



# Section 17 Handbook

A guide for Plymouth City Council staff



This document is available in other languages and accessible formats. Please contact 01752 304321.





## Foreword

As you are aware community safety is a strategic objective in our corporate plan and our crime reduction work has come under close scrutiny from Government Office South West (GOSW) and the Home Office. Recently we have made progress in this area of work, and thank you to everyone for that, but we need to keep up the momentum and continue to demonstrate that interventions and partnership work locally is having the desired effect. This is everyone's responsibility as part of the day job. This is not necessarily more effort but sometimes it is about working smarter and being aware of what we can do and what impact our actions have.

There are some good examples of our services contributing to crime reduction but we need to be more consistent across the council and I'm absolutely sure we can do more. We need to think about how we can contribute to reducing the key crimes identified by the Community Safety Partnership - criminal damage, violence, vehicle crime and burglary<sup>1</sup>. These make up the vast majority of overall crime in Plymouth. They can ruin people's lives and unless

we address them we cannot succeed in making Plymouth an even safer place. Clearly many of our services influence these areas with obvious examples being licensing, transport and youth services, but there are many others too.

We all need to be proactive in thinking about crime reduction. Our responsibilities under "Section 17" is everyone's business. I hope the information in this handbook will inspire and support you to promote community safety and help reduce crime.



**Barry Keel**  
Chief Executive  
Plymouth City Council

### Acknowledgements

Plymouth Community Safety Partnership is grateful for the support of Bexley Borough Council and GOSW in producing this handbook.

<sup>1</sup> More information is available in the Plymouth Community Safety Partnership's Control Strategy and Towards a Safer City: Plymouth Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-08



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This document will be reviewed: March 2010.  
For the most up to date version please contact  
Social Inclusion Unit, call 01752 304321.





## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This handbook aims to assist you in promoting community safety<sup>2</sup>, reducing crime and meeting the requirements of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998)<sup>3</sup> as part of our work.
- 1.2 Section 17 seeks to ensure that councils, the police and fire authorities have community safety embedded into their planning, policy and day-to-day operational activity. Section 17 identifies in law “a need (for each authority) to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area”.
- 1.3 This handbook explains what community safety can mean in practice and gives examples of activity for individual services.
- 1.4 Further information and up to date documents are available from:  
Community Cohesion Officer, Social Inclusion Unit.  
Telephone: 01752 304321 or  
Email: [inclusion@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:inclusion@plymouth.gov.uk)  
  
and Plymouth Community Safety Unit:  
Telephone: 01752 31578 or  
Email: [sarah.hopkins@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.hopkins@plymouth.gov.uk)

## 2. What is Section 17?

A legal responsibility for all of us

- 2.1 This responsibility affects all employees of those agencies who are contracted by us, or who legally contract to work in partnership with us in the provision of services.
- 2.2 In plain language Section 17 is: “...a general duty on each local authority to take account of the community safety dimension in all of its work. All policies, strategies, plans and budgets will need to be considered from the standpoint of their potential contribution to the reduction of crime and disorder.”

### **It applies to you and everyone you work with!<sup>4</sup>**

- 2 Definition of Community Safety: using social and economic change as a way of preventing crime and disorder from taking place. Community safety activities: aim to reduce offending behaviour and also the harm experienced by individuals and communities because of crime and disorder and will seek to improve our quality of life.
- 3 The exact wording of the legislation is: “Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed upon it, it shall be the duty of each authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.”
- 4 It applies to the local authority (as defined by the Local Government Act 1972), police and fire authorities. It also applies to National Park, Broads and joint authorities. In reality, it will be included in external contracts and it also applies to those agencies who are legally contracted to fulfil any of the functions of these authorities. It applies to all departments. Authorities have to ensure that departments within their organisation can show that crime and disorder issues have been fully considered.



## 3. Section 17 in practice

- 3.1 All staff are required to consider their own work in the context of Section 17, and to identify within their service all existing and planned activity that has an impact on crime.
- 3.2 Our Community safety partnership has identified four key crimes, which make up the vast majority of overall crime – criminal damage, violence, vehicle crime and burglary. Reducing these crimes is currently top of the community safety priorities for Plymouth. Each of these, plus work around prolific and priority offenders, is linked to a multi-agency delivery group considering the problem and working on crime reduction interventions in response. You may get asked to support the activity of these groups or to help with other work of the Community Safety Partnership<sup>5</sup>. It is also important to remember that Section 17 requires us to be proactive. We need to consider the location, the victim and the offender when deciding how our activities:
- Achieve a reduction in crime, anti social behaviour or disorder
  - Prevent any increase in crime (or a single crime) from occurring
  - Offer a diversion to prevent involvement in crime.
  - Support victims of crime or lessens the impact of crime on victims
  - Help reduce the fear of crime, antisocial behaviour or disorder.

- 3.3 More information on crime prevention is contained in Appendix C.



<sup>5</sup> Plymouth Community Safety Partnership may from time to time, adjust their priorities in relation to its strategic assessment of crime locally. Please contact the Community Safety Unit or ask for the latest control strategy for up-to-date information.



## 4. Best practice in Plymouth

4.1 There is already considerable activity underway by Plymouth. The following are just a few examples:

Theme	What happened in practice	Key players
<b>Anti- Social Behaviour</b>	<p>The RESPECT* programme tackles anti-social behaviour and the causes of anti-social behaviour. The programme creates and, where necessary, enforces a modern culture of respect, which the majority of people want. The RESPECT programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities for children and young people.</li> <li>• Improving behaviour through schools.</li> <li>• Supporting families.</li> <li>• New approaches to most challenging families.</li> <li>• Strengthening communities.</li> <li>• Effective enforcement.</li> </ul>	Anti Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU) Youth Offending Service (YOS) Schools Local Communities Housing Teams
<b>Abandoned Vehicles</b>	<p>Vehicles considered by the Police, Traffic Wardens, or our own Inspectors to be causing a potential danger to road users and other members of the community will be removed 24 hours after an official removal order has been issued.</p> <p>Street Services also offers a collection service for residents wishing to dispose of their vehicles.</p>	Abandoned Vehicle Team Street Services Police Local Communities
<b>Racist and Homophobic incident reporting system</b>	<p>Our multi-agency reporting and recording system allows staff and customers to report any racist or homophobic incidents, which they have witnessed or experienced. The system enforces coordinated partnership responses to incidents, participation from voluntary and community organisations, and training for staff in dealing with incidents.</p>	Social Inclusion Unit All departments Police Voluntary and Community agencies
<b>Unexecuted Warrants</b>	<p>Our Revenues and Benefits service has an agreement with the Police to help track down people subject to unexecuted warrants which most impact on priority crimes.</p>	Revenues and Benefits Police
<b>Family Intervention Project</b>	<p>Intensive multi-agency work with families most at risk of being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.</p>	ASBU Children's Services Housing Teams Police YOS

\* This project is not the same as the Respect Festival that takes place each year in the city centre. The latter is a multi cultural celebration



Theme	What happened in practice	Key players
<b>Violent Crime</b>	Our City Centre Company work closely with the Police to provide new and improved CCTV cameras across the city to reduce the occurrence of violent crime and increase the likelihood of offenders being identified.	City Centre Company Car Parks Police Community Safety Unit (CSU)
<b>Vehicle Crime</b>	Our Parking division is piloting 'talking' ticket machines in the city's car parks. The machines speak a pre-recorded safety message to customers as they buy their tickets.	Parking Police
<b>Cross-cutting</b>	Our departments do not have to work in isolation to reduce and prevent crime. There are many examples of teams working together to address several community safety issues in specific areas. For example, to address anti-social behaviour around particular bus shelters, officers from our Transport, Environmental Regulations, Social Inclusion Unit, Anti Social Behaviour Unit and Licensing worked together with the Police, local community and businesses as a forum for problem solving.	All teams and departments

It is important that we promote the best practice we are all involved with, so if you have any more examples that you would like us to advertise please send details to the Social Inclusion Unit.

## 5. Your contribution to a safer Plymouth

- 5.1 Section 6 overleaf is a list of activities each of which demonstrates a potential contribution to a safer Plymouth. These could be incorporated into daily business or service plans including targets so that performance can be managed.
- 5.2 Your participation in and contribution to this process matters.



## 6. Examples of crime reduction-related activity linked to service delivery areas

### The Chief Executive's Directorate could, for example...

#### Human Resources

- Support our staff who are victims of crime. For example by offering counselling, and / or contracting victim support services
- Establish baseline data re racial / sexual / homophobic harassment and bullying in the workplace and intervene to increase reporting
- Incorporate crime reduction issues into person specifications, job descriptions and appraisals as relevant.

#### Strategic Procurement

- As part of the commissioning and contracting process, ensure that we will only do business with organisations that are both legally compliant and acceptable to Plymouth City Council (PCC) in terms of its policies around health and safety, equalities and diversity, child protection and financial regulations.

#### Policy and Performance

- Encourage incorporation of community safety and crime reduction into the Corporate Plan, Service Plans and Performance management
- Contribute to the development and implementation of delivery plans to reduce crime and the fear of crime in line with the LAA targets
- Support service areas and partners to meet Best Value performance indicators on crime reduction and community safety
- Incorporate Section 17 questions into community consultation and market research, ensuring improvement in representation of views from diverse groups
- Ensure that information about accessing external funding for crime and disorder reduction activity is distributed.

## **Democratic Services**

- Provide learning and development opportunities for members on Section 17 and community safety matters in partnership with SIU and Learning and Development
- Ensure appropriate preparation around local elections, in terms of racist, homophobic and disability related incidents and community tensions.

## **Information, Communications and Technology**

- Use IT systems to map, monitor and inform current and future criminal activity
- Combat 'e' crime
- Use systems that ensure security of information and transactions for internal and external users
- Promote Section 17 and community cohesion activities that help reassure our communities.

## **Local Strategic Partnership**

- Secure partnership backing for joint community safety work
- Ensure delivery of strategies that link to corporate community safety work. And oversee that all partners are meeting duties under section 17.

## **Corporate Communications**

- Work with community safety colleagues to develop a community safety communications strategy
- Challenge images, which stigmatise particular and/or high crime neighbourhoods
- Work to challenge myths around our diverse communities
- Ensure there is a positive logo/theme to link community safety literature. Promoting section 17 and community cohesion activities that help reassure our communities and reduce the fear of crime.

## The Children's Services Directorate could, for example...

### Performance and Policy

- Incorporate crime and disorder questions into community planning consultation and market research
- Identify and access views from children of diverse communities
- Ensure that information about external funding for crime and disorder reduction activity is distributed.

### Learner and Family Support

- Support children and families affected by domestic violence
- Develop early intervention indicators to identify children who are likely to become involved in offending
- Provide crime prevention training and advice to staff and vulnerable clients
- Effectively support those who experience racist, homophobic and disability related incidents
- Improve school security, preventing burglary, arson and criminal damage.
- Develop anti-bullying initiatives

### Social Care

- Provide crime prevention training and advice to staff and vulnerable clients
- Ensure that explicit links are made between safeguarding children and Community Safety.

### Finance

- Develop financial systems for tracking the costs of crime and disorder, including insurance premiums, costs of community safety activity, and savings.

### Early Years

- Make safe and appropriate childcare services available to parents can go to work.
- Develop anti-bullying initiatives.
- Develop work reducing truancy and exclusion.
- Tackle racial, homophobic and disability related harassment.
- Safeguarding arrangements for children victimised at home, e.g. through child abuse or domestic violence.
- Make schools available for young people and community use out-of-hours to help prevent criminal damages and vandalism occurring at these times.
- Provide a Special Needs Service relating to Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (EBD).

### Youth Service

- Implement youth action group and youth citizenship approaches.
- Develop youth mentoring schemes.
- Provide drug and alcohol education, and improve the management of drug incidents in schools.
- Establish specific consultation arrangements like young people community safety consultative forums.
- Provide myth busting advice and services for Gypsies and Travellers passing through communities, for children in temporary accommodation, and for the children of those seeking asylum.

## The Community Services Directorate could, for example...

### Housing, Building Service, Housing Renewal and Strategy

- Implement allocation policies and nomination agreements to produce socially and economically balanced residential communities
- Reduce voids and minimise the time when property is empty between tenants
- Work with local tenants and residents' committees and groups to improve community safety
- Implement Secured by Design schemes
- Develop effective neighbourhood management through accessible neighbourhood offices
- Establish Safer Estate Agreements and Community Contracts
- Use a multi-agency approach to support/manage the behaviour of tenants at risk of eviction
- Target harden and ensure the security of housing stock (e.g. locks, bolts, door entry schemes and strengthened glass in buildings).
- Develop internal and external CCTV surveillance
- Conduct personal safety audits on housing estates
- Support new tenants and repeat victims
- Work with Equalities colleagues on anti-harassment policies relating to domestic violence, racial and disability related harassment and homophobia.

### Adult Social Care

- Offer safe, and secure residential accommodation.
- Enforce policies designed to safeguard those with learning disabilities (adults and children)
- Put in place procedures to identify older people at high risk of being victims.
- Ensure inclusion of crime/community safety considerations within older people's strategy.

### Safer Communities

- Development and lead on implementation of the Section 17 framework for action
- Publish and review the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy as a lead partner within the local Community Safety Partnership
- Implement anti-harassment policies relating to domestic violence, racial and disability related harassment and homophobia

### Community Leisure and Learning

- Design out crime within their facilities and areas
- Provide affordable leisure, sports and recreation facility access for those on low incomes
- Target community grants and services to priority groups and areas
- Provide activities based on community consultation
- Develop holiday and weekend schemes
- Ensure community safety is considered within the Active Plymouth Partnership.

## The Corporate Resources Directorate could, for example...

### Legal Services

- Ensure local authority implementation and enforcement of legal measures within the Crime and Disorder Act, such as ASBOs (Anti-Social Behaviour Orders)
- In partnership with Corporate Contracts team, ensure that external contracts incorporate crime and disorder reduction measures within them and, where relevant, a specific reference to Section 17
- Provide specialised support for tackling neighbourhood nuisance, and environmental planning law and highway law breaches
- Work with other partners to bring legal action against offenders
- Support to services providing safeguarding services.

### Finance

- Develop financial systems for tracking the costs of crime and disorder, including insurance premiums, costs of community safety activity, and savings.

### Revenues and Benefits

- Challenge benefit fraud.
- Be the 'eyes and ears' of Plymouth City Council – Making sure there is adequate locks on the door, or recognising situations where child abuse, neglect, or domestic abuse could be occurring issues in all households
- Visiting officers also have a responsibility to personal safety i.e. I.D disclosure, CRB checks, driving licence/insurance checks on behalf of the customer and Keeping Safe training and risk assessments for the visiting officers.

### Asset Management

- Make council land and buildings available to projects with a community safety benefit
- Make council sites and buildings more secure (physically)
- Take community safety into account in building maintenance.
- Carry out a community safety audit on council property
- Accurately record all incidents of vandalism, damage and graffiti on council property.
- Consider the security of council's assets as part of audit reviews undertaken at car parks, leisure centres etc.

## The Development Directorate could, for example...

### Waste and Street Services

- Maintain and clean public spaces including pedestrian areas, city/town centres, neighbourhood centres and car parks
- Rapidly remove graffiti and fly-posting
- Efficiently collect rubbish
- Implement policy and fining against rubbish dumping and fly-tipping
- Rapidly clear drug and alcohol-related paraphernalia
- Impose fines for littering and provide adequate numbers of litter bins
- With the principles of community safety in mind, plant and maintain trees and vegetation
- Be the 'eyes and ears' of Plymouth City Council –Making sure there is adequate locks on the door, or recognising situations where child abuse, neglect, or domestic abuse could be occurring issues in all households.

### Transportation Infrastructure and Engineering

- Ensure traffic calming measures reduce speeding and road accidents
- Develop highway and road safety measures
- Create car parking management and effective security
- Work in partnership with public transport providers to promote safer travel and stations (and include specific measures for night-time use and measures for the most vulnerable and most fearful)
- Develop safer community transport schemes
- Continue highway and road safety schemes for young people to help make them safer road users.

### Environmental Regulation Service

- Use licensing regulation powers to prevent disorder related to pubs, clubs, fast food outlets and taxis, amongst others
- Implement noise control legislation
- Carry out night time economy multi agency enforcement initiatives
- Coordinate taxi ranks and availability to move people quickly at night and disperse crowds.

### Planning and Regeneration

- Design out crime within our facilities and public areas
- Provide space for activities/sports/fun
- Maintain safe and secure public toilet facilities
- Apply 'Secured by Design' schemes and principles to help create safer and securer environments in residential areas, business areas, city / town centres and car parks, amongst others
- Promote a wider cultural mixed night time economy other than alcohol-focused
- Ensure use of section 106 money takes into account the need to reduce crime.



## 7. Plymouth City Council Section 17 delivery programme

- 7.1 Our Corporate Plan (Appendix A) shows how we will deliver community safety in our city. Individual Service Plans will outline the specific actions for each department. Our overall framework will continue to be monitored and supported by the Social Inclusion Unit.



## 8. Community safety in Plymouth<sup>6</sup>

Plymouth Community Safety Partnership<sup>7</sup>

- 8.1 Our Plymouth Community Safety Partnership was established under the terms of the Crime and Disorder Act, to fulfil a legal responsibility for developing and implementing a three-year strategy to reduce crime and disorder. The strategy is based on a detailed crime audit and community consultation.
- 8.2 At the time of writing changes are underway in the way the Community Safety Partnership engages with our wider community and other partners<sup>8</sup>. Section 3 above provides more information about the Partnership's priorities and delivery groups.

<sup>6</sup> For more information generally about Community Safety please see Appendix B.

<sup>7</sup> The key partners who lead the Plymouth Community Safety Partnership are Plymouth City Council, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, Plymouth Teaching Primary Care Trust, Devon Fire and Rescue and Devon and Cornwall Probation. Chief officers from these organisations exercise their responsibilities as part of the Local Strategic Partnership's Safer Stronger Communities Group which also includes representation from the Community Network.

<sup>8</sup> For the most up-to-date information regarding the Community Safety Partnership please contact the Community Safety Unit.



## 9. The way forward

### The next steps

The Social Inclusion Unit will work in partnership to deliver our Section 17 framework, which will:

- ✓ Develop, implement and regularly review an overall approach to ensure mainstreaming of community safety activity
- ✓ Ensure effective cross-departmental networking, communication and problem solving in relation to Section 17
- ✓ Integrate Section 17 duties into key corporate planning and decision-making systems
- ✓ Advise on the need to appropriately reflect the Section 17 duty in corporate job descriptions
- ✓ Advise on the need to appropriately reflect the Section 17 duty in standard text for corporate reports
- ✓ Use available corporate publicity mechanisms to raise awareness of the Section 17 duty and 'celebrate' successful corporate and multi-agency problem solving
- ✓ Record actions taken by the City Council in support of delivering the Section 17 duty
- ✓ Raise general staff awareness of the Section 17 duty through production of appropriate materials
- ✓ Raise general awareness amongst staff and elected members of the Section 17 duty through design and delivery of awareness-raising sessions
- ✓ Link with key partnership activity (specifically work in support of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005 – 2008) to ensure (i) appropriate information sharing and (ii) activity in support of identified targets
- ✓ Lead and co-ordinate partnership work where appropriate to support delivery of the corporate Section 17 duty
- ✓ Monitor and evaluate corporate crime and community safety activity in order to contribute information and data to corporate crime reduction assessment
- ✓ Monitor and evaluate corporate crime and community safety activity in order to contribute information and data to citywide crime reduction assessment
- ✓ Work cross-corporately to assess the cost of crime to Plymouth City Council
- ✓ Work with multi-agency partners to assess the cost of crime across the city



## 10. Appendix A – useful contacts

### Useful contacts

### Contact details

• <b>Social Inclusion Unit</b>	Telephone: 01752 304321 Email: <a href="mailto:inclusion@plymouth.gov.uk">inclusion@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
• <b>Crime Prevention Officers at Devon and Cornwall Police</b>	Telephone: 08452 777 444
• <b>The Probation Service</b>	St Catherine's House, 5 Notte Street, Plymouth PL1 2TS Telephone: 01752 827500
• <b>Youth Offending Team</b>	Midland House, Notte Street, Plymouth PL1 2EJ Telephone: 01752 306 999
• <b>Home Office website:</b>	Email: <a href="http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk">www.crimereduction.gov.uk</a>
• <b>Integrated Community Safety Unit and Drug and Alcohol Action Team</b>	The Public Dispensary, 18 Catherine Street, Plymouth, PL1 2AD Telephone: 01752 315789 Fax: 01752 315781 Email: <a href="mailto:DAAT@phdu.nhs.uk">DAAT@phdu.nhs.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:sarah.hopkins@plymouth.gov.uk">sarah.hopkins@plymouth.gov.uk</a>

**For more information and additional copies of this handbook, please contact:**

The Social Inclusion Unit, Plymouth City Council  
Civic Centre, Royal Parade, Plymouth PL1 2AA

This is a staff handbook for all council employees. It is also a reference guide for contractors and outside agencies involved in the delivery of services for Plymouth City Council.

# 11. Appendix B Plymouth City Council Corporate Plan 2007 - 2010 (Community Safety)

## Strategic Objective 3: Promoting community safety

To reduce crime and disorder and the fear of crime amongst local people

Corporate Objectives	Priority	Measures of Success	Action	Portfolio Holder / Lead Officer	Milestone
Building Plymouth's Future	3.1 Promote safer, cohesive communities. Helping to prevent / reduce crime, disorder and reduce fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction of crime by 2005-8 (Home Office PSA1)</li> <li>Domestic burglaries (BV126a)</li> <li>Violent crime (BV127a)</li> <li>Vehicle crime (BV128)</li> <li>Increased recording of racist incidents (BV174)</li> <li>Racist incidents resulting in further action (BV175, H19)</li> <li>Action against domestic violence (BV225)</li> <li>Numbers of domestic violence incidents reported</li> <li>Percentage of domestic violence crimes resulting in sanction detection / brought to justice outcome</li> <li>Number of new buildings demonstrate "safety in design" guidance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support crime and disorder reduction partnership delivery groups to deliver action plans to reduce crime.</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion / Head of Safer Communities	March 2008
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend council mechanisms for recording and dealing with racist and homophobic incidents to include incidents against people with disabilities.</li> <li>Support implementation of city wide domestic abuse strategy</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion / Assistant Director of Housing (Operations)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement "safety in design" standards</li> </ul>	Deputy Leader / Head of Asset Management	March 2008

Corporate Objectives	Priority	Measures of Success	Action	Portfolio Holder / Lead Officer	Milestone	
Building Plymouth's Future	3.2	Narrow the gap between worst performing neighbourhoods for crime and other neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime Targets in Floor Target Action Plan (Home Office PSA 1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement crime Floor Target Action Plan interventions</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion / Head of Safer Communities	March 2008
	3.3	Safeguard vulnerable adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10% reduction in inappropriate alerts for vulnerable adults as a result of better understanding of safety issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue multi agency training and work to ensure that risk to vulnerable people is minimised</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion / Assistant Director for Adult Social Care	March 2008
Providing excellent and efficient services	3.4	Improve Off Site Emergency Plans to ensure communication of information to all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of improved public alerting systems</li> <li>Delivery of exercise Short Sermon for Devonport Public Safety Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with partners to extend Rapid Reach to other hazard sites</li> <li>Implement co-ordinated multi-agency planning for exercise of plan</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Transport and Environmental Quality / Assistant Director of Development (Environmental Regulation)	March 2008
	3.5	Deal effectively with anti-social behaviour to minimise its impact on individuals, neighbourhoods and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peoples perception of anti-social behaviour</li> <li>Percentage of people who feel informed about what is being done to tackle anti-social behaviour in their local area against the percentage of people surveyed</li> <li>People who feel that parents in their local area are made to take responsibility for the behaviour of their children against a percentage of people surveyed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement requirements/ obligations of Respect Area status</li> <li>Link into development of citywide parenting strategy</li> <li>Sign up to Respect Standard for Housing management</li> <li>Develop multi agency plans around criminal damage hotspots (via criminal damage crime theme group)</li> <li>Develop coordinated multi agency approach to reduce perception of young people hanging around street corners</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion lead, supported by Cabinet Member for Housing and Supporting People / Assistant Director Housing (Operations)	<p>March 2008</p> <p>July 2007</p> <p>October 2007</p> <p>October 2007 Review March 2008</p> <p>October 2007 Review March 2008</p>

Corporate Objectives	Priority	Measures of Success	Action	Portfolio Holder / Lead Officer	Milestone
Building Plymouth's Future	3.6 Use cultural and leisure activities to actively promote purposeful alternatives to crime and anti social behaviour amongst young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in reported incidents in relevant neighbourhoods, attributed to cultural and leisure activity</li> <li>Minimise the level of final warnings and convictions of Looked After Children</li> <li>Percentage take-up of available ICT in libraries</li> <li>Numbers of first time entrants to the youth justice system reduced year on year</li> <li>Reduction in re-offending rates by 5% in 2006/7 when compared with the 2002-3 re-offending cohort</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop regular diverse activity sessions across city neighbourhoods for young people, establishing a baseline which can used to monitor future performance</li> <li>Implement Youth Justice Plan</li> <li>Identify children and young people at risk of offending or involvement in anti-social behaviour to reduce first time entrants to youth justice</li> <li>Accelerate flow of cases receiving Prevent and Deter premium services to ensure that intervention and support is provided persistent young people at risk of offending are seen earlier</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Community Cohesion / Head of Culture Sport and Leisure	April 2007
				Cabinet Member for Children's Services / Assistant Director of Children's Social Care	March 2010



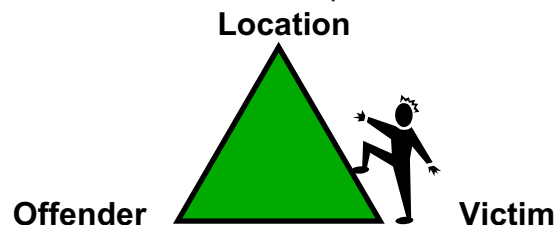
## 12. Appendix C - Community safety general information

### What is community safety?

12.1 Community safety is a broad term. It refers to the protection of local communities from the threat and consequence of criminal and anti-social behaviour by achieving a reduction in crime and the fear of crime. It entails involving the community in identifying: the threat; the crime; the problems and the solutions. Community Safety encompasses anti-social behaviour, disorder and the misuse of drugs, as well as the fear of crime and disorder.

### How is crime prevented?

12.2 Three things need to be in place for a crime to occur (namely, location / offender / victim) and this “triangle” demonstrates a well-known crime prevention theory at its simplest:



12.3 Alongside enforcement measures, by manipulating any one of the three things, it is possible to change or remove the factors that lead to the offence taking place, and prevent the crime.

12.4 For example, by removing an offender from the area, or by changing features of the location (e.g. locks and bolts) or by altering a victim’s route or method of transport, then a crime that would have been committed can be prevented. So to reduce crime, three issues can be tackled. These three underpin the policies and activities of the Partnership, and to underpin our response to Section 17, namely to:

- Work with offenders and potential offenders to divert them from criminal behaviour
- Provide support, advice and protection to victims, repeat victims and potential victims of crime
- Identify problem locations and reduce the opportunities for crime to occur.

12.5 It is important that in practice, Section 17 reflects our city’s community safety priorities (see section 3 above) and takes on board the location / offender / victim focus.

12.6 It is also important to consider evidence of what works in preventing and reducing crime. Our Community Safety Unit can provide guidance with this and the Home Office’s crime prevention website is also a useful source of information - [www.crimereduction.gov.uk](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk)



## The National Community Safety Plan

12.7 The National Community Safety Plan 2006-09 sets out central government's community safety priorities as an aid to better local delivery. It defines the expectations of each of the key partners involved, drawing together the contributions that each can make.

12.8 The government's priorities for community safety are divided into five themes:

- Making communities stronger and more effective
- Further reducing crime and anti social behaviour
- Creating safer environments
- Protecting the public and building confidence
- Improving people's lives so they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend.

12.9 In addition, the Government's review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act provides information on improvements to the way Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships work. Further information from – [www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

