



Strategic Assessment (Crime and Disorder) 2010/11

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Executive Summary

The following summary provides key findings from the Strategic Assessment, highlighting the key headlines from the crime types reported upon that the Partnership should recognise as a priority in relation to crime/ disorder, Anti-social behaviour and substance misuse. The summary also highlights other important areas that has or will impact on crime in the future, for example national changes brought about by the change of Government.

The National Picture:

The proposed cuts to public spending will have a wide ranging impact across the crime types along with a considerable impact on a number of the priority areas. Throughout the main strategic assessment document reference is made to service provision at risk or potential impact of cuts on crime levels.

The Government has through a series of consultations and structural reforms outlined a number of key priorities in relation to crime and disorder. These include review of policing and Community Safety Partnerships, both likely to affect how we respond to crime in future.

Crime Priorities:

A number of crime areas are reported upon within the main assessment; however taking into account performance, risk, harm and vulnerability to victims and the national picture, the following areas have been identified as the highest priorities.

- Domestic Abuse – A considerable proportion of the integrated elements of the Plymouth domestic abuse strategy are at risk of being unfunded beyond March 2011. These include the domestic abuse manager's post, the domestic abuse advocacy project, domestic abuse (general and specialist) training and support for survivors. The CSP is already responding to the risks identified within 'key issues' by considering methods in which services can continue to be provided. To date it has been agreed to find ways to support the retention of the following elements: IDVA/Victim Support, Housing related support, Children's Service, Domestic Abuse Civil Court Advocacy and SEEDS Survivor engagement.
- Sexual Abuse – The issue of service provision for victims of serious sexual assault within Plymouth remains a priority with funding the major issue. Funding for the Sexual Assault Referral Centre is due to end at the end of March 2011, the failure to secure further funding would result in the closure of this facility. Any potential closure would occur at a time when nationally efforts are continuing to try and improve victim's confidence and satisfaction in services, and potentially leading to the loss of a quality and highly regarded current provision to the City.

- Anti-Social Behaviour – has been highlighted by the Government as a national priority, with emphasis nationally and locally on the risk, harm and vulnerability of victims, witnesses and repeat vulnerable locations. Locally, levels of ASB continue to reduce, however the partnership needs to be aware of and prepared to respond to forthcoming changes to Anti-Social Behavioural Orders and changes in incident classification. The three new category of incident are Personal, Environmental and Nuisance and will come into use from April 2011. Devon and Cornwall Constabulary are well placed to adapt to changes, with the introduction of a new incident recording system coming in 2011.
- Alcohol Related Violence – alcohol has been identified as a priority cross cutting enabler for the City by the LSP, with the Police BCU Commander as the Strategic lead. Alcohol has a profound effect on levels of violence within the City, both domestically and in a public place, as well as other offences such as sexual offences. Although overall levels of violence have slightly fallen this year to date, recently we have since a levelling out of performance, whilst increases in the most serious violence have for a sustained period caused concern. The City's performance when compared to its most similar cities within the iQuanta group shows average performance for Assault with less serious injury (11TH out of 15 at end of October) and poor performance for serious violence (14th out of 15).
- Reducing Re-offending –

Drug Treatment – Government plans to introduce 'Rehabilitation Revolution' is likely to have impact on the way services are provided to both drug and alcohol abusers, emphasising a shift away from community based treatment into more expensive shorter term rehab based treatment. Plymouth DAAT are in the process of adapting treatment provision in response to national changes and funding pressures, and have expressed fears of an increase in serious acquisitive crime levels as a result of these changes.

Integrated Offender Management – There is currently little provision available within the City outside of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Scheme to share intelligence between Police and Probation about offenders who are classed as 'statutory'. Fast time sharing of arrest and intelligence information would strengthen offender management and make it responsive to developing risks.

It has been highlighted that the City as a partnership does not have an offender problem profile. This would help identify the main areas of residence for offenders and the main areas of offending. This profile would allow agencies, both statutory and non statutory, to target resources and prioritise areas for interventions.

- Hate Crime – has been identified as a level 2 priority for the LSP, although the priority setting process remains ongoing. Hate crime is one of the most under-reported types of crime in Plymouth and is a particularly serious crime that can compromise the quality of life for individuals and communities.

The numbers of racist incidents within Plymouth rose in 2009/10 highlighting improvement in under reporting, whilst satisfaction rates amongst Black and Minority groups is good, in relation to the Council's racist incident service.

However, statistics provided by the Racial Equality Council includes further emphasise the importance of the issue; as much as 90% of homophobic crime goes unreported (ACPO), Nationally, 90% of people with learning disabilities had been bullied (that is, subjected to a disability hate crime or incident) in the preceding year¹, Nationally, 22% of disabled respondents had experienced harassment in public because of their impairment. Incidents of harassment were more acute among 15-34 year olds with 33% of this group of disabled people experiencing harassment.²

- Serious Acquisitive Crime (Burglary Dwelling) – Although levels of overall serious acquisitive crime continue to fall within the City, concerns have been raised about recent rises in the number of dwelling burglary. Year to date 2010/11 levels in burglary have increased by 9%, compared to the same period the year before, a rise of 42 offences which we need to monitor closely. Changes introduced nationally to the benefits system will result in likely cuts; along with proposed changes to drug treatments are likely to impact on burglary levels within the City. Given the high impact that an offence such as burglary has upon the victim, any potential for an increase in offences is of concern to the partnership.

¹ Mencap's "Living in Fear" survey (2009)

² The Disability Rights Commission's "Attitudes and Awareness Survey (2003)"

Section 1

1.1 Aims and Objectives

Plymouth Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is required to produce an annual Strategic Assessment to identify crime and disorder priorities over the coming year. Production of a Strategic Assessment is a statutory requirement as part of the Home Office National Standards³. A review of Community Safety Partnerships is being undertaken by the Government which may impact on future Strategic Assessments. Future assessments for Plymouth will be closely linked to the 'Plymouth Report', a new priority setting report explained later in this assessment.

The purpose of this strategic assessment is to provide an accurate and realistic evaluation of the significant crime, disorder and substance misuse issues that may impact the Partnership over the next 12 months, and also takes account of areas impacting the partnership over the last 12 months. The assessment will provide recommendations based upon its findings.

The assessment draws upon a number of sources including the Devon and Cornwall Police Strategic Assessment, which itself draws upon National and Regional sources such as the National and Regional Strategic Assessments and the UK Threat Assessment. It also draws upon sources such as Police crime and incident information and intelligence, analysis undertaken by the partnership agencies is considered, along with the agreed Plymouth Partners and Communities Together (PACT) priorities identified through new locality working.

For each area reported upon within the assessment, key issues have been identified, provided alongside a summary using a 'story of place' approach. Where appropriate recommendations have also been identified and are highlighted for consideration at the end of priority area. These recommendations are then repeated with an appropriate owner and time scale within Appendix 2. A number of key strategic recommendations have also been identified within Appendix 1.

1.2 Review of Strategic Assessment 2009/10 - Progress against Actions

The previous strategic assessment for 2009 identified 6 key recommendations and a further 10 sub-recommendations. These recommendations helped develop a series of key work streams that were agreed by the Safe and Strong theme group. A number of the recommendations have a completion date that stretches into 2011; therefore a number will be carried forward. The main reason for this is the short time scale between the most recent assessment and this 2010/11 version.

³ *Delivering Safer Communities: A Guide to Effective Partnership Working. Guidance for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and Community Safety Partnerships*
http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/guidance_for_effective_partnerships.pdf

6 Key Recommendations – All achieved with ongoing work in 2
10 Sub Recommendations – 7 achieved with ongoing work and 3 yet to be achieved and are ongoing.

The National Picture

2.1 Economic Climate

The new Coalition Government have set out that reducing the UK's current financial deficit is the priority, this will inevitably have a big impact on services locally, including those that deal with crime, disorder and substance misuse. The budget delivered in June 2010 reinforced the need for savings, stating that the underlying budget deficit should be "in balance" by 2015/16⁴, and that public sector net borrowing will fall from 149bn in 2010/11 to 20bn in 2015/16⁵. As a result of the October spending review Plymouth City Council will need to find £30m reductions by 2013 if no immediate action is taken, the Council is however, well placed to meet this challenge.

Themed budget delivery groups are already working hard to identify ways of delivering a 3-year balanced budget. The Police will also be facing major cuts, although the full details of these will not be known until late November/ early December, although it is likely that the force will face a saving of £44million over the next four years. In order to meet these savings there are likely to be significant cuts in the numbers of Police Officers and Police staff. All partners within Plymouth will be facing similarly tough reductions in budgets, these partners including Devon and Somerset Fire Service, Devon and Cornwall Probation service and Health.

2.2 The Big Society

In July the Prime Minister launched the Government's "Big Society", in the Conservatives document outlining the case for the Big Society; it is put forward as an alternative approach to Government.

The aim is to foster higher levels of personal, professional, civic and corporate responsibility in a society where people can come together to solve problems and where social responsibility, rather than state control takes hold.⁶ The Building the Big Society document outlines five areas the Coalition will prioritise in order to take Big Society forward:

1. Giving communities more power
2. Encourage people to take an active role in their communities
3. Transferring power from central to local government
4. Supporting co-ops, mutuals, charities and social enterprises
5. Publishing Government data

⁴ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10374475>

⁵ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10374475>

⁶ LGiU essential policy briefing

2.3 Structural Reform

The Government has also released a series of Structural Reform Plans that are the 'key tool of the Coalition Government for making departments accountable for the implementation of the reforms set out in the Coalition agreement. They replace the old, top down systems of targets and central micromanagement'⁷. Of interest are the plans set out for the Home Office, Communities and local government and the Ministry of Justice. Each plan is available on the respective Government departments' websites.

2.4 Policing in the 21st Century - Consultation

The Government recently held a period of consultation with regards Police reform, "Policing in the 21st Century-reconnecting police and the people"⁸, with the period of consultation running from 26 July 2010 to 20 September 2010. Some of the proposals being consulted on are summarised below;

- Abolition of Police Authorities
- Elected Police and Crime Commissioners by 2012 (voting system for this still being considered – but possibly a 'preferential voting system)
- Introduction of enabling powers to bring together Community Safety Partnerships at the force level to deal with force-wide community safety issues and giving Commissioners a role in commissioning community safety work.
- Review of National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) and how crime is recorded
- Stripping away bureaucracy and prescription in the partnership landscape/repealing some of the CSP regulations except for statutory duty on key partners to work together, enabling local freedom.
- Publication of a new National Crime Strategy
- New approach to youth crime and tackling anti-social behaviour including more active citizenship and voluntary sector involvement
- Effectively addressing link between substance misuse and crime.
- Sentencing reform
- New approach to rehabilitation of offenders

Plymouth City Council submitted a response to the consultation via the Local Strategic Partnership Executive, as follows;

- Following the election of the new Police Commissioner the relationship between them and the Council Portfolio holder for crime needs clarifying.
- That the established neighbourhood meetings held with the community are maintained and used for the purpose of 'beat meetings' as required within the Police reform.

⁷ <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/corporate-publications/structural-reform-plan/>

⁸ <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/policing-21st-century/>

- That Council's are encouraged (in liaison with CSPs) to take a lead role in supporting the Police Commissioner and establishing and running their support team.
- That key issues identified by the communities and CSPs that are shown to be the most relevant are reported upon to assist communities in making judgements about their force and Police Commissioner.
- That 'Hallmarks' for CSPs (except core statutory duty to work together) are advisory/ discretionary, not statutory.

Additionally, the Police Authority submitted a Force Response which can be viewed on their website⁹ which has mainly opposing or raising concerns re the feasibility of the proposed Police and Crime Commissioner and crime panels, pointing out omissions and costs implicit in the reform proposals, but also setting out some alternatives.

2.5 Community Safety – Informal Consultation

The Safer Communities Directorate at Government Office South West carried out an informal consultation exercise in August 2010 proposing some changes to existing regulations for Community Safety Partnerships. The consultation sought the view of practitioners on proposed changes that may enable partnerships to be 'action orientated and freed from some of the prescriptive bureaucracy that clutters and complicates partnership working locally'. Some of the proposed changes within the consultation included;

- Repeal the prescribed list of bodies CSPs must cooperate with and invite to participate
- Retain the requirement for Strategic Assessments and Partnership plans
- Retain the requirement for CSPs to consult with the community
- Retain the requirement for named authorities to share depersonalised information each quarter

Plymouth City Council has also provided a response to the consultation, the key points of which are summarised below;

- The need for/ and value of a partnership action plan has been challenged, in favour of a greater emphasis retention of annually produced Strategic Assessments, made publicly available and that include an Action Plan, rather than recommendations.
- Local Authorities need to be empowered and encouraged to trust and embrace new technologies and other diverse methods of consultation in order to do this more meaningfully/reach a wider audience in ways they are more likely to respond to, and this may be the case for some partner agencies too.

⁹ <http://www.dcpa.police.uk/newsrelease/ResponseGovernmentConsultation.pdf>

- Enablers are put into place allowing for easier data sharing among local agencies, including the standardisation of protocols and practices for sharing information. Partnerships can be strengthened through the strengthening of CSP data sharing requirements.

2.6 The Cost of Crime

At a time when unprecedented financial challenges will be faced by all partners within Plymouth following the Comprehensive Spending Review, it might be pertinent to highlight the cost of crime. The cost on the public purse stretches from dealing with the crimes themselves and bringing the offender to justice i.e. the Criminal Justice System to the cost of binge drinking and treating heroin addiction. In terms of the crimes themselves it is not straightforward to assess the impact of crime in purely monetary terms. In 2005 the Home Office produced a revision of the cost of crime report first published in 2000; the key findings of the report are¹⁰;

- The most costly crimes are those with a large estimated emotional and physical impact; homicide, wounding, robbery and sexual offences are estimated to be the most costly crimes.
- Serious wounding is seen to be less costly than previously estimated, while other Wounding is more costly. The most costly violent crime is now estimated to be rape, which has increased significantly since 2000.
- Violent crime and emotional and physical impacts of crime account for a large proportion of the total cost of crime against individuals and households.

Section 3 – The Local Picture

3.1 Performance

Plymouth CSP is currently responsible for monitoring a series of National Indicators that relate to crime and disorder, and some of which are priority indicators in Plymouth's Local Area Agreement (LAA). The Coalition Government recently announced that LAAs are to be discontinued, but are encouraging the continuation of monitoring, at a local level, targets in the LAA until their completion date. To date, there has been no formal across-the-board removal of National Indicators, but there is an expectation that the number of targets will be significantly reduced, but will still allow for family group comparisons and measurement.

In addition to the targets within the LAA, the Police are also responsible for achieving a separate set of targets. The progress on all these targets is illustrated below;

¹⁰ <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/rdsolr3005.pdf>

Plymouth Community Safety Partnership

Table 2 – Performance against CSP targets

Target			Progress
Not in LAA	NI 15	Serious Violence	No Target – Levels have increased for the last few years.
Priority LAA	NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate.	On Target
Priority LAA	NI 20	Assault with Injury Crime Rate	On Target
Priority LAA	NI 21	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police.	No longer recordable due to the abolishment of the Place Survey
Priority LAA	NI 26	Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence.	Work remains ongoing to shape the definition of the target.
Priority LAA	NI 32	Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence	On Target
Local Target	NI 35	Building Resilience to Violent Extremism	Achieved level 3
Local Target	-	Reduce the number of criminal damage offences recorded by Police	On Target

Table 3 and 4 below provide an overview of local Police BCU performance by Local Policing Area up to September 2010

	Crime change on 2009/10			Detection rate *		
	North & East LPA	South & Central LPA	Devonport & West LPA	North & East LPA	South & Central LPA	Devonport & West LPA
Total crime (BCU detection aim 35%)	-4.9%	-4.9%	-20.3%	31.8%	41.6%	31.1%
Violence with injury (9% reduction)	-9.4%	4.9%	-11.9%	35.4%	40.7%	38.9%
Serious acquisitive (2% reduction)	-7.3%	-12.2%	-24.1%	25.1%	19.0%	24.7%
Domestic abuse (local detection aim 50%)	-17.8%	19.3%	10.0%	44.8%	41.4%	41.1%
Sexual offences (local detection aim 32%)	1.6%	42.9%	-19.2%	31.3%	36.7%	42.4%

* Green = on or above target/local aim

12 month rolling **	North & East LPA	South & Central LPA	Devonport & West LPA
Overall victim satisfaction	85.1%	85.9%	87.3%
Ease of contact victim satisfaction	99.4%	97.5%	94.5%
Racist incident satisfaction	88.0%	88.0%	100.0%
ASB victim satisfaction	79.1%	84.0%	88.4%
Public confidence #	81.8%	75.3%	82.5%

** up to Sept 2010

Confidence is now based on public agreeing that police do excellent or good job

3.2 The Plymouth Report

The “Plymouth Report”¹¹ is a new report based on a compendium of needs analyses and capacity data within the city that has been brought together in one place for the first time. It is produced for policy makers as a basis for integrated planning across Plymouth 2020 and for subsequent priority setting. There are likely to be fewer but more meaningful measures. Alignment is needed across partnership priorities as we will all be working to a similar timetable and facing similar financial pressures, whilst needing to remain ambitious and driving improvement and focusing on the vision.

Additionally, the Plymouth Report has allowed the Plymouth 2020 Executive Group to identify a number of cross-cutting enablers that are both positive for city and/or are areas of concern that require a joint strategic approach, namely: Alcohol, Domestic Abuse/Sexual Violence, Derelict Buildings, Teenage Pregnancy, Obesity, the 400th Anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers, the World Cup 2018, the Olympics, Carbon management/green economy opportunities and Drugs. The LSP is continuing to undergo a priority setting process in which a series of emerging high level priorities will be agreed across the partnership.

In a period where all agencies are facing shared severe financial challenges never before will it have been so vital to identify economies of scale through strengthened strategic partnership approaches, such as supporting these cross cutting enablers.

3.3 Localities / Community Engagement

Changes have been made to the way the Council and its partners engage with the public and deliver services. The ‘locality working’ model (which commenced in June 2010) aims to improve the way services work together, improving the dialogue with communities and identifying and responding to issues identified by communities and Councillors on behalf of their communities, and to deliver solutions.

To help achieve this, the Local Strategic Partnership identified six ‘Localities’ within Plymouth, so that services can organise themselves around consistent boundaries. Each locality consists of a number of Plymouth’s 43 neighbourhoods, which are based on well-established natural boundaries, recognised by local people. Locality teams have been established, drawing on personnel from the council’s ‘Team Plymouth’ and partner agencies including Police, Health and Police community homes. Each of the six Locality teams is co-ordinated by a senior Manager. The team will be dedicated to responding to priorities which need joint agency working to resolve. The early priorities that have been identified through the locality process are Anti-Social behaviour, parking issues and speeding/ road safety.

¹¹

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

The community are involved at neighbourhood level, through quarterly public neighbourhood meetings (previously PACT meetings), and other engagement opportunities. The meeting is normally attended by a Council officer (Neighbourhood Liaison Officer), Police Officer and all ward councillors are invited.

Each quarter the neighbourhood agrees three priorities for the public agencies to take forward, in some cases referring issues to locality teams, and report back on by the next meeting.

There is also in place a system for local communities to share their priorities with their local policing neighbourhood teams and Council. The public have the opportunity via community engagement cards or leaflets to share any key issues they have, with responses analysed to identify the priority neighbourhood issues.

There will be a review of this new way of working, following this first year implementation stage, but early indications are that this is bedding in well. .

Section 4 – Demographics

This section highlights the different protected characteristics and focuses on the diversity of the City. One overriding threat to each of the communities identified is hate crime, which is reported upon separately in section 6.7.

4.1 Population

In the 10 years since 1999, Plymouth has had the 5th lowest population increase of South West unitary and county authorities (+6.1%). Plymouth currently has a population of 256,700 (Office National Statistics estimate Aug 2010), with a further 100,000 in its travel-to-work area.

4.2 Migrant Workers

Migrant workers are mainly from Eastern Europe, particularly Poland, with 57% arriving between March 2006 and 2008, but a sharp decline since then; they tend to be male (60%), in the 18-34 age range (83%). Numbers of people coming from Eastern Europe into the City saw a sharp decline during 2009, however, there has been little movement of those already established, and suggesting numbers of Migrant workers are stable.

The migrant worker community also comprises those from other parts of the world. Although accurate data is not available, it is known that a significant number of migrants from South Asia (India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) are present in the city, working within the National Health Service. Another significant migrant worker cohort are women from South East Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand) working in both care and nursing homes. In early 2010 a survey was carried out to gauge the opinions of migrant workers within the City who have arrived from Eastern Europe, this was carried out by Amber Initiatives, an organisation that represents Eastern European migrant workers. This has for the first time enabled us in a Strategic

Assessment to report on the thoughts and concerns of workers in the City relating to crime and disorder.

In total 309 people took part in the survey, in the main responses were collected via a self filling form, although a number were via telephone interviews and one via a one to one interview. 78% of respondents are Polish, 16% are Latvian and 6% Lithuanian.

The survey results identify clearly that the majority of migrant workers from Eastern Europe are quite happy in terms of their perceptions of crime and disorder in the City. 68% (185) of respondents state that they feel safe on the streets, whilst 92% (277) stated they have a 'low' or 'middle' level fear of crime, just 8% stated they had a 'high' fear of crime. Despite these positive responses, respondents feel they are most likely to be the victim of robbery/ physical assault, bank fraud, and alcohol related crime, ASB or vandalism.

It is useful to report that respondents feel that issues such as nuisance noise, children hanging around on the streets, graffiti/ damage and drunk and rowdy behaviour are not too big a problem.

4.3 Asylum Seekers¹²

For some time, Plymouth has been a dispersal area for those seeking asylum in the UK. Previously, Plymouth has been home to those who have fled war-torn countries such as Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Sierra Leone. More recently the city has welcomed those from the Middle East (Iraq and Iran), China and Africa.

Within Plymouth there are usually at any one time less than 400 asylum seekers, over half of which reside within the City's South East locality, encompassing the neighbourhood's of Mutley/ Greenbank, Mount Gould and East End. The United Kingdom border agency (UKBA) are continuing to undertake review of 'legacy' cases, which is likely to result in a numbers of people being refused permission to stay in the UK. As a result concerns have continued to be raised in relation to the effect this is having on relations between this community and local authorities. Specific concerns raised via the Council's Social Inclusion Unit include:

- The UKBA 'legacy' programme has to date not generated a large number of removals from the Country; however it is possible the UKBA have prioritised the cases where a positive decision is relatively easy to make.

In addition the closure of Refugee Action will likely result in Asylum seekers having less chance of launching a successful appeal, again increasing removals. Therefore, a rise in expulsions is still a possibility and still poses a risk.¹³

¹² Knowing Plymouth's Diverse communities

¹³ Social Inclusion Unit

4.4 Gypsies and Travellers

Plymouth has a long established and settled Gypsy and Traveller community. As a result of both legislative change and lack of caravan site provision many of these families have moved into social and private housing during the last 25 years.

There is one authorised Gypsy caravan site in the city, which provides a permanent home for around 60 people. In the last two years, there has been an increase in the number of Gypsies seeking planning permission to develop private caravan sites on land they own. There are around 20 unauthorised encampments each year with 200 children living within them.

The number of Gypsies and Travellers present in the city (living in caravans or housing) is unknown. The 2011 Population Census includes a new ethnic group (self-identification) category of 'Gypsy/Traveller' and it is hoped that this will provide baseline information for the first time.

4.5 University of Plymouth

The University of Plymouth plays an important role within Partnership working and are represented at a number of multi-agency delivery groups. Information recently supplied by the Dean of Students has provided insight into future aims, particularly in areas relating to crime and disorder, particularly in relation to hate crime and acquisitive crime. Government controls on the numbers of students from within the UK means the university are maintaining their strategy of increasing the numbers of international students, in 2008//09 the percentage of undergraduate students from a BME group was 6.17%. Any increase in students from these communities could impact on levels of hate crime against students within the City. It is important to note that the under reporting of crimes against both BME and International students is an issue, meaning the extent of the problem remains unknown.

In relation of drug and substance misuse within the University, data is not collected, as it is believed that there are no large problems in this area, particularly related to the use of class A drugs.

The issue of students being victims of acquisitive crime within the Central areas of the City is an ongoing concern, with the University not advocates of the large numbers of students who reside in multi-occupancy properties. In fact the University would rather see an increase in students who reside within monitored student accommodation, and are supporters of an increase in purpose built student accommodation. In future other higher education institutions within the City will be invited to contribute to the assessment process.

Section 5 – Crime Priorities

5.1 Reducing Re-offending

Key Issues

- The Government have unveiled plans to introduce ‘Rehabilitation Revolution’ proposing solutions with regards the ‘revolving door’ for ‘career criminals’ within the criminal justice system.
- The issues of both drugs and alcohol are recognised as cross-cutting contributory factor to committing crime and have been agreed as priority strategic themes for the Local Strategic Partnership.
- There is currently little provision available within the City outside of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Scheme to share intelligence between Police and Probation about offenders who are classed as ‘statutory’. Fast time sharing of arrest and intelligence information would strengthen offender management and make it responsive to developing risks.
- With changes planned within the Criminal justice system, alongside financial difficulties leading to welfare reform there are a number of concerns regarding the impact on levels of offending. Therefore, it is more important than ever that as a City we have a strong knowledge of all offenders, not just ‘statutory’ offenders i.e. those under probation supervision, but also those who are subject to shorter prison sentences but do not receive any type of offender management.
- It has been highlighted that the City as a partnership does not have an offender problem profile. This would help identify the main areas of residence for offenders and the main areas of offending. This profile would allow agencies, both statutory and non statutory, to target resources and prioritise areas for interventions. It is recommended that an offender profile be undertaken for the City. This would also support future financial planning.
- One of the national drivers supported by the Coalition Government is to utilise where possible ‘Social enterprise and charities’ to assist in tackling issues. To support the reducing re-offending strategy a mapping exercise should be undertaken to ascertain the levels of third sector availability in the City.
- The lack of good intelligence in relation to prison releases has been identified, with a number of offenders being released into the City without appropriate knowledge amongst partners. This issue is not such an issue with offenders registered on offender management schemes, who are monitored regularly.
- The limitations of the recent alcohol strategy need to be addressed by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

On the 1st April 2010, Section 108 of the Police and Crime Act 2009 came into effect, introducing for Community Safety Partnerships a new duty to reduce reoffending, and formally added Probation as the sixth responsible authority. It also placed a new duty on CSPs to formulate and implement a reducing reoffending strategy. These are an extension to existing partnership Section

17 duties. This was supported by guidance to the changes “Reducing Reoffending, Cutting Crime, Changing Lives”¹⁴.

In response to this, the Plymouth Community Safety Partnership Manager proposed that it would be more efficient to create one strategy for Devon and Cornwall which was welcomed and supported by Probation and Community Safety Managers from across Devon and Cornwall, and supported by the Local Criminal Justice Board, and a Draft Strategy has now been written. This has also resulted in the formation of a peninsular Reducing Reoffending Delivery Board to strategically support local Reducing Reoffending Groups in taking this work forward as effectively and efficiently as possible.

A number of issues need to be considered, primarily the national picture, IOM and treatment for offenders.

Representatives from the IOM team, Probation service and the Drug and Alcohol Action team (DAAT) have provided information and experience which has given an insight into the current model, as well as identifying ways forward to successfully reduce re-offending.

Government Approach

The Government have also unveiled plans to introduce ‘Rehabilitation Revolution’ aimed at stopping career criminals sliding back into the criminal justice system. One of the most fundamental changes will see a shift away from shorter term prison sentences, with the Government believing this doesn’t allow time for rehabilitation or reform.¹⁵ They will also be introducing a ‘pay by results’ mechanism for reducing re-offending, aimed at ‘utilising organisation, especially in the third sector, which know how to work with offenders’.¹⁶ The scheme will see independent investors, investing in social impact bonds, to reduce the re-offending of offenders, should cash help rehabilitate offenders they could receive a return from the Government, generated by savings made.¹⁷

Integrated Offender Management

In April 2010 the City launched ‘Seven2One’, an enhanced version of the former IOM scheme, which now targets a wider range of offenders including those who are often subject of repeat short term prison sentences – offenders who are known as the most likely to re-offend.

The scheme enables an expansion of the Prolific and Priority Offender (PPO) scheme that previously targeted only the most serious offenders, and will continue to do so. The PPO scheme successfully achieved its two Local Area

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<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100413151441/http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction055.htm>

¹⁵ Guardian.co.uk 30 June 2010

¹⁶ Mirror.co.uk 23 June 2010

¹⁷ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11254308>

Agreement Stretch targets, which were set to monitor the levels of convictions of those on the PPO scheme. The IOM scheme cohort will consist of 60 of the most prolific offenders categorised as a PPO, with the aim to monitor a further 60 offenders who have a lower level of offending.

The Seven2One IOM Scheme is a multi-agency co-located team which continues to develop and share best practice between statutory and non statutory organisations across the city with the aim of reducing re-offending of those causing harm to our communities. Drugs treatment is a key aspect of that delivery.

The IOM scheme forms part of a wider agenda to reduce re-offending across Devon and Cornwall, with all geographical areas coming together to undertake a self assessment of performance. Shortfalls identified by this assessment will form the basis of the action plan that will direct the multi-agency partnership group chaired by the Probation service. The IOM will also be evaluated within its first 12 months, with a research team from the University of Plymouth undertaking the work.

The concept of IOM covers a number of partnership areas, including MAPPA, PPO, Family Intervention Project, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, Domestic violence and the Youth Offending service. In order to effectively co-ordinate integrated partnership working within the city and develops the strategic pathways out of offending it has been suggested that an 'IOM Champion' be recognised to carry out the role.

Drug Treatment

The treatment of offenders who have problems in relation to Drug and Alcohol is vital in the fight against crime and reducing re-offending, and is recognised as one of the seven pathways to manage offenders¹⁸.

A number of issues have been raised by the DAAT within Plymouth with regards to the future stability of treatment within the City. Current financial constraints have been raised as a concern, in particular in relation to treatment funding for 2011/12. Reductions in funding from Plymouth City Council in 2010/11 did not impact on availability of treatment funding with the shortfall covered by previous under spend. However, money will not be available to cover any further reductions in funding for 2011/12, although at the time this assessment was written the City Council had yet to confirm its budget. Concerns have also been raised that should ring fencing of the national 'Pooled treatment budget' be removed then there would be further reductions in funding for drug treatment.

¹⁸ The pathways being: accommodation pathway, employment learning and skills pathway, mental and physical health pathway, drugs and alcohol pathway, finance benefits and debt pathway, children and families pathway, attitudes thinking and behaviour pathway, women offenders

At the beginning of September the Coalition Government released its consultation on the proposed Recovery Model on the future of drug treatment, and is likely to support more people going into residential rehabilitation (drug rehabilitation orders) rather than community based treatments such as methadone. Concerns have been raised by the DAAT that a shift towards such residential rehabilitation would put pressures on the City to deliver, particular as there are limited residential places available. The local DAAT manager has also expressed concerns that the cost of residential treatment is far greater than community based treatment for broadly the same outcomes (A year's Methadone treatment costs approximately £3,000 against £7,200 for 6 weeks rehabilitation treatment, potentially rising to £30,000 for a chaotic user needing 6 months rehab). A reduction in people receiving community based treatment is likely to lead to an increase in people on waiting lists and an increase in drug related crime.

Alcohol Treatment

In August a scoping paper was completed by the Community Safety Unit for the attention of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) highlighting the concern posed by alcohol across all of the CSP statutory agencies, with the Council being the common denominator as alcohol is an area of work that cuts across all the LSP theme blocks. This paper contributed to alcohol being identified as a priority for the City by the LSP, and the Police BCU Commander being identified as the Strategic lead for Alcohol.

With regard to alcohol treatment the DAAT has informed that the current priority is treatment for those who are admitted to hospital, rather than offenders of alcohol related crime.

The most recent Local profiles for England into alcohol related harm have identified that Plymouth performs poorly against the English average in a number of areas, including; alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18s and hospital admissions for alcohol related harm.

The Partnership acknowledges that there is still a lot to be done in this area despite collective investment of over 1 million pounds by the City in providing additional alcohol treatment services. A new treatment plan is due for completion in November 2010, with a Partnership consultation event to be held in January 2011 to see what else needs to be done to collectively address these issues. The City will be subject to a National Support Team visit, who will undertake a review of the City's response to the threats posed by alcohol.

Recommendations

- The Partnership supports improved data and intelligence sharing between Probation and partners to assist in identification of offenders, offending patterns and crime hotspots.
- Fast time sharing of arrest and intelligence information between Police and Probation would strengthen offender management and make it responsive to developing risks.
- City wide offender profile required to identify key areas of offending and where offender's live.
- Reducing Re-offending delivery group to be aware of, and in readiness for Government proposals in relation to reducing re-offending and the impact on partners in the City.
- To support delivery of the emerging action plan from the Reducing Reoffending Strategy, this has been written at a peninsular level and will be adopted locally.
- Mapping exercise to be undertaken into 3rd sector availability in the City, and how these organisations can be utilised in the management of offenders.

5.2 Profile of the Drugs Market within Plymouth

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary recently completed a force wide drug harm profile, commissioned to ascertain the harm that drugs are causing to communities across the force area. This profile identified a number of key findings, that can be viewed within appendix 5, which at the request of the author is restricted and information is only for sharing with partner agencies due to the sensitive nature of some of the findings.

5.3 Domestic Abuse

Key Issues

- Funding for the contract, for specialist domestic abuse services ends in March 2011 This contract provides for:-
 - Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) including support for MARAC and SDVC high risk cases
 - Refuge and housing related support
 - Dedicated Children's service
- In addition to this contract, the following support arrangements for tackling domestic abuse are unfunded beyond March 2011:-
 - Domestic Abuse Partnership Managers post
 - Domestic abuse multi agency awareness training
 - Support for the SEEDS survivors forum
 - Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service (Specialist legal support)

- Domestic abuse is strongly linked to child abuse with the existence of one form of abuse being an indicator of the other. The long-term effects are profound, leading some children to become the next generation of perpetrators and victims.
- Any reduction in specialist support for high risk victims is likely to lead to an increase in repeat cases and subsequent levels of violent crime.
- Domestic abuse under the overarching strategy of tackling violence against women and girls continues to be a high priority for the new government, with the home secretary publicly committing to improving services for women in particular, supported by the equalities commission. A new Violence against Woman and Girls strategy is to be published by the Government in March 2011.
- The cost to Plymouth annually is estimated to exceed £110 million, with costs to services supporting victims in the region of £15million.
- Devonport and Stonehouse neighbourhoods have been identified as the most prevalent areas of the City with regard to levels of violence linked to domestic violence.
- Offences linked to domestic violence have been identified as a concern, representing a significant proportion of all violent crime, particularly within the home. The issue as to which partnership delivery group responds to crime analysis should be decided.

Summary

The multi-agency strategy and action plan for tackling domestic abuse strategy has ensured improvement in awareness among professionals, through the provision of training into assessing risk and signposting into specialist domestic abuse service and the MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences). Domestic abuse (DA) (physical, emotional, psychological, financial and sexual) is known to affect women, men and children in all sections of society. The CSP is already responding to the risks identified within 'key issues' by considering methods in which services can continue to be provided, to date it has been agreed to where possible retain the following elements which make up the integrated model, these include; IDVA/Victim Support, Housing related support, Children's Service, Domestic Abuse Civil Court Advocacy and SEEDS Survivor engagement.

During the first quarter of 2010/11 there were 569 DA incidents within Plymouth where children are resident in the home where the incident occurred.

National research suggests that less than 25% of domestic abuse gets reported. To address this, the City has been successful in increasing reporting of domestic abuse, although unfortunately did not achieve the very challenging LAA stretch target which completed in March 2010.

However, the improvement in reporting is a positive for the City and momentum achieved needs to be maintained to ensure continued improvement. In 2009/10 the number of reported domestic incidents increased by 15% compared to the LAA target baseline of 2006/07.

The level of DA incidents recorded has been on a slight decreasing trend since Jan 2010, so activity will required to move back to an increasing trend again.

The positive disposal of DA crimes was also an LAA target and this was achieved by significant amount (3% over required rate), with the 2009/10 brought to justice rate of over 34%.

This rate, like the DA reporting, has also worsened in recent months so will require focus to bring back to desired rate and make further improvements.

A number of elements of the Plymouth domestic abuse strategy are at risk of being unfunded beyond March 2011. These include the domestic abuse manager's post, the legal advocacy project, domestic abuse general and specialist training and support for survivors. The issue of service provision to victims of domestic violence is a priority area, with the contract with the current service provider set to expire at the end of March 2011 (currently part funded by supporting people and CSP). The domestic abuse/ sexual violence delivery group have been tasked to supply the safe and strong theme group with proposals, and a detailed business case was prepared in July 2010.

Any reduction in specialist IDVA support is likely to result in an increase in levels of repeat victimisation and recorded violent crime. This is supported by the CAADA multi site review of IDVA services nationally published in November 2009 which clearly demonstrated the impact IDVA services are having on levels of repeat victimisation and risk to victims and children.

The Domestic Abuse / Sexual Violence delivery group has recently become the recipient of regular analysis, which uses Partnership data to assist in identifying hotspots relating to domestic incidents and domestic related crimes. Discussions have been held as to which of the Violent crime or Domestic Abuse/ Sexual violence delivery group should take control of responses to issues raised through analysis of domestic abuse offences. The incorporation of additional partnership data from other sources is being considered to enhance the analysis. Recent and more historical analysis has identified the apparent link between areas of higher deprivation and the high prevalence of domestic abuse incidents, namely the neighbourhoods of Stonehouse and Devonport.

Recommendations

- Safe and Strong group to agree a way forward for commissioning and delivery of the integrated domestic abuse priorities beyond 2011, based on resources available.
- Safe and Strong to note new Government's update to the Violence against Women and Girls strategy, and to support recommendations where appropriate.
- Delivery Group to consider re-aligning its work and priorities to meet the requirements of the emerging Violence against Women and Girls strategy/guidance when it is released in 2011.
- Domestic Abuse delivery group to take responsibility for responding to monthly analysis and to be held responsible for performance.

5.4 Sexual Offences

Key Issues

- Funding for the Sexual Assault Referral Centre is due to end at the end of March 2011, the failure to secure further funding would result in the closure of this facility.
- The recording of all sexual offences has risen in the April to September 2010 period, from 206 to 244 in same period in 2009, a rise of 18%.
- The biggest rise has been seen in levels of Rape, although nationally the estimate of levels of unreported sexual offences remains high.
- There has been little in depth analysis undertaken over the past 12 months allowing specific findings into crimes to be reported within this assessment.

Summary

The issue of sexual violence remains a priority, and in particular the service provision to victims. The profile of sexual harm has been raised both nationally by the previous Government and locally through the Plymouth Local Area Agreement.

The recording of all sexual offences has risen in April to September 2010 period, from 206 to 244 in same period in 2009, a rise of 18%. This rise is recognised as a positive result of increased reporting due to confidence in sexual offence victim services.

Within this Plymouth has seen a 57% rise (+28 offences) in reported rape cases (including attempted rape) which again is seen as positive both locally and nationally as being linked to increased confidence to report. The national estimate of how many sexual assaults are unreported remains high.

The level of recorded sexual offences which have been detected in April to September 2010 has improved to 36%, compared to all of 2009/10 when detection rate was 31%.

Locally, Police have set a target to increase rape detection to 20% and up to September 2010 has improved from 12% to now 21%. This performance on detections has resulted in Plymouth rising from the position of worst within its quanta most similar group to being 4th best.

The issue of service provision for victims of serious sexual assault within Plymouth remains a priority with funding the major issue. Work is currently being undertaken within the wider partnership to secure the future of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC). A business plan is scheduled to be produced in November 2010 for consideration by the partnership which will be informed by a local needs analysis currently being undertaken by the Health service. In the event of no financial commitment being found by the end of March 2011, the SARC will be closed.

Recommendations

- Safe and Strong group to agree a way forward for commissioning towards provision to victims of sexual violence, particularly SARC services, based on resources available.
- Domestic Abuse/ Sexual Violence group to consider the requirement for City wide profile into Sexual Offences to better understand current crime patterns, identifying repeat vulnerable locations.

5.5 Anti-Social Behaviour

Key Issues

- National changes in emphasis of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents will have to be adopted by the partnership and will impact on how we record ASB. New proposals will focus on three key areas of Personal, Environmental and Nuisance enhancing focus on victims, witnesses and repeat vulnerable locations.
- Limitations to current recording of incidents makes regular identification of key issues difficult, due to the wide range of incidents currently recorded as ASB.
- A locally agreed replacement for the Place Survey needs to be identified in order to capture the current concerns and issues in Plymouth communities.
- Although there have been some improvements implemented through the regular ASB Champions meetings, further steps still need to be taken to improve the sharing of information between different departments (for example improvement of sharing between Youth Offending, MAPPA and Anti-Social behaviour unit (ASBU)).
- ASBU to take control of the issuing of ABC Contracts and ASB letters to enhance the ability of the Partnership to monitor those known to be involved in committing ASB.

- Youth related ASB is most prevalent in the neighbourhoods of City Centre, Honicknowle, Stonehouse, Barne Barton, Ham and Whiteleigh.
- The Partnership have responded to a number of ASB issues raised over the past 12 months and longer, the City currently has in place dispersal orders in the following areas; Ham, City Centre, Mount Wise, Eggbuckland, St Budeaux and Home Park.
- The predicted withdrawal of Government grant that currently funds the Family Intervention Programme, will put this intervention at risk;

Summary

The recently published Home Office structural reform plans shows that ASB remains high on the agenda of the Coalition government with the desire to empower 'police forces and local communities to deal better with the anti-social behaviour and crime that blights people's lives'. There are likely to be a number of changes that are brought about by the change of Government.

The Home Secretary has already announced that there will be changes made to the current Anti-Social Behaviour Order system (ASBO), which are likely to be abolished and replaced by punishments that should be 'rehabilitate and restorative' rather than 'criminalising'¹⁹.

The impact of Anti-Social behaviour has recently been evidenced through the emergence of a gang, now subject to a Police operation whose members have caused serious levels of ASB and related crime across the City, including the attempted murder of a Police Community Support Officer. The first two quarters of 2010/11 has seen a reduction of 16% in all ASB incidents (based on Police CIS system), equating to 1850 less incidents when compared to the same period in 2009/10. Levels of anti-social behaviour have shown a steady reduction for a sustained period since 2007, it is unlikely that levels will continue to reduce and the City can expect a levelling out of reporting. A number of these incidents represent those that members of the public are most concerned about, such as speeding traffic or teenagers hanging around on the street.

However, a number of priorities often identified through public based surveys highlight issues that do not necessarily get reported on the Police system as an ASB incident, for example the dropping of litter.

The Government has proposed that they will be undertaking a review of Anti-Social behaviour which is likely to include a look at how incidents are classified, although there is no confirmation as to how this will look. It is however, likely to impact on recording processes for the partnership and in turn impact on performance levels, therefore we could go through a period where it is difficult to evidence a rise or reduction in levels of reporting until the new criteria has become established. Any changes may however provide an opportunity to improve our knowledge on specific problems that are most affecting people.

¹⁹ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-10792025>

The multi agency partnership group continues to focus on ASB issues identified through regular analysis, whilst the more 'task and finish' focused ASB Champions group also continues to meet, at which individuals who are persistent offenders are discussed and actions considered/problem-solving takes place. The most prevalent types of ASB, based on Police recording methods are those that relate to 'Rowdy/Inconsiderate behaviour', representing in the first 4 months of 2010/11 58% of all ASB incidents recorded.

Other categories of offences that record significantly high numbers relate to neighbourly disputes, issues relating to vehicles, malicious/nuisance communication and 'Rowdy/nuisance behaviour' not relating to neighbours.

All areas of the City record incidents of youth related ASB, although there are 2 neighbourhoods that record significantly higher levels, these are the City Centre and Honicknowle. Due to limitations in the recording of ASB incidents it is difficult to identify specific issues involving young people, and in particular whether alcohol was a contributing factor. Previous analysis has identified that approximately 50% of ASB related incident reported within the North and East Local Policing Area of the City were youth related.

Concerns have been raised regarding future funding for the Family Intervention programme (FIP), a programme providing long term intensive packages of support to those families involved in significant anti-social behaviour. The support provided through the program has produced fantastic results, as evidenced via a University of Plymouth evaluation. Government estimates suggest that families within these cohorts cost between £81,000 - £250,000+ per year, however the cost to put a family through the FIP is £10,000. Currently the programme is funded through a Government grant with no funding from other local agencies, save the Police who provide a full time Police Officer to the program.

Recommendations

- Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to host a consultation event for partners relating to Government proposals for tackling ASB and the shift toward three key areas of harm, risk and vulnerability of victims and witnesses.
- Delivery group to be prepared to respond to changes in the classification of ASB incidents to 'Personal', 'Environmental' and 'Nuisance', set out in proposals to tailor ASB services more directly to the needs of victims and witnesses.
- Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to be responsible for issuing ABC Contracts and ABC Letters, enhancing the ability to monitor ASB offenders.

5.6 Violent Crime

Key Issues

- Plymouth continues to perform poorly when compared to other similar areas for its levels of serious violence (14TH out of 15 at end of October), based on iQuanta. Whilst its performance on less serious violence is also not encouraging, being consistently mid ranked (11TH out of 15) within the most similar family group.
- The area recognised as the Evening and Night time economy continues to represent the area most affected by violence committed within a public place.
- Males aged between 18 and 24 remain the most likely to be linked to violence as either a victim or as an offender. Ongoing work is aimed at establishing a process of identifying repeat offenders, encompassing all violent offenders, not solely those under the supervision of MAPPA or Probation services (Including Integrated Offender Management).
- Alcohol remains the largest single contributor to violent crime across the City, with a high proportion of offences committed within a public place and private location perceived to have been influenced by the presence of alcohol.
- The issues concerning alcohol have been raised via a key issues document produced by Community Safety, resulting in alcohol being adapted as a key City priority.
- High numbers of licensed premises within a large night time economy who are experiencing reducing revenue could lead to an increase in cheap drinks offers and poorer management through the reduction or cutting of door staff such as security/ glass collectors.
- Availability of cheap alcohol within the off license trade has over a sustained period led to an increase in the numbers of people who are well in drink when they start an evening out, leading to potential altercations when attempting to enter licensed premises.
- Offences linked to domestic violence have been identified as a concern, representing a significant proportion of all violent crime, particularly within the home. The issue as to which partnership delivery group responds to crime analysis should be decided.
- Devonport and Stonehouse neighbourhoods have been identified as the most prevalent areas of the City with regard to levels of violence linked to domestic violence.

Summary

Levels of violence being recorded in the City continues to show a reduction in overall offences resulting in an injury, however continuing high levels of most serious violence remains a concern.

The first two quarters of 2010/11 saw a reduction in levels of Assault with less serious injury (ABH and Malicious Wounding) of 7%, (82 fewer offences/victims). The City is on target to achieve the LAA target relating to NI20 (assault with less serious injury).

However levels of the most serious violence (made up primarily of Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) with Intent and GBH without Intent) continues to be high, with the City ranked worst within its iQuanta group of similar sized Cities, for the first two quarters of 2010/11 levels of serious violence had increased by 22%, an increase of 36 offences compared to the same period in 2009/10. The recent improvement in sharing data from the Accident and Emergency department has however; worryingly highlighted the issue of underreporting of violent offences, data suggested that in July 2010 alone 68% of people who attended A&E and who were victim of assault did not report the incident to the Police.

Regular analysis is undertaken into offences and has highlighted for a sustained period the continuing concerns in relation to violence being committed within the Evening and Night time economy (ENTE), namely Union Street, City Centre and North Hill.

Plymouth currently hosts a large Night time economy that caters for 24 hours drinking, with various opening hours making it possible to buy alcohol at all times of the day. Concerns have also been raised by the local Police licensing Sergeant regarding the high number of licensed premises, and indeed those premises that focus solely on the selling of alcohol.

Low alcohol prices available within supermarkets and the 'off license' trade in general has resulted in lower revenue for licensed premises within the City, resulting in low-price drink offers and presenting a risk of poorer management of venues.

Further effects of 'cheap' alcohol within the off license trade has over a number of years developed a drinking culture whereby people will drink heavily before going out. Recent evidence from 'cell based intervention' interviews is suggesting a number of recent offenders have committed a violent offence early in their evening out, possibly as a result of leaving home already heavily in drink.

The Government is undertaking an alcohol consultation, along with a review of licensing laws. Any changes are likely to impact on resources, particular with regard to the policing of the ENTE, although key changes affecting areas such as the licensing laws are unlikely to come into force until 2012.

At the start of 2010/11 Plymouth became part of the Tackling Knife Crime Action Plan (TKAP) scheme, aimed at reducing knife crime and serious youth violence, focusing on victims of violence aged between 13 and 24 years. The City received £140k in funding from the Home Office to support an action plan compiled by the partnership violent crime delivery group. Fortunately, however, the City does not currently suffer from high numbers of knife related incidents, and of those it does, a high number do not involve young people and tend to be domestic related.

The funding has however allowed a focus on serious violence, with the action plan based around initiatives considering prevention, intervention and enforcement interventions. Funding for these initiatives comes to an end in March 2011, increasing the pressure to try and incorporate successful initiatives into mainstream work.

Beyond the recognised ENTE boundaries concerns have recently been regarding the continually high proportion of violence linked to domestic abuse, and its apparent link to more deprived areas of the City. Devonport and Stonehouse neighbourhoods have consistently recorded the highest numbers of Domestic related incidents and violence.

Interrogation of locally produced crime data identified that between August 2009 and July 2010 there were approximately 73 domestic related serious violence offences (18% of all serious violence) and 672 domestic related ABH/ Malicious wounding (30% of all offences). Recently discussions have been held as to which of the violent crime or domestic abuse/ sexual violence partnership delivery group should take control of responses to issues raised through analysis of domestic abuse offences.

Recommendations

- The Violence Delivery group and partners to support the LSP Strategic lead on Alcohol. Adapting working practices and priorities accordingly to assist in delivery against Alcohol related issues.
- Safe and Strong theme group to be aware of, and adapt to risks posed by the loss of funding towards the violent crime delivery group.
- The reduction in levels of Serious Violence to remain the priority for the group, whilst maintaining focus on achieving LAA Target NI20 (Assault with Less Serious Injury).
- Delivery group to continue enhancement of data sharing with A&E department and other partners, ensuring best practice is identified and shared across the wider partnership.
- Delivery Group to ensure delivery against TKAP against plan in response to serious youth violence.

5.7 Hate Crime²⁰

Key Issues

- Levels of Racist incidents reported to Police and incidents within schools (reported to Council) have increased over the last few years.
- The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) estimates that most racist and religious hate crime, and as much as 90% of homophobic crime, goes unreported.

²⁰ Racial Equality Council

- Nationally, almost two thirds (65 %) of young lesbian, gay and bisexual pupils have experienced direct bullying. Even if gay pupils are not directly experiencing bullying, they are learning in an environment where homophobic language and comments are commonplace²¹.
- Nationally, 22% of disabled respondents had experienced harassment in public because of their impairment. Incidents of harassment were more acute among 15-34 year olds with 33% of this group of disabled people experiencing harassment.²²
- Nationally, 90% of people with learning disabilities had been bullied (that is, subjected to a disability hate crime or incident) in the preceding year. 66% of people with a learning disability have been bullied regularly with 32% of respondents stating that bullying was taking place on a daily or weekly basis²³.
- A 2006 survey of Gypsies and Travellers in Devon (including Plymouth) found that half of the respondents had experienced hate crimes against them - but only 17.5% of victims had reported incidents to the police.

Hate crime is a particularly serious crime that can compromise the quality of life for individuals and communities. It damages people and the wider social fabric of Plymouth.

The definition of hate crime is based on the Home Office's and the Association of Chief Police Officer's nationally agreed definition of hate crime.

"A hate crime is any incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by prejudice against a person's race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, asylum seeker status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability."

The trauma experienced by victims of hate crime is further aggravated as the perpetrator's motivation is grouped with hatred which results from their own prejudices. This means that the effect of a crime that may have had only limited impact on victim's lives is made worse due to the hate element, causing significant harm by reducing the victim's quality of life.

Hate crime is one of the most under-reported types of crime in Plymouth. However, levels of racist incidents reported to the Police has increased with 359 reported in 2009/10, a rise from 332 in 2008/09. There has also been a rise in the number of racist incidents within Plymouth's schools that are reported to the City Council, numbers in 2009/10 were 161 compared to 95 in 2007/08. Other reporting levels include; 120 homophobic incidents reported between April 2007 and March 2010, and 5 transphobic incidents. 17 disablist incidents reported to the police in Plymouth between April 2007 to March 2010 and 12 faith related incidents reported between April 2008 and March 2010.

²¹ Stonewall report "*The School report: The experiences of young gay people in Britain's schools.*"

²² *The Disability Rights Commission's "Attitudes and Awareness Survey (2003)"*

²³ Mencap's "*Living in Fear*" survey (2009)

The Racial Equality Council is currently writing a draft strategic plan, from which the information above has been provided. The plan will aim to raise the importance of a partnership response to issues relating to hate crime and make recommendations on how best to tackle the issue.

Recommendations

- Partners to ensure support for the adoption of Hate Crime as a level 2 priority within the LSP, ensuring link with equalities work undertaken within the LSP.

5.8 Preventing Violent Extremism

Key Issues

- At a National level the most significant terrorist threat to the UK comes from Al Qaeda and the current threat to the UK from international terrorism is judged to be severe. Whilst the threat from residual terrorism linked to Northern Ireland is a growing concern and the threat level has recently been raised from moderate to substantial.²⁴
- Three tiers of priority risks identified through National Security Strategy, Tier 1 being highest risks which are:²⁵
 - International terrorism affecting the UK or its interests
 - Hostile attacks upon UK cyber space
 - Major accident or natural hazard
 - An international military crisis
- The Government will continue to prioritise the counter-terrorism elements of policing and give counter-terrorism a higher priority than other areas of national security and public policy more generally.²⁶
- There will be a strong push from Special Branch to enhance engagement with Partners to improve data and information sharing, including Prevent delivery group and Social Inclusion Unit.
- The Prevent multi agency group continues at partnership level to work towards the raising awareness of Prevent (WRAP training, PVE Referral process) and the bringing together of communities.
- Annual Counter Terrorism local profiles to be completed for Plymouth, with the desire to make information more accessible to partners.
- The current assessment suggests that large scale disorder linked to support for the English Defence league is currently unlikely. The local threat remains to community cohesion, requiring a concerted effort across the partnership to target and tackle individuals where they breach the law, and to reassure communities that support is not widespread.
- Protest activity in relation to Trident is likely to increase until 2012; we anticipate that the Dockyard will remain a focus for protesters attention throughout the next decade. A negative decision regarding Trident

²⁴ Government Strategic Review of Security and Defence

²⁵ Government Strategic Review of Security and Defence

²⁶ Government Strategic Review of Security and Defence

could increase rather than decrease local protest activity, as decommissioning facilities are likely to accept international material.

- Cuts across the public and defence sectors, and ongoing implications of widespread recession mean that protest activity in the city likely to be increasingly frequent.

Summary of International Extremism

Prevent is one of the 4 strands of the CONTEST Strategy and has the overall aim of ‘stopping people from becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism’. History has shown that in many cases, those who perpetrate terrorist acts whether on their own or alternatively as part of groups or cells will often have been recruited, radicalised or otherwise influenced by others. Where individuals are at risk of being exploited or radicalised, there will often be early warning signs most likely to be identified in the first instance by concerned family, friends and professionals²⁷.

In October 2010 the Government revealed its Strategic Defence and Security review, within which violent extremism plays a big part. The review reiterates that counter terrorism elements of Policing will continue to be prioritised, and that counter terrorism is a higher priority than more general areas of national security and public policy.

The City currently has a multi agency delivery group in place to monitor Prevent, with the group working towards an action plan. One of the key strands within the action plan is the raising of awareness, through the provision of WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness Program) training for front line professionals and the raising of awareness programs within schools and the University of Plymouth. The group also monitors the City’s performance against National Indicator 35 – Prevention of Violent Extremism, with the City currently achieving level 3.

Within Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, preventing violent extremism is also a priority, with counter terrorism remaining on the Force Control Strategy for over 5 years. The recent Force Strategic Assessment highlights the concern by identifying the increasing complexity of international and domestic terrorism, with a number of different groups and the threats they pose at unprecedented levels. Alongside international terrorism, the troubles in Northern Ireland are once again causing concerns whilst domestic extremism groups continue to gain popularity.²⁸

In 2009 the force completed Counter Terrorism local profiles (CTLP) for Plymouth. An issue identified during this process was the requirement for enhanced engagement between Special Branch and partners, and in particular the need to improve sharing of information with regard to the makeup of the community and community tensions. Therefore Special branch analysts are determined to improve in this area and will be engaging with partners to enhance knowledge of Plymouth’s communities.

²⁷ Devon and Cornwall Constabulary

²⁸ Devon and Cornwall Constabulary Force Strategic Assessment

The Partnership has developed a PVE referral process, a multi-agency support programme aimed at giving community members and partners confidence to share information or pass on concerns.

Summary of Domestic Extremism²⁹

Support for the Defence League within the city involves a small number of individuals, many of whom are football risk supporters. Although information suggests that regular planning meetings take place at licensed premises within the city, and supporters have made aspiration statements about hosting national rallies, we continue to assess that large scale public disorder is unlikely.

The local threat remains to community cohesion, requiring a concerted effort across the partnership to target and tackle individuals where they breach the law, and to reassure communities that support is not widespread. Proactive responses to managing community tensions and rejecting misinformation spread by DL supporters remains important, to prevent the support base from growing.

A decision about Trident has been postponed until 2012, creating a window for environmentalists to focus attention on this issue. November's demonstration saw increasingly effective protest tactics being used to blockade Devonport, disrupting the city. Whilst protest activity is likely to increase until 2012, we anticipate that the Dockyard will remain a focus for protesters attention throughout the next decade. A negative decision regarding Trident could increase rather than decrease local protest activity, as decommissioning facilities are likely to accept international material. Protest activity could increasingly focus on the road and rail convoys moving nuclear waste.

Cuts across the public and defence sectors, and ongoing implications of widespread recession mean that protest activity in the city likely to be increasingly frequent. To date, student and political protests in Plymouth have been peaceful, but as people become more frustrated ongoing partnership efforts will be needed to ensure this remains the case.

Individuals (from either left or right wing) who become fixated on single issues to the point where they consider violence to achieve their cause is acceptable remain a significant risk to public security. Embedding the referral process for individuals of concern throughout partnerships is important, as 'lone wolf' activists are difficult to detect or disrupt through tradition policing avenues.

²⁹ Devon and Cornwall Constabulary

Recommendations

- Delivery group to be aware of, and ready to adapt to the Government direction in relation to the Prevent strategy and prevent violent extremism.
- Special Branch to enhance engagement with Partners to improve data and information sharing, including Prevent delivery group and Social Inclusion Unit.

5.9 Serious Acquisitive Crime

Key Issues

- Recent increase in levels of domestic burglary, and the apparent increase in small series of offences. Potentially an early warning as to the impact of public spending cuts and welfare reform.
- Anticipated changes to benefits systems and drug treatment have potential to impact negatively on levels of acquisitive crime, and in particular dwelling burglary.
- Levels of vehicle crime continue to reduce, both in terms of theft from and theft of, with geographical spread remaining largely unchanged.
- Improvement required in the monitoring of acquisitive crime needed at reducing re-offending delivery group.
- Plymouth maintains its position as the best (out of 15) within its iQuanta most similar family group of other Community Safety Partnerships.

Summary

Offenders who are dependent on drugs will primarily be active in committing acquisitive crime, such as dwelling burglary or vehicle crime. Within Plymouth there are a number of interventions available to assist offenders within their offending behaviour through the integrated offender management program. The City has for a sustained period recorded large reductions in acquisitive crime, in the first 2 quarters of 2010/11 there has been a 12% reduction in serious acquisitive crime (-176 offences) against the same period in 2009/10.

What is concerning is that for the first 2 quarters of 2010/11 the City was actually showing an increase of 12% (+51) in levels of dwelling burglary, fuelling concerns that the full effect of the UK recession on acquisitive crime has yet to be experienced, particularly with anticipated changes to the benefits systems and drug treatment.

In recognition of the lower levels of serious acquisitive crime, the more focused monitoring of acquisitive crime at a Partnership level has reduced and has been integrated through the recent merging of the Serious Acquisitive Crime with the Reducing Re-offending groups, however it is important that levels of serious acquisitive crime remain closely monitored through the reducing re-offending group.

Dwelling Burglary

Across the City there remain areas that pose a stubborn problem in relation to dwelling burglary. The most significant of these remains the central areas of the City, mainly made up of areas within the Mutley/Greenbank neighbourhood. Other areas of the City that have been the focus of in depth research into offences within the past 12 months are; Devonport, Honicknowle and Southway. Recently, however there has been an increase in the number of series identified, suggesting that recent increases are not random and may be as a result of heightened need for the funding of drug habits.

Nationally it has been recognised that levels of burglary has fallen by 7% in 2009/10. One of the most notable factors identified within the 2009/10 Home Office crime statistical bulletin is the national increase in the use of security devices within the home, with national figures highlighting that secured homes are much less likely to be the target of an offender.³⁰

Vehicle Crime

The overall picture with regard to vehicle crime remains a positive one for the City, with levels remaining consistently low. The City does continue to see the occasional series of offences, although due to the low numbers these series are usually identified quickly and resources allocated accordingly to tackle the problem locally.

Areas that have historically recorded the highest levels of Theft from Vehicle continue to do so, these neighbourhoods being; Stoke, Mutley/ Greenbank and the City Centre. Over the past 12 months several pieces of research has been undertaken, particularly into series of Sat Nav theft in the City Centre, as well as series of offences within Mutley Greenbank and Stoke. Nationally levels of theft from vehicle fell by 18% in 2009/10, highlighting that Plymouth is following the national trend.

Theft of Vehicle

Over the 12 month period up to the end of August 2010 levels of theft of vehicle in Plymouth fell by 13% (reduction of 23 offences), nationally large reductions have been recorded. Overall levels continue to be low, with series of this crime identified and resourced quickly.

Examples of series identified over the last 12 months include theft of low powered motorcycles, for which one offender admitted several offences and a recent number of vehicle thefts, potentially linked to an insurance scam. The increase in the proportion of modern day vehicles that have enhanced security systems in place, such as immobilisers should continue to keep theft of vehicle offences low.

³⁰ Home Office Crime in England and Wales 2009/10 Statistical Bulletin

Robbery

For the first 2 quarters of 2010/11 levels of Personal Robbery have reduced within the City by 1% (-2 offences). This level of performance has maintained Plymouth's position towards the top of the iQuanta family group of most similar cities. The majority of offences continue to be centred in and around the City Centre with the neighbourhoods of the City Centre, Stonehouse and East End. Over the past 12 months there has been just one notable series of offences. In this case involving a series of knife related robberies, against which offenders have been charged. The reductions that we have seen in Plymouth match the overall national trend which saw a reduction of 5% in 2009/10.

Recommendations

- Reducing Re-offending Delivery group to continue responsibility for Serious Acquisitive Crime, and the monitoring of the profile of offenders.
- Partnership and Police Analysts maintain close monitoring of dwelling burglary and ensure both Police and partners are informed of rises/ trends through the partnership and Police tactical assessment process.

5.10 Safeguarding Children

The Children's trust within the City produces a Children and Young People plan, the latest of which is currently being formulated; the completed plan will outline the City's approach to safeguarding children for the next three years. Some key information to come out of the Children's trust in the recent Plymouth report is;

- Safeguarding of children in the City is seen as very strong by Ofsted following their recent inspection.
- A number of areas have been identified as a strength within the recent self-assessment of Safeguarding and Children in Care Services; these can be identified within the recent Plymouth Report and include the following with possible links to crime; addressing bullying, the approach to mental health of children, domestic violence, missing children and hidden harm.
- The child-centred approach is very strong throughout the Trust and Safeguarding Boards with good safeguarding training in place. The Multi Agency Public Protection MAPPA arrangements are good, the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Protocol MARAC is well established, while Ofsted viewed the Survivors Educating and Empowering Domestic Abuse Services (SEEDS) project as an outstanding example of empowering service users.

5.11 Youth Offending

Key Issues

- Priority targets for the Youth Offending Service (YOS) include Levels of first time entrants and rates of re-offending.
- Partnership funding of the YOS is likely to be reduced placing a strain on the unit's resources.
- The recent announcement of the departure of the Youth Justice Board and the challenges and changes this brings, which are unclear.
- Possibility of increased demand on Youth service, brought about by increased youth unemployment, and increased offending among school leavers.
- Violence, Theft and Criminal Damage are the most common crimes committed by young people.
- 'Family and Relationships' and 'Lifestyle' have the biggest impact on a young persons offending behaviour.
- The Streetwise team face the loss of funding of 2 workers in 2011, placing a strain on resources, and their ability to provide key intervention work.

The 2009 Strategic Assessment reported on the concern that there will be an increase in the numbers of young people who are neither in education, employment or training. The continuing financial situation in the country ensures that this concern remains with previous research into recessions within the UK has identified that 'many young people who left school with few or no qualifications ended up shuttling between labour market programmes, inactivity and unemployment, accumulating long spells of stigmatising joblessness'³¹. There is a danger that increased youth unemployment could result in increased offending among school leavers, and in turn result in increased demand on the Youth offending service, and other areas of the youth service like the Streetwise team.

Data provided by the YOS has identified a number of key areas in relation to youth offending. The most common offences committed by people under YOS supervision are Violence against the person, Public order, Theft and Handling and Criminal Damage. For all ages from 12 to 17 males outnumber females in terms of offender numbers, with the overall numbers of offences increasing through the different age categories. Overall 62% of offences were committed by males aged 15 to 17, compared to 16% by females of the same age group.

Some of the headlines based on 12 month data (2009/10) provided highlight that North Prospect, Plympton and St Budeaux each have in excess of 30 young people and also record the highest number of offences. North Prospect and Plympton also have the highest numbers of First time entrants.

³¹ <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/PO/releases/2009/september/recessionbritain.aspx>

Data provided from YOS Asset data also allows us to identify key influences on a young persons offending behaviour. This data shows us that there are a number of influences that are prevalent in young people from across the City as a whole. These influences are 'Family and Relationships' and 'Lifestyle' that influence young offenders from each area, with the exception of Plymstock.

Other findings identify that 'Substance Misuse' is a bigger influence on offenders in the South West and Central/ North East areas, whilst 'Mental health' scores higher in the South West and Plympton areas.

Practitioners and youth workers continue working in partnership with the police and staff from the Anti-social behaviour unit and others within the wider Services for Children and Young People's directorate by targeting 'hotspots' where it is identified that young people are raising significant concerns within their community.

Concerns continue to be raised with regard to funding restrictions, particularly relating to staff within the Streetwise team, with the potential loss of 2 workers in 2011 against the backdrop of possible increases in youth crime resulting on a real squeeze on resources.

5.12 Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

The following information into safeguarding vulnerable adults has been taken from the latest annual report of the Plymouth Safeguarding Adults Board, which provides details of both the board's commitment and achievements in safeguarding the citizen's of Plymouth. A lot of good work has been undertaken within the City strengthening the safeguarding processes in place, some of which are as follows;

- During 2009/10 service users involvement in training became genuine elements of the safeguarding framework and the training strategy.
- The communication strategy was strengthened and received funding to enable every household in Plymouth to receive safeguarding awareness raising leaflets.
- Training for GPs was made mandatory by Plymouth NHS.
- Establishment of a Serious Case review panel to review commissioning, completion and action planned learning from a unique Serious Case Review.
- Appointment of an independent Chair person to chair operational meetings increasing capacity within the Safeguarding team.
- 2009/10 saw significant increases in numbers of referrals and increases in referrals from service users themselves.
- Referrals increased from 393 to 568 (+45%), indicating training and communication strategies are working well.
- People who use the Learning Disability Service remain the group with the highest rate of alerts concerning alleged abuse.

- The innovative work of the Review Team and the strong commitment from the Commissioning Team resulted in the Council winning a national award for the work of the Dignity in Care Homes Forum.

5.13 Organised Criminal Groups

The Government has highlighted that organised crime within the UK poses a significant and persistent threat to the UK public and economy and this is likely to increase over the next five years.³² A change of approach to tackling the issue is required and will be driven by the revised UK Threat Assessment and the forthcoming Organised Crime Strategy.

Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) continue to operate within Plymouth and ongoing analysis increases our understanding of organised criminality at Force, Regional and National level. Current intelligence suggests that OCGs in Plymouth are largely involved in the supply and distribution of drugs. Most intelligence relates to cocaine, although this is almost certainly not the most problematic drug in Plymouth. 'Legal high' drugs continue to feature in Plymouth but do not appear to be strongly linked with organised criminal groups. Other strands of organised criminality that these OCGs are involved in include violence, acquisitive crime and people trafficking.

It is important for all partner agencies to be aware that known intelligence does not paint the whole picture of organised criminality in Plymouth. Partner agencies are very likely to have first sight of organised criminality within the City and it is essential that intelligence is generated and momentum maintained from every possible source.

In the last Strategic Assessment it was reported that the economic conditions facing Plymouth were likely to result in a rise in the number of OCGs, their level of activity and a diversification. However, the current intelligence picture suggests that there is a reasonable amount of stability in the groups at the present time. Intelligence led policing is the only way that these groups can be disrupted.

5.14 Human Trafficking

Although the intelligence picture is limited, police warrants and some community intelligence indicates that human trafficking, mainly for the purposes of sexual exploitation are ongoing in the City. It is suspected that in part at least the activity relates to national organised crime groups.

The identification of human trafficking within sexual services is hampered by the presence of some people who are, to some extent, working voluntarily in the industry but then become further exploited.

³² Government Strategic Review of Security and Defence

5.15 Criminal Damage

The City has for a number of years seen large reductions in the levels of Criminal Damage being recorded. In the first two quarters of 2010/11 we have seen a reduction of 18% in all Criminal Damage (436 fewer incidents), this follows on from even greater decreases in the previous year. Although we have continued to record lower levels than last year.

The relatively static trend so far this year would suggest that we have seen a plateau in the levels of offences recorded. The geographical spread of all types of Criminal Damage highlights neighbourhoods that historically have recorded the highest numbers, although each of these areas have seen large reductions in numbers. Issues relating to Criminal Damage continue to be monitored at the ASB and Criminal Damage partnership delivery group.

5.16 Shoplifting

Crime performance figures have been identified for shoplifting within the City; which identifies that, for the second year running, levels have reduced up to the end of August 2010. Levels within South Central LPA have reduced by 1.9% (-8 offences), whilst there has been a significant reduction in Devonport and West LPA of 50%(-80). In contrast North and East LPA have recorded an increase of 10.2% (+13).

Although the real levels of Shoplifting historically is unknown due to under reporting, what national information that is available would strongly suggest that Plymouth continues to buck the national trend for Shoplifting, with evidence suggesting other areas are experiencing an increase. Plymouth currently stands 4th within the iQuanta most similar group.

5.17 Theft from the Person

Nationally the British Crime survey (BCS) shows that in 2009/10 levels of Theft from the person decreased in England and Wales. In addition the same suggests that the risk of being a victim has also decreased compared with the 2008/09 BCS. Levels of theft have fallen across all LPA's within the City. Plymouth is placed 2nd within the iQuanta most similar group.

Appendix 1

Key Strategic Recommendations

The following recommendations represent the key high levels strategic recommendations for consideration at the Safe and Strong theme group.

No.	Recommendations	Lead	Due by
1.	<p>All partners to support the strengthened strategic partnership approaches, such as supporting the cross cutting enablers identified within the 'Plymouth Report' that relate to Crime and Disorder. These being; the impact of alcohol across the City, Domestic Abuse and provision to victims, and Drugs.</p> <p>And to support the priorities identified within the Strategic Assessment in relation to crime and disorder. These being; Provision of Domestic Abuse services, provision of Sexual Abuse services, Anti-Social Behaviour, Alcohol Related Violence, Reducing re-offending and Hate Crime.</p>	Safe and Strong Theme Group	Ongoing
2.	Safe and Strong group to agree a way forward for commissioning and delivery of the integrated domestic abuse priorities beyond 2011, based on resources available.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011
3.	Safe and Strong group to agree a way forward for commissioning towards provision to victims of sexual violence, particularly SARC services, based on resources available.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011
4.	Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to host a consultation event for partners relating to Government proposals for tackling ASB and the shift toward three key areas of harm, risk and vulnerability of victims and witnesses.	Manager of Anti-Social Behaviour Unit	March 2011
5.	The Violence Delivery group and partners to support the LSP Strategic lead on Alcohol. Adapting working practices and priorities accordingly to assist in delivery against Alcohol related issues.	Chair of Violent Crime Delivery Group	January 2011
6.	Safe and Strong theme group to be aware of, and adapt to risks posed by the loss of funding towards the violent crime delivery group.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	January 2011

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7.	Partners to ensure support for the adoption of Hate Crime as a level 2 priority within the LSP, ensuring link with equalities work undertaken within the LSP.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011
8.	Safe and Strong to note new Government's announcement of forthcoming Crime strategy particularly the developments relating to elected Crime Commissioners.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011
9.	Safe and Strong to note new Government's update to the Violence against Women and Girls strategy, and to support recommendations where appropriate.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011
10.	Safe and Strong to note new Government's Prevent strategy, and to support recommendations where appropriate.	Safe and Strong Theme Group	March 2011

Appendix 2

Sub Recommendations

Identified below are some sub recommendations, these have been allocated by the areas reported upon within the assessment.

Area	Recommendations	Lead	Due by
1. Reducing Re-offending	1a) Fast time sharing of arrest and intelligence information between Police and Probation would strengthen offender management and make it responsive to developing risks.	Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group	March 2011
	1b) Reducing Re-offending delivery group to be aware of, and in readiness for Government proposals in relation to reducing re-offending and the impact on partners in the City.	Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group	January 2011
	1c) City wide offender profile required to identify key areas of offending and where offender's live.	Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group	March 2011
	1d) The partnership supports improved data and intelligence sharing between Probation and partners to assist in identification of offenders, offending patterns and crime hotspots.	Partnership and Probation Analysts	March 2011
	1e) To support delivery of the emerging action plan from the Reducing Reoffending Strategy, this has been written at a peninsular level and will be adopted locally.	Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group	March 2011
	1f) Mapping exercise to be undertaken into 3 rd sector availability in the City, and how these organisations can be utilised in the management of offenders.	Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group	March 2011
2. Domestic Abuse	2a) Delivery Group to consider re-aligning its work and priorities to meet the requirements of the emerging Violence against Women and Girls strategy/guidance when it is released in 2011.	Chair of Domestic Abuse / Sexual Violence Delivery	March 2011

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	2b) Domestic Abuse delivery group to take responsibility for responding to monthly analysis and to be held responsible for performance.	Group Chair of Domestic Abuse / Sexual Violence Delivery Group	March 2011
3. Sexual Offences	3a) Domestic Abuse/ Sexual Violence group to consider the requirement for City wide profile into Sexual Offences to better understand current crime patterns which have seen a rise in offences, though stills sees high levels of under reporting.	Chair of Domestic Abuse / Sexual Violence Delivery Group	June 2011
4. Anti-Social Behaviour	4a) Delivery group to be prepared to respond to changes in the classification of ASB incidents, set out in proposals to tailor ASB services more directly to the needs of victims and witnesses.	Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Manager	March 2011
	4b) Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to be responsible for issuing ABC Contracts and ABC Letters, enhancing the ability to monitor ASB offenders.	Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Manager	March 2011
5. Violent Crime	5a) The reduction in levels of Serious Violence to remain the priority for the group, whilst maintaining focus on achieving LAA Target NI20 (Assault with Less Serious Injury).	Chair of Violent Crime Delivery Group	Ongoing
	5b) Delivery group to continue enhancement of data sharing with A&E department and other partners, ensuring best practice is identified and shared across the wider partnership.	Chair of Violent Crime Delivery Group	Ongoing
	5c) Delivery Group to ensure delivery against TKAP against plan in response to serious youth violence.	Chair of Violent Crime Delivery Group	March 2011

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<p>6. Preventing Violent Extremism</p>	<p>6a) Delivery group to be aware of, and ready to adapt to the Government direction in relation to the Prevent strategy and prevent violent extremism.</p> <p>6b) Special Branch to enhance engagement with Partners to improve data and information sharing, including Prevent delivery group and Social Inclusion Unit.</p>	<p>Chair of Prevent Delivery Group</p> <p>Partnership Analyst</p>	<p>March 2011</p> <p>January 2011</p>
<p>7. Serious Acquisitive Crime</p>	<p>7a) Reducing Re-offending Delivery group to maintain responsibility for Serious Acquisitive Crime, and the monitoring of the profile of offenders.</p> <p>7b) Partnership and Police Analysts maintain close monitoring of Dwelling burglary and ensure both Police and partners are informed of rises/ trends through the partnership and Police tactical assessment process.</p>	<p>Chair of Reducing Re-offending Delivery group</p> <p>Partnership Analyst</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

Appendix 3

This appendix provides information on some of the protected characteristics, as stipulated within the Equalities Bill 2010. Allowing some understanding of the diversity of the City, and where appropriate some of the issues facing people within these characteristic groups.

Protected Characteristics

Age

The number of people aged 75 and over within Plymouth is higher than that of the national average; this age group is also the one that will grow the fastest of any group, with predictions suggesting that levels will rise from 19,000 in 2008 to 31,000 in 2028. One of the challenges of this rise will be a doubling of the number of people requiring social care by 2025. Within Plymouth there are stark differences in the age distribution among the neighbourhoods, for example neighbourhoods recognised as being 'young' include Barne Barton, North Prospect and Chaddlewood whilst those seen as 'old' include Glenholt and Manadon. Other neighbourhoods such as Honicknowle and Plymstock have high numbers of both young and old people. When looking at the age distribution by locality, young people are quite evenly spread through the City, with the older population more concentrated in the East.

Disability

The proportion of people within Plymouth who are either permanently sick or disabled is higher than the national average, the national average is 5.5%, in Plymouth the proportion is 6.7%. The proportion of those with a long term illness is 20.6%, again higher than the national average of 18.2%. The South West locality has the highest proportion for both people with long term illness and people permanently sick or disabled. The most common type of disability within the City is deaf and hard of hearing (36,600), followed by those who suffer from some sort of mental illness (30,000).

Findings from the most recent place survey identified that disabled people tended to have the same levels of satisfaction within their area compared to the general population; however findings suggested they were more likely to perceive ASB as a problem and felt it was not always satisfactorily dealt with. Disabled children want better access to the City Centre, fairground rides, toilets, gym, cheaper transport and more social workers.

Race

The proportion of Plymouth's population that is made up of Black and Minority ethnic communities currently stands at 6.6%, with this proportion trebling over the past 10 years, and the trend is likely to continue upwards. The communities are made up of a number of different nationalities, each with different levels of establishment and levels of engagement with authorities.

Among the more established communities, it is recognised that improved levels of engagement still need to be established particularly with the Bangladeshi and Chinese communities. Other newer and emerging communities with whom better engagement is needed include the Malaysian, Philippine and Nepalese communities. Getting alongside these communities is important in order to better understand their needs and concerns with regards crime and community safety.

Faith and Belief

The Social Inclusion Unit holds estimates on the numbers of people within the City who follow a specific faith, these figures present how levels have changed since the 2001 census.

The census suggested that there were 177,000 active Christians within the City, although this figure is believed to have fallen. The faith that has seen the biggest rise in numbers is Islam with 2009 estimates suggesting there are approximately 4,500 followers, a rise from 885, the number identified by the census. Other faiths known to be represented within the City include Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish. The Council Social Inclusion Unit continues to have close working relations with people from different faiths, religions and beliefs.

Gender/ Gender re-assignment

51% of our population are women and 49% men. The Social Inclusion has provided some information about the differences between genders in the City, none of which is surprising, for example women are more likely to work part-time or look after home or family. Men on the other hand are more likely to be self employed. Key issues for men and women include the inclusion of fathers and flexible working, whilst for women key issues include the availability of public transport, bulky waste and safety in public places. Although we have little knowledge of the number of people within the City who have undergone gender re-assignment, we do know that nationally approximately 6,000 have undergone the re-assignment. Employment policies are one of the key issues for members of the trans gender community however the new Equality Act 2010 strengthens workplace protection for this community through the addition to the act on Gender Reassignment.

Sexual Orientation

Data remains sparse in relation to numbers in the City who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual, although nationally it is believed around 6-7% of the population fall into this category. Nationally, key issues include bullying at a young age and the risk of homelessness.

In Plymouth, the 'speak out' survey showed that 66% of people feel safe at night, except when attending a gay club. Other issues highlighted include the improvement in social attitudes and mental health as a concern.