

# **COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

11 JANUARY 2011

## **VICTIM SUPPORT SUNDERLAND**

### **REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY**

#### **CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES: CI01: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'**

### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee with information about Victim Support and how they work with the victims of violent crime.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 8 June 2010, the Committee agreed to pursue a review of alcohol, violence and the night time economy.
- 2.2 One of the terms of reference highlighted in the scoping report is outlined below
  - (f) To review support, resettlement and rehabilitation of victims and offenders by considering how victims are supported to live safely and how offender's substance misuse is addressed with the aim to reduce the chance of re-offending;
- 2.3 As part of the evidence gathering process, the Committee will receive A presentation from Victim Support Sunderland.

### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 Victim Support Sunderland work to help support the victims of crime. In doing so, they work closely with key partners such as the Council, housing providers and Northumbria Police.
- 3.2 As well as providing practical and emotional support to victims, they also help access better security measures, deal with insurance markets, liaise with the police and other agencies, help in applying for criminal insurance compensation and provide support throughout the court or criminal justice process.
- 3.3 Members will receive a presentation from Victim Support highlighting the work that they do.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 That the information provided and the comments of Members be included as part of the Committees Policy Review.

#### **5 Background Papers**

No background papers were used in this report.

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# **COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2011

## **HOW NORTHUMBRIA PROBATION TRUST WORKS WITH HIGH RISK DRINKERS WHO COMMIT VIOLENT OFFENCES IN SUNDERLAND**

### **REPORT OF NORTHUMBRIA PROBATION TRUST, HEAD OF OFFENDER MANAGEMENT, SUNDERLAND LOCAL DELIVERY UNIT**

#### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY**

**CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES: CI01: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To illustrate the work of the Northumbria Probation Trust and its partners in Sunderland in:-
  - a) Identifying violent offenders who are high risk drinkers.
  - b) Addressing their alcohol use and offending behaviour to protect the public from further offending and prevent the creation of new victims of violent crime.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 Over 50% of all violent crime in the North East is alcohol related.
- 2.2 In 2008-09, the Police in the North East dealt with 6,468 reported incidents of domestic abuse involving alcohol use.
- 2.3 Research in 2006 by NOMS North East revealed that approx 68% of offenders in the NE had an alcohol use disorder, as identified using the World Health Organisation Audit screening tool
- 2.4 More recently evidence from the Probation Trust's OASys risk assessment tool in the period January to February 2009 revealed that over 56% of male offenders and 43% of female offenders in Sunderland had a significant problem associated with their alcohol use
- 2.5 The estimated cost of alcohol linked offending to NPT, its Criminal Justice partners and the Licensing Agencies in the North East is between £232 - £385 million per annum.
- 2.6 Research shows that alcohol is 75% more affordable than it was 20 years ago.

- 2.7 A survey by Balance -the **North East** of England's alcohol office - revealed that alcohol is available for as little as 12p per unit. Some typical low cost products cost:-

Cider	£1.21 for 2 Litres
Vodka	£6.98 per Litre
Lager/Bitter	22p per can

- 2.8 Within this context, the Safer Sunderland Partnership provided funding from April 2009 for Probation and treatment staff to establish an Alcohol Treatment Requirement Team in Sunderland, working in conjunction with Turning Point.
- 2.9 Two Probation Offender Managers were co-located at Bridge House in central Sunderland with 3 DISC treatment staff. The team's initial target was to work with a minimum 70 offenders per year to address their alcohol misuse where their offending was violent and alcohol was a major contributory factor in their offending.
- 2.10 This group of staff has since become part of the larger IOM (Integrated Offender Management) Team.

### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 Referrals to the team come from our colleagues in the Turning Point team based at Gillbridge Police Station and probation colleagues in Sunderland. Offenders are approached at various stages prior to sentencing. They are asked to work through a short (20 questions) screening tool called AudiT (attached as appendix 1). Audit is a World Health Organisation devised screening tool.
- 3.2 Those who score under the Alcohol Treatment Requirement threshold of 20 points fall into the categories of "hazardous" (score of 8—15) or harmful (score 16—19) drinkers: They will typically be referred into contact with NECA, NERAF, Turning Point etc. either on a voluntary basis, or as part of a Court Order supervised by probation staff working from Hendon, Pennywell/Southwick or Houghton le Spring teams.
- 3.3 Offenders who have committed a violent offence and score 20+ points on the Audit screening are "flagged up" for the more intensive Alcohol Treatment Requirement. Close collaboration with Turning Point staff and colleagues in Probation teams allows us to identify and assess such individuals at various stages prior to sentencing. DISC and probation staff jointly assess offenders to gauge their suitability for an ATR and to put forward a comprehensive package of treatment and support.
- 3.4 Most ATR's are made for an initial period of 6 months but the intervention can be made for up to 3 years. The ATR forms part of an over-arching Court Order and obliges the offender to:-

- (a) "Submit to treatment by or under the direction of a specified person.....with a view to the reduction or elimination of the offender's dependence on alcohol.
  - (b) Each offender has to consent to the making of the ATR and to agree to the treatment plan which the team puts before the Court.
- 3.5 Typically the Court Order will combine a Supervision requirement with an Alcohol Treatment Requirement and an Accredited Programme Requirement (for example, ASRO – Addressing Substance Related Offending). Some offenders have committed offences of domestic abuse and they would be expected to attend the Community Domestic Violence accredited programme.
- 3.6 These elements of the Order are all supervised and compliance is rigorously enforced by probation staff working jointly with the Courts.
- 3.7 DISC staff add value to this process through the delivery of the treatment plan. Typically this begins with one to one brief intervention sessions to help the offender begin to safely reduce their drinking to less harmful levels. Work continues to stabilise their drinking and to help them establish a greater degree of equilibrium in their day to day life.
- 3.8 Each client is assessed for either community based or residential alcohol detoxification; our partner agency Counted 4 takes the clinical lead in this part of the process and the community-based detoxifications. A small number of bed spaces are funded at the Huntercombe Centre for residential detoxifications; the adult Drug and Alcohol team take responsibility for allocating funding for this resource, following a comprehensive assessment.
- 3.9 When a point of stability is reached, clients begin work with DISC and the Structured Day care Programme. One to one work and group work sessions based on evidence- based therapeutic models aim to rebuild the persons ability to manage their life with reduced alcohol use or abstinence.
- 3.10 The focus is on understanding what triggers their alcohol misuse and on learning to manage these factors. Offenders work on strengthening their own innate personal resources to overcome the personal, social and lifestyle factors that have led to the imbalance in their use of alcohol. Counselling and support run alongside this work , as do sessions on relapse prevention and a programme of community reintegration. Links are also made to community facilities that can provide ongoing support in developing a more "mainstream" lifestyle once the intensive period of the ATR is complete.
- 3.11 The Unit is in its second year of operation and has observed a positive level of compliance with the ATRs. It is difficult to extrapolate meaningful arrest / conviction data over such a short period of time, but

initial data from the police on a limited cohort shows a steady reduction in arrest data. Some offenders who might otherwise have served prison sentences have been successfully engaged in this disposal and very few of our clients have been seen again due to further offending.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report for the policy review.

#### **5 Background Papers**

n/a

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# AUDIT

## Appendix 1.

Questions	Scoring system					Your score
	0	1	2	3	4	
How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?	Never	Monthly or less	2 - 4 times per month	2 - 3 times per week	4+ times per week	
How many units of alcohol do you drink on a typical day when you are drinking?	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 6	7 - 8	10+	
How often have you had 6 or more units if female, or 8 or more if male, on a single occasion in the last year?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of your drinking?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
How often during the last year have you needed an alcoholic drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily	
Have you or somebody else been injured as a result of your drinking?	No		Yes, but not in the last year		Yes, during the last year	
Has a relative or friend, doctor or other health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested that you cut down?	No		Yes, but not in the last year		Yes, during the last year	

**Scoring:** 0 – 7 Lower risk, 8 – 15 Increasing risk, 16 – 19 Higher risk, 20+ Possible dependence

SCORE

**DRINKING BANNING ORDERS**

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services,  
CIO4: Improving Partnership Working to Deliver 'One City'.**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with information about Drinking Banning Orders (DBOs) which were introduced via the Violent Crime Reduction Act, 2006.

**2. Background**

2.1 DBOs are civil orders that can be sought by various authorities such as the Police, Transport Police and local authorities in England and Wales. They are a power that can be used to target those who abuse alcohol to the extent that it leads to alcohol related crime or disorder.

2.2 Orders can be made against individuals aged 16 or over if they have engaged in criminal or disorderly conduct while under the influence of alcohol. Orders can last between 2 months and 2 years. The aim is to protect the person from further conduct of that kind by prohibiting the individual from doing things prescribed in the order.

2.3 DBOs can result in an individual being banned from pubs, clubs and bars in defined areas. This means their details and photograph could be circulated to licensed premises within that area and they could be refused entry for the duration of the ban. They can also restrict the individual from drinking in a public place and entering any premises which sells alcohol; for example supermarkets.

2.4 The court can specify an approved course in the DBO if the individual consents. Approved courses are taken on a voluntary basis as a means to addressing behaviour involving alcohol misuse.

2.5 DBOs can be pursued within the following category of offences:

- Public Order Offences
- Criminal Damage
- Minor and Serious Assaults
- Violent Offences; and
- Traffic Offences



### **3. Current Position**

#### **DBOs on Application**

- 3.1 The Chief Officer of a Police Force, Chief Constable for British Transport Police or a local authority can make an application for a DBO (DBO on application).

#### **DBOs on Conviction**

- 3.2 The Court can impose a DBO when a person is convicted of an offence which relates to the person being under the influence of alcohol when the offence was committed. This is known as a DBO on conviction.
- 3.3 DBOs on conviction do not require the local authority to make an application to the Court. The Police will instruct the Crown Prosecution Service in those cases where there is merit to a DBO being attached to the offence being pursued in court.
- 3.4 The court will determine whether the offence was committed by the person under the influence of alcohol based on the circumstances of each individual case. If the court decides not to impose a DBO it must give its reason in open court.
- 3.5 The DBO on conviction comes into effect on the day in which it is made, or if the person is in custody at that time on which the person is released from custody.
- 3.6 Whilst DBOs on application have been introduced nationally, DBOs on conviction have been introduced in 25 local justice areas across the country. Sunderland is not included in the 25 areas at this stage.

#### **Prohibitions**

- 3.7 The purpose of prohibitions subject the individual from doing certain things described in the order. Prohibitions must be necessary to protect others from the individual's criminal or disorderly conduct while under the influence of alcohol.
- 3.8 It is the Court's role to decide what prohibitions are necessary. Prohibitions should:
- Be realistic and practical
  - Be clear, concise and easy to understand
  - Be specific when referring to matters relating to times and named sets of premises
  - Cover the range of criminal or disorderly conduct committed by the subject.

#### **Exemptions**

3.9 DBOs are designed to protect individuals and their property from a specific type of behaviour that occurs as a result of alcohol misuse and is often associated with binge drinking.

They are **not** appropriate if:

- A ban of longer than 2 years is needed (An ASBO may be more suitable).
- The behaviour is alcohol related but has clear links to attending a football match, whereby a Football Banning Order may be more appropriate.
- The person is subject to proceedings relating to domestic violence or non-molestation proceedings.
- It is not appropriate to seek a DBO on an individual who is vulnerable, particularly if they have drug or alcohol dependency or mental health problems.

### **Breaches**

3.10 A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, s/he does, anything that s/he is prohibited from doing by the order

3.11 There is no custodial penalty for breach of an order. Offenders who breach an order can be liable to a fine not over £2,500.

### **The Application Process Procedure**

3.12 The City Council's Safer Communities Officer – Violent Crime Reduction (SCO) will coordinate all DBOs.

#### 3.13 Collating Evidence

Police – The Police will collate all relevant information in relation to the subject. This will include details of arrests, statements and relevant information such as Pubwatch bans. The Police will check that the subject's detail are correct.

Local Authority – The local authority will collate all information including prohibitions and make the application to Court.

#### 3.14 Potential DBO Subject identified at LMAPS

Subjects may be identified via LMAPS and with approval of the Chair the details will be forwarded to the SCO to liaise with the Council's City Solicitor to consider if the subject meets criteria and investigate merit of pursuing a DBO. The information should also include information relating to prohibitions.

The SCO will feedback to the LMAPS Chair throughout the process.

## **Drinking Banning Orders Warning Letter**

- 3.15 A Drinking Banning Order warning letter can be sent to those people who have been arrested by Northumbria Police for certain offences relating to criminal or disorderly conduct whilst under the influence of alcohol.
- 3.16 The offences are within the categories listed below which enable Police and local authorities to pursue a Drinking Banning Order on subjects. This means that if the person is arrested for any of the listed offences within 6 months Northumbria Police and Sunderland City Council can initiate proceedings against them.
- Public Order Offences
  - Criminal Damage
  - Minor and Serious Assaults
  - Violent Offences; and
  - Traffic Offences
- 3.17 The City Centre Sergeant will liaise with the SCO on a weekly basis to establish those subjects who are suitable for a warning letter.

## **4 Recommendation**

- 4.1 Members are requested to note the report.

## **5. Background Papers**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs/alcohol/drinking-banning-orders>

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**POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL**

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the implications of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill with regard to the functions of the Council in licensing the sale of alcohol.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Members will be aware that the Home Office recently carried out a consultation exercise entitled 'Rebalancing the Licensing Act – A consultation on empowering individuals, families and local communities to shape and determine local licensing'. Subsequently the Home Office published their responses to this consultation, entitled 'Responses to consultation: Rebalancing the Licensing Act', and introduced the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill ('the Bill'). Part 2 of the Bill contains proposed amendments to the Licensing Act 2003.

**3.0 CURRENT POSITION / OVERVIEW**

- 3.1 The First Reading of the Bill occurred in Parliament on 30 November 2010.
- 3.2 A summary of the proposed major amendments to the Licensing Act is set out below.

**3.3 Responsible Authorities**

The Council, as the Licensing Authority, will become a 'responsible authority' so entitling it to consider a licence application without the need to receive relevant representations from other responsible authorities. Primary Care Trusts will also become 'responsible authorities'.

**3.4 Removing The Vicinity Test**

At present, the opportunity to make representations about prospective licences and requests for reviews of existing licences is restricted to 'responsible authorities' and 'interested parties'. Interested parties are required to live or conduct business 'in the vicinity' of the premises in question. The Bill proposes that the vicinity requirement will be removed, and representations will be allowed to be made by any person, irrespective of their location. Therefore, the concept of 'interested parties' will disappear and be replaced by persons who live or are involved in a business in the licensing authority's area and who are likely to be affected by a licensed premises. The same change is proposed with regard to the persons able to apply for the review of a licence.

### 3.5 Reducing The Evidential Burden On Licensing Authorities

At present, a Licensing Sub Committee of the Council may refuse an application for a licence where it considers it '**necessary**' for the promotion of the licensing objectives. These are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm.

The Bill proposes that licensing authorities will be able to refuse an application where they consider it '**appropriate**' for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The Home Office say that replacing the test of necessity with a test of appropriateness will lower the evidential hurdle for licensing authorities in making decisions. However, they also say that licensing authorities will still be required to ensure that their decisions are evidence-based and linked to the licensing objectives. In practical terms, this change may have little impact. Applications will still not be liable to be refused on the basis they are not wanted or not needed within a particular area. The perceived problems regarding large numbers of 'general dealers' in a particular area all applying to be able to sell alcohol will continue as before, with evidence being required before an application can be refused.

### 3.6 Temporary Event Notices

The Bill will extend the ability to object to temporary event notices (which allow the temporary use of a premises for licensed purposes) to Council Environmental Health departments and, also, extend the possible reasons for such objections to encompass all of the licensing objectives (therefore allowing potential noise nuisance to be considered) as opposed, merely as at present, to the prevention of crime and disorder. Licensing authorities will also be enabled to impose conditions on temporary event notices in specified circumstances. The Bill also proposes that temporary event notices may authorise licensable activities such as the sale of alcohol for up to seven days as opposed to the current four day limit. Another amendment will allow temporary event notices to be given no later than five working days before an event as opposed to the current ten day limit. Any counter notice decided by a Licensing Sub Committee following an objection must be given to the proposed premises user no later than 24 hours before the event.

### 3.7 Underage Sales

The Bill will increase the maximum fine for premises that persistently sell alcohol to persons under eighteen years of age from £10,000 to £20,000, and increase the period of suspensions which can be imposed on such premises by means of a closure notice. Such notices will have a minimum duration of two days and a maximum duration of fourteen days.

### 3.8 Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Orders

The Bill will allow licensing authorities to prevent the sale of alcohol from licensed premises in specified areas for periods of any duration between midnight and 6am through the making of 'early morning restriction orders'. Before any such order is made, the proposal to do so must be advertised and a hearing held if there are any relevant

representations received.

### 3.9 **Suspension Of Licences For Failure To Pay Annual Fees**

The Bill will allow licensing authorities to suspend a premises licence or club premises certificate for non-payment of an annual fee.

### 3.10 **Licensing Policy Statements**

Statements of Licensing Policy will be required to be reviewed every five years rather than every three years as at present.

### 3.11 **Late Night Levy**

Licensing authorities will be able to introduce a levy which will be payable by premises which supply alcohol for a period of any duration between midnight and 6am, although some premises may benefit from an exemption or discount. The Home Office say that the purpose of this levy is payment for additional policing and other services related to the consequences of alcohol on the night-time economy e.g. taxi marshals. At least 70% of the funds generated by the levy must be paid to the local policing body.

### 3.12 **Matters Not Covered By The Bill**

There are other issues which were raised by the consultation document but which, following the consultation, the Home Office are not pursuing in the Bill. These include:

- The proposal to make the prevention of health harm a licensing objective. The Home Office say that they want to ensure that this proposal is considered alongside wider work to address the harm to health of alcohol and that they will consider the best way to legislate on this issue in the future.
- The proposal to **remove** the requirement for evidence justifying the making of a cumulative impact policy. The Home Office say, rather, that they will amend their statutory guidance on the Licensing Act to **lower** this evidential hurdle.
- The proposal of banning sales below cost. The Home Office say that they are committed to taking forward proposals to implement a ban on sales below cost without delay but that this ban will not be in the Bill.
- The proposal to allow licensing authorities to set licence fees on a cost recovery basis. Although not in the Bill, the Home Office say that that they intend to enable this to happen.

## 4.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 Members are requested to note the contents of this report which advises Members of the implications of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill with regard to the functions of the Council in licensing the sale of alcohol.

## **5.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 5.1 Home Office consultation document: 'Rebalancing the Licensing Act – A consultation on empowering individuals, families and local communities to shape and determine local licensing';
- 5.2 Home Office document: 'Responses to consultation: Rebalancing the Licensing Act'; and
- 5.3 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill.

## **6.0 GLOSSARY**

- 6.1 None.

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**ALCOHOL, VIOLENCE AND THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY:  
PROGRESS REPORT**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services,  
CIO4: Improving Partnership Working to Deliver 'One City'.**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with ongoing progress in relation to this years policy review: Alcohol, Violence and the Night time Economy

**2. Background**

- 2.1 An initial scoping document providing several options for detailed focus was presented to the Committee on 6th July 2010. A further report was presented at the 14th September 2010 meeting which added structure to the review and further focus on the subject area
- 2.2 The title of the review was agreed as Alcohol, Violence and the Night time Economy. It was agreed that a task and finish group would be set up to investigate Licensing and enforcement of the city's Licensing Policy.

**3. Progress update**

**City Centre Visit**

- 3.1 On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010 Members met with Sergeant Bruce Clifford and Sergeant Mick Hall at Gillbridge Police Station. The visit began at 10:45pm and Members initially observed the CCTV in operation. Members then accompanied the police on foot around the City Centre visiting the main drinking areas.
- 3.2 A summary of the evidence gathered from the visit is included as Appendix A of this report and the main issues identified from the visit are highlighted below:
- Extending the Licensing hours beyond 3:00am have caused issues with regard to the policing of the night-time economy. Due to shift patterns a number of police officers finish their shift at 3:00am leaving a smaller number to deal with problems after this time. Options have been explored with regard to changing shift patterns however, none have



been viable. It was considered that if all premises were to close by 3:00am this would significantly improve the policing of the night time economy.

- Minimum Pricing could contribute towards a safer night time economy and it was believed by the Officers that the majority of premises would welcome the introduction of this. Concerns have been raised in the past regarding the price that Supermarkets sell alcohol for as a number of people in the City Centre will drink in the home or with friends prior to entering the City Centre.
- Police maintain positive relationships with licensees and door staff regularly communicating throughout the evening. The Committee observed the police speaking to the Manager from a new premises. It was acknowledged that many premises are happy to fully engage with the police and take on board suggestions to make their premises safer. Liquid was highlighted as a particularly good example with a pro active approach displayed by the management at the premises. There are however premises where the approach is not as positive with regard to safe drinking.

3.3 It was agreed that a maximum of three members would attend each visit and further visits will be arranged for February 2011

#### **Task and Finish Group**

3.4 The second meeting of the task and finish group was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2010. Members met with Sarah Howson and Bill Sproats, Licensing Co-ordinators from Northumbria Police. Tom Terrett, Trading Standards and Licensing Manager was also in attendance.

3.5 Information was provided to the group about key police operations including Operations Barracuda , Calculate and Jaws.

3.6 The next meeting of the task and finish group will take place in January where the group will consider the views of a Licensee .

#### **4 Recommendation**

4.1 Members are requested to note the report as evidence for the policy review and those members who were in attendance are invited to share their views.

#### **5. Background Papers**

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### Key observations from City Centre visit.

- The clientele was more diverse than an average night perhaps due to Christmas Parties.
- At the time of the visit, the Park Lane area was particularly busy.
- Digital media was displayed at Park Lane on a Digi van highlighting key safety messages.
- The type of music can have an effect on the incidents of violence at a premises. This may be due to the clientele the music attracts. Those premises that attract younger clientele are thought to experience the most problems.
- As many people are entering the town already drunk it is important that they are not served more drink. It was noted by the police that it can be difficult in a cramped pub for a server to establish if someone is drunk or not. Members entered a premises to observe the environment, The point of entry was highlighted as key in this instance as door staff would be more easily able to identify a drunk customer.
- Members met Street Pastors on the visit. These are considered successful in contributing to a safer environment.
- Take-aways near to premises with later opening hours have also experienced problems with violent incidents with one premises employing door staff at the advice of the police.
- Members observed taxi marshalls at key locations in the City Centre.
- Cheap promotions contribute to levels of crime. Reference was made to a premises selling shots of vodka for 40p. The premises was able to afford this by charging an entry fee.
- It was observed that with the later opening hours people are coming out later and drinking prior to entering the pubs.
- Nights that are considered to be busier are at the beginning and end of the month and Bank Holidays. If there are football matches this can also have an impact on the levels of crime and specific reference was made to "Derby Day".

# **COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

11 JANUARY 2011

## **WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11**

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Strategic Priorities: SP3 – Safer City**

**Corporate Priorities: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4: Improving partnership working to deliver ‘One City’.**

#### **1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members’ information, the current work programme for the Committee’s work during the 2010-11 Council year.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priorities of Safer City, support delivery of the related themes of the Local Area Agreement, and, through monitoring the performance of the Council’s services, help the Council achieve its Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and C104 (improving partnership working to deliver ‘One City’).

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. The work programme allows Members and officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.

#### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that have taken place at the 7 December 2010 Scrutiny Committee meeting. The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2010-11.

#### **5 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

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	JUNE 8.6.2010	JULY 6.7.10	SEPTEMBER 14.9.10	OCTOBER 12.10.10	NOVEMBER 9.11.10	DECEMBER 7.12.10	JANUARY 11.1.11	FEBRUARY 8.2.11	MARCH 8.3.11	APRIL 05.4.11
<b>Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>			Anti-social Behaviour Feedback from Cabinet							
<b>Policy Review</b>	Proposals for policy review (Claire Harrison)	Scope of review – (CH)  Tackling Serious Youth Violence (KH)  Review of the Council's Licensing Policy Statement (TT)	Setting the Scene (LD/KH)	Neighbourhood Helpline update (LSL)  Best Bar None and Pubwatch (LH)  Policy Review update (CH)	Cardiff Model – A&E (KL)  SSP Marketing (JS)  Street Pastors (DB)  Policy review update (CH)	Balance (SR)  PCT interventions (NC)	Probation (KR)  Victim Support (GT)  DBOs (KH)  Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill (TT)  Policy Review update (CH)	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Final Report
<b>Performance</b>			Performance and Value for money assessment			Performance Q2				Performance Q3
<b>Scrutiny</b>	Request to attend conference (CH)  Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Poverty of Place Visit (SB)  Feedback from Conference  Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan (SA)	Policing in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Consultation (SD)  Feedback from Poverty of Place Visit (CH)  Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Victims Champion  Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Out of hours schools (RB)  Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (SA)  Forward Plan
<b>CCFA/Members items/Petitions</b>										

# COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11 JANUARY 2011

## FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2011 – 30 APRIL 2011

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 January 2011 – 30 April 2011 which relate to the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee.

#### 2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Forward Plan contains matters which are likely to be the subject of a key decision to be taken by the Executive. The Plan covers a four month period and is prepared and updated on a monthly basis.
- 2.2 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of a decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 Members requested that only those items which are under the remit of the Committee be reported to this Committee. The remit of the Committee covers the following themes:-

*Safer Sunderland Strategy; Social Inclusion; Community Safety; Anti Social Behaviour; Domestic Violence; Community Cohesion; Equalities; Food Law Enforcement; Licensing Policy and Regulation; Community Associations; Registrars*

- 2.4 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

#### 3. Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are asked to note that there are no items in the current Forward Plan relating to the remit of this Committee.

#### **4. Background Papers**

- 4.1 There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

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