

SAFER SUNDERLAND ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share the progress made by the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) in 2021-22. This added value multi-agency activity is contributing towards achieving the long-term outcome of making Sunderland a city which is, and feels, even safer and more secure, where people can enjoy life without the concerns of being a victim of crime or being harmed.

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The Safer Sunderland Partnership is statutory. Membership of its Board consists of 6 responsible authorities:
- Sunderland City Council (including TFC)
  - Northumbria Police
  - Sunderland Integrated Care Board (ICB) (Previously CCG)
  - Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS)
  - Probation Service (PS)
  - Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)
- 2.2 The Safer Sunderland Partnership links in and is supported by a number of delivery networks or related partnership groups (City, Area Command and Force Level) such as;
- the Sunderland Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) Strategic Partnership
  - Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) and Neighbourhood Priority Team problem Solving groups
  - The Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit
  - Operation Sentinel – standing multi-agency operation to tackle Serious and Organised Crime
  - SSP Operational Groups
- 2.3 The Safer Sunderland Partnership had 2 key strategic priorities for 2021-22
- Prevent crime and disorder, reduce re-offending, support community cohesion, and maintain high levels of feelings of safety**
  - Protect and support our most vulnerable people and places from harm so that Sunderland can be a safe, dynamic, healthy and vibrant city**
- 2.4 The Safer Sunderland Partnership has 7 key work areas:
- Domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) Including Safe Accommodation and specialist Support Strategy** from Summer 2021 work predominantly undertaken through the Domestic abuse Executive Board

- ii. **Citywide and local area problem solving** with a focus on LMAPS and responses to crime, community safety and cohesion issues
- iii. **Serious & Organised Crime**  
Disrupt serious organised crime (SOC) activity by prosecuting and disrupting individuals and SOC groups
- iv. **Other Exploitive crimes**  
Prevent people from engaging in modern slavery and ensure traffickers and slave masters have no easy place to hide in Sunderland
- v. **Serious Violence** that impacts on safeguarding and feelings of safety such as serious organised crime; sexual exploitation; modern day slavery; trafficking; cyber-enabled crimes; and preventing violent extremism and radicalisation.
- vi. **Preventing radicalisation and countering terrorism**  
Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism
- vii. **Partnership working** which covers new and existing statutory duties and strengthening partnership working and collaboration

## 2.6 Crime data

Northumbria Police recorded 27,698 offences across Sunderland in the 12 months to March 2022, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) – an increase of four per cent on the previous year, when there were 26,723

Of the crimes recorded in the area over the last 12 months, 1,004 were sexual offences – an increase of 15% from the year before - and violent crime has risen in the area, from 9,777 to 10,778.

One of the main factors behind this increase was the rise in violence with injury, which rose by 22%, from 2,657 incidents to 3,239.

Crimes recorded in Sunderland included:

- 1,004 sexual offences – up 15%.
- 10,778 violent offences – up 10%.
- 3,683 incidents of criminal damage and arson – up 12%.
- 518 drug offences – down six per cent.
- 199 possession of weapons such as firearms or knives – down 21%.
- 3,519 public order offences – down seven per cent.
- 7,015 theft offences - down one per cent.
- 3,936 stalking and harassment offences – down three per cent.

Nationally, police forces in England and Wales recorded the highest number of crimes in 20 years – 6.3 million in the year to March 2022 - four per cent higher than the previous all-time high of 6.1 million in 2019/20.

## **2.7 Risk factors for Sunderland**

There are a number of factors shown to increase the risk of being a perpetrator or a victim of violence. Prevalence of these factors differs significantly, within a regional footprint.

These factors will identify higher risk sections of the population and successful interventions that may reduce violence will include:

Reducing the number of people within these population groups, e.g. reducing homelessness or drug use.

Interventions to reduce the risk of offending or victimisation of people within higher risk groups, e.g. youth mentoring

## **2.8 Mental health**

Sunderland has approximately 2,893 adults with serious mental illness (bipolar affective disorder, schizophrenia and other psychosis) as at March 2022.

7,650 patients from Sunderland ICB were in contact with secondary care adult mental health services. There were 3,205 patients aged 0 to 18 years who were in contact with secondary care level mental health services at this date.

## **2.9 Drugs**

Sunderland has an estimated 1,652 users of opiates and / or crack cocaine, of which 1,493 use opiates and 712 crack cocaine (most crack cocaine users are also using opiates). This represents 9.20 users per 1,000 population (Northumbria average: 9.76, England average 8.85).

## **2.10 Drugs Offences**

Sunderland has the third highest use of opiates of the six authorities in Northumbria (behind Gateshead and Newcastle), and the second highest rate of crack cocaine usage (behind Newcastle).

## **2.11 Alcohol**

Alcohol misuse in Sunderland have been estimated to cost £112 million per year. The greatest costs being borne by:

- Wider economy (£39m), with an estimated 1,026 potential years of working life lost due to alcohol
- Crime and disorder (£34m), with an estimated 24,400 alcohol related crimes
- Local NHS services (£24m), with an estimated 6,805 alcohol related admissions
- Social services (£15m), with an estimated £12.4m cost to children social services

In England in 2020/21, there were 1,500 hospital admissions related to alcohol consumption per 100,000, lower than Sunderland which had a rate of 2,401 per 100,000 which equates to 6,660

## **2.12 City Centre Youth Violence**

Due to concerns from Police and other partners including local businesses there is currently a focused piece of work regarding youths and ASB in Sunderland City Centre. This is being led by the Violence Reduction Unit but involving Police, Sunderland BID and Local Authority including Together for Children. This has resulted in focused work being aimed at young people and their families across all of Sunderland.

## **2.13 Motorcycle Disorder**

This remains an outstanding problem identified across Sunderland. A working group has been established in a joint approach including colleagues from Gateshead & South Tyneside and we are jointly looking to establish a designated piece of land at Follingsby Park where legal off-road driving can be undertaken. A pre planning application has now been submitted to South Tyneside Council and currently awaiting outcome of this.

## **3.0 Summary of Achievements Against Improvement Actions in 2022**

3.1 A domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG) needs assessment has informed the VAWG commissioning plan in 2021-22.

3.1.1 Sunderland currently has an estimated population of 277,846.4 Prevalence of domestic abuse is comparatively high in the city, with a number of key contributory characteristics. For example, residents experience significant levels of deprivation. Around 27% of the population live in areas that are amongst the 10% most deprived in England.

3.1.2 Domestic abuse incidents taking place in Sunderland in 2020/21 concerned a total of 4,841 victims. This is the highest recorded number of incidents in the Northumbria Police Force area and represents a rate of 23.7 victims per 1,000 people. Of these victims, 43% (2,057) had been subject to previous incidents; a rate of 10.1 per 1,000 people. This placed Sunderland at a comparatively high rate of repeat incidence within the Northumbria Police area.

3.1.3 There is further work to be done with partner agencies, providers and neighbouring LA's to better understand, local and regional demand and need. This would support future commissioning intentions.

3.2 **Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR).** A Domestic Homicide Review in relation to 'Michelle' was published at [Michelle.pdf \(sunderland.gov.uk\)](#).

3.3 Unfortunately, there are three further DHR's. Two have been completed and agreement by the Safer Sunderland Partnership but is awaiting Home Office Quality Assurance sign-off, These two will be considered and returned to the partnership in the New Year. A third is currently being completed by an independent author who is expected to complete by end of the year.

4.0 **Citywide and local area problem solving with a focus on LMAPS and responses to crime, community safety and cohesion issues**

4.1 **Neighbourhood Enforcement** – a significant development from 2020 has been the work of the Council Neighbourhood Enforcement Team. This brought together the existing anti-social behaviour team and environmental enforcement teams and capacity was also increased. Creation of the team provided an opportunity for joint work with partners and communities at

street and neighbourhood level and is leading a frontline response in the Community Resilience approach. The team have looked to improve environment and reduce ASB with the use of statutory notices.

	Request for service Enforcement	Request for service ASB	Total
Apr19-Mar20	5405	1502	6907
Apr20-Mar21	7595	2215	9810
Apr21-Mar22	6117	1957	8074
Apr22-Sept22	3612	1118	4730

### Issuing of Notices

	East (incl City)	West	North	W'ingto n	Coalfield s	Total	
Fixed Penalty Notices	263	59	37	10	15	384	Apr19-Mar20
	177	29	73	20	30	329	Apr20-Mar21
	439	29	197	87	46	798	Apr21-Mar22
	193	42	160	60	39	494	Apr22-Sept22
S46 Notices	71	21	45	40	2	179	Apr19-Mar20
	271	380	203	88	28	970	Apr20-Mar21
	1231	44	157	66	35	1533	Apr21-Mar22
	121	95	13	124	33	386	Apr22-Sept22
S47 Notices	30	2	1	3	0	36	Apr19-Mar20
	35	3	2	5	2	47	Apr20-Mar21
	54	6	9	2	2	73	Apr21-Mar22
	10	1	0	17	0	28	Apr22-Sept22
S34 Notices	3	2	2	5	0	12	Apr19-Mar20
	3	11	7	2	2	25	Apr20-Mar21
	11	4	17	1	0	33	Apr21-Mar22
	3	32	4	0	4	43	Apr22-Sept22

