



MAKING YORK A SAFER CITY

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN
2014-17
Refreshed March 2015**

FOREWORD

As Cabinet Member for Housing and Safer Communities, it gives me great pleasure to introduce you to the refreshed three year Community Safety Plan for the City of York.

Current figures show that York is a safe place to live with low rates of crime and anti-social behaviour. As a Partnership however, we know that we still have work to do to build upon our success and to focus upon some new actions. This Community Safety Plan sets out our aims and objectives for the next three years showing what we want to achieve and how we plan to achieve it to ensure that York becomes even safer and people feel safer.

This plan supports The Council Plan and the Police and Crime Plan. Community Safety also impacts on many other plans and service areas and every effort is made to ensure that this activity is joined up. The partnership is represented on a number of Boards including the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safeguarding Children's Board and Police and Crime Panel.

Community Safety has a significant impact upon community cohesion. This does not mean that the Community Safety Partnership is responsible for all aspects of ensuring cohesive communities in York but that it will, where possible engage in projects that promote this. For example, through activity under Smarter York and in supporting the growth of Neighbourhood Watch.

York has a great history of working in partnership and has achieved many successful outcomes by working collaboratively. Crime and disorder is no exception, as this document shows. I am confident that by continuing to work in partnership with agencies, we will deliver the aims and objectives set out in this Plan.

I hope you will find the plan interesting and informative.



Cllr Tracey Simpson-Laing

ABOUT SAFER YORK PARTNERSHIP

York has a long history of partnership working, both in the community safety arena and in the wider community through the work of the Without Walls Local Strategic Partnership.

Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) have, at their core, five responsible authorities which have a legal duty to work together to tackle crime, antisocial behaviour, substance misuse, environmental crime and issues of reoffending. The responsible authorities ensure that the CSP has a Community Safety Plan in place, setting out priorities and key areas of action.

The five responsible authorities are:

City of York Council

North Yorkshire Police

NHS Clinical Commissioning Group

North Yorkshire & York Probation Trust

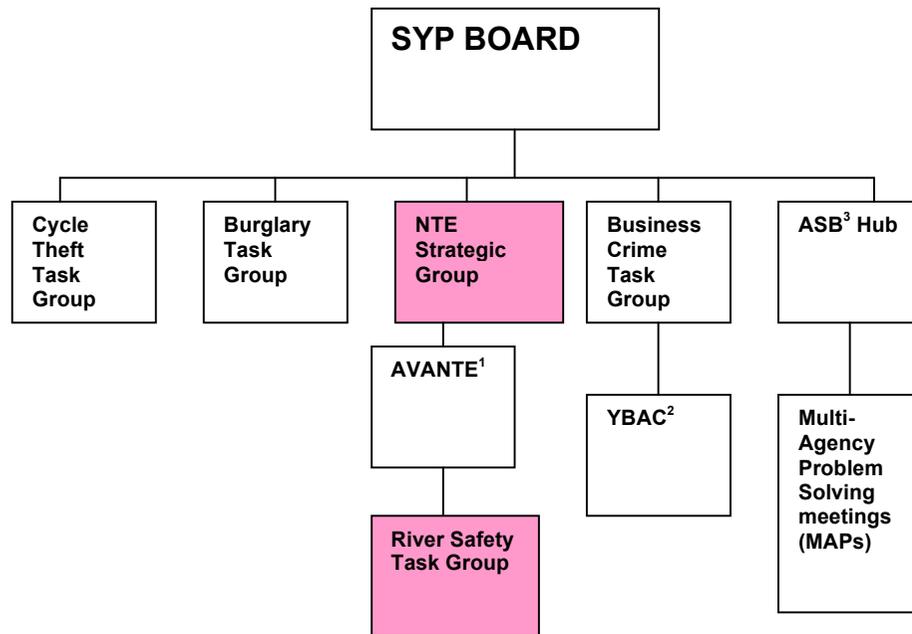
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

The partnership also includes membership from Job Centre Plus and York CVS (representing the third sector)

Community Safety Partnership's are required to produce a three year community safety plan, based on a Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment of partners' data, information and intelligence. This, alongside community consultation and an annual Crime Summit, assists the partnership in identifying it's strategic priorities and ensures that an intelligence led approach to community safety is in place within the city. The Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment was carried out in December 2014 and this refreshed version of the three year plan takes account of the information contained within that assessment.

DELIVERING THE PLAN

The plan will be delivered through the Safer York Partnership's multi-agency problem solving groups. These groups are supported by the community safety team within City of York Council.



Local delivery is key to the success of the partnership and the structure outlined remains flexible to address emerging patterns and trends in crime and anti-social behaviour throughout the lifespan of this plan.

1 Alcohol, violence and night time economy 2 York Against Business Crime 3 Anti-Social Behaviour Hub group established since original plan drafted

THE CITY OF YORK

The city of York is a Unitary Authority covering 272km² and is surrounded by some of the seven district councils that make up the county of North Yorkshire. The arterial routes of the A19 and A64 pass through the area and direct train services include destinations such as London and Edinburgh via the East Coast main line and Leeds and Manchester on the TransPennine line.

The population of the city is estimated to be 202, 447, an increase of 11.7% since 2001. Population estimates forecast an increase in the older population in York, most notably in those over 85 years old.

York has a rich heritage having adapted from being a railway and confectionery-manufacturing city into an international tourist destination, hub for science and technology and a national centre for education, financial and business services. As a world-famous historic city it attracts around seven million visitors each year making it one of the UK's most visited tourist centre. York is also home to the University of York and York St John University and two higher education colleges. More than 20,000 students attend these higher education establishments and this affects the overall population profile with a higher percentage than other areas being in the 15-24 year old age bands. The city is also home to a number of military establishments including Imphal Barracks and Queen Elizabeth Baracks. Events such as York City League two football matches, the festive St Nicholas Fayre and large race meetings significantly boost the number of people in the city.

York is a relatively prosperous city, however, there are pockets of deprivation with parts of the city amongst the most deprived in the country. Lower super Output Areas (LSOA) with the highest index of multiple deprivation within the city are concentrated within Guildhall, Hull Road, Clifton and Westfield wards.

ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES

Engaging with the community is a core function of the partnership. The partnership does this by embracing the structures that already exist within the Local Authority and the Police to engage with communities, including those which are hard to reach. In conjunction with the police safer neighbourhood teams and others working in front line roles, community information and intelligence is captured to ensure that neighbourhood priorities and concerns can be addressed through the partnership's delivery structure.

The partnership has developed a range of opportunities that allow communities to identify their priorities, ensuring that issues which impact on quality of life are dealt with and that communities can hold agencies, officers and elected members to account for ensuring that actions are developed to meet those identified priorities.

The partnership is committed to raising awareness and offering preventative advice on a range of community safety issues. It does this through:

- Regular input to the local media, informing the public of the partnership's work
- A comprehensive website, updated with relevant information on all aspects of the partnership's activities
- Use of social networking to communicate messages in real time and provide the opportunity for the public to comment on the work of the partnership
- An annual community safety market in the city centre where residents and visitors can meet the partners and learn about the work of the partnership
- Attendance through the police at ward meetings and residents groups where issues can be fed back to the partnership as appropriate

OUR PRIORITIES

Introduction

Each year, North Yorkshire Police produce a Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) compiled using information gathered from all responsible authorities, wider partners and the community. The JSIA is a comprehensive document that highlights initiatives and projects that have been developed through Safer York Partnership's delivery groups, reports on performance in relation to crime and anti-social behaviour and makes recommendations to inform the strategic priorities of the partnership that are the basis of this community safety plan.

Based on the JSIA 2014, the revised priorities identified for Safer York Partnership are as follows:

Reducing the harm caused by alcohol through the delivery of the York Alcohol Strategy

Reducing victims of crime

Reducing victims of anti-social behaviour

Protecting vulnerable people including Children, Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Abuse

Prevent

The information relating to each of the priorities has been directly taken from the JSIA to provide the basis for why this priority has been chosen.

In determining our priorities for 2015-16, Safer York Partnership has also recognised the role that the community safety partnership has in relation to delivery of the priorities set by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in her Police and Crime Plan. These are listed below.

- Protect Vulnerable People
- Cut crime and anti-social behaviour
- Focus on prevention and early intervention
- Improve victim care

For more information on the PCC please visit the website www.northyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk

There is synergy between these priorities and those of Safer York Partnership. This therefore provides a sound basis for delivering an effective community safety programme during the next three years.

The Community Safety Plan also links to the City of York Council Plan 2011-15 priorities of Build Stronger Communities and Protect Vulnerable People and to the Youth Justice Plan 2013-15

1. Reducing the harm caused by alcohol

Crime data indicates that 12% of offences in York are linked to the consumption or misuse of alcohol. Violent crime, criminal damage and public order are the volume offences linked to alcohol, whilst hate crime, sexual crime and domestic abuse are more likely as a proportion of their total number to be linked to alcohol. Thirty percent of anti-social behaviour is recorded as linked to alcohol and 39% of the booking in records for York custody indicate that the person had consumed alcohol or was drunk. In the Big York Survey 2013, 28% of respondents believed that 'people being drunk or rowdy in public places' is a problem within the city.

Community Impact

Significant levels of concern have been raised by residents to the city about large numbers of visitors from the North East of England arriving in York by train on a Saturday and behaving in a manner which is loud and disruptive. Many of these individuals are already drunk before they step off the train and will continue to consume high levels of alcohol throughout the day and into the evening. This combined with hen and stag parties and the higher than average numbers of people consuming alcohol on race days has started to impact on quality of life for local residents.

Consuming large quantities of alcohol, much of which is pre-loaded before a night out is of concern both the community safety and health teams within the city. Drinking in excess leaves individuals vulnerable and often disorientated and has been a common factor in many of the 24 river deaths which have occurred over the last 15 years in the city.

Activity since April 2014

- Established a Night Time Economy Strategic Group to look at personal safety and vulnerability related to alcohol
- Established a River Safety Task group to deliver an action plan aligned to reducing risk relating to the rivers
- Delivered personal safety campaigns in partnership with the universities
- Strengthened the capacity of volunteer support to work with vulnerable people in the night time economy
- Established a digital radio system for workers in the Night Time Economy to link directly with the police
- Begun work to develop an alcohol strategy for York

Priorities

Action	Outcome	Timescale	Lead
Work with Public Health to develop an alcohol strategy for York	Plans and actions to tackle alcohol related issues are better co-ordinated	By April 2015	North Yorkshire Police
Contribute to work within City of York Council to draw together all aspects of the night time economy through overview and scrutiny	Better co-ordinated decision making in relation issues which impact on the night time economy	March 2016	CYC
Increase engagement with licensees and doorstaff to promote pubwatch	More collaborative working between licensees, the CSP and the Police in tackling issues related to alcohol	March 2016	AVANTE Task Group
Develop a long term sustainable strategy to tackle personal safety relating to alcohol	Awareness of river safety is raised. Messages are consistent and well recognised within the city	September 2015	SYP strategic NTE group
Contribute to collaborative work in relation to the impact of hen and stag parties and the links to economic development. Recognition that this isn't just stag and hens but groups of recreational drinkers visiting York on Saturday, often by train arriving mid morning and leaving before midnight	Strategies to address all aspects of the night time economy are joined up	March 2017	AVANTE Task Group

2. Reducing victims of crime

Burglary, vehicle crime and cycle theft all remain low with and on track to show reductions. However, shoplifting and theft from person have increased. This has realigned the crime priorities within Safer York Partnership to focus on providing crime prevention advice and guidance, assisting with target hardening the properties of vulnerable victims and working more closely with the business community to tackle shoplifting. Work will also be undertaken to re-invigorate interest in Neighbourhood Watch. Currently only 13% of the city is covered by neighbourhood watch schemes. A project has been developed to work closely with the neighbourhood watch committee and North Yorkshire Police to increase this coverage and develop better communication between schemes, Safer York Partnership and the police

Community Impact

Although crime levels in York are generally low, the impact of crime on the victim is extremely significant. The long term effect of a crime can be lasting, particularly for those who are most vulnerable within our communities.

The majority of burglaries in the city occur due to insecure premises with unlocked doors and windows being a common factor, particularly within areas where there are large numbers of students. Due to the transient nature of this population, it is important that we continue to provide education and advice which will help residents and visitors to take care of their property and valuables whether at home, in vehicles or when out in the city.

