deployment, Contact Management, Crime and Business Support. However, every aspect of the force is now under review.

4.7 **Health:**

The proposals within the Government's White Paper, Equality and excellence: liberating the NHS will have a significant implications for CSPs:

- a) The PCTs are currently a Responsible Authority so new representation and governance arrangements with Health, including the new Public Health Service (which will be a local authority responsibility) and the proposed statutory Health and Well-being Boards will need to be agreed.
- b) It is anticipated that there will need to be far greater cross partnership collaborative working between health and well being and community safety at a local level.
- c) GP commissioning consortia will also impact on the delivery of key community safety activity locally eg alcohol, drug treatment, mental health provision and services. Links between commissioning and procurement arrangements of Safe Newcastle and GP consortia requires greater understanding and development.

4.8 **Northumbria Probation Trust**

Rehabilitation Revolution to reduce number of short prison sentences and increase use of community sentences. The Trust is also planning for budget cuts .

4.9 **Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service**

The TWFRS is currently consulting on proposals for change which will reconfigure the service, balance efficiency and risk whilst minimising the impact of the spending review on the service experienced by the public.

Key elements include reviews of

- Management structures
- Protection and technical activities
- Staffing profiles
- Aerial ladder platforms
- Mobilising

Diversions activities which contribute to community safety outcomes are also being considered.

5.0 **National Policy Developments**

A significant number of green papers and policy documents have recently been published which have implications for the development of local strategy and policy and the delivery of services. A brief summary is provided below:

5.1 **Approach**

Ministers have confirmed that the following continue to be community safety priorities:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Neighbourhood policing
- Support to vulnerable individuals and families
- Reducing re-offending
- Violence Against Women and Girls/Children
- Drugs and alcohol

The importance of maintaining multi-agency services to protect the public is also regarded as vital, for example, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements to target the most serious violent and sexual offenders; case conferencing to protect the victims of domestic abuse; and the use of Integrated Offender Management to coordinate and focus work on those who cause most harm locally. National security from the threat of terrorism will also remain a priority.

The new Safe Newcastle Strategy 2011-2014 will take into consideration the government priorities above.

5.2 **Reducing Reoffending**

The Ministry of Justice Green Paper, Breaking the Cycle, published on 7 December, seeks to take forward the government's vision of a 'rehabilitation revolution'. It represents a fundamental shift towards ensuring that offenders pay back to victims and communities for the harm they have caused; placing more emphasis on the effective rehabilitation of offenders to stop them reoffending. Its key themes are:

- a) the expansion of the number of providers of prison and probation services to include private and civic sector providers.
- b) reducing re-offending rates by moving to payments by results, with a range of bodies being paid to reduce re-offending.
- c) Improving partnership approaches to re-offending around the Integrated Offender Management model.
- d) The strengthening of local partnerships through a local incentive scheme allowing them to commission services and financially benefit from reductions in re-offending.
- e) Establishing pilots to test the idea of devolving youth custody budgets to councils.
- f) A new role of Commissioner of probation/offender services.

Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

5.3 The Home Office published its Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy on 25 November. It sets out the Government's vision for this policy including:

- a) Preventing violence from happening in the first place by challenging the attitudes

and behaviours which foster it and intervening early where possible to prevent it.

- b) Providing adequate levels of support where violence does occur.
- c) Working in partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families.
- d) Reducing the risk to women and girls who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.

5.4 **National Drug Strategy**

Good quality drug treatment is highly effective in reducing illegal drug misuse, improving the health and wellbeing of drug misusers, reducing drug-related offending, reducing the risk of death due to infections (including Blood Borne Virus infections) and improving social functioning..

The Government published the new Drug Strategy on 10 December 2010, which sets out a different approach to tackling drugs with the ambition to reduce drug use and dependency. It also considers severe alcohol dependency, as this raises similar issues and treatment providers are often one and the same as for drug treatment. It places responsibility on individuals for their actions, and emphasises an increase peer led delivery and support as well as abstinence.

Polysubstance misuse is increasing amongst drug users, which includes alcohol and other over the counter or prescription only medication. Emerging evidence is of the new 'legal highs' - immediate risks they pose to the long term damage is unknown currently. It is recognised that Young people's services need to be configured and resourced effectively.

A clear association exists between mental illness and drug or alcohol dependence therefore the Public Health White Paper and forthcoming Mental Health Strategy – all need to be linked and aligned.