Written Warnings	34	48	39	1	5	127	Apr19-Mar20
	736	108	615	1471	499	3429	Apr20-Mar21
	1575	639	574	1385	511	4684	Apr21-Mar22
	1214	292	160	616	667	2949	Apr22-Sept22
Community Protection Warnings	31	36	19	17	10	113	Apr19-Mar20
	142	24	110	14	23	313	Apr20-Mar21
	68	20	128	30	19	265	Apr21-Mar22
	30	2	28	11	24	95	Apr22-Sept22
	5	0	9	0	2	16	Apr19-Mar20

Community Protection Notices	34	2	12	13	5	66	Apr20-Mar21
	33	3	29	3	3	71	Apr21-Mar22
	4	1	2	2	3	12	Apr22-Sept22
Vehicle Seizures	2	0	0	1	1	4	Apr19-Mar20
	2	0	1	0	1	4	Apr20-Mar21
	0	1	1	0	0	2	Apr21-Mar22
	1	0	1	0	0	2	Apr22-Sept22
Injunction	1	0	0	1	0	2	Apr19-Mar20
	0	0	1	4	0	5	Apr20-Mar21
	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr21-Mar22
	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr22-Sept22
Closure Orders	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr19-Mar20
	1	1	0	0	0	2	Apr20-Mar21
	0	0	6	1	0	7	Apr21-Mar22
	0	0	1	0	0	1	Apr22-Sept22
Criminal Behaviour Orders	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr 19-Mar20
	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr20-Mar21
	1	0	1	0	0	2	Apr21-Mar22
	0	1	1	0	0	2	Apr22-Sept22

The historical issues in the Southwick area led to development of a longer-term project focussing on wider health, crime and social outcomes and that project known as Southwick Altogether Raising Aspirations (SARA) was launched in 2020. In 2022 there has been a similar model in Hetton-le-Hole (HALO) that is producing similar excellent results in community engagement and reduction in ASB.

- 4.2 The Sulgrave Neighbourhood Project continues to operate and has been successful in targeting individuals who identify and exploit the most vulnerable in our communities.
- 4.3 The Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Meetings or LMAPS have continued to meet throughout 2021/22.
- 4.4 In addition, Police Neighbourhood Priority Team meetings as a response to community vulnerability – this multi-agency meeting works with a number of key partners around a small caseload of offenders and victims of concern who may not meet thresholds or be appropriate for existing safeguarding or Multi Agency public Protection arrangements. The meetings are proving key as we start to consider the criminal exploitation concerns that have emerged such as County Lines drug activity and drug debt bondage issues with a small number of vulnerable young people and adults.
- 4.5 The Police and Crime Commissioner has this summer launched a Community Trigger process across Northumbria and is seeking the support of the 6 Community Safety Partnerships, including Safer Sunderland Partnership to implement the policy. [Community Trigger](#) [OPCC](#) .
- 4.6 A Community Trigger (also known as an ASB Case Review) is an important safety net for victims and communities experiencing ASB to request a review of their ASB case and to bring agencies together to find a solution for the victim(s). Since its introduction Sunderland has received 3 community triggers with work planned between partners.

## 5.0 Newer and emerging threats and harms that impact on safeguarding and feelings of safety

5.1 The Government 'Serious and Organised Crime Strategy' requires that a range of agencies work to disrupt Serious and Organised Crime (SOC). In Northumbria this is facilitated by Operation SENTINEL. This brings a range of government agencies and local partners together on a regular basis. It includes work alongside the North East Regional Specialist Operations Unit and other agencies including the City Council, Fire and Rescue, Environment Agency, Probation Service, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority and the National Crime Agency (NCA) to utilise their skills and expertise. Notable actions across Northumbria and in Sunderland over the last 12 months have involved:

- Operations by the National Crime Agency, the regional Police forces joint initiative covering Northumbria, Durham and Cleveland police forces (i.e. NERSOU) and Northumbria Police which have led to significant custodial sentences being made by the Courts in relation to individuals based in Sunderland involved in drug supply and firearms offences.
- This work will continue to be supported by the Council and Safer Sunderland partners as a key priority as organised crime drives many locality crime and disorder issues. Whilst we have limited emerging evidence of County Lines drug and violence activity across the North East compared to many other areas of the UK, this remains a priority area for action to prevent it becoming established in the City.

5.2 Operation Payback – Is a fund underpinned by money seized from criminals, it is designed to ensure that local neighbourhoods and grass roots organisations and groups will benefit to help prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and to repair the harm this causes in communities. Sunderland charities are asked to bid for awards from this fund and have had really good success this last year in these bids (Appendix 1)

5.3 Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) is a significant threat to the UK and brings horrendous harm to its many victims, from both the UK and abroad. Modern Slavery is managed through the National Referral Mechanism. Facilitation of all National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals into Northumbria Police takes place through the Northumbria Police Exploitation Hub which is jointly funded by the 6 LA's including Sunderland Council.

There were 32 full NRM and 12 Duty to Notify referrals between 1st November 2021 – 1st September 2022.

The initial assessment and development of these referrals is now coordinated by the hub police staff which improves early notification and coordination of all partnership activity. The weekly meetings provide the opportunity for all agencies to raise any concerns relating to MSHT and joint consideration can be given to whether an NRM referral and/or additional action is required.

### Modern Slavery 01/01/2022 – 26/09/2022

Area	MDS - forced labour	MS - Other	MS - sexual exploitation	Total
Sunderland	0	13	7	20

- 5.2 Following the adoption of a Modern Slavery Policy by the council, agency awareness is on-going, and work will continue in 2022/23. We are also establishing links with the International Community Organisation of Sunderland (ICOS) and their 'Back in Control' project. They are Lottery funded and aim to identify instances of modern slavery and workplace exploitation in the Sunderland area and empower former victims to regain control of their lives [Back in Control – International Community Organisation of Sunderland \(icos.org.uk\)](https://www.backincontrol.org.uk/)

## PREVENT

- 5.3 Work has continued around the **PREVENT** agenda involving a wide range of partners across Sunderland and the wider Northumbria area during 2021-22. Staff training has continued to be progressed across agencies to help staff spot signs of radicalisation and how to respond to it.
- 5.4 We regularly receive the **Counter Terrorism Local Profile** that informs local and national threat level. The Current UK National Threat Level remains - SUBSTANTIAL AN ATTACK IS LIKELY. Self-Initiated Terrorists (S-ITs) are the primary threat across the Northumbria Police force area. It is considered a realistic possibility that a S-IT inspired by either an Islamist or Extreme Right-Wing terrorist ideology could carry out a low sophistication attack without warning. The use of bladed or blunt force weapons are the most likely form of attack methodology due the ease of access and concealment. Other more complex methodologies, such as the use of vehicles and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) cannot be ruled out.
- 5.5 The Local Authority works with Counter Terrorism Policing considering referrals into Prevent. We have a joint Children & Adults **CHANNEL** panel which sits monthly looking at support to children, young people and adults at risk of exploitation and being drawn into Extremism. There are currently two individuals being discussed at this monthly panel and we are working with the individuals and their families.
- 5.6 **COHESION** - The Partnership has continued to monitor cohesion threats which did not see any local significant protest activity through the period of Covid though local online activity and some stickering with anti-immigration messages across the city was featured. Brexit and the focus on environmental issues dominated the national protest agenda in recent years. The city has seen Right-Wing activity in the last year, e.g. the leafleting in the Washington area by Patriotic alternative, posting of videos of accommodation for asylum seekers. In March 2022 a Washington man went to court for extremist activity but the jury could not reach a decision.
- 5.7 The Council and Northumbria Police continued to share its experience and learning from right wing cohesion challenges as this remains the greatest concern from a Counter Extremism Commissioners report "Challenging hateful Extremism". The report is available at; <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/challenging-hateful-extremism>.
- 5.8 The Home Office published a National Prevent toolkit that has enabled partners in Sunderland to carry out an effective self-assessment through a benchmarking exercise. We have established a Prevent Board and used the self-assessment together with the Counter Terrorism Local Profile has helped to identify key improvement actions for inclusion in the city's Prevent Action Plan for 2022-23.
- 5.9 Sunderland has also continued to support the development of the Northumbria-wide CONTEST Board. This multi-agency group oversees at Chief Officer level, agency responses to delivery of the national counter terrorism strategy (CONTEST). One element of CONTEST is the Prevent agenda. The other elements it oversees are: Protect; Prepare; and Pursue.



- 5.10 **Protect Duty - Making the public safer at publicly accessible locations.** There is currently a Bill going through Parliament that will have a significant impact for the Local Authority. The Government considers that the owners and operators of public venues and large organisations should be required to consider terrorist threats to the public and staff at locations they own or operate. They then should consider and implement 'reasonably practicable' protective security and organisational preparedness measures. Finally using this to develop a robust plan on how to deal with or act as a result of a terrorist attack.

## 6.0 Safer Streets Fund

- 6.1 In previous years the Council has applied for Home Office funding called the "Safer Street Fund". In the first 2 rounds these were unsuccessful. However, over the last 18 month, in partnership with the Office of Police & Crime Commissioner as well as the other 5 LA's in the Northumbria region we have been successful in Rounds 3 and 4.

- 6.2 November 2021 - As part of a regional Bid submitted by PCC, Sunderland has contributed towards the **Northumbria Public Parks Bid and funding was identified for Mowbray Park**

Summary of interventions:

- As well as the funding for the column, CCTV & Help Point, we were successful in our request for additional money given for installation of lights to two existing Columns as well as Funding for Benches and horticultural works
- Funding for Events in the Park were given to promote the work for violence against women and girls
- Bespoke Safer Parks Signage (Appendix 2) promoting use of Mowbray Park

### SSF Round 3 (Northumbria)

- 6.3 As part of a regional Bid submitted by OPCC, Sunderland has contributed towards the **Transport Bid**

- Safer Transport Northumbria App has been developed and launched, enabling simplified reporting of crime and incidents to the most appropriate agency and encourages more active bystander interventions with access to advice and support. There have now been over 3000 downloads
- Street Pastors are undertaking patrols promoting safety and reassurance with maximum visibility at key locations and times, such as Park Lane Interchange Fri/Sat

### SSF Round 3 (Northumbria)

- 6.4 As part of a regional Bid submitted by OPCC, Sunderland has contributed towards the **Night-Time Economy Bid**

- Funding of the Property at St Mary's Street secured by Sunderland Street Pastors but available to other partners including police, ambulance service - £8,500 annual rent
- Street Pastors are undertaking patrols promoting safety in the Night-Time Economy

- The introduction of Operation Cloak targeting perpetrators in the night-time economy has been extremely successful in Sunderland since Christmas.

## 6.5 **August 2022 - SSF Round 4 (Northumbria)**

### **BID 1**

#### Operation Cloak

Extend/enhance Northumbria Police's Operation Cloak across three target NTEs. Which are:

- Police officers in key areas within the NTE and other public places, observing and intervening to prevent offences and act against perpetrators.
- Extend/enhance community volunteer services to provide capable guardianship to support Operation Cloak, offering assistance and care in a safe environment.

#### Street Volunteers

SSF3/SWAN trained Street Volunteers who will continue to work across the region and deliver services in NTE and other public spaces as led by need and demand supporting women to feel safer.

#### Women's Safety in Public Places (WSiPP) Wardens

To focus on improving feelings of safety in the five LA areas using mobile uniformed wardens patrolling designated areas based on need/demand, providing a visual/reassuring presence in public places. The duties include safeguarding vulnerable/intoxicated people in the designated areas, focussing on supporting women/girls from VAWG and other crime types.

#### Safe Havens (SH)

There is existing SH provision across the Region, providing safe places for women/girls in the NTE. We have currently got three SHs in the region one is a premises the other two are vans that can be moved around the area based on need/demand.

### **BID 2: (Northumbria) Transport**

6.6 We are part of the Multi Agency Transport Team (MATT) . This group consists of staff members from Police, Transport Providers and LA Community Safety Teams and will work as follows:

- Hold intelligence led reactive Multi Agency days of action
- Use partner agency data (including from App/Police, SSF4 Partners, insights) to identify days for activity, high harm routes, hubs and offenders.
- Use the data/insights to link in with the Violence Reduction Unit to support and inform their focussed deterrents project.
- Employ a team of Nexus/Local Authority staff to travel on Bus/Metro tackling and preventing ASB

### **BID 3: (Joint Sunderland, Gateshead, Newcastle bid)**

- 6.7 £750K led by Michelle Coates: Continue the use of the HALO Project in Hetton
- Based on the Southwick SARA model which is seen as an example of good practice
  - Similar schemes to be developed in both Gateshead & Newcastle

### **7 Partnership collaboration which covers both statutory duties and strengthening partnership working**

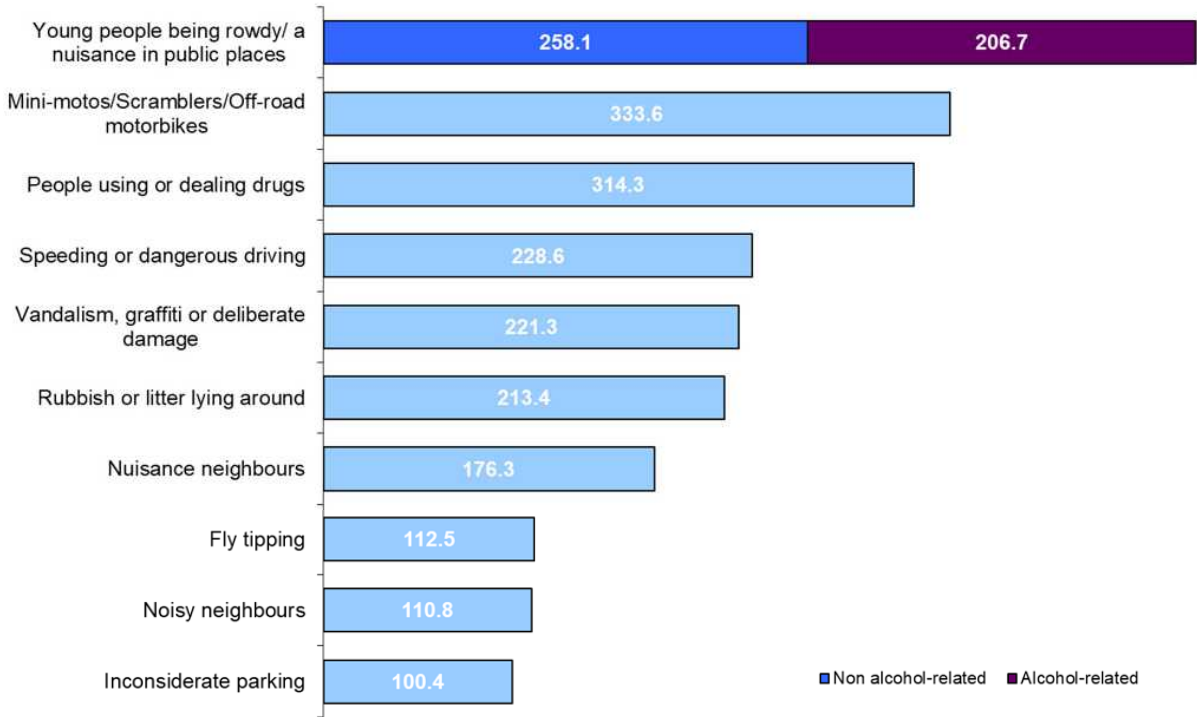
- 7.1 The Partnership has continued to meet its core statutory duties around its strategic board; the annual partnership strategic intelligence assessment (PSIA); the partnership (delivery) plan; performance management; and information sharing. The Safer Sunderland written partnership agreement in place. The Partnership has a duty to cooperate with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).
- 7.2 Strong links have been developed with the Violence Reduction Unit for Northumbria which was established in 2019 by the Home Office and is delivered through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Early impact of the Unit has been funding for a range of Sunderland organisations involved in diversionary work including focused deterrence in Sunderland City Centre, creation of a Violence profile for Northumbria supported by a County Lines threat assessment for Sunderland. The Unit is preparing its response strategy and longer-term approaches to tackle serious violence across Northumbria.
- 7.3 Routine horizon scanning work continues and partners are regularly briefed around any issues that may impact on community safety in Sunderland covering policy, economic-social issues, technological developments, environmental issues, legislation, and organisational changes.
- 7.4 The impact this has had on the Safer Sunderland priorities and the partnership improvement / collaboration work area**
- The Safer Sunderland Partnership responds to its statutory duties and responsibilities to make Sunderland a safer city. The strategic partnership intelligence assessment (PSIA), delivery plan is completed annually. There is intelligence-led decision-making and identification of strategic priorities through a comprehensive strategic assessment. The Assessment indicated that priorities and work areas remained relevant however emphasis on serious violence, serious and organised crime, criminal exploitation and drug availability should be areas for ongoing consideration in 2022/23.
- 7.5 Briefings are routinely produced on new policy and legislation and the potential impact to partners and on the City;
- The Safer Communities Survey is carried out to monitor residents feelings of safety and perceptions of crime and disorder;
  - The Council's Police and Crime Panel members are supported in their scrutiny role
  - There is stronger, more efficient and effective partnership working to achieve shared outcomes, economies and scale, added value, greater collaboration and reduced duplication e.g. through the cross partnership Domestic Abuse Strategic Projects Group and through the cross-boundary working on Prevent, and serious organised crime.

8.0 Residents’ Views

8.1 Northumbria Police produced their Safer Communities Survey in March this year for the previous 12 months. Within it they identified:

3,691 Residents were surveyed across the force area; of these, 937 (25%) identified at least one problem in their neighbourhood.

The chart below shows the top ten public priorities at force level in descending order, along with the score for each priority



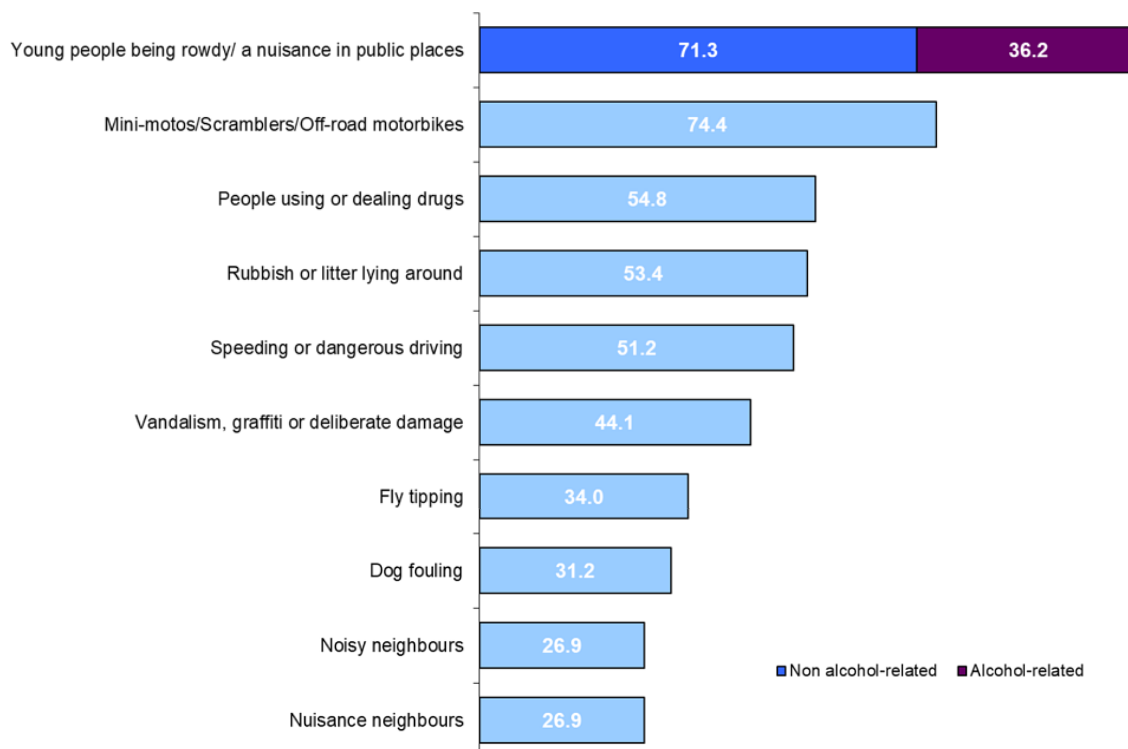
Sunderland Public Priorities

657 Residents were surveyed across the local authority area; of these, 184 (28%) identified at least one problem in their neighbourhood.

The chart below shows the top ten public priorities for Sunderland in descending order, along with the score for each priority\*:

\* Problems are given a score of 1 to 3 depending on how big a problem the residents say they are. These are combined to give the overall problem score and weighted to take account of the population.

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## 9.0 Conclusions

- 9.1. The Partnership has maintained its strong and effective multi-agency working in a landscape where all community safety partners work within the context of continued budget pressures and change. Covid-19 brought challenges across all areas of our business, but also developed opportunities and new ways of working. Generally, attendance at multi-agency meetings has improved with the use of video conferencing as well as reduction in staff travel time/carbon footprint.
- 9.2 Nationally and locally the shift in focus on community safety issues away from traditional crimes (e.g. acquisitive crimes) towards exploitation of vulnerable people has continued and this is evident across the whole of the Northumbria Area. This has included work to tackle serious organised crime, sexual exploitation, modern slavery, cyber enabled crimes, increased reporting of domestic and sexual abuse, other forms of violence against women and girls, and hate crime.
- 9.3 The partnership continues to make best use of multi-agency data and intelligence sharing in order to understand need and risk and ensure responses are multi-agency in their outlook. Good multi-agency problem solving is crucial in this and will continue as the bedrock of the Partnership's work.
- 9.4 Community safety performance across perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour did see some deterioration slightly in 2020-21 but there are still high levels of feelings of safety being maintained. These perceptions will need to be monitored closely. Addressing community safety issues will also remain a key challenge and this is best addressed through the partnership approach that stays deeply rooted in problem solving.
- 9.5 The annual Safer Sunderland Partnership strategic intelligence assessment (which informs the strategic priorities for the year ahead) has indicated that the current priorities and work areas in

2021-22 still remain relevant for 2022-23 and a delivery plan is currently being drafted for consideration by the Safer Sunderland Board.

- 9.6 The **Safer Sunderland Partnership webpages** had a full refresh in December 2019  
[www.sunderland.gov.uk/safersunderland](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/safersunderland)

## **10. Recommendation**

- 10.1 The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee are asked to note the key multi-agency improvement activity and achievements contained in the annual report and agree to accept the next annual report in November 2023

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Annual Report produced by Adult Social Care Directorate November 2022

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## Appendix 1

Organisation	Outline of bid	Op Payback spend
<b>Sunderland specific –Jan 2022</b>		
<b>Connor Brown Trust</b>	The funding is requested to deliver educational workshops on prevention of knife crime.	£4,600
<b>District Youth Amateur Boxing Club</b>	Funding to purchase a new boxing ring for the club that provides diversionary activities for young people in the community	£5,000
<b>New Beginning North</b>	Reclaiming Futures, a newly developed programme will provide emotional, practical, and vocational training to neurodivergent individuals, aged 14 – 25	£4,129
<b>Dare North CIC</b>	Funding to deliver dance sessions for girls in Northern Saints Primary school based in a disadvantaged area of Sunderland that will increase mental resilience and will provide diversionary activities.	£4,740
<b>2nd Herrington Scouts Group</b>	Funding to provide broadband to the Scout Hut that will increase the training and facilities that can be provided.	£384
<b>Sunderland Community Action Group</b>	Funding for outdoor kit for young people either causing or at risk of causing ASB/crime who the group have targeted and work with to reduce issues in areas of high ASB. The group will then be able to take young people away on excursions all year round.	£959
<b>Lambton Street Youth &amp; Community Hub</b>	Contribution towards the cost of replacing and installation of a security camera.	£2,688
<b>Pallion Action Group</b>	Diversionary activities for young people, most at risk of exploitation.	£4,900
<b>Young Asian Voices</b>	Funding for Youth Voice Drop-In sessions for young people to keep them off the streets and stop them getting involved in anti-social behaviour/crime.	£1,430
<b>Cross area</b>		
<b>Care to Dance</b>	Provision of diversionary activities (dance classes) on a weekly basis for 12 weeks for young people who are in or have been in care.	£1,666 (Sund Share)
<b>Triangular</b>	The funding is requested to train 5 Community Champions from refugee communities, who in turn will support victims of hate crime.	£1,656 (Sund Share)
<b>Open Clasp Theatre Company</b>	Funding to improve criminal justice responses to people with learning disabilities/autism who report rape/sexual violence using theatre-based training.	£277 (Sund Share)
<b>Total</b>		£32,429

<b>AUGUST 2022</b> <b>Just Let Your Soul Grow, Community Garden</b>	Funding to engage with young people in Southwick to engage in the Community Garden including the provision of educational workshops focus on art, healthy lifestyles & wellbeing, developing into a regular weekly youth session at the Community Garden.	£5,000
<b>Sunderland African Community Association</b>	Funding for room hire for the community to meet on Saturday to undertake activities.	£1,000
<b>Studio Burn Fitness Community Interest Company</b>	Funding to provide dance and fitness activities for girls who are aged 8-16 yrs. during the summer holiday period. The sessions will be held at North East Dance Studio which is based in Sunderland and will run over the 6-week holiday break.	£4,080
<b>Mindful Walks NE Ltd CIC</b>	Funding to allow young people from Easington Lane to attend the Forrest School during the School holidays.	£3,600
<b>New Beginnings North CIC</b>	Funding to support neurodivergent young people at risk of anti-social behaviour, and who are significantly suffering with their mental health. This funding will enable New Beginnings North to support these young people by providing access to vocational training and health programmes.	£1,515
<b>Weights &amp; Cakes CIC</b>	Funding to provide activities to the sections of the community who would otherwise not be likely to access mainstream gym and fitness facilities.	£4,500
<b>Easington Lane Community Access Point</b>	Funding to deliver diversionary activities for young people preventing them from engaging in Asb as a result.	£4,977
<b>The Little Onions CIC</b>	Funding to deliver intergenerational activities in areas of Washington experiencing high levels of social deprivation.	£5000
<b>Care to Dance C.I.C.</b>	Funding for dance sessions and diversionary activities focussed on young people in social care with the aim to support the prevention of vulnerable young people entering care. This will be for any young person between the ages of 10-18 who are deemed to be at-risk or vulnerable and are supported by Children's Services.	Cross Border Share £1,000
<b>Sports Traider - Newcastle Branch</b>	Funding to work with young people aged 16-24, mainly those not in education or training (NEET) across the Tyne & Wear area and those vulnerable to exploitation and at risk of being drawn into anti social behaviour due to lack of structured intervention and activities/opportunities.	Cross Border Share £833
<b>111 (Sunderland) Squadron</b>	Funding to purchase media equipment including VR to attract more young people to the squadron.	Cross Border Share £500
		Total £28,434



Appendix 2