Activity since April 2014

- Procured a new web provider and started to redevelop the SYP website to be more user friendly, up to date and accessible from mobile technology
- Established York Business Against Crime – a new business crime partnership accredited by the Association of Business Crime Partnerships
- Worked with the universities to reduce the amount of insecure student properties by initiatives such as Bob the Burglar
- Worked with the universities to increase property marking using the new Hermes device for registering directly to Immobilise
- Established a new digital radio link between the business community and North Yorkshire Police
- Established closer working links between the YOT and Safer York Partnership with membership from SYP on the YOT Management Board

- Increased social media use to provide crime prevention information directly to the community

Priorities

Action	Outcome	Timescale	Lead
Develop targeted seasonal crime prevention programmes working with the police SNTs to deliver	Awareness of crime prevention advice is increased	March 2017	Burglary, Vehicle Crime, Cycle Theft task groups
Link with YOT in relation to reducing the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system	Early intervention to reduce the number of young people who will get into trouble with the law	March 2017	Head of Community Safety
Increase the profile of neighbourhood watch	Increased community involvement in tackling crime in neighbourhoods	March 2017	York Neighbourhood Watch

3. Reducing victims of anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) distribution is concentrated primarily within the city centre, particularly where retail or licensed premises feature heavily. Localised areas of deprivation also feature highly with main under-pinning factors including resident families and individuals known to a variety of agencies, repeat victimisation (location) and youth/adult reoffending.

Analysis of ASB demand on both North Yorkshire Police and City of York Council resources indicates that on average between 40 and 50 cases are recorded daily across several IT systems.

ASB is addressed primarily via the multi-agency problem solving (MAPS) process. A new NYP/CYC ASB Hub for the city was launched in May 2014 with shared resources based within the new council offices. The purpose of the hub is to proactively tackle ASB including environmental issues such as fly-tipping and graffiti. The proposed joint approach seeks to ensure the city has an effective and efficient response to the needs of the community as outlined in both the Police and Crime Plan and City of York Council Plan.

York remains a popular destination for stag and hen parties. Local media reports highlight concern from the community about daytime weekend drinking in York city centre and the impact on local residents of drunken revellers on major race days.

The highest volume of calls in relation to ASB are to report nuisance.

Community Impact

Anti-social behaviour is activity that impacts on other people in a negative way. It can include a variety of behaviours covering a whole range of unacceptable activity that can blight the quality of life for individuals, families and communities. Antisocial behaviour is most often defined as behaviour that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm, or distress to one or more people not of the same household as the person responsible (the perpetrator).

If anti-social behaviour is allowed to continue unchallenged, the effects for individuals and communities can be devastating. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act provides a community trigger which when it comes into force in October 2014, will give victims and communities the right to demand that anti-social behaviour is dealt with.

Activity since April 2014

- Establishment of a joint City of York Council/North Yorkshire Police ASB Hub to identify risk and target interventions into the highest risk cases of ASB in the city
- Successful funding bids to support the further development of the Hub and increase capacity within the neighbourhood enforcement team to tackle neighbourhood nuisance and enviro-crime
- Successful application to the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire Police for the granting of Community Safety Accreditation Powers to the neighbourhood enforcement team
- Establishment of closer links with Family Focus team to ensure that opportunities for joint work are maximised
- Appointment of a mental health worker to support the work of the ASB Hub
- Implementation of an electronic case management system to allow the sharing of information between partners and create a more robust audit trail in relation to actions taken to address high risk ASB

Priorities

Action	Outcome	Timescale	Lead
Engage with YOT through the ASB Hub to target hotspots and vulnerable young people to deliver an appropriate response to youth crime and ASB	Communities see appropriate responses to reports of ASB involving young people as both perpetrators and victims	March 2016	Community Safety Manager, Neighbourhood Safety
Develop a closer dialogue with communities in relation to reporting and feeding back on action taken to tackle ASB	Community are better engaged in work to tackle ASB and better informed on the outcomes of interventions	March 2016	Community Safety Manager, Neighbourhood Safety
Develop stronger links with health	More appropriate use of	March 2016	Community Safety

in relation to support and accommodation requirements for those with mental health issues	accommodation and support for individuals with mental health needs		Manager, Neighbourhood Safety
Work with Partners to deliver sustainable solutions to the issue of high numbers of hen and reduce the associated ASB	Visitors and residents feel safe in the city at weekends	March 2017	AVANTE Task Group

4. Protecting Vulnerable People

Community Impact

Violence and the threat of violence at home creates fear and can destroy normal family functioning. Children and young people who live with domestic violence are more likely to display aggressive behaviour, experience anxiety, have reduced social skills, suffer symptoms of depression and show emotional distress. In many cases this can lead to those children and young people becoming more at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour and/or criminal behaviour.

Hate crime affects the individual in every area of their life, work school and home. People who experience such crime may feel guilty, humiliated and too embarrassed to complain – often leading to physical and emotional stress. Hate crime may often consist of a series of incidents, the cumulative effect of this can destroy lives through emotional damage and long term trauma.

CSE has been the subject of a number of high profile media stories. It is crucial that communities recognise the vulnerability of young people and that agencies working directly within communities are well sighted on the risk factors which can indicate that CSE is taking place

The national threat level has been raised to Severe due to an increase in the threat of international terrorism arising from the conflict in Syria. By working with and understanding our communities across the city agencies are well placed to identify those individuals or groups who may be vulnerable to radicalisation or engagement in potential extremist or terrorist behaviour.

DOMESTIC ABUSE

The definition of domestic abuse changed in Spring 2013 to include those victims aged 16 and over, reducing the previous lower age limit of 18 years to recognise the involvement of young people in abusive relationships and family violence..

City of York Council has recently established a Domestic Abuse Strategic Board to work toward s becoming a centre of excellence for domestic abuse. Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) have supported over 400 families living in the community and accommodated 41 families in the local refuge. IDAS reports that approximately 85% of the people they work with are considered 'high risk' victims having experienced repeated physical assaults, the emotional and physical effects of which can be enduring, affecting mental health, parenting ability and impacting adversely on children's development.

Activity since April 2014

- Establishment of a Domestic Abuse Strategic Board to oversee the development of a York Implementation Plan and York's contribution to the delivery of the York & North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Strategy
- CYC contribution to an enhanced IDVA/ISVA service for victims of domestic abuse in conjunction with OPCC and North Yorkshire County Council
- Continued development and positive results from the Early Intervention Project
- Development of a Perpetrators Programme to be rolled out from March 2015
- High profile World Cup and Christmas Domestic Abuse awareness raising campaigns

PREVENT

Prevent is an integral part of CONTEST, the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. It aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The aim of Prevent is for local agencies and communities to work together to disrupt those who promote the ideology of terrorism and provide support to individuals who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

York has been assessed as a high risk Prevent priority area. The presence of a number of indicators such as diverse demographic, young population, internationally iconic locations and areas of deprivation, present vulnerability factors within some areas of the city. In response to the Government's strategy on Counter Terrorism, York's Prevent Bronze group has recently shifted their emphasis toward tension monitoring with a view to understanding how the changes in demography, health and wellbeing and economy impact on the risk of individuals to become engaged in extremism.

Activity since April 2014

- Re-focus of the Prevent Local Delivery Group (Bronze) following the restructure of Prevent delivery across York and North Yorkshire
- Establishment of Prevent on the agenda of the SYP Board as the Silver group for City of York & attendance by Bronze and Silver chairs at the Prevent Implementation Board
- Development of information collection for the CTLP 2015
- Training of Community Safety team members to deliver Workshop for Raising Awareness of Prevent (WRAP3) training
- One Channel Panel meeting held and the learning from this used to develop a piece of work to address gaps in knowledge and in particular to raise awareness of the referral process

HATE CRIME

Whilst levels of hate crime in the city are low, there is still anecdotal evidence through local voluntary organisations that this is due to under reporting. In 2012, “Embracing Diversity: a Hate Crime Strategy for York” was launched and linked in to wider work ongoing within City of York Council through the Fairness Commission and in relation to Equalities, this has driven a number of actions to ensure that victims understand how to report hate crime and that relationships with relevant support groups are established to provide support which is pertinent to particular communities. Hate crime is dealt with through the Anti-social behaviour Hub and forms part of the vulnerable risk assessment process.

