

Public Document Pack



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**

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Wednesday 21 October 2020

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

A meeting of the **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee** will take place remotely at **2.00 pm** on **Thursday 29 October 2020**.

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view via the Council's website.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Muscroft', on a light-colored background.

Julie Muscroft

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee members are:-

Member

Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)

Councillor Andrew Cooper

Councillor Harpreet Uppal

Councillor Andrew Marchington

Councillor Habiban Zaman

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Committee

To receive apologies for absence of Members who are unable to attend the meeting.

2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

1 - 6

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 August 2020.

3: Interests

7 - 8

The Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interests.

4: Admission of the Public

Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Committee will receive any petitions and hear any deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also hand in a petition at the meeting but that petition should relate to something on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of presenting a deputation.

6: Public Question Time

Due to current covid-19 restrictions, members of the public may submit written questions to the Committee.

Questions should be emailed to executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk no later than **1000 am on 28 October 2020**.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule:-

- 51(10) - each person may submit a maximum of 4 written questions
 - 11(5) - the period allowed for the asking and answering of public questions will not exceed 15 minutes.
-

7: Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire

9 - 16

The Committee will consider the latest progress on the devolution deal for West Yorkshire, particularly the draft Order currently being developed by Government.

Alan Reiss, Director for Policy, Strategy & Communications from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will be in attendance.

8: Strategic Intelligence Assessment & Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan – Refresh October 2020

17 - 54

The Committee will receive a report which provides the opportunity to discuss and comment upon the refreshed 2020 Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan which outlines the key strategic priorities for the next 12 months.

Contact:

- Jo Richmond, Head of Service, Communities
 - Lee Hamilton, Safer Kirklees Manager
 - Chris Walsh, Performance Manager, Communities
-

9: Domestic Abuse Strategic Update

55 - 60

The Committee will receive a report which provides a further update on the development of the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy.

Contact:

Alexia Gray - Head of Quality Standards and Safeguarding Partnerships

10: Work Programme 2020-21

61 - 62

To consider items for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme

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Contact Officer: Carol Tague

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Thursday 20th August 2020

Present: Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Harpreet Uppal
Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Habiban Zaman

79 Membership of Committee

All members of the Committee were present.

80 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 9 June 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

With regards to Item 74 (Request to Re-establish and Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Panel) it was noted that an informal OSMC meeting has been arranged on 29 September at 1000 am to consider a report of the Ad Hoc - Future arrangements for the Council's Residential Housing Stock prior to Cabinet.

81 Interests

No interests were declared.

82 Admission of the Public

All items were considered in public session.

83 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

84 Public Question Time

There were no public questions received.

85 Our Council Plan

The Committee received a report which provided information on the development of Our Council Plan, and how it built on previous approaches. The report also provided an update on the Council's approach to communication in the context of the coronavirus pandemic.

Rachel Spencer Henshall (Strategic Director, Corporate Strategy Commissioning and Public Health), Kate McNicholas (Head of Policy, Partnerships and Corporate Planning) and Marcus Bonnell (Head of Strategic Communications) were in attendance for the item.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 20 August 2020

The Committee were advised that the original intention had been to carry out substantial review to establish a 3 year Council Plan. However, given the context in which the Council was now operating, it had been agreed to proceed with a 1 year extension of the existing Corporate Plan, rather than carrying out a detailed piece of work at this point in time. This extension would focus on the consolidation of response and recovery work and play in the learning to date regarding the values of the organisation. Follow up work would be carried out next year to consolidate those values and embed within the organisation.

The Plan would continue to be structured around the 7 shared outcomes and a commitment to People, Partners and Place.

In terms of the reporting flightpath, it was noted that the Council Plan and associated Recovery Plan would be considered at the Corporate Scrutiny Panel on 10 September, Cabinet on 22 September and Council on 21 October 2020.

A clear commitment to tackling inequalities was set out within the Recovery Plan and this would be accompanied by a Tackling Inequalities Action Plan, which would set out specific actions. As part of this coherent approach to planning, the refreshed People Strategy would also be considered at the same time.

Key communication approaches taken through the pandemic were outlined and it was noted that a new Communications Strategy was at the early stages of development and would be aligned to the Council Plan.

The Committee asked a number of questions and a summary of responses is noted below:-

- The Committee asked that the phase title 'Forever Kirklees' be changed.
- Resilience, both in terms of personal, community and organisational, was critical and reference to this would be strengthened within the report
- Funding made available to improve cycling should be dedicated to longer term projects, such as greenways, rather than short term fixes.
- In terms of improving outcomes for children, the positive impact of food vouchers for children on free school meals was highlighted as was the need for an examination of connectivity and digital exclusion. It was noted that this would form part of the Inequalities Action Plan moving forward.
- Communications had improved and the internal communications were welcomed. Recent web posts were clearer and information regarding Covid-19 data was more accessible. In terms of communication more generally, it was suggested that there should be a move from internal/external language with just one clear way of communication.
- The priority being given to tackling inequalities was welcomed, but the Committee felt that it should be more prominent within the Plan. In response, the Committee were reassured that the Council Plan would place inequalities

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 20 August 2020

front and centre and the Inequalities Action Plan would sit alongside this and set out the key actions. The commitment to building an inclusive economy was also part of the Recovery Framework and would be a key aspect within the Economic Recovery Plan.

- In terms of measuring delivery on inequalities, key indicators at a population level, such as healthy life expectancy would be measured on an annual basis in conjunction with shorter term indicators such as access to services eg NHS health checks, to determine if the borough was moving in the right direction and whether that gap was being reduced
- It was acknowledged that ongoing engagement was critical to tackling inequalities, both in terms of relationship building and informing further phases of the action plan.
- Inequalities would be embedded and connected into other actions plans through integrated impact assessments in order to steer development activity at an early stage. It was suggested that issues such as power and inequalities and local wealth building could be themes for further development at a local level.
- In terms of resources, the importance of having the right staff in place for meaningful engagement was outlined and a recruitment strategy would be in place to support the Inequalities Action Plan. Consideration also needed to be given to how best to move away from a standard delivery pathway to something designed with those affected in mind alongside appropriate resources. It was suggested that the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel may wish to consider how best to put an inequalities slant on service delivery. It was noted that the commitment was there from a partnership perspective and it was critical to determine how best to translate that into action and ensure that resources were put into the right initiatives.
- In response to a question regarding capacity to take advantage of funding opportunities as when they arose and ensuring that such decisions were transparent to elected Members, it was noted that capacity would be drawn from a variety of sources such as Executive, partnership or sub-regional, depending on what the Council were trying to achieve. It was further noted that there was a need to be explicit in the Corporate Plan as to the appetite for making use of any such opportunities and ensure that this was built into the relevant services.
- With regards to input from Kirklees shaping sub-regional activity, it was noted that work in relation to Kirklees' Economic Recovery Plan had directly shaped the West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Plan being led out by West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- It was noted that one of the Corporate Plan supporting documents would be in relation to performance management.
- In terms of keeping communications visible and engaging to avoid message fatigue, it was noted that various channels and partner networks were being utilised. The use of staff on the ground was also providing a better insight into

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 20 August 2020

specific issues and message could be focused accordingly. The potential to use influencers outside of the Council was also being considered.

- With regards to the Partnership Plan, it noted that this could potentially be completed by November 2020. It was hoped that the partnership event ‘A Picture of Kirklees’ could be held as in previous years and this would be a positive opportunity for the partnership executive to articulate to a wider set of partners. It was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Panel would wish to consider the Partnership Plan at an appropriate point in its’ development.

Resolved:-

1. The Committee thanked the officers for attending the meeting and noted the update provided in relation to the Council Plan, Recovery Framework and the Council’s approach to communications in the context of the corona virus pandemic;
2. The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel to consider how best to put an inequalities focus on service delivery as part of their work programming;
3. The Corporate Scrutiny Panel to consider the Partnership Plan at an appropriate point in its’ development; and
4. The Council Plan and associated documentation to encompass the following key areas highlighted by the Committee:-
 - Digital inclusion across all age groups
 - ‘Forever Kirklees’ to be renamed
 - More prominence for resilience within the Council Plan
 - Inequalities to be front and centre
 - Employment opportunities for children and young people
 - Inclusive economy
 - Wider long term projects in relation to cycling and climate change
 - Clear, consistent innovative messaging in the Communications Strategy
 - Budget strategy and partner involvement
 - Wider engagement, not just the usual networks
 - Clear actions to accompany the Council Plan
 - Partnerships – build on the approach taken over the last few months

86 Work Programme

The work programmes for the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committees and Scrutiny Panels were noted.

The Committee were informed that the Place Based Working Group had received an update on the place based approach during Covid-19. The Group were reassessing priorities in the light of this, but it was intended that areas for consideration would include discussion with the Place leads and an examination of place based partnerships.

87 Any Other Business

The Chair reported that an urgent item in relation to the purchase of the George Hotel had been taken to Cabinet on 16 June 2020. It was agreed that the item would be exempt from call-in, but on the proviso that relevant information be taken to the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel at the earliest opportunity and the report submitted to Cabinet should reflect that. It was confirmed that the item had been considered by the Panel on 9 July 2020.

88 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that there would be an informal meeting of the Committee on 29 September at 1000 and the next public meeting would be on 29 October 2020 at 1400.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee			
Name of Councillor			
Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

- (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
- (b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Name of meeting: Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 29th October 2020

Title of report: Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire

Purpose of report:

To provide the Committee with the latest progress on the devolution deal for West Yorkshire, particularly the draft Order currently being developed by Government. Alan Reiss, Director for Policy, Strategy & Communications from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will be in attendance.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	No
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	Key Decision – No Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	n/a
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Jacqui Gedman 20/10/20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	Eamonn Croston 20/10/20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Julie Muscroft 20/10/20
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Pandor, Leader of the Council

Electoral wards affected: ALL

Ward councillors consulted: YES

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered: YES

1. Summary

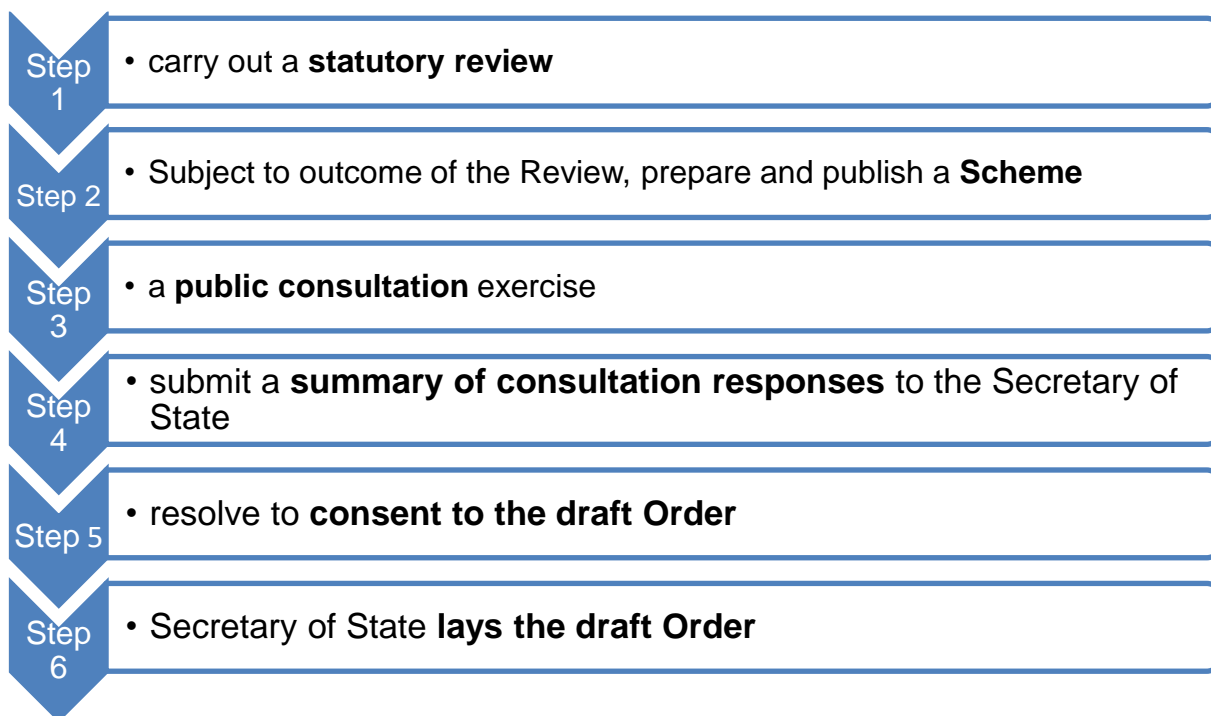
- 1.1 The West Yorkshire “minded-to” Devolution Deal was announced as part of the Budget on 11th March 2020. Subject to statutory processes, this will lead to the adoption of a mayoral combined authority model with additional functions.
- 1.2 At their meetings in September, the Combined Authority and each Constituent Council:
 - Considered the outcome of the public consultation on the Scheme, which has been undertaken jointly by the Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority; and
 - Resolved to submit the summary of the consultation responses to the Secretary of State.
- 1.3 Subsequently the consultation summary report, along with feedback comments from Leeds City Council and Kirklees Council were submitted to the Secretary of State. This submission, along with the Scheme will be used to draft the Order.
- 1.4 The draft Order is currently being produced and is due to be published by the Government at the end of October. Each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority will then be asked to agree the final Order in November.
- 1.5 Subject to authorisation from the Combined Authority and the Constituent Councils, the Order will be laid before Parliament in December and then made in January/February 2021.

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 As previously reported, the Deal will devolve a range of powers and responsibilities to West Yorkshire Combined Authority. It will unlock significant long-term funding and give the region greater freedom to decide how best to meet local needs.
- 2.2 The initial gainshare funding for the financial year 2020/2021 will be available prior to the first Mayoral election, but subject to: the establishing legislation being in place; and a revised Assurance Framework being approved.

Process for enacting the deal

- 2.3 The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 sets out statutory processes to be followed before any Order is made. Each aspect has a specific statutory procedure to be followed. In addition, the consent of each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority is required to any Regulations giving the Combined Authority powers to borrow for non-transport functions, however these are to be progressed separately and at a later date to the making of the Order.
- 2.4 It was previously agreed that the process set out in the flow chart below be followed. This process addresses all statutory procedural requirements.
- 2.5 **Flow chart of proposed process:**



2.6 Stages 1-4 are now complete. [Appendix 1](#) is an updated timeline on the implementation process.

Next Steps

2.7 The draft Order is currently being drafted by Government in-line with the previously published Scheme. It is expected to be published fully at the end of October.

2.8 The Combined Authority and each Constituent Council will then be asked to agree the draft Order in the second week of November. The dates of the key meetings are listed below:

- **Bradford** - Executive 9/