

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:



The following questions are answered in this Appendix:

1. What is a CDRP?
2. What is the Structure of the CDRP, and who is it accountable to?
3. What are National Standards/The Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships
4. What is the Role of the New CDRP Executive?
5. What is the Role of the LSP (Local Strategic Partnership)?
6. How has Plymouth CDRP Previously Performed on Crime?
7. What is the CDRP Performance Management Framework?
8. What is a PSA (Public Service Agreements)?
9. What are Local Area Agreements?
10. What are LAA Stretch Targets?
11. What are the Stretch Targets for Crime?
12. What are National Indicators?
13. Will Narrowing the Gap in the Most Deprived Neighbourhoods Continue?

1) WHAT IS A CDRP?

1 Since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Local Authorities have had a statutory duty to work with other local agencies and organisations to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime and disorder including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment as well as the misuse of drugs in their area¹. These statutory partnerships are known as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs).

The responsible authorities set out in s5 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and that make up the Plymouth CDRP are:

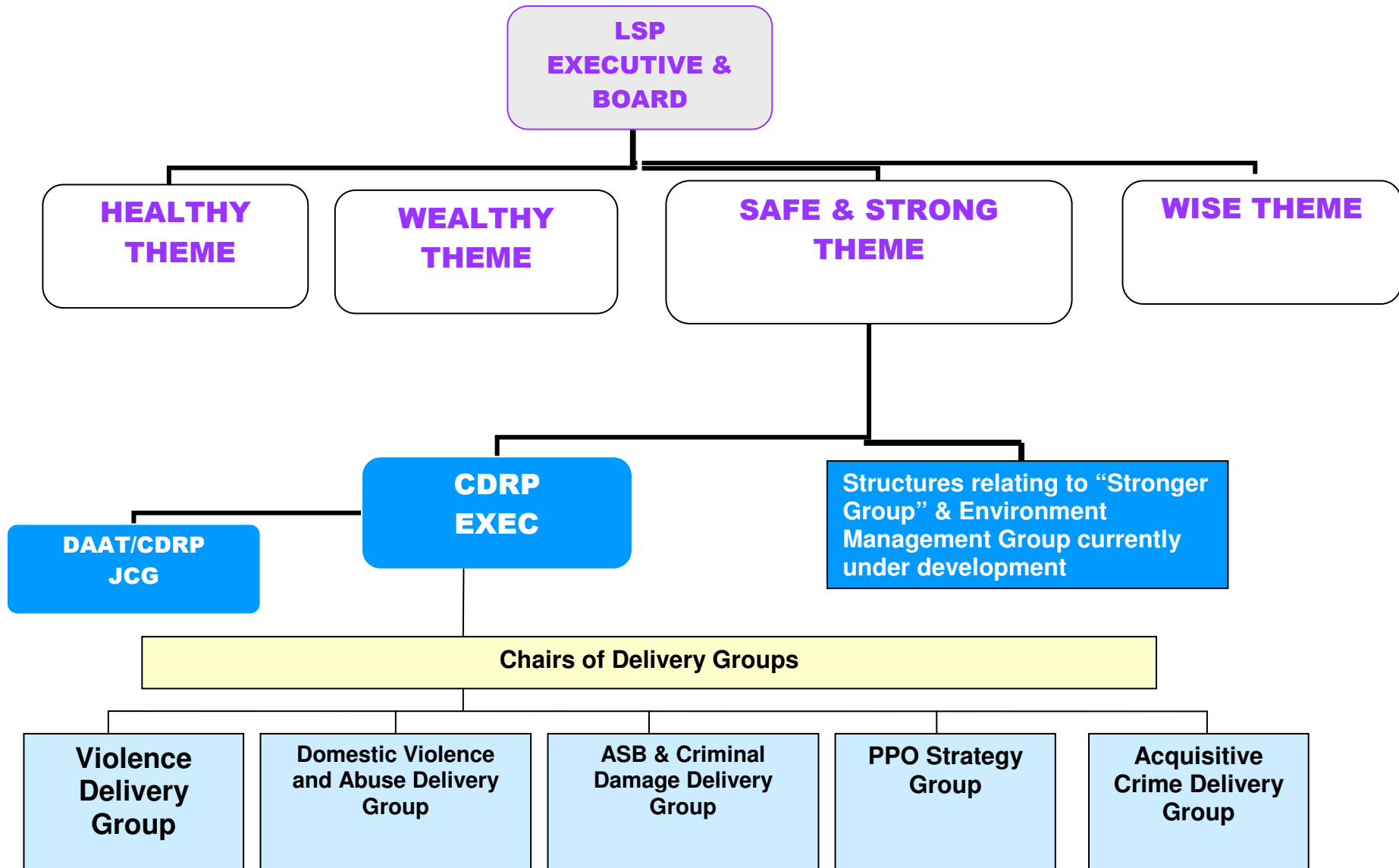
- Devon & Cornwall Police
- Devon & Cornwall Police Authority;
- Plymouth City Council
- Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service;
- Plymouth Teaching Primary Care Trust (PtPCT)

These responsible authorities are under a statutory duty to come together to work in partnership in a CDRP. They are required to work in co-operation with probation boards, NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts, proprietors of independent schools and governing bodies of an institution within the further education sector and to work closely with Drug Action Teams and have developed integrated working arrangements. They are also expected to invite a range of local private, voluntary, other public and community groups including the public to become involved in the strategy process.

While the term 'partnership' is applied to all those who sit round the table, legally, the responsible authorities are the only bodies or agencies under the duty to meet the new regulatory requirements. From 31 July 2007, Registered Social Landlords became co-operating bodies with the responsible authorities of community safety partnerships and the Environment Agency are to become an invitee to participate with the responsible authorities in their functions on the partnership.

¹ (s6, Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by s97 and s98 Police Reform Act 2002 and s1, Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005).

2) WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE OF THE CDRP, AND WHO IS IT ACCOUNTABLE TO?



3) WHAT ARE NATIONAL STANDARDS/THE HALLMARKS OF EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS?²

During the time that partnership working on crime and community safety issues has been in place the Home Office and their delivery partners, have learnt what characterises effective partnerships by appraising the way in which high-performing partnerships conduct their business. It is the desire to improve performance across all partnerships to a higher level that lies at the root of these Hallmarks and this guidance. The Home Office introduced Hallmarks in order to:

- **ensure that all partnerships are functioning to an acceptable level of performance;**
- **embed an intelligence-led way of doing partnership business;**
- **enable communities to see the difference that effective partnerships can have in their area;**
- **ensure that local communities are involved in shaping local priorities;**
- **support the development of skills and knowledge across all partnerships; and**
- **increase partnership accountability in addressing crime and disorder matters.**

The Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships are intended to summarise the core elements of effective partnership working. They provide a way for partnerships to check if they are delivering effectively or if there are areas where they should target improvements. They flow from the views of stakeholders, work in supporting improvements in partnership performance at local level and from the Government's broader reform agenda.

This guidance outlines six Hallmarks of effective practice which are:

Hallmark 1	Empowered and Effective Leadership
Hallmark 2	Intelligence-led Business Processes
Hallmark 3	Effective and Responsive Delivery Structures
Hallmark 4	Engaged Communities
Hallmark 5	Visible and Constructive Accountability
Hallmark 6	Appropriate Skills and Knowledge

Each Hallmark then comprises two elements:

- **New statutory requirements for partnership working; and**
- **Suggested practice to achieve increased effective partnership working, using the statutory requirements as a foundation.**

Plymouth was able to meet the minimum requirements to meet National Standards by the target date of 1st April 2008. However, this process highlighted some areas for further improvement and development. These were Engaged Communities and Evaluating Impact.

l) Engaged Communities & Visible and Constructive Accountability

An important part of visible accountability is the ability of the community to meet with the key decision-makers in the partnerships. A statutory requirement to hold public meetings has been introduced, but the format has not been prescribed. However, we intend to hold "*face the people*" meetings, included as part of our work in delivering the Respect agenda. A *face the people* session is where senior representatives of community safety partnerships meet the public to hear their issues and let them know about action that they have taken or will take to tackle them. Events may vary from drop in sessions, to public meetings, to action-focused

² http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/guidance_for_effective_partnerships.pdf

sessions tackling a particular issue. We recognise that partners hold many public meetings and we expect to these to serve a similar purpose. To ensure that communities are involved with the process of supporting delivery, the regulations outline the following:

- **The strategy group must hold one or more public meetings during each year**
- **That the public meetings be attended by individuals who hold a senior position within each responsible authority.**
- **The strategy group shall take steps as it considers appropriate to bring to the attention of persons who live or work in the area, or who might otherwise be interested, information about what was discussed at such meetings and where the meetings are to be held**

It is important that communities are able to access the information on what partners are doing to address crime and anti-social behaviour. If local communities are to be informed about, and actively engage in addressing the problems in their areas, they must be better informed about the delivery of priorities.

Providing this form of information to the community is also important as it supports the process of ensuring that individuals can be active participants in supporting the partnership achieve local priorities.

An effective partnership should be visible and accountable to its community for the decisions and actions it takes on their behalf. Strong communities are ones where people are informed about what is being done to address their concerns.

An important aspect of securing better performance is the outward and visible performance management of the partnership's challenges and achievements that enables the community to know that the partnership is dealing with their issues.

All partners should be aware of their responsibilities within the partnership and have appropriate systems in place to provide information to the community. Ensuring that the partnership engages with, involves and regularly offers feedback to, the community is crucial in supporting increased feelings of public confidence and reassurance amongst the community.

The interaction between partnerships and their communities is an important theme running through all the new statutory requirements and the Hallmarks. This is a significant change from the previous legislation, where partnerships were required only to consult their communities as part of their work to produce a strategy.

Now, partnerships are required specifically to consult and seek the participation of their communities in their work. This matches the new role under the new Best Value duty to 'consult and involve', set out in the Local Government White Paper, 'Strong and Prosperous Communities'.

These new statutory requirements are set out here to emphasise the role that the leadership of the partnership have in ensuring that there is a sense of genuine empowerment in their communities in relation to crime and disorder. There is room for local flexibility in how this is done, so that we allow for local innovation or existing arrangements.

The new statutory requirements are therefore that:

- **The partnership will consult its communities about crime and disorder issues in their area and also about what priorities the partnership should tackle**
- **The partnership also has to consult communities who may be affected by the priorities that will be included in the strategy and plan**
- **In doing so, the partnership will take into account any existing consultation undertaken by partnership members**
- **The partnership will hold one or more public meetings throughout the year**
- **The partnership will also have to consider the way in which its communities can help in supporting the delivery of the priorities in the partnership plan**
- **The strategic assessment will contain the priorities that the community have identified that the partnership should tackle**
- **The partnership have to publish a summary of the partnership plan in a way that reaches all the community, as far as is reasonable**

There are a wide range of consultation approaches already in existence. These include Police Authority Meetings, Area Committees, PACTs, Public Question Time meetings, Weeks of Action, the forthcoming Place Survey, Neighbourhood Management Surveys/Consultations, the ongoing British Crime Survey, and Police User Surgeries as examples along with a wide range of others. Also, the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Policing Team is carrying out a groundbreaking survey of every single household to establish local needs and perceptions of crime and disorder.

II) Evaluating Impact

For partnerships to be able to deliver on their priorities, it is important to understand what works well and what works less well, particularly in different localities and communities. Evaluating the outcomes of the approaches used to address priorities will not only offer partners a clear indication of impact but allow them to identify what has worked well.

This form of information is invaluable to empowering partnerships to make evidence-based decisions. As such, evaluation should be part and parcel of partnership core business.

The new statutory requirements are therefore that:

- **The strategic assessment must include an assessment of the extent to which last year's plan was implemented.**
- **The strategy group must have in place arrangements for assessing the value for money of partnership activities**

There are many reasons why evaluation is important including:

- Measuring whether or not an individual project or programme has met its goals or objectives and how efficiently the partnership was able to achieve these; and
- Reviewing the overall partnership plan, which will include taking into account the results of the individual projects and programmes along with other data.

- Results of evaluations help partnerships decide how to deploy limited resources to have the maximum impact and can help decide when to stop projects;
- It facilitates the sharing of knowledge and skills between partner organisations and with other partnerships;
- Evaluated work has better outcomes than work that is not evaluated regardless of anything else a partnership may do; and
- Evaluation can involve local people and publishing the results can build visible and constructive accountability.

We will work over the coming year to introduce or develop these specific areas of our work and hope that you will work together with us to exceed the National Standards requirements.

4) WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE NEW CDRP EXECUTIVE?

In meeting one of the National Standards Hallmarks, and recognising that leadership of the partnership is crucial to the success in tackling the issues of the community, Plymouth CDRP has formed a new CDRP Executive.

Their role will be to develop the strategic vision for the partnership, enabling a diverse range of agencies and bodies to work together effectively to achieve common goals. Then, strategic leaders identify the partnership's focus and priorities, outlining the steps to meeting these priorities and committing the necessary resources. The CDRP Exec also have a role in evaluating performance, holding each other to account, and supporting problem solving within the partnership. The statutory requirements for the CDRP Executive as outlined in National Standards are:

- **This group is ultimately responsible for preparing and implementing a strategic assessment and partnership plan.**
- **Each of the five responsible authorities must be represented on the group.**
- **At least one of the representatives from each of the five responsible authorities must hold a senior position within their home organisation.**
- **Where there is an elected member responsible for community safety on the council for the unitary area, they must also be a member of this group.**
- **The group can decide the frequency of its meetings and can invite others to their meetings.**
- **There must be arrangements for appointing a chair, agreeing the period for which the chair can serve and the grounds on which the chair can be changed within this period.**
- **At least once a year, the group needs to consider whether the partnership has the requisite skills and knowledge to meet the statutory requirements.**

Locally the CDRP Executive have agreed 'Terms of Reference' reflecting the statutory requirements which are as follows:

Aim:

The CDRP Executive is responsible for leading the work of the CDRP to ensure effective action to address community safety issues in Plymouth including crime & disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and associated environmental concerns.

The CDRP Executive will:

- Ensure the partnership meets National Standards for CDRP's, including statutory requirements and relevant "Hallmarks:"
- Ensure the production and review of a strategic assessment and partnership plan, and implementation of a strategy in response.
- Ensure representation at senior level from member organisations including responsible authorities, who are empowered to act on behalf of their organisation (subject to any organisation restrictions). This to include sending mandated deputies to cover any absences.
- Ensure the partnership has the right skills and knowledge to meet its statutory requirements.
- Fulfil the role of the DAAT Board including agreeing an annual Drugs Treatment Plan, reviewed 6 monthly, and associated recommendations.
- Provide advice to the LSP's Safer Stronger Theme Group and refer issues there which need attention beyond the executive.
- Promote co-operation, problem solving and collective leadership amongst CDRP partners and maximise opportunities to use mainstream resources to deliver community safety outcomes.
- Performance manage the work of the CDRP including relevant stretch targets and National Indicators associated with PSA's and the LAA.
- Provide support and leadership for Delivery Groups and commissioning relevant to the CDRP.
- Ensure accountability and engagement of stakeholders and communities including participation of executive members in 'Face The People' sessions.
- Ensure the effective sharing of information between partners to support the CDRP's work.
- Provide leadership to CDRP delivery groups and establish task and finish groups as required.

Membership:

- Two council Directors
- Portfolio holder with responsibility for crime reduction.
- Police Area Commander
- Police Authority member
- Primary Care Trust (Chief Executive and Director of Commissioning)
- Chief Fire & Rescue Officer
- Chief Probation Officer

Advisors:

The exec will be advised and supported by officers linked to the Community Safety Unit and other staff as may be required from time to time.

Chair:

The exec will agree a Chair and review this every 2 years. The chair will ensure that leadership is accountable. Should the Chair be unable to fulfil their tasks mid-term a new Chair will be selected.

Meeting Frequency:

- Quarterly between Plymouth Safer & Strong Theme Group meetings
- Additional meetings to be called as required.

5) WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE LSP (LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP)?

“Plymouth aims to become “one of Europe’s finest, most vibrant waterfront cities where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone.” This bold vision is shared by the public, private and community and voluntary sector organisations that make up the Local Strategic Partnership – ‘Plymouth 2020³’.”

Plymouth has seen many dramatic and positive changes in the last few years. Within our plans for the future, we have identified some exciting opportunities and some real challenges. Local Strategic Partnerships are non-statutory, multi-agency partnerships who bring together at a local level the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so that they can work together more effectively.

Local Strategic Partnerships are not single organisations, but a “family” of partnerships and/or themed subgroups. As part of its wider aim to improve community sustainability, the Local Strategic Partnership has Safer and Stronger Communities as one of its five themes.

The Local Strategic Partnership will play an overarching role in determining the strategic vision of an area, to which the community safety partnerships in the area will contribute. This does emphasise that all local partners have a role to play in being accountable to their local communities for the delivery of community safety priorities.

Plymouth 2020 Partnership brings together public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations - such as those in local government, health, education, crime reduction, businesses, and local community groups - to collectively achieve our ambitious vision for the Plymouth area, contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy⁴. We aim to offer our partners the opportunity to be involved in moving Plymouth forward - we believe it essential to our success.

LSP responsibilities:

- producing and reviewing the Sustainable Community Strategy for Plymouth, which sets out the improvements we need to see in Plymouth to achieve our vision. We are responsible for ensuring our aspirations are reached.
- Plymouth 2020 Partnership is not a service provider in its own right. We work through the activities of all of our partners, co-ordinating and facilitating improvements and growth where needed.
- Our approach is to tap into the resources and expertise of individuals and organisations within the local community to develop creative solutions and to be ready to grasp the many opportunities available to Plymouth.
- Significant achievements have been made in recent years, but we want to see more. We want to enhance even further the quality of life in Plymouth, making it a healthy, wealthy, safe, strong and wise place to live.

The Sustainable Community Strategy has been produced by the Local Strategic Partnership, Plymouth 2020. The job of the LSP is to improve the quality of life in Plymouth by addressing important issues like health, housing, community safety, transport and education. This strategy was built on an understanding of the current and future challenges facing Plymouth

³ <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouth2020/>

⁴

<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/homepage/communityandliving/plymouth2020/lspcurrentdocuments/lspustainablecommunitystrategy.htm>

and public consultation on the aspirations and priorities of those who live and work in the area. These were placed at the heart of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

What recent LSP consultation told us?

The LSP carried out general public consultation in Autumn 2006 and also took into account the extensive consultation carried out in November 2002 when developing Plymouth's vision for our first Community Strategy. Respondents told us that generally the factors they felt to be most important in making Plymouth a good place to live are:

Low levels of crime	Education provision
Clean streets	Quality Urban Lifestyle
Affordable decent housing	Sustainable living/the environment
Health services	

When asked about their own local area, respondents told us that they would like to see improvements in:

Activities for teenagers	Road Repairs
Street cleanliness	Traffic Congestion
Levels of crime	

We have therefore taken this consultation into account in this Partnership Plan.

6) HOW HAS PLYMOUTH CDRP PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED IN CRIME?

The former PSA (Public Service Agreement) known as PSA1 aimed to:

**Reduce BCS crime by 15%, and more in high crime areas,
by 2007/08 (baseline year 2003/04)**

In the case of Plymouth, that a more stretching target of 22% was set as we were considered as an area that had some of the highest rates of recorded crime per head of population plus the highest crime levels as measured using the BCS comparator in 2003/04. This meant reducing the following crime types:

Theft of a vehicle
Theft from a vehicle
Vehicle interference and tampering
Domestic burglary
Theft or unauthorised taking of pedal cycle
Theft from person
Criminal damage
Common assault
Wounding
Personal robbery

and around which our Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-08 was based.

However, during 2006 it became clear that Plymouth's target to reduce overall crime by 22%, by March 2008 was unrealistic. Progress needed to be made to reduce crime figures, which were broadly unchanged from the baseline established in 2003/4. Intensive improvement work undertaken by the CDRP in liaison with GOSW, has resulted in improved performance and the CDRP has achieved a 7% crime reduction between 2004/5 and 2008/9, agreed with GOSW

(This context needs to be considered when reading the performance indicators in Section B of this Assessment.) Plymouth remains one of the best performers in its (Home Office) “family group” of similar CDRPs.

7) WHAT IS THE CDRP PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK?

The Home Office and its community safety partners have introduced a simpler and more unified performance management framework for policing and community safety (APACS), which streamlines and aligns the way performance is measured and assessed across policing, crime and drugs.

The Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS)⁵ framework was introduced in April 2008 and applies to all police forces in England and Wales. It covers key services delivered by the police working on their own or in partnership, complementing (but not substituting) performance arrangements being developed by other partners. The resulting assessments and associated monitoring arrangements will be used to demonstrate performance to the public and, critically, to help partners in England and Wales deliver and improve performance against national and local priorities.

Local Area Agreement (including National Indicators and Local and Stretch Targets) performance will be regularly monitored by the LSP Theme Groups.

Performance management is at the top of the Council’s agenda. The demand for improvement and the pace of improvement have increased dramatically in the last few years. The Council is faced with an immense and complex range of challenges including:

- Best Value,
- Local Public Service Agreements
- Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA),
- Developing effective Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), Local Area Agreements, Joint Area Reviews
- Comprehensive Area Assessments (CAA).

These initiatives all rely on effective performance management and measurement for their success.

8) WHAT IS A PSA (PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT)?

Since their introduction in the 1998 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), Public Service Agreements (PSAs) have played a vital role in galvanising public service delivery and driving major improvements in outcomes. Building on this success, over the past two years the Government has been working with frontline professionals, the public and external experts to renew the performance management framework for the next decade.

2007 CSR announces the culmination of this work, with 30 new PSAs setting a vision for continuous and accelerated improvement in the Government’s priority outcomes over the CSR07 period.

New PSAs set out the key priority outcomes the Government wants to achieve in the next spending period (2008-2011).

⁵ <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/performance-and-measurement/assess-policing-community-safety/>

- Each PSA is underpinned by a single **Delivery Agreement** shared across all contributing departments and developed in consultation with delivery partners and frontline workers. Delivery Agreements are available below and set out plans for delivery and the role of key delivery partners.
- They also describe the small basket of national outcome-focused **performance indicators** that will be used to measure progress towards each PSA. A subset of indicators also have specific national targets or minimum standards attached, and details are set out in the relevant Delivery Agreement. All other national indicators are expected to improve against baseline trends over the course of the spending period.

A Government-wide commitment to build services around the needs of citizens and businesses will be integral to the achievement of each of the PSA outcomes set out above. The Government has also published a Service Transformation Agreement, which underpins delivery of the new PSA framework, setting out the Government's vision for building services around the citizen and specific actions for each department in taking forward this challenging agenda.

- Sustainable growth and prosperity (PSAs 1-7)
- Fairness and opportunity for all (PSAs 8-17)
- Stronger communities and a better quality of life (PSAs 18-26)
- A more secure, fair and environmentally sustainable world (PSAs 27-30)

PSAs most relevant to the work of the CDRP are listed below:-

PSA	Description
PSA 21	Build more cohesive, empowered and active communities.
PSA 23	Make communities safer.
PSA 25	Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs.

Of particular note in this new round of Public Service Agreements (PSAs) for the period 2008-2011, the Community Safety PSA includes targets to increase public confidence in agencies. Partners will be measured on how well they respond to those issues that matter most to their local communities.

In order to drive down the fear of crime and be responsive to our local community, we need to find out what community concerns are. This should be an ongoing process throughout the year. When preparing the strategic assessment, the partnership will consider what information has already been gathered from the community and target any further consultation activities to fill any gaps.

'Community' does not only mean geographic community. It is also important to consult other communities, such as communities of faith, ethnicity, age, condition.

In drawing together the information that has already been collected, partners should consider whether there are any groups within the area whose views are under represented. The partnership should then take steps to address those groups who are not involved in existing arrangements.

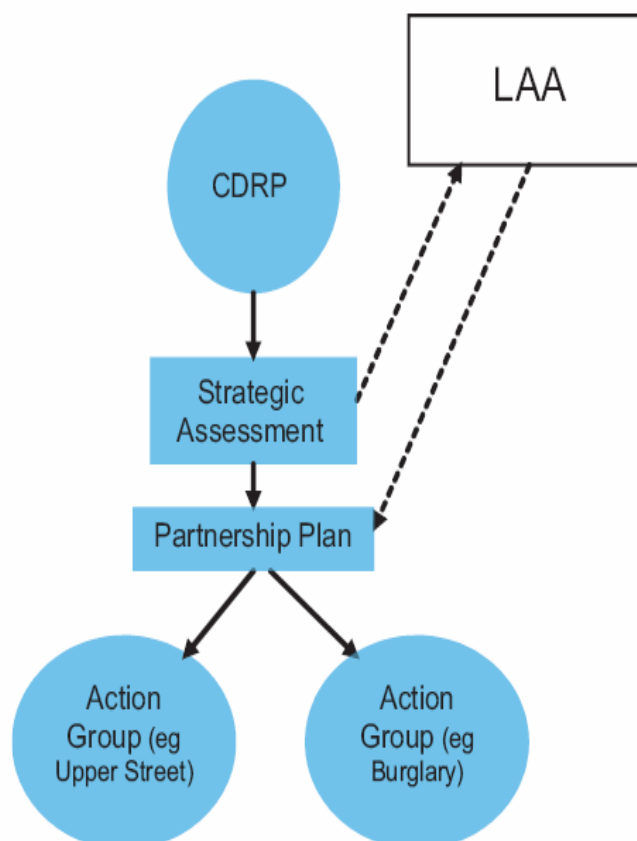
9) WHAT ARE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS?

Local Area Agreements set out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (the local authority and Local Strategic Partnership) and other key partners at the local level. Local Area Agreements simplify some central funding, help join up public services more effectively and allow greater flexibility for local solutions to local circumstances.

Local Area Agreements are structured around four blocks (or policy fields): children and young people, safer and stronger communities, healthier communities and older people, and economic development and enterprise.

Local Area Agreements are subject to an annual refresh, which should coincide with the new strategic assessments which CDRPs now carry out. The three year cycle of a Local Area Agreement should also coincide with that of partnership plans for community safety partnerships. CDRP priorities decided on by our partnership therefore inform those which go into the Local Area Agreement.

The below diagram shows an example of structures and processes in a unitary area. There is obviously flexibility within these arrangements but it demonstrates how the structures should enable priorities to both feed into and be informed by the Local Area Agreement (LAA).



10) WHAT ARE LAA STRETCH TARGETS?

Plymouth has been successful in negotiating an additional 'reward element'. This has allowed us to agree 'stretch targets' – an increased target for some of the work we have set out. We have received a 'Pump Priming Grant' per stretch which is being used to support the achievement of the stretch targets. If we achieve 60% of all stretch targets, we stand to receive a substantial 'Performance Reward Grant', which can then be reinvested in Plymouth priorities – not necessarily related to the stretch targets. These targets commenced 1st April 2007 and must be achieved and fully met by 31st March 2010 to be eligible for the reward.

11) WHAT ARE THE STRETCH TARGETS FOR CRIME?

The Stretch Targets for Crime in the LAA are shown in Table A:

Crime and Substance Misuse Stretch Targets:
Reduction in BCS Category Woundings
Increase No of Domestic Violence incidents recorded by Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Increase % of Domestic Violence crimes resulting in a Brought to Justice Outcome
Number of convictions ⁶ recorded by the police for all PPOs ⁷ (Prolific and Other Priority Offenders) who were registered on the PPO scheme at 31st March 2007 (Cohort 1)
Number of convictions recorded by the police for all PPOs joining the PPO scheme between 1st April 2007 and 31st March 2008 (Cohort 2)
No of people entering drug treatment, as recorded by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)
% of people entering drug treatment that are retained in treatment for at least 12 weeks as recorded by the NDTMS

(Table 11A)

There are some Stretch Targets in the Health Block which complement some of our work around alcohol and violent crime shown in Table B:

Crime Related Health Stretch Targets:
No of young people (19-25) referred from criminal justice and hospital settings who are given brief interventions for alcohol misuse related to violent crime and/or hospital admission/attendance as either perpetrator or victim.
No of young people (19-25) referred from criminal justice and hospital settings who complete at least 6 weeks of structured extended brief intervention and/or treatment for alcohol misuse related to violent crime and unplanned hospital admission/ attendance as either perpetrator or victim.
Reduce the year on year rise in alcohol-specific hospital admissions (no of alcohol specific admissions)
Rate of Assault-relating admissions in the 16-30 year old age group per 100,000

(Table 11B)

12) WHAT ARE NATIONAL INDICATORS?

These are the New Performance Framework for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Single Set of National Indicators (NIs).

The 2006 Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, promised a new era of freedom for local government: greater flexibility to set priorities, greater discretion over how to meet them. The new national indicator set for local authorities and local authority partnerships was announced as part of the Chancellor's Comprehensive Spending Review announcement on Tuesday 9 October.

The new national indicators will be the only means of measuring national priorities that have been agreed by Government. The Local Government White Paper *Strong and Prosperous Communities* committed to a smaller more focused set of priorities as well as radically reduce the number of national indicators.

⁶ Convictions will be defined as all offences convicted at court, and cautions, but will exclude breaches to community orders. (Offences 'Taken into Consideration' and penalty notices will not be included). The number of convictions will be calculated based on those recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) during the relevant periods.

⁷ A PPO will be defined as an offender who is accepted onto the Plymouth PPO Scheme by the PPO multi-agency panel. The offender will be flagged as a 'PPO' on the Police National Computer (PNC) and on the local computer system

The number of national indicators has been radically reduced, from the around 1200 that local authorities and their partners report on at present, to 198. The new indicators will strengthen the incentives for closer partnership working to deliver joined-up outcomes because they will apply (where relevant) to other local partners - such as Primary Care Trusts and police.

The headline definitions for the 198 are contained in the document *The New Performance Framework for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Single Set of National Indicators*⁸.

The Strategic Assessment 2007 highlighted key areas for continued work or improvement in Plymouth and which determined the following National Indicator selection from the 198 indicators. They are as follows:

NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate.
NI 18	Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision.
NI 20	Assault with Injury Crime Rate
NI 21	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police.
NI 26	Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence.
NI 32	Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence

13) WILL NARROWING THE GAP IN THE MOST DEPRIVED NEIGHBOURHOODS CONTINUE?

The Plymouth 2020 Partnership Neighbourhood Renewal Index of Deprivation 2005 was prepared to inform the development of neighbourhood renewal Floor Target Action Plans. Since then it has been updated annually using locally sourced neighbourhood statistics. Its purpose is:

- to inform key stakeholders in the city of the Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) exercise to identify which are the most deprived neighbourhoods for 2005, 2006 and 2007⁹
- to explain the choice of geographies used and the importance of reliable frequently updated data to inform the Floor Target Action Plan (FTAP) and the LSP Self Assessment process
- to identify and explain the methodologies used, and the findings of the Plymouth 2020 Neighbourhood Renewal Index of Deprivation 2005, 2006 and 2007 and the relationship with the National Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004

The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) came from the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit of the Department for Communities and Local Government. It aimed to enable England's most deprived local authorities, in collaboration with their Local Strategic Partnership, to improve services, narrowing the gap between deprived areas and the rest of the country. £5.25 Million of NRF resources were made available for each of the years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. This was the third round of NRF.

In order to narrow the gap, floor targets were defined across six themes: Crime, Education, Liveability, Health, Housing and Worklessness.

The grant was intended as time-limited funding to facilitate the more effective, long-term targeting of mainstream resources. The NRF funding assigned to Plymouth was:

- 2006/2007 - £2,423,325
- 2007/2008 - £2,825,708

⁸ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/doc/517909.doc>

⁹ http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/neighbourhood_renewal_index_of_deprivation_2007.pdf

NRF funding in Plymouth was allocated to interventions in the most deprived neighbourhoods of the city - Stonehouse, North Prospect and Barne Barton.

In terms of Crime, the following Projects were funded from NRF Funding:

- Covert Surveillance Equipment – to address vehicle crime
- Headcameras
- Missing Children/Young Runaways Project
- Plymouth Families Project
- Plymouth After Dark
- Methadone Pump
- Domestic Abuse Prevention and Early Intervention
- Ocean Quay Project (Substance Misuse)
- Community Intervention Programme

The key criteria for funding projects was sustainability beyond the lifetime of the NRF programme. This is the case for the above projects, so this work will continue and has not just come to an abrupt end.

Although Plymouth is no longer in receipt of NRF, the principle of targeting greatest inequality has been carried into the on-going work of the LSP.

One of Plymouth City Councils “Corporate Improvement Priorities 2008-11” is ‘Narrowing the Gap Between Communities’. The purpose is to increase the level of equality and community cohesion and reduced poverty through widened opportunities, better access to good services and integration between people of different backgrounds, with a coherent, city-wide approach to neighbourhood regeneration and management. Key improvement areas are:

- To promote equality in a way that addresses needs across age, disability, faith and belief, gender, race and sexual orientation, so that people have similar life opportunities
- To reduce poverty by maximising tax credit and benefits take-up and reducing problem debt to widen employment and training choices
- To develop community cohesion through integration and a shared sense of belonging amongst people of different backgrounds.
- To deliver improved quality of life for residents in priority neighbourhoods through increased engagement, improved service delivery and physical regeneration.

Equally, the CDRP is committed to continuing to work in these communities to reduce the inequality of crime levels between neighbourhoods.