Activity since April 2014

- Work with local support groups to raise awareness of how to report hate crime and where to submit reports received directly to those groups
- Establishment of thirteen third party reporting centres across the city
- Training of Customer Service Team staff within CYC on how to deal with hate crime reports
- Development of MAPs process to embed hate crime into their core business

Child Sexual Exploitation

NYP have adopted the national definition of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) as “exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive ‘something’ (eg. Food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child’s immediate recognition.

The City of York Safeguarding Children’s Board has identified CSE as a priority within its business plans for the last 2-3 years. Training specific to CSE has been implemented across the city and embedded training is evident within schools. Increased emphasis has been placed on the importance of data sharing and liaison particularly between the police and the local authority.

Activity since April 2014

- Development of Safeguarding processes within Childrens Services to address the CSE agenda through embedding it within existing referral routes
- Support to the delivery of Operation Conceal through joined up work between the Youth Offending Team, CYC childrens social care teams and the police
- Development of link between the ASB Hub, YOT and Family Focus team particularly in addressing risks and vulnerabilities in young people who are likely to be drawn into CSE

Priorities

Action	Outcome	Timescale	Lead
Delivery of the domestic abuse Implementation Plan for York which is linked to the York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Strategy	Local service provision is aligned to the particular needs of the city whilst recognising the need for consistent sub-regional provision to support the transition of perpetrators and victims from one locality to another	March 2017	Head of Community Safety
Through the ASB hub, develop the ability to monitor and manage tensions within communities and work with those communities and relevant partners to address those tensions	Communities feel safer and more confident in public services ability to address issues which impact on quality of life at neighbourhood level	March 2017	ASB Hub
Strengthen links with health and particularly the Clinical Commissioning Group around mental health, alcohol and substance misuse that impacts on vulnerability and risk within communities	Stronger partnership between health and community safety service providers which can influence local commissioning to address underlying factors of vulnerability and risk within communities.	March 2017	ASB Hub
Work with the Youth Offending team on initiatives to target CSE, linking with the ASB Hub and other risk factors relating to the particular vulnerability of young people	Stronger partnership between the YOT and the Community safety partnership in relation to the vulnerability of young people	March 2017	ASB Hub
Ensure that information linked to	Improved information sharing and	March 2017	ASB Hub

the ASB Hub is shared in relation to potential risk factors that may indicate other vulnerabilities over and above ASB eg CSE, Domestic Abuse	robust audit trail of information relating to the vulnerability of young people		
Implementation of WRAP3 (Prevent) training across agencies within York	Refresh of Prevent Training within Bronze member organisations	March 2016	Head of Community Safety
Development of information collation to include community intelligence relevant to the Prevent Agenda that will enhance the value of the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP)	CTLP is more relevant to issues within York. Data quality is improved	Annual	Head of Community Safety
Prevent agenda is embedded in the work of the Community Safety Partnership and a standing agenda item at SYP Board meetings	Greater ownership of Prevent by the CSP	Annual	Head of Community safety
Increase awareness of prevent within City of York Council including development of referral processes for both adult and child Channel cases	CYC staff are aware of how to recognise vulnerability and how to make referrals in accordance with the Channel process	March 2016	Head of Community safety

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The next step is for the CSP to develop action plans that set out the detailed tasks it will take to address each of the four priorities. In doing so, the CSP will take account of the financial constraints which will impact on community safety. Community safety partners in York have a proven track record of co-operation and therefore are in a strong position to face these challenges together.

Monitoring Performance

The Community Safety Plan is a living document and will be reviewed annually and updated in the light of data provided by the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment and other analytical problem profiles.

The action plans discussed above will be monitored by tactical multi-agency delivery groups with any emerging issues reported to the SYP Board.

Although concentrating on its priorities, the CSP will also regularly consider emerging trends identified through the monthly police tasking and co-ordination process, by communities and elected members. The impact of legislative and policy change will also be monitored throughout the year.

How can you get involved?

You can have more direct involvement in the work of the Community Safety Partnership by attending our annual Crime Summit, through the North Yorkshire Police Volunteer scheme or by becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch in your area. Further information can be obtained by contacting safer York Partnership by email to:

safercommunities@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

if you have difficulty reading this publication, we will provide larger print, Braille or audio tape of all or part of the publication. We can also arrange for a version to be translated into other languages.



Safer York Partnership can be contacted at:
West Offices, Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA
01905 551550
safercommunities@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk