

Management Scrutiny Committee

29th April 2010

Performance Report Quarter 3 (April – December 2009)

Report of the Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to provide Management Scrutiny Committee with a performance update relating to the period April to December 2009. This quarter the report includes:

- Progress in relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators
- Progress in relation to the Scrutiny Policy Review Recommendations
- Results of the annual budget consultation which took place during October / November 2009.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Members will recall that a new national performance framework was implemented during 2008/2009. This includes 198 new National Indicators which replaces previous national performance frameworks. As part of this new framework 49 national indicators have been identified as key priorities to be included in the Local Area Agreement (LAA). Performance against the priorities identified in the LAA and associated improvement targets have been reported to Scrutiny Committee throughout 2009 as part of the quarterly performance monitoring arrangements. The LAA priorities are a key consideration in CAA in terms of the extent to which the partnership is improving outcomes for local people.
- 2.2 CAA was introduced in April 2009 to provide an independent assessment of how local public services are working in partnership to deliver outcomes for an area. The first results were reported on the Oneplace website (www.oneplace.direct.gov.uk) on 9 December 2009. Management Scrutiny Committee considered the findings of the draft Area Assessment report in January 2010.
- 2.3 Members will recall from previous performance reports that the CAA Lead plans to adopt a Risk Assessment Matrix which will be the primary tool against which the Sunderland Partnership will be assessed. The Matrix will incorporate those issues that were identified in the first year of the CAA area assessment as having the most potential to become red flags and green flags. Once the Risk Assessment Matrix has been agreed, the CAA Lead will use it to monitor progress against the agreed performance trajectory (up until the end of September 2010) for each issue to arrive at his final area assessment judgement for 2010. Progress will be monitored through the Council and the Sunderland Partnership's performance management and reporting

arrangements when the matrix is finalised.

- 2.4 As part of ongoing improvement planning the Sunderland Partnership's Delivery Plans have refreshed to ensure that the work programme is targeting the right issues, and outcomes can be demonstrated, minimising the risk of areas for improvement becoming red flags in 2010. These Delivery Plans were presented to Scrutiny Committees in February 2010.
- 2.5 The annual budget consultation took place during October / November 2009. The consultation took the form of a survey followed by participatory workshops which were held across Sunderland with Community Spirit panel members and representatives from the voluntary and community sector. The purpose of the workshops was to prioritise approaches to addressing the budget priorities that had been drawn from the survey results and also provide attendees with:
- A better understanding of the issues that have to be addressed in the budget setting process and information about the budget priorities
 - An opportunity to hear the viewpoints of others when making judgements about budget priorities.

The findings helped to inform the Council Revenue Budget for 2010/2011 which was approved on 3 March at a meeting of the full Council. A summary of how resources will be directed to the top priorities identified can be found in section 3.2. Progress in relation to delivering these priorities will be reported to Scrutiny committees during 2010/2011.

- 2.6 As part of the development of Scrutiny particularly in terms of strengthening performance management arrangements, Policy Review recommendations have been incorporated into the quarterly performance reports on a pilot basis. The aim is to identify achievements and outcomes that have been delivered in the context of overall performance management arrangements, to enhance and develop Scrutiny's focus on delivering better outcomes both as part of CAA requirements and future partnership working. Progress in relation to all Policy Reviews has been reported to each Scrutiny Committee. A summary of progress in relation to all Policy Reviews is provided for Management Scrutiny Committee as part of this report.
- 2.7 Appendix 1 provides an overview of the position for relevant national indicators and also any local performance indicators that have been retained to supplement areas in the performance framework that are not well covered by the new national indicator set.

3.0 Findings

3.1 Performance

- 3.1.1 The development of Sunderland's Local Area Agreement with Government Office North East (GONE) included a negotiated set of the national indicators which have been identified as key priorities. Performance against the priorities identified in the LAA and associated improvement targets have been

reported to Scrutiny committee throughout 2009 and are a key consideration in CAA in terms of the extent to which the partnership is improving outcomes for local people. An overview of performance for the period April to December 2009 can be found in the following tables relating to each theme in the LAA.

LAA theme - Prosperous and Learning City						
NI Ref	Performance Indicator	2008/09 Outturn	Latest Update 2009/10	Trend	Target 2009/10	On target
NI 72	At least 78 points across Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales	44	53	▲	48.4	✓
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	72	70	▼	73	✗
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	43	44.8	▲	51	✗
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	6.5	6	▲	6.4	✓
NI 92	Narrowing the gap - lowest achieving 20% the Early Yrs Foundation Stage Profile vs the rest	42	37.2	▲	36.7	✗
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	83	83	◀▶	87	✗
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	80	82	▲	80	✓
NI 99	Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	80	42.1	▼	50	✗
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2	93	47.4	▼	55	✗
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS 4 (with English and Maths)	6	10	▲	20	✗
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty	n/a	1.3% gap between the north East average (24.2%) and Sunderland (25.5%) as at April 2007		1.9%	n/a
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	13.2	9.7 (Dec 2009)	▲	9.5	✓
NI 152	Working age people on out of work benefits	17.5%	18.8% (May 09)	▼	20.5%	✓
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	30.2%	30.6% (May 09)	▼	31.8%	✓
NI 161	Learners achieving a Level 1 qualification in Literacy	1661	n/a	n/a	973	n/a
NI 162	Learners achieving an Entry Level 3 qualification in Numeracy	204	n/a	n/a	114	n/a
NI 163	Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher	68.6%	65.4%	▼	66%	✗
NI 171	VAT registration rate	33.2 per 10,000 pop	n/a	n/a	36.1 per 10,000 pop	n/a

Key risks and related improvement activity are described in the following sections.

3.1.2 NI 73: Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2. Performance 3% points below its challenging target and 2% points below national average. This fall was due mainly to the 2009 English results where there were falls in both reading and writing standards. School Improvement Partners will have a key role in challenging schools on their progress towards agreed school targets and the identification of interventions where required. Specific support focussed on raising English include: promote and develop the use of Support for Writing and Talk for Writing materials;

target underperforming schools at Key Stage 2 and implement the Every Child a Writer (ECaW) programme in 30 schools; engage targeted schools, where attainment in writing is low, in relevant development activity

3.1.3 NI 100: Children in care reaching level 4 in English (NI 99) and level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2. Results this year were substantially lower than previous year due to exceptional performance of children in 2008. There is an overall upward trend in performance over the last three years. Strategies to raise performance in 2010 include supporting every looked after child who is not making the required level of progress with one to one tuition in core subjects. Each child in Years 4 to 7 has also been supplied with an ultra portable laptop including mobile broadband connectivity to support learning in and out of school.