The Strategy has two overarching aims:

- reduce illicit and other harmful drug use
- increase the numbers recovering from their dependence

It is structured around the themes of: reducing demand; restricting supply and building recovery in communities.

Safe Newcastle Board

30 September 2010

(1.00 - 3.15 pm)

Meeting held Swan Parsons Room, Civic Centre

Present:

Councillor: A Lower (Chair)

Councillors: G Smith, Mackintosh, N Scott, Brownlee, Markwell and Thomas, R Snatih (substituting for Councillor Cooper), L Seery (substituting for Fu-Meng Khaw)

In attendance:

S Peel – GONE
 R Rogan – Childrens Trust
 C Knox – Safe Newcastle Unit
 C Ash – Safe Newcastle (Observing)
 T Huges – Safe Newcastle Unit (part of meeting only)
 C Patterson – Democratic Services

12 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillor Cooper, Meng-Khaw, Marshall and from Tullock and Hope, both from Safe Newcastle Unit.

13 VARIATION OF AGENDA

The Chair announced that the agenda was to be varied and circulated a new copy of the agenda.

RESOLVED – That the variation of agenda be agreed.

14 DRUGS

Submitted: Report by Drug Strategy Co-ordinator, Safe Newcastle was presented by T Hughes, Drug Alcohol Commissioners, on the progress of the drugs agenda and a communication report providing an overview in relation to the forthcoming Newcastle-based 'Teir 4' service (previously circulated and a copy attached to the official minutes)

(a) **Tier 4 Women and Children's Services**

T Hughes, Safe Newcastle Unit updated the Board on the above accommodation project for women with children currently in a drug or alcohol tier 2 or their 3 service. He provided information on the approach being taken and finance involved. In terms of the next steps he reported that:

- Key agreements were still to be finalised between Newcastle and Gateshead Children's services including the Memorandum of Understanding
- Service documents were to be signed off at the Project Steering Group 5 October 2010
- Partnership agreement and service model to be signed off by Audit Commissioning Group (ACG) on behalf of Safe Newcastle on 21 October 2010.
- Project was to open 1 November 2010
- Bespoke training was to be arranged for staff and service managers from 18 October 2010.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the progress to date be noted
- (ii) That the Chair be updated after sign off by ACG.
- (iii) That the Board receives further reports at future meetings.

(b) **Drug Strategy Consultation - Local Response**

T Hughes, Safe Newcastle Unit, provided an update on the local response to the above strategy consultation, stating that the following were the key elements:

- Comprehensive care co-ordination and case management of individuals was key to ensure recovery and reintegration
- Closer work with prisons and criminal justice agencies to tackle addiction and offending
- Closer work with housing and supported accommodation to inform care management
- Positive joint working between Jobcentre Plus and drug treatment commissioners had been beneficial and needed to be built on
- Sanctions on benefits linked to accessing drug treatment would not be effective in treating addiction
- Families and carers were key partners and required better support and integration into care planning.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the key aspects of consultation submission be approved.

- (ii) That the new National Drug Strategy to be launched December, 2010 be noted and that an update of progress be presented to the a future Board meeting.

(c) **Police Estates and Potential DIP Impact**

T Hughes, Safe Newcastle Unit, reported upon the closure of the custody suite at Pilgrim Street, City Centre and the opening of a new suite in Cobalt Park Wallsend. He highlighting some of the potential issues and explained the three options, which had been presented to the ACGs and Reducing Reoffending Groups:

1. Introduce intensive DIP model into North Tyneside without additional North Tyneside funding
2. Operate different systems in Cobalt custody suite (only Newcastle arrests are tested)
3. Trigger intensive DIP Model at Etal Lane only and seek to minimise # of Newcastle Trigger Offenders being processed in Cobalt (this could include some augmented non-intensive system at Cobalt)

He continued advising the Board about the next steps, outlining the following:

- Any decisions re: precise displacement of clients from Pilgrim Street had implications for both Newcastle and North Tyneside DIP systems
- Immediate need to confirm police intentions re: displacement of trigger offenders from Pilgrim Street.
- Decisions on which of the 3 options will be driven by reality of this displacement into North Tyneside can be minimised – option 3 preferred and can provide efficiencies
- All options would require 2 ACGs to consider a restructure of DIP services and potential commissioning/tender process across Newcastle and North Tyneside in early 2011.

A discussion ensued around the potential issues.

G Smith, Northumbria Police provided information about the problems with the custody suite in Pilgrim Street, explaining the range of alternatives that were being reviewed. He pointed out that he and senior officers would be fighting to retain the custody suite in Newcastle.

