

STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
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Report of the Strategic Manager: Safer and Stronger Peterborough

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SAFER PETERBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2011-14

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee on the progress and performance of the Safer Peterborough Partnership's approach to reducing crime in accordance with the Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan 2011-14.
- 1.2 For the committee to scrutinise that progress and performance in accordance with its statutory responsibility as set out within the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, revised by The Police and Justice Act 2006.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the approach, progress and performance thus far; to endorse the partnerships direction of travel and to make any comments or suggestions as appropriate.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy aims to deliver a bigger and better Peterborough, through improving the quality of life for all. The Partnership Plan covers those aspects that fall within the Strong and Supportive Communities priority; this report covers progress towards part of that plan.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires that a Community Safety Partnership is formed, bringing together agencies who are responsible for crime and disorder in the local area. It is acknowledged that far more can be achieved to make Peterborough a safer place if agencies work together rather than in isolation.

The Crime and Disorder Act specifies responsible authorities as Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, NHS Peterborough, Cambridgeshire Fire Authority, Cambridgeshire Police Authority and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Trust.

These responsible authorities also invite other agencies who are able to contribute to the work to *co-operate* and Cross Keys Homes (representing Registered Social Landlords in the city) is one of these organisations. Other agencies, particularly from the voluntary and community sector are also *invited to participate* in the work of the Partnership. At present these organisations are PCVS, Peterborough Racial Equality Council, HMP Peterborough and The One Service.

The Safer Peterborough Partnership is one of the partnerships that form the Greater Peterborough Partnership.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, revised by the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires that the Community Safety Partnership publish an annual Partnership Plan. The Safer Peterborough Partnership works to a three-year strategic plan (2011-14) and at its meeting of 4th June this committee reviewed the annual refresh of that plan.

5.2 The Safer Peterborough Partnership agreed one single target for the three year plan – to reduce victim based crime by 10% by end of March 2014.

5.3 In order to achieve this there were three identified priorities:

Reduce Victim Based Crime

Tackle Anti-Social behaviour and Hate Crime

Build Stronger and more supportive communities

5.4 This report concentrates upon progress and performance in relation to reducing **victim** based crime.

Victim based crime: The partnership chose specifically to concentrate efforts on reducing victim based crime. Previously the partnership was measured on ‘all crime’.

The reason for this was that the partnership wanted to reduce the number of people living, working in or visiting the City becoming victims of crime. ‘All crime’ includes such categories as drugs offences, incidents of handling stolen goods and some other areas where it is preferable to see an increase rather than decrease as it is an indicator of proactive police activity. These are excluded from the partnerships reduction target for this reason.

At the start of the three-year reporting period a number of points were agreed as being the position at that time. These were articulated as follows

It is clear that whilst crime levels have fallen across the City there remains significant issues that any City the size of Peterborough will face:

- There remains a level of acquisitive crime underpinned a group of offenders who disproportionately commit high levels of crime by re-offending.
- There remains a level of violent crime that requires co-ordinated partnership activity; some of that violent crime is drug and alcohol related and a significant level of all the City’s violent crime is ‘domestic violence’.
- Our communities remain concerned about the levels of ‘anti-social behaviour’ as is evidenced by all neighbourhood panels having some elements of anti-social behaviour as a priority on each and every occasion.

The partnership chose to approach reducing crime in the following way:

Embedding the ‘broken window theory’ as a bedrock of our approach to reducing crime, tackling ASB and building stronger, supportive and more cohesive communities. This approach prevents escalation into more serious issues that can destroy communities, increase crime and the fear of crime and reduce cohesion.

Taking an approach to tackle the underlying causes of offending and crime but being equally clear that those who continue to offend or bring risk of harm to the City will be targeted with the full weight of the criminal justice system.

The main planks of this approach are:

Integrated Offender Management

The best way to reduce crime is by a partnership approach tackling those most disproportionately responsible for the bulk of that crime. National figures suggest that around only 10% of offenders are responsible for up to 50% of all crime.

This City has had considerable success over the last 2 years in reducing crime; a number of factors have led to this but one contributor is the revised and expanding partnership based Integrated Offender Management initiative.

Integrated Offender Management is the overarching framework that encourages:

- All partners tackling offenders together;
- Delivering a local response to local problems;
- Offenders facing their responsibility or facing the consequences;
- Making better use of existing (and proven) programmes and governance;
- All offenders at high risk of causing serious harm and/or re-offending are in scope.

This developing approach in Peterborough has effectively gripped offenders and managed them either away and out of offending or enabled a more agile and swifter response by partners to recapture those who are continuing to offend. In Peterborough this approach is strengthened further by the national pilot of the Social Impact Bond working with all male prisoners who enter and leave Peterborough prison having been sentenced to less than 12 months imprisonment; these are some of the 10% mentioned above.

An additional factor has been the development by the police of their impact initiative which focuses on those appearing not to want to change with swift targeted intervention and enforcement.

This approach offers people the opportunity to change their lives by focussing on the causes of their offending behaviour across a range of seven tried and tested pathways to reduce re-offending. All partners are committed to IOM and the scheme has the ability to link-up a number of other areas of work within the City to make longer-term change a real prospect (for example the Family Recovery Project, the Safer Schools Commitment, the developing Anti-Social Behaviour team).

It is also an approach that is about to develop significantly within the next three years to bring even bigger wins in terms of cutting crime.

Integrated Offender Management will include all of the restructured drugs services for the City.

The City's IOM approach is being developed jointly with Cambridgeshire under guiding principles and an overall strategic direction provided by the Criminal Justice Board. This ensures partner agencies; most of whom are geographically county-wide managed organisations, are as effective as possible and responsive to local need.

Developing modern, effective and efficient substance misuse (drugs and alcohol) schemes that play a significant role in reducing offending and reducing the harms to our community and individuals suffering from drug misuse and addiction.

Developing an over-arching strategy on Domestic Abuse that includes all of the partners on whom domestic abuse impacts; the strategy will interlink this individual work and ensure a consistent and coherent response.

Improving perceptions of safety in Peterborough City Centre by prioritising ***violent crime linked to the night time economy***. This will ensure that those socialising in the City Centre feel safe and will further secure Peterborough's reputation as a primary destination for visitors and investors.

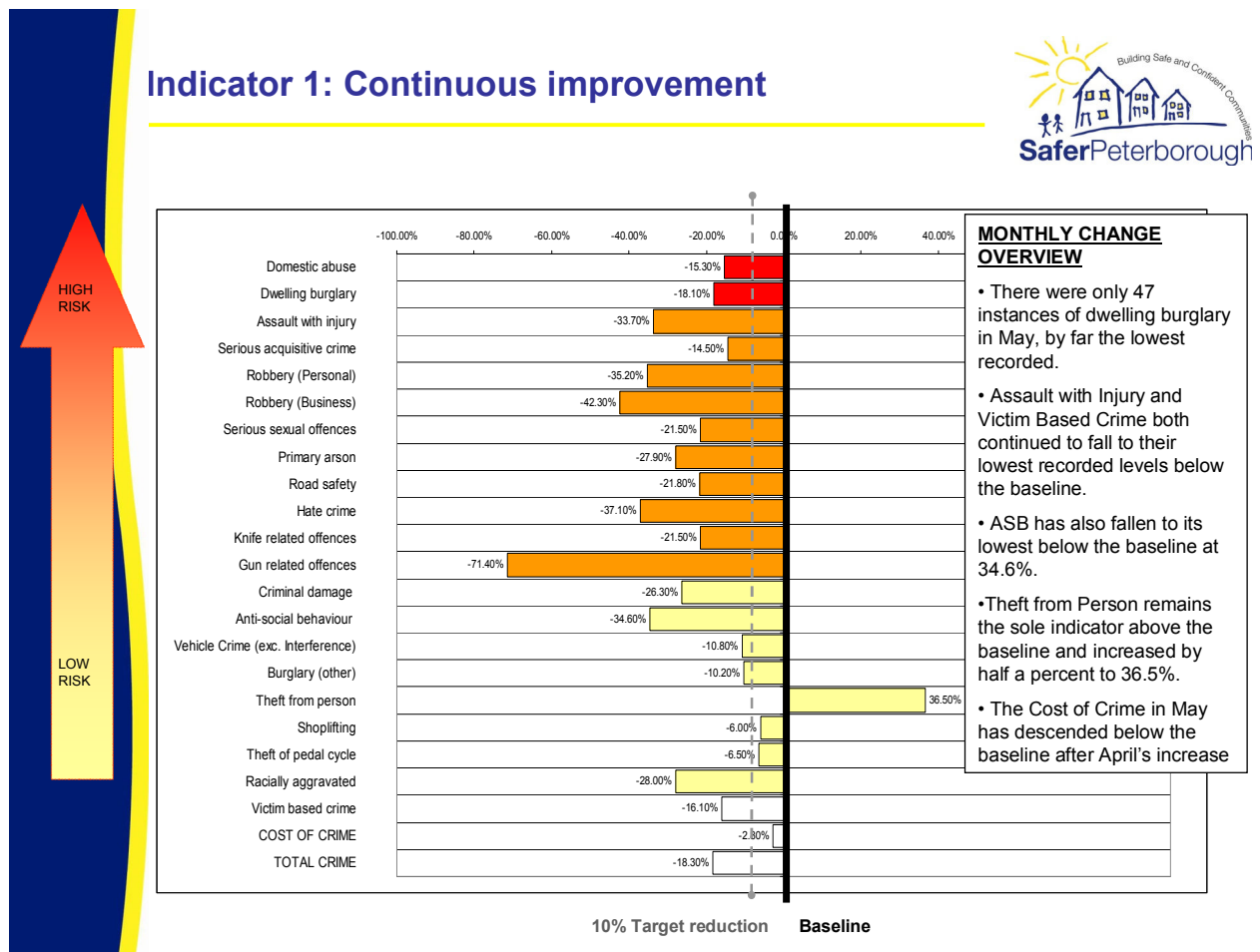
Performance management

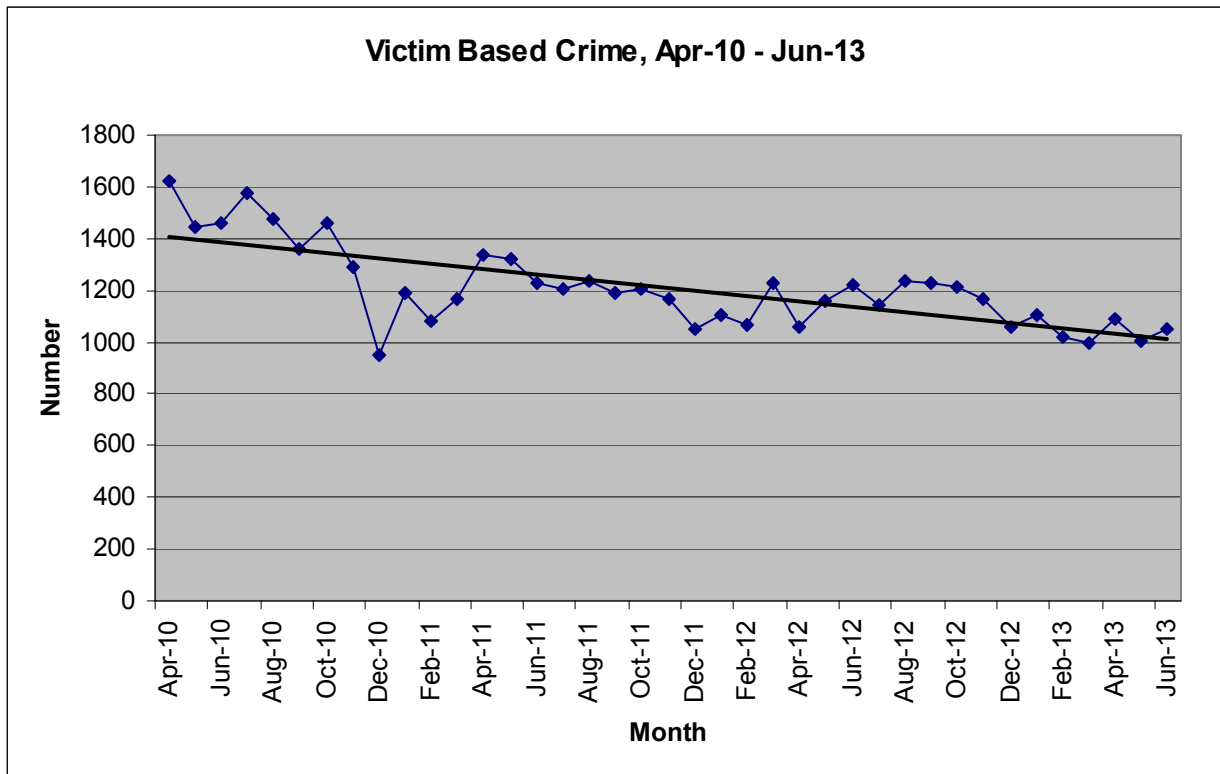
The partnership have a robust performance management regime which monitors performance on a monthly basis against the baseline set at the start of this three year period.

The one target, that of a 10% reduction in victims over the three year period, central to this framework.

The previous arrangements in place under the Local Area Agreement framework of central government imposed 'most similar areas' are not now being populated by government but this has allowed the freedom to compare more widely and nationally on a range of performance measures.

An example of the type of performance reporting is attached below





As can be seen from a starting point of over 1600 recorded crimes per month to just over 1000 per month. With monthly variable peaks and troughs the trend line shows a reduction in the region of 27% from April 2010 and at its current position is showing around a 35% reduction.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Fewer victims of crime are making the City safer.

7. NEXT STEPS

7.1 That the committee endorse the approach taken by the partnership in its efforts to reduce crime.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 None

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