3.1.4 NI152 & NI153: There has been an increase in the number of residents, of working age, claiming out of work benefits due to the recent economic downturn most notably impacting upon those areas of high deprivation. The economic climate has also had an impact upon new business registrations as well as amendments to the supporting definition of this measurement (NI 171). Targets have been renegotiated for 2010/2011. Improvement interventions include:

Develop and review the four work streams that constitute the Sunderland Prosperous Delivery Partnership:

- i) Developing Economic Prosperity
- ii) Infrastructure For Business
- iii) Supporting Business And Economic Growth
- iv) Employment Opportunities For All

Establish a Performance Framework for the Economic Master Plan.

Develop and Implement with the Learning Partnership a Skills and Employability Strategy.

Deliver the Local Development Framework, providing clear guidance on physical opportunities and acceptable sustainable land use.

Promote the City as a competitive business location; working with partners to deliver a range of business support and investment activities.

Increase the number of Local Employment Partnerships (LEPs) within the City, creating increased employment opportunities for long term unemployed and disadvantaged groups.

3.1.5 NI163: Proportion aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2. The latest available data refers to 2008 through the Annual Population Survey. Reliability of this data year on year has been raised, however Sunderland shows a positive trend, increasing from 60% in 2004 to 61% in 2006 to 65% in 2008. More up to date analysis will be available in August 2010.

LAA theme - Healthy City						
NI Ref	Performance Indicator	2008/09 Outturn	Latest Update 2009/10	Trend	Target 2009/10	On target
NI 39	Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates	2378 per 100,000	2549.3 per 100,000	▼	2207 per 100,000	✘
NI 50	Emotional health of children	66.9%	62.3%	▼	69.5%	✘
NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in year 6	21%	20.2%	◀▶	22%	✘
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	67.3%	67.15%	◀▶	74%	✘
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate (per 1000 females)	-6%	58.43	▲	-46.4	✘
NI 120	All – age mortality rates	562 (females) 777 (males)	578.7 (females) 851 (males)	▼	546 (females) 748 (males)	✘
NI 123	16+ current smoking rate prevalence	1100 per 100,000	774.36 per 100,000	▼	1,437 per 100,000	✘
NI 130	Social care clients receiving Self Directed support	0.06%	6.73%	▲	8.5%	✓
NI 136	People supported to live independently through social services (all ages)	3124.19	2865.2	▼	3415	✘

Key risks and related improvement activity are described in the following sections.

3.1.6 NI 39: The rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 for alcohol related harm is increasing as a consequence of NHS investment in alcohol treatment services. Latest performance is 2636 admissions per 100,000 population (April to September 2009) which is considerably more than the 2009/10 target of 2207. The significant investment to tackle alcohol issues in Sunderland, is being made through a new Alcohol Strategy. This includes Alcohol Treatment programmes targeted towards violent offenders with alcohol misuse issues. New alcohol services are being commissioned which include:

- Enhancement of Tier 1 and 2 provision. Widen the scope of delivery of screening and brief interventions to ensure that interventions can be offered to 20% of the estimated Hazardous drinking population annually (approx. 4930)
- Enhancement of Tier 3 and 4 provision. Expand tier 3 services to provide treatment for 20% of the estimated Harmful drinking population annually (approx. 1242)
- Expansion of tier 3 and 4 services to provide treatment for 205 of the estimated Moderate and Severe Dependent Drinking populations annually (approx. 150) Reducing alcohol use in young people

3.1.7 NI 50: Emotional health of children. Indicator is based on the percentage of children with good relationships and is derived from the Tellus 4 survey. This is defined as the percentage of children who answered 'true' to having one or more good friends and answered 'true' to at least two of the statements about being able to talk to their parents, friends or another adult. Although performance in Sunderland has declined over the last two years, between

Tellus 3 and 4 surveys, there has been a similar pattern across England. Sunderland's strong performance is highlighted through being ranked 2nd best local authority in England for this indicator in 2009/2010.

- 3.1.8 NI 63: Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement. Indicator has declined very slightly from the year end 2008/2009 figure of 67.3% to a 2009/2010 Q3 performance of 67.1%. This is a rise on the position at the end of Q1 and Q2 and Sunderland compares well with both local and statistical peer group.
- 3.1.9 NI 120: Latest performance relates to 2006 – 2008 pooled rates and mortality rates have increased since the previous reporting period and are not on schedule to achieve the 2009/2010 target of 546 for females and 748 for males per 100,000 population. A number of Masterclasses are being held as part of the Bakers Dozen work by the Health Inequalities National Support team. The outcomes of these masterclasses will be incorporated into the partnership's Delivery Plans as part of ongoing action planning at the end of March / early April along with relevant outputs when the work of the national team is completed. In addition a programme of Health Checks is being implemented - 8348 checks are programmed for 2009/2010. Cardiovascular risk programme process model has also been developed to form the basis for commissioning requirements during 2010/2011. Target outputs from this programme will be available when commissioning has been undertaken. The Wellness Service has also developed a range of preventative services, targeted interventions and specialist support services at a local level, across its 7 Wellness Centres in the city.
- 3.1.10 NI 123: Latest performance (April to December 2009) is 749.8 smoking quitters per 100,000 population. Performance has declined compared to 2008/2009 and is currently not on schedule to meet the 2009/10 target of 1437 quitters per 100,000 head of population. Key actions to improve this position include;
- Expanding and improving intermediate and specialist services (tier 2) for existing and new providers to support the doubling of throughput of stop smoking services,
 - Development of the pregnancy and training roles and a focus on key priority groups
 - Improved commissioned service models, and training, to improve rates of access to smoking cessation services, including in the community and with "hard-to-reach" groups and re-establishment of local tobacco alliances
- 3.1.11 NI 136: The latest performance update for the measure that relates to this objective is currently lower than the target of 3284 per 100,000 for 2009/2010, and it is unlikely that performance target will be met. The Directorate of Health, Housing and Adult Services is currently addressing this issue, via developing community "in-reach" solutions as part of the Council's overall Customer Service strategy. For example, the Council is working on a Department of Health pilot with Church View Medical Practice to better identify people who might need some help, e.g. who feel isolated, need financial advice or improve

their health and wellness, and has already identified a small number of people that both the GP practice and the Council need to provide a greater level of support. The principles of the pilot will be rolled out to the North, as well as West, Sunderland Area, working with another GP, and is expected to identify a far wider range of individuals more pro-actively in 2010/2011. These solutions will mean that the Council will start to improve its performance against this indicator as a result of this locality-based working, including the use of in-reach teams to penetrate into communities, improved marketing and working with the Third Sector to build capacity and more focussed outcomes.

LAA theme – developing high quality places to live						
NI Ref	Performance Indicator	2008/09 Outturn	Latest Update 2009/10	Trend	Target 2009/10	On target
NI 154	Net additional homes provided	299	339	▲	90	✓
NI 159	Supply of land ready to develop housing sites	145%	n/a	n/a	100%	n/a
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness					
	a) litter	4%	2%	▲	9%	✓
	b) detritus	5%	4%	▲	7%	✓
	c) graffiti	4%	1%	▲	3%	✓
	d) fly posting	0%	0%	◀▶	1%	✓
NI 192	Household waste Recycled and composted	25.59%	29.1%	▲	30%	✓
NI 19	Rate of proven reoffending by young people	0.96	0.5 (Sept 09)	▲	1.1	✓
NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate (per 1000 population)	8.84	5.62	▲	-5 reduction	✓
NI 30	Reoffending rate of prolific and priority offenders (reduction in convictions)	1.10	16 (offences) Apr to Jun 09	◀▶	17% reduction in convictions (127 proven offences)	✓
NI 32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence	34%	30%	▲	34%	✓
Ni 38	Drug related (Class A) offending rate	1.08	n/a	n/a	Average 9.9% below baseline across 09/10 and 10/11 cohorts	n/a

There are no key risks in relation to the ‘Developing High Quality Places to Live’ theme.

3.2 Budget Consultation

3.2.1 The annual budget consultation took place during October / November 2009. The consultation included a survey followed by participatory workshops, both of which focused on how best to meet the needs of residents in relation to some priority issues. The issues were identified by listening to the views of local people and taking into account other priorities, such as those identified by government or through inspections of council services. 1,075 Community

Spirit panel members completed the survey which represented a response rate of 67%.

The questionnaire focused on seven priority areas and asked whether:

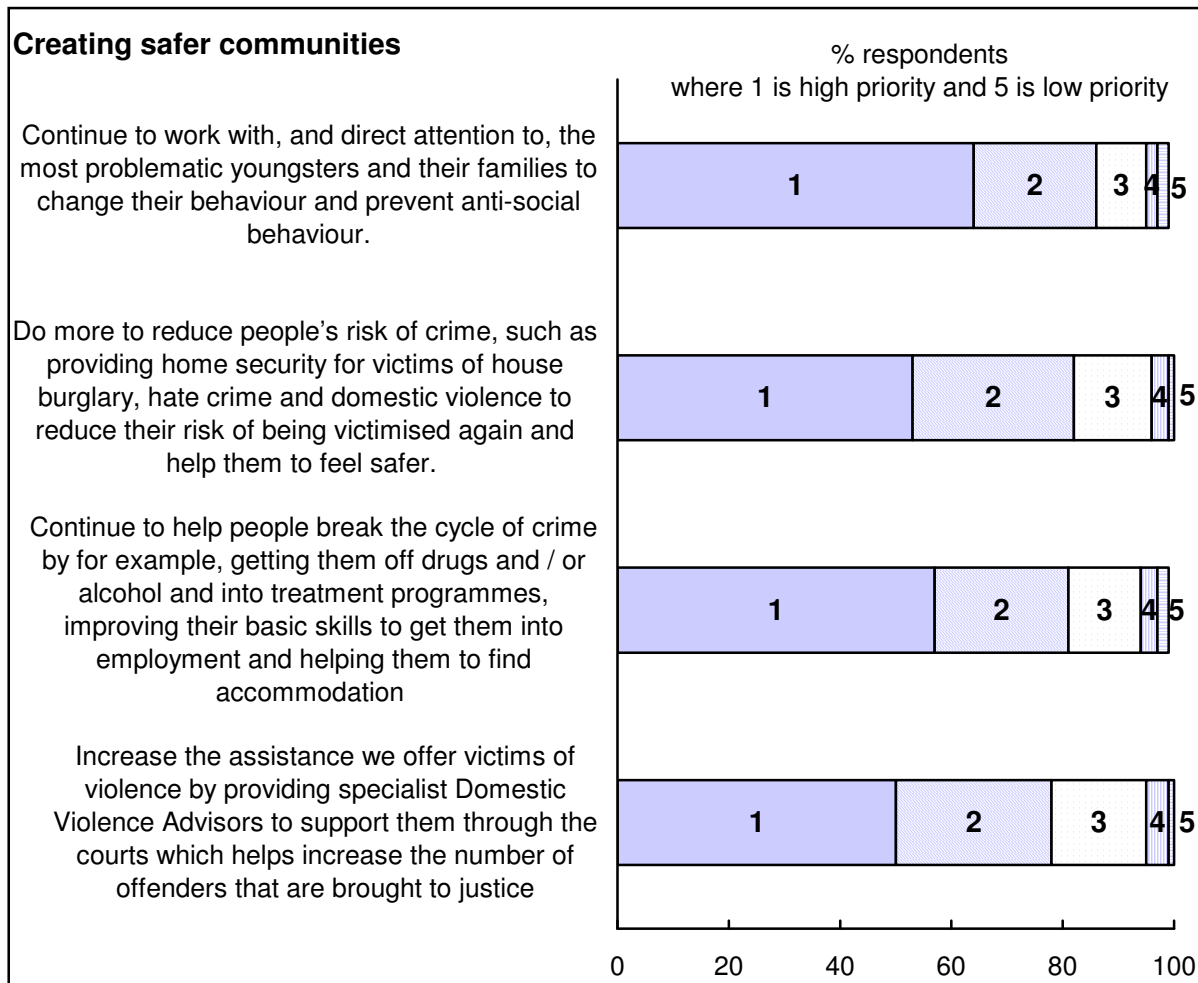
- The issue has got better, worse or stayed the same in the last 12 months
- How much of a priority proposed approaches should be in terms of addressing the issue
- There is anything else we can do to address the issue.

An overview of each of the seven priority areas is as follows

3.2.2 Creating safer communities

Of those who expressed an opinion, the majority of respondents (72%) believe that community safety has stayed the same in their local area over the last 12 months. A further 15% think it has got better and 13% believe it is worse.

The vast majority of respondents considered all of the approaches to improving community safety presented to be a priority (ranked them as 1 or 2) as shown below. Working with the most problematic youngsters and their families to change their behaviour and prevent anti-social behaviour was most important relatively.



3.2.3 Roads and footways

Of respondents who expressed an opinion, 47% think that roads and footways have stayed the same over the last 12 months, 38% feel they have got worse and 16% think they have got better.

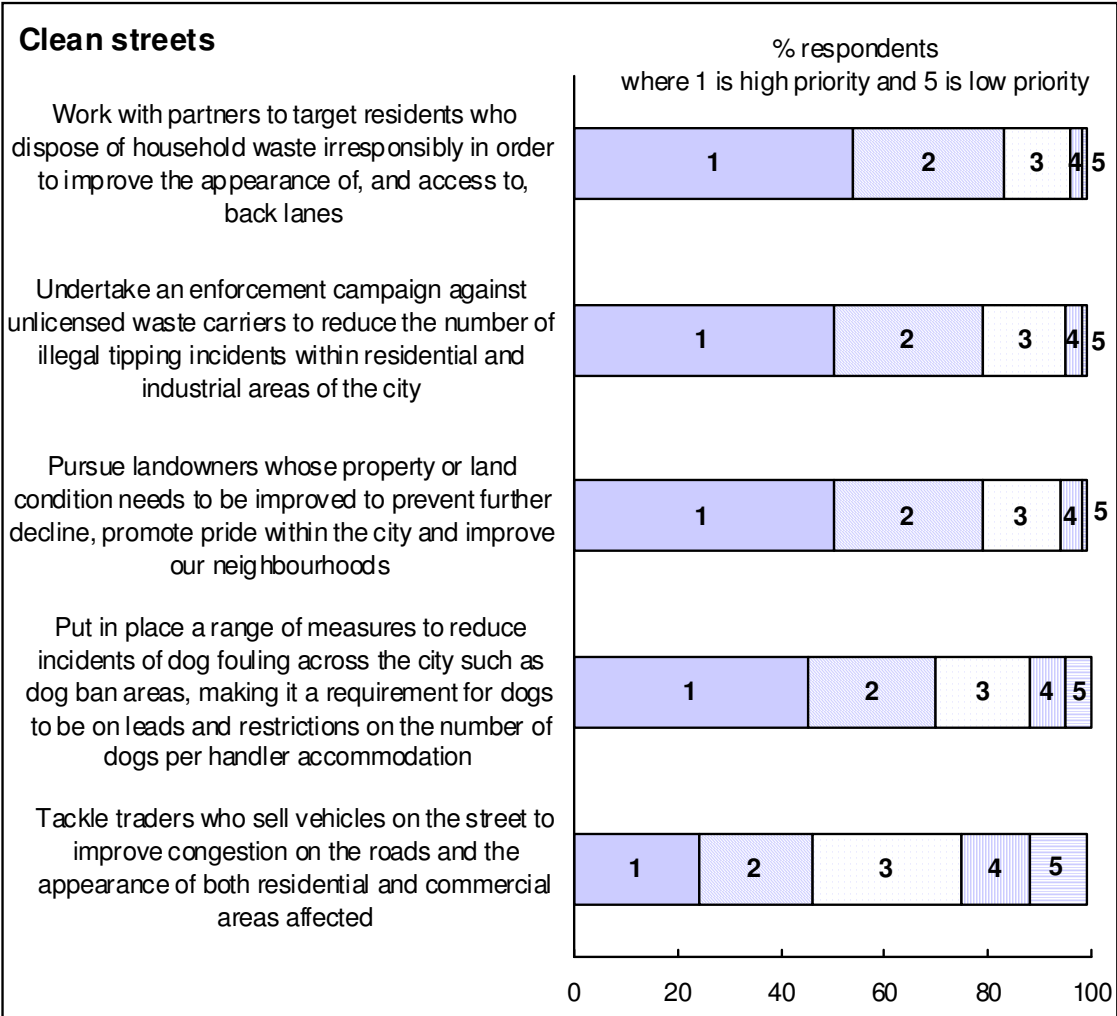
The majority of respondents considered all of the approaches to improving footways and roads to be high priority (ranked them as 1 or 2) with improving the condition of footpaths to be most important relatively. Respondents are somewhat more divided about replacing grass verges with hard surfacing.



3.2.4 Clean streets

Of those who expressed an opinion, the majority of respondents (60%) believe that the cleanliness of streets in their local area has stayed the same over the last 12 months whilst the remainder are divided between thinking they have got cleaner (21%) and dirtier (19%).

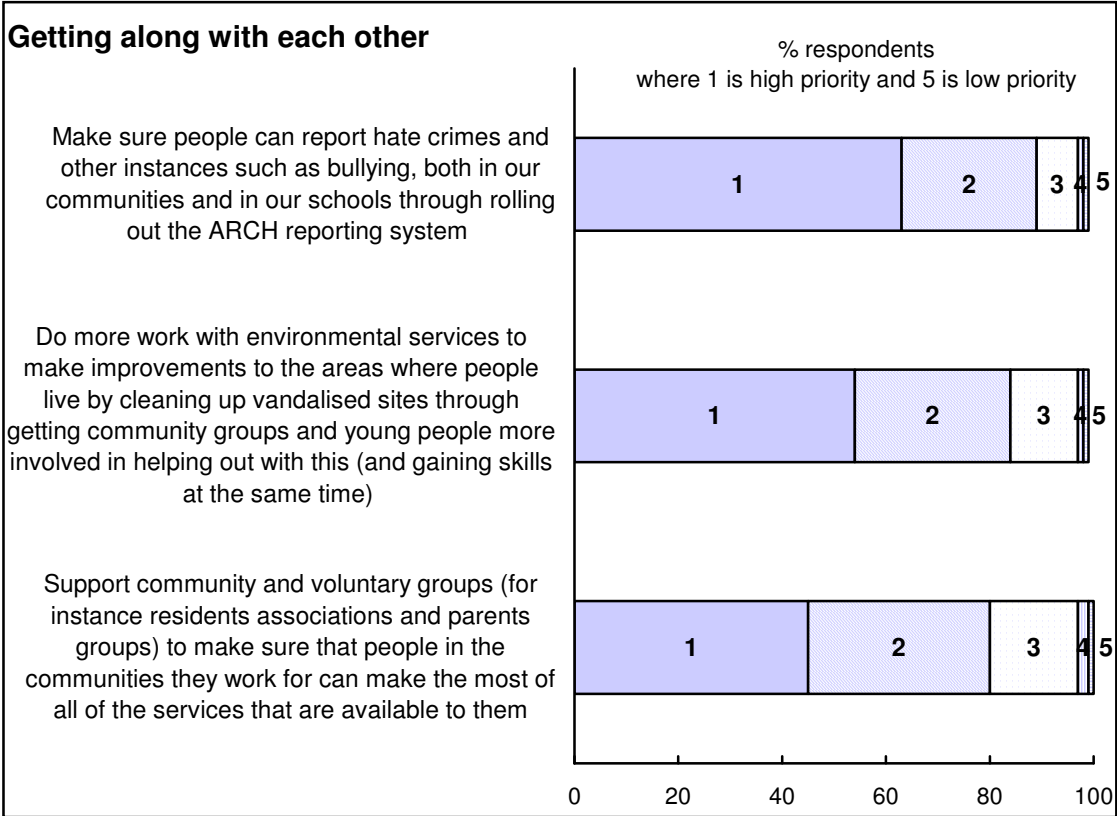
Four of the five approaches to keeping our streets clean were considered to be high priority (ranked 1 or 2) by the majority of respondents as shown below. The most popular approach was in terms of targeting those who dispose of waste irresponsibly to improve back lanes. Respondents were more divided over tackling traders who sell vehicles on the street.



3.2.5 Getting along with each other

The majority of respondents who expressed an opinion (77%) think that the way in which people get along together in their local area has stayed the same over the last 12 months. A further 15% believe it has got worse and 8% think it has got better).

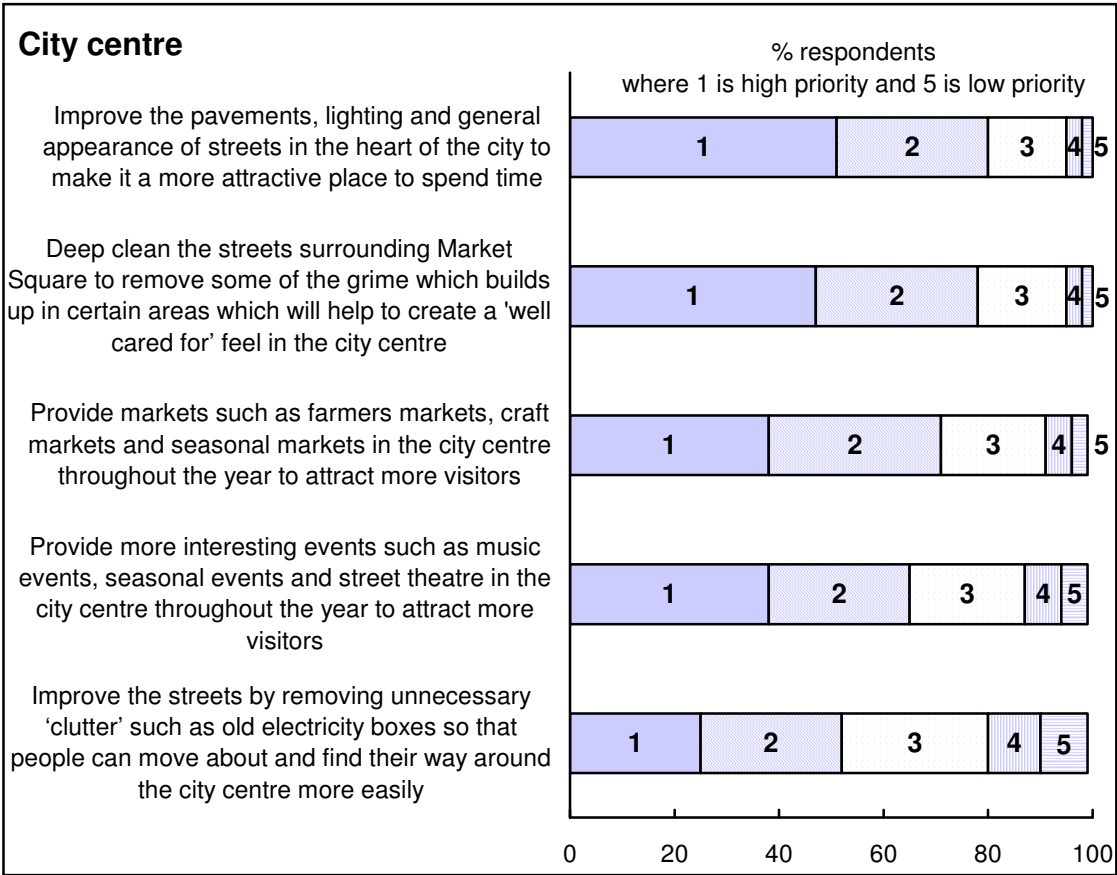
The majority of respondents considered all of the approaches to improving the way in which people get along together to be high priority (ranked them as 1 or 2) as shown below. The most favoured approach relatively was in terms of the ARCH reporting system for hate crimes and bullying.



3.2.6 City centre

Respondents' views were more divided over the city centre – of those who expressed an opinion 47% believe it has stayed the same over the last 12 months but 31% believe it has got better and 22% think it is worse.

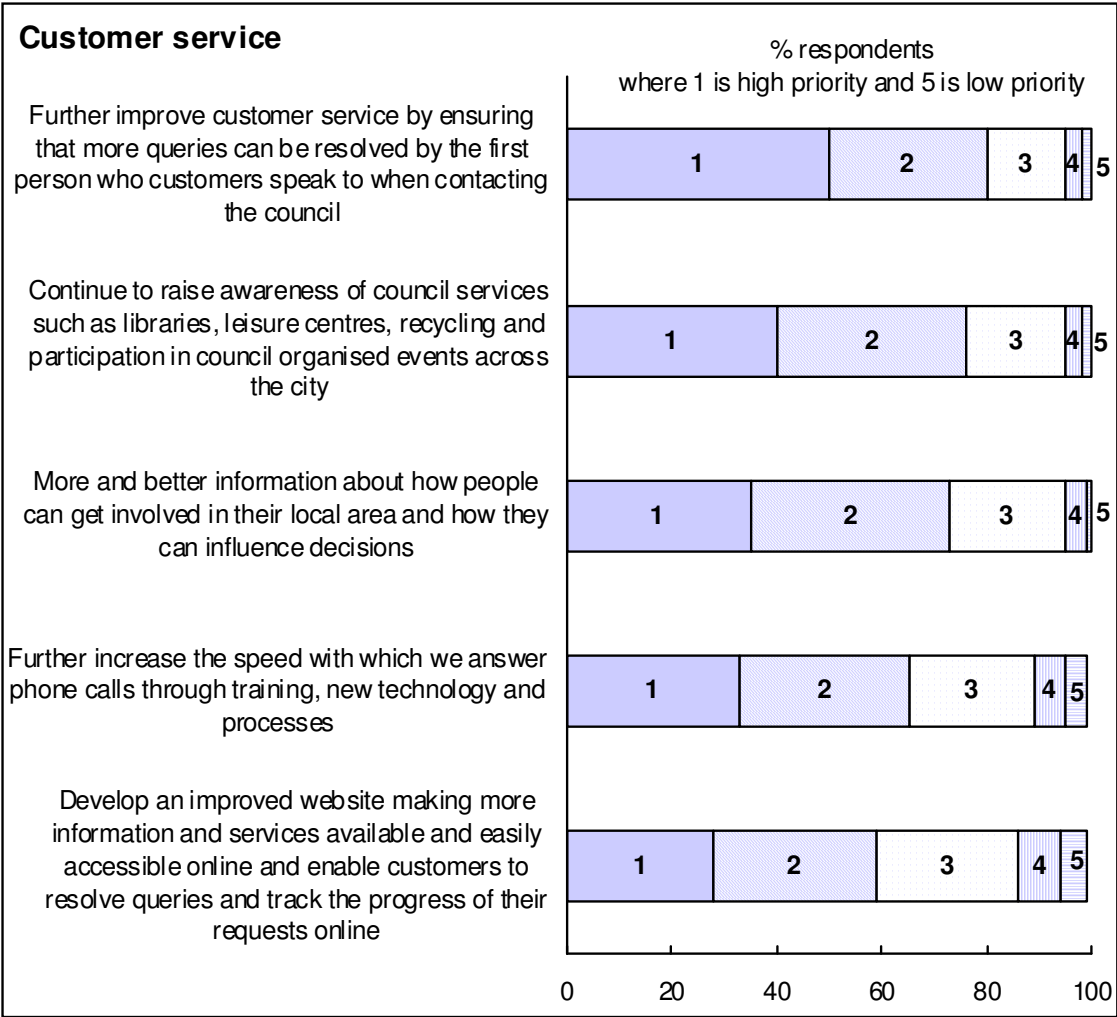
As can be noted from the graph below, the two approaches which relate to improving the appearance and cleanliness of the city centre were highest priority relatively, although the provision of markets and more interesting events were still considered to be a priority (ranked 1 or 2) by more than 6 in 10 respondents.



3.2.7 Customer service

Of those who expressed an opinion, 67% of respondents think that customer service has stayed the same over the last 12 months with 27% believing it has got better. Only 6% consider it to be worse.

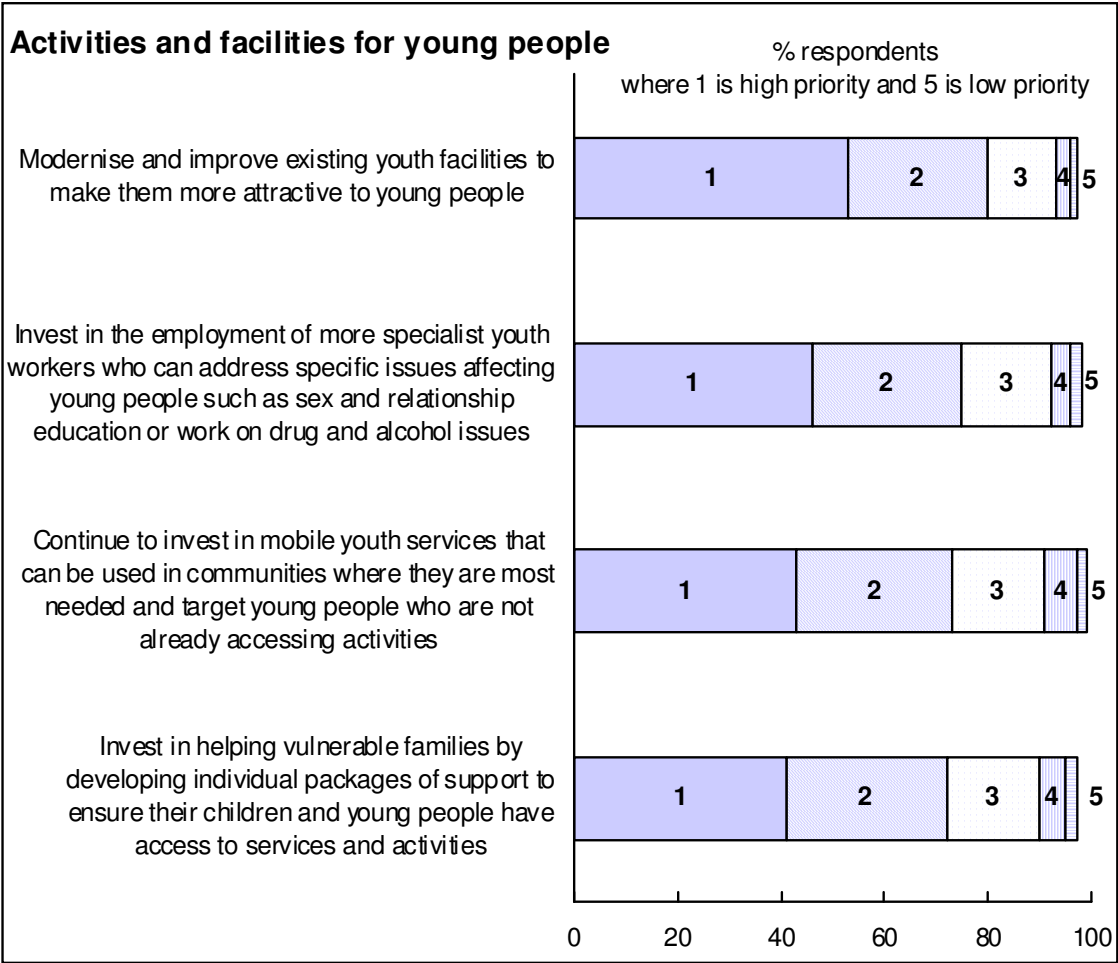
Again the majority of respondents consider the approaches to improving customer service to be a priority (ranked 1 or 2), as shown below. The most popular is about queries being resolved by the first point of contact at the council.



3.2.8 Activities and facilities for young people

Sixty-one percent of respondents who expressed an opinion think that activities and facilities for young people have stayed the same over the last 12 months with similar proportions believing they have got better (20%) and worse (19%).

The majority of respondents considered all of the approaches to improving activities and facilities for young people to be high priority (ranked them as 1 or 2) as shown below. The most popular approach was in terms of modernising and improving existing youth facilities.



3.2.9 A series of workshops were held where participants were asked to prioritise a range of approaches to addressing the budget priorities that emerged from the survey results. Each group was asked to prioritise 16 approaches to addressing the following eight budget priorities:

Creating safer communities	Clean streets
Helping people to live independently in their own home	Roads and footways
Getting along with each other (community cohesion)	City Centre
Activities and facilities for young people	Customer Service

3.2.10 The groups were firstly asked to allocate 100 points according to order of priority across the approaches. The results were recorded for each group and were added up to give an overall total and rank order. The table below shows the top priorities.

Summary of Approaches	Total Points	Rank order
Supporting people to live in their own homes - Extend the range of support services (for example, advice and advocacy services) to enable more people to direct their own social care budgets.	159.5	1
Creating safer communities - Youth Crime Family Intervention Programme (FIP) - Project workers to work with young people at a high risk of offending who come from a small number of families with a history of offending and a high risk of continued offending.	158	2
Roads and footways - Invest additional funds in footways to help to reduce trip hazards and the potential for pedestrians to suffer slips, trips, or falls.	145	3
Supporting people to live in their own homes - Continue to extend the availability and range of services that can be provided through the evening and overnight, for example, the Sunderland Telecare service which includes household / personal alarms and sensors that indicate when a person might be at risk and provides a rapid response service.	141.5	4
Activities and facilities for young people - Staffing and running costs of the new 'state of the art' mobile youth buses to bring provision and services into areas where there are no suitable venues and target young people not already accessing positive activities.	138	5
Creating safer communities - Review the way in which we identify people who are highly vulnerable (due to their personal, social or economic circumstances) and are at a high risk of becoming victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. This will help us to identify improvements so that we can help people from an early stage and prevent problems escalating.	136	6
Getting along with each other Make sure people can report hate crimes and other instances such as bullying, both in our communities and in our schools by rolling out the ARCH reporting system across the city and into schools.	120	7

3.2.11 The groups were also asked to choose their top three priorities and provide reasons for their choice. The following priorities emerge:

Supporting people to live in their own homes - continue to extend the availability and range of services that can be provided through the evening and overnight..	1
Creating safer communities - Youth Crime Family Intervention Programme (FIP)	2
Creating safer communities - Review the way in which we identify people who are highly vulnerable (due to their personal, social or economic circumstances) and are at a high risk of becoming victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.	Joint
Supporting people to live in their own homes - Extend the range of support services (for example, advice and advocacy services) to enable more people to direct their own social care budgets.	3rd

Overleaf is a summary of how resources will be directed to the **top priorities**:

3.2.12 Creating Safer Communities

There has been a number of reductions in crime in Sunderland over the last year. Overall crime continued to fall and remains below the national average with 782 fewer victims of crime. Youth crime fell by 6% and re-offending of young people in Sunderland is lower than similar areas. Recorded anti-social behaviour continued to fall with almost 5900 fewer incidents and 4000 fewer youth related anti social behaviour incidents in the last year. Surveys also tell us that people are starting to feel safer and less worried about crime.

The top two priorities identified during the consultation in relation to safer communities were the:

- The Family Intervention Project
- Reviewing the way in which we identify people who are highly vulnerable

3.2.13 Family Intervention Programmes

A sum of £145,000 (including Home Office Funding) will be allocated to the Anti Social Behaviour Family Intervention Programme. This will involve intensive work (e.g. parenting support and one-to-one work) with the most problematic youngsters and their families to break the cycle of offending, change behaviour and reduce re-offending. Since April 2007, 59 families have been supported by the programme.

In 2010/2011 a sum of £325,000 will be allocated to the Youth Crime Family Intervention Programme. This programme works alongside the Anti Social Behaviour Family Intervention Programme to identify families with a high risk of offending. Since March 2009 the programme has supported 39 families comprising 91 young people

3.2.14 Identifying people who are highly vulnerable

Additional funding of £79,000 from Communities and Local Government will help to improve the way in which we identify people who are highly vulnerable due to their personal, social or economic circumstances and are at high risk of becoming victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. This will involve the recruitment of a Victim Support worker specialising in anti social behaviour and training for staff across partner agencies to improve processes and procedures

3.2.15 Greater police presence

A further priority identified by respondents was in relation to a greater police presence. Northumbria Police has adopted a National Policing Pledge to provide a visible, accessible and responsive service. This means that Neighbourhood Policing Teams now spend at least 80% of their time working in local neighbourhoods tackling priorities. This includes regular foot patrols to reassure the public and to build trust and confidence in the community. It also includes monthly meetings where the police and partners discuss local issues

with residents and agree what action can be taken. If you are interested in attending a local meeting please contact 0345 6043043.

3.2.16 Supporting people to live independently in their own homes

In October 2008, the council launched Sunderland's 15 Year Plan for Adult Social Care. One of main aims is for every person to have the support to live independently in their own home or community, if that is what they want. The following two approaches to help achieve this were identified as high priority during the budget consultation:

- Continuing to extend the availability and range of services that can be provided through the evening and overnight such as the Sunderland Telecare service
- Extending the range of support services (for example, advice and advocacy services) to enable more people to direct their own social care budgets.

During 2010/2011 the council will allocate additional resources to these priorities. An additional £2.636 million will be invested in:

- Staff and equipment for the Telecare service which enables people to live in their own home for longer, with increased safety, confidence and independence. For example, household / personal alarms and sensors that indicate when a person might be at risk and provides a rapid response service
- Provison to meet potential additional costs that may arise through the recent government announcement to provide free personal care to those with assessed high care needs
- Meeting the costs of residential and nursing accommodation provided through independent care providers.

An additional £1.58 million will be allocated as part of the Social Care Reform Grant to support the modernisation of Adult Social Care services. Part of this modernisation will be to continue to improve the process by which people are assessed for Adult Social Care. For example, some of the changes that have already been made are the introduction of a team of Independent Living Officers who are able to assess individuals for smaller items of equipment (such as bath boards and grab rails) and fit and install the item within the same day from the stock of items they carry. The grant will also be used to pilot the latest developments in Telecare equipment to help people with more complex needs live independently in their own homes for longer.

Modernisation will also include extending the range of support services available to assist more people to direct their own social care budget. This means that they can have more choice and control over how the services they need are delivered, if that is what they wish. For example, the Social Care Resource Agency helps people who direct their own social care budget to identify opportunities and services within the community to meet their assessed needs.

3.2.17 Activities and facilities for young people

Activities and facilities for young people was an important priority not only in terms of providing young people with things to do but in terms of community safety and how communities get along together.

Investment of £300,000 was secured in 2009/2010 to support the expansion of youth initiatives including the XL Youth Village events which take place on Friday and Saturday nights across the city. The events have attracted many young people who did not previously access youth facilities and have led to significant reductions in anti-social behaviour.

In order to enhance the provision of mobile youth facilities, further investment of £150,000 has been identified in 2010/2011. Two mobile youth buses will deliver activities to areas across the city with little or no youth provision on Monday to Thursday evenings. They will be accompanied by elements of the Youth Village such as the football cage and Music Marquee.

The Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) and Youth Capital Fund (YCF) were introduced by the Government in April 2006 as a means of developing young people's involvement in decision-making. Since then groups of young people have been supported to access a total of £1,836million funding. More than 11,800 young people have benefited from improved provision and activities, more than 600 young people are managing diverse youth projects as youth leaders, participants and young volunteers, and 81 youth projects in Sunderland have been funded. There is one year left of this Government initiative. In 2010/2011 young people will be deciding on how a total of £375,000 (YOF) and £404,000 (YCF) will be spent on youth-led projects in the areas of most need, with the aim of funding.

In terms of sports facilities:

- An additional £116,000 will be allocated to supplement the specific government grant available, to support the free swimming initiative for the over 60's and under 16's for the remaining year of a two year time limited period
- The council has allocated £700,000 to develop football facilities across Sunderland which has enabled us to bring in conditional funding of an additional £1 million from the Football Foundation and partners across the city. This will help us to make a range of improvements to football changing pavilions, pitches and other related facilities
- Over the last 2 years a range of new or substantially improved play areas were developed following funding from the Big Lottery Fund and Pathfinder. An additional sum of £85,000 will be allocated to maintenance.

3.2.18 Roads and footpaths

In terms of roads and footpaths, the top two priorities identified during the consultation were about improving the condition of both roads and footpaths through repairs / re-surfacing. Improving footpaths was highest of these priorities. During 2010/2011 the council will allocate an additional sum of £400,000 to supplement the existing Highways Maintenance budget and address the backlog of maintenance and incidence of claims. The majority of claims are made by pedestrians in relation to footways in residential areas and in previous years this has reduced the number of successful accident claims and substantially reduced our insurance premiums.

Allocation of the budget will be made between road maintenance and footway maintenance. Decisions will be based on a range of evidence including condition, location and usage to determine priorities. Part of this funding will also be considered to support a pilot based approach to local road safety schemes where there is a clear community desire to see a scheme implemented.

Existing budgets will also be used to continue with the development of a Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP). This will ensure the provision of good quality information upon which to base decisions about ongoing investment, prioritisation of maintenance funding and maximisation of the impact of investment across the highway network. The resources the council has to make improvements to the highway are limited, and must be targeted at those areas where benefits can be achieved in line with the council's overall transport strategy. Priority is therefore given to implement measures to improve child pedestrian safety, reduce the number and severity of accidents involving personal injury and to encourage the use of modes of transport more sustainable than the private car.

A number of additional comments were given in relation to parking issues, particularly in relation to damage and obstruction to pavements and grass caused by irresponsible parking. Careless parking represents a serious hazard to pedestrians, especially those using wheelchairs or those suffering from a visual impairment and it is also an inconvenience for people with pushchairs and buggies. It is an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988 to park vehicles on verges or footpaths without good cause.. The council recognises this as a serious issue and along with the other councils in Tyne & Wear, has commissioned the 'Park Right First Time' campaign. This has included a TV advertisement and website aimed at encouraging positive behaviour.




3.2.19 Getting along with each other

Sunderland ARCH is a reporting system which allows people to report racist incidents that have happened to them or that they have witnessed in Sunderland. An important priority in terms of helping communities get along together was the roll out of out the system across the city and into schools.

In 2010-2011 the ARCH system will be further developed, meaning that people can report other hate crimes such as homophobic incidents, disability incidents and instances of bullying. An ARCH Development Officer has been appointed who will be responsible for this work. This will involve work with schools and other organisations such as housing groups and the police to train people about how the system works, to encourage reporting onto the system and to ensure that the information on the system is used to do something to address problems, including ensuring that the victim is supported. The roll out in schools will start with a pilot in 5 Sunderland schools in the summer term 2010. Training will be given to teachers and pupils around the importance of reporting racist incidents. ARCH will also work with youth projects in Sunderland so that young people are able to report racist incidents outside school times. Finally ARCH is also linking with the Anti-Bullying Strategy Group to look at using ARCH to record all bullying incidents in schools

3.3 Policy Review Recommendations

3.3.1 The recommendations agreed as part of each Scrutiny Committee's Policy Reviews will deliver a range of improvement activity. A full overview of progress in relation to each individual Policy Review recommendation has been reported to each Scrutiny committee. The table below provides a summary of the number and percentage of each policy review's recommendations that have been achieved, are on schedule to be achieved, or are not on schedule to be achieved using a red, amber, green traffic light assessment.

Policy Review	Rag Key		
	 Green (Recommendation achieved)	 Amber (On schedule)	 Red (Not on schedule)
Fear of Crime	6 (32%)	13 (68%)	0 (0%)
Dementia Care	12 (54%)	5 (23%)	5 (23%)
Home Care Provision	0	11 (100%)	0
Traffic Issues	1 (12.5%)	3 (37.5%)	4 (50%)
Economic Challenges	2 (33%)	4 (67%)	0
A Place to Play	1 (5%)	13 (65%)	6 (30%)
Alcohol & Young People	0	8 (100%)	0
Total	22 (23%)	57 (61%)	15 (16%)

As can be seen in the table 84% of recommendations are either on schedule, or have been achieved since April 2009. Remedial activity is in place in respect of the 15 recommendations that are currently not on schedule to deliver.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 That the committee considers the continued good progress made by the council and the Sunderland Partnership and those areas requiring further development to ensure that performance is actively managed.