R Thomas asked if Safe Newcastle Board could do anything to help in the discussions with HQ, stating that if required support from the partnership could be sought. In response G Smith, said he would take this offer up, if it was required but thought there was sufficient support from senior Police Officers.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the closure of the custody suite at Pilgrim Street and the potential impact on the structure and future commissioning of DIP service across the City and North Tyneside be noted.

- (ii) That the ACGs and Reducing Reoffending Groups in both Newcastle and North Tyneside working to develop options based upon all three options be noted.
- (iii) That given the closure of Pilgrim Street in 6 weeks, it was essential to urgently confirm the precise arrangements for the displacement of current custody suite activity from Pilgrim Street and if possible to seek to minimise the numbers of Newcastle trigger offenders being processed in North Tyneside.

15 COALITION GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME

(a) Implications for Safe Newcastle

S Peel, GONE gave a presentation to the Board outlining details about the Home Office Draft Structural Reform, touching on the following key issues:

- Departmental Priorities
 - Crime: Overhauling licensing regulation
 - Police: Introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners
 - Immigration: Limit of number of immigrants and new Border Police Force
 - Civil Liberties: Taking the identity documents through Parliament
 - Counter Terrorism: Strengthening UK's ability to respond to terrorism
- Police Reform
 - Election of Police and Crime Commissioners by May 2010-10-04 New National Crime Agency responsible for organised crime and strengthen border security
 - Greater collaboration between Police forces to increase public protection and drive savings
 - Phasing out National Police Improvement Agency
 - Cutting Bureaucracy
- Big Society
 - Give communities more powers
 - Encourage people to take an active role in their communities
 - Transfer power from central to local government
 - Greater involvement of communities in the running of local services
 - Transparency in the publication of Government data
- Other Priorities
 - Drugs Strategy
 - Reducing Re-offending HO and MOJ currently developing a joint IOM strategy report
 - Alcohol – consultation currently taking place on arrange of options to overhaul the Licensing Act
 - ASB – simplification of current range of tools and powers
 - Violence against Women and Girls – continues to be a key priority
 - Counter terrorism – review of key counter-terrorism and security powers

In concluding she said it was for the partnership to think and prepare direction of travel for 2012 with the requirement of key collaborative working across the boundaries of all six partnerships.

RESOLVED – That the information be received and noted.

(b) Legal Framework

R Thomas, Head of Community Safety gave a presentation on the legal framework on the Community Safety Partnerships, outlining details on the following aspects:

- Community Safety Partnership Consultation – circulating a copy to the Board for information.
- Police Authorities
- Probation
- Primary Care Trust
- Local Authority
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Voluntary and Community Sector

In concluding, R Thomas said there were key issues for Safe Newcastle to be aware of:

- Simplification of partnership and delivery landscape, possible mergers
- Clarification of national policy agenda, where appropriate
- Localism – establishing local priorities through greater community involvement; need to develop local policy to meet local priorities
Need to develop local performance management framework and measure success against local priorities; increased accountability to local communities; developing new frameworks for design and delivery of services; increased use of the civic sector to design and delivery services
- Increased focus on reducing re-offending.
- Partner organisations and responsible authorities will be affected
- Role of the state as enabler by removing barriers, a catalyst for community actions and a source of support
- Influencing and developing direct relationship with central government
- Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)

The Board was informed that it was not anticipated that there would be a direct relationship with Whitehall or information received from them. Each body would be given the freedom to work collaboratively with others, interpreting and implementing policies as they saw fit. Decisions would need to be taken on the reporting framework and the funding streams.

The Chair pointed out that the Board may be in a better position to consider these issues at the November meeting but requested that if any up-to-date information was received then it should be sent out to the Board members.

A discussion ensued around the CSR; budgets and the Council Tax and the need to review the budget to see what alternative programme of activity could be, including any flexibility. It was noted that all organisations would be doing the same

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the information be noted.
- (ii) That if any up-to-date information was received then it be passed through to the Board via the Safe Newcastle Unit prior to the next meeting.

16 SAFE NEWCASTLE STRATEGY 2012 - 14

R Thomas advised the Board that there was a statutory duty to develop a strategy, pointing out that to ensure data sharing alignment in the process, a date of 15 January 2011 had been agreed. She further pointed out that there would be a change in the original approach, which had been agreed, in that Spencer Chainey, who was a quality assurance adviser for the previous Strategic Assessment's would be assisting with development of the 2011 Strategic Assessment. The tender was developed and was expected to be completed by Wednesday but Spencer Chainey was the preferred client. The consultation would take place towards the end of the Autumn, after the announcement of the Localism Bill. She said that there would be great use of Ward Committees and information such as the Charter to inform the strategy.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

17 REVISIONS TO SAFE NEWCASTLE CONSTITUTION

Submitted: A report by G Tullock, Safe Newcastle Unit Manager seeking approval of the Board to minor revisions to the Safe Newcastle Constitution (previously circulated and a copy attached to the official minutes)

R Thomas referred to paragraph 3.2 of the report which detailed the amendments which in effect was just reflecting terminology changes following the review last year. She pointed out that they had also been printed in bold in the constitution

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the changes to the Safe Newcastle Constitution as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report be approved.
- (ii) That in accordance with the requirements of section 16, the proposed changes be circulated to all partner organisations of Safe Newcastle.

18 CCTV OPTIONS APPRAISAL TENDER

Submitted: A report by P Angus, Community Safety Officer on the outcome of the tendering process and options for the development of a multi-functional partnership CCTV control room facility (previously circulated and a copy attached to official minutes)

R Thomas reported that the scale of the responses to the tender varied in terms of return in time, resources and costs. Price ranged from £10,900 to £43,200 for a

£15,000 budget project. She reported upon a number of changes, which had steered the recommendation to the Board not let the contract at this stage.

The Board was informed that the Council's Corporate CCTV Project Board had been re-established and it was envisaged that the Project Board would review CCTV provision and develop options for the future within the restraints of the current climate.

In response to a query regarding finance, R Thomas pointed out that the sum of £15,000 was contributions from Safe Newcastle, Newcastle City Council and Northumbria Police.

RESOLVED - That the tender for the hiring of external support for the development of a CCTV business case be withdrawn and that the sum of £15,000 be held for the potential use in a smaller more specific technical piece of work at a later date that would explore connecting partner systems together in their current locations.

19 **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Submitted: A report by C Knox, Community Safety Officer which summarised the proposed allocations for 2010/11, spend to date, in-year reductions and the position for 2011/12 (previously submitted and a copy attached to official minutes)

C Knox presented the report, highlighting the following key aspects from the various funding streams:

- **Area Based Grant Partnership Fund (previously SSCF)** - £24k reduction could be made through efficiency savings. The SSCF Capital Fund had been cut by 50% from £97436 to £48,718. Combined, these cuts totalled £72,000, which was 18.6% reduction. Vacant Researcher Analyst post had been reduced to £20,000 as the post remained vacant. Therefore, the contribution from the Basic Command Unit Fund had not been reduced as full support was required for Spencer Chainey as earlier outlined.
- **Wider Area Based Grant (previously NRF)** - To date there were no variations expected.
- **Basic Command Unit** – It was uncertain whether the Home Office would continue to fund the BCU fund.
- **External Grants** –
 - Youth Crime Action Plan - Full spend on the fund granted by the Home Office
 - Neighbourhood Crime and Justice – Support confirmed for Victims 'Champion post and the NCJ Coordinator post.
 - Government Connect Benefits Realisation Fund – Awaiting £25,000 invoice for the support to the 3 areas.
 - TKAP and more Serious Violence Phase 3 – Funding would all be made.
 - Contest – YOT Preventing Violent Extremism Project – funding to cease November 2010 and activities scaled back. A more corporate response required.

- **Other Grants – including Substance Misuse Pooled Treatment Budget (SMPTB) Drug Intervention Programme** – An update was given by L Seery relating to a review of current drug treatment service commissioning and development proposals for 2011/12 commissioning to ensure continuance of effective and cost-effective drug treatment services across the City.
- **Pending Applications** - 3 grant applications although decisions were pending investigations. Support had been provided to GAP Project in the sum of £50,000.
- **Known Reductions for 2010/11** – a minimum reduction of 285,804 was noted which was 11.3% of the fund.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the recommendations and alterations for 2010/11 ABG allocation be approved.
- (iii) That further updates relating to allocations and cuts be presented to the Board as and when they became available.
- (iv) That delegated authority be given to the Performance Management and Resources Group to address any emergency issues that arise between Board Meetings subject to the Chair's approval.

20 **PERFORMANCE**

Submitted: A report by the C Knox, Community Safety Officer on the performance summary between April – August 2010 and the Partnership Improvement Plan (previously submitted and a copy circulated with official minutes)

(a) **Update Report**

C Knox appraised the Board about the up to date position on performance setting out the current position against targets in terms of comparative performance across the three sections, stating that performance overall was going well:

A discussion ensued around the accuracy of the figures presented therefore the Board agreed to accept the updates but requested that the figures be checked out for all indicators and the Board be advise of any changes.

NI 15 – Serious Violent Crime – Performance currently not on target. A 12% increase was reported from baseline in 2008/09. Up to end of August 2010, comparing against year there was a 16% reduction.

NI 16 – Serious Acquisitive Crime – Fewer recorded crimes than in the same period 2007/08 but when comparing against last year there was a 2% increase.

Thefts from motor vehicles continued to be a significant performance concern, particularly in Newcastle, Jesmond, Heaton and bordering into Gosforth, with localised issues being reported in Newburn and Benwell. Specific increases in thefts of bikes and various interventions were being implemented with a force wide acquisitive crime campaign. A comment was raised about highlighting the issues through City Life in light of the darker nights approaching.

NI 38 – Drug Related (Class A) Offending – Currently standing at 1.05 with the LAA target to achieve an average of 14.5% below the baseline across 09/10 cohort by the end of LAA Period. This equated to year 2 target of 1.23 and year 3 target of 1.10.

NI 40 – Drug Users in Effective Treatment – Performance was on target. A 18.5% increase on 07/08 baseline of 9%. Newcastle needed to ensure people move through the treatment system and out as the target was 47%

NI 21 – Perceptions – Dealing with ASB and Crime – This target was dropped nationally but partnership agreed to retain. It was measured annually by the Newcastle Residents Survey and quarterly by Tyne and Wear Safer Communities Survey, which used a Northumbria Force-Wide postal survey to measure progress. These were not like for like but good way to measure performance which was standing at 40%, in line with force average. Only two areas showed exception Gosforth and Great Park. A comment was raised about using postal surveys to telephone and the impact. A report on this was likely to be presented to the meeting to be held in January 2011.

Other Measures – Overall performance was good. Theft from shops accounts for large percentage of the crimes in Newcastle with July and August levels being significantly higher than in previous 4 years. In response to a question about what was being stolen, the Board was advised that it was all sorts of items. Theft from motor vehicles continued to be a concern.

- (i) **NI 18 Adult Re-offending Measures** - Performance was improving.
- (ii) **NI 30 – Re-offending Rate of Prolific and Priority Offenders** – Indicator was making good progressing. An overall reduction in PPO re-offending for the year of 29% from an annual target of 16% was achieved.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the report as an overview of high level and local measures be accepted.
- (ii) That the Performance Management and Resource Group be directed to closely monitor progress and take necessary responses to threats to performance on a regular basis
- (iii) That the recommendations as set out in the report be agreed.
- (iv) That the accuracy of the data for all indicators be checked and the Board be advised of any changes.

(b) **Partnership Improvement Plan**

C Knox advised the Board that areas included in the plan had been removed where recommendations had been completed.

R13 – Constitution – Amendments to the constitution had been completed and would be removed from the plan. The status should read complete.

R15 – Development Champion – The status was red as the Board still needed to identify and nominate a champion, which was to be done at next meeting

SA2 – Improve Data Collection – This was on hold until it was appropriate to review and refresh.

SNS1 – Home Office ASB Risk Assessments and Case Handling Pilot - Naims database was in development. Progress was on hold awaiting further information from Coalition Government relating to ASB.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

21 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 July 2010 be agreed subject to the following points of accuracy:

Minute 2 – ASB Update and New legislation – The Board was advised that agreement had not yet been reached in relation to the funding for victim support and discussions were still ongoing.

Minute 6 – Financial Management Report – Under the sub heading of Area Based Grants (ABG), Safer Stronger Communities Fund should read Safer Stronger Communities **Capital** Fund

22 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chair announced that this was the last meeting that Sue Peel, GONE would be attending and she wished to thank her and Susan Doolan, on behalf of the Board for her efforts and support, which had been very much appreciated, presenting her with a bouquet of flowers for each.

Sue thanked the Chair and said she was still going to be around in GONE and would still be keeping in touch with relevant officers from Safe Newcastle, keeping them up-to-date with future changes that may concern Safe Newcastle Board.

23 **PROVISIONAL DATES FOR NEXT MEETING**

A discussion was held around the date and time of the next meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Board note that next meeting was to be arranged for Thursday 9 December 2010 at 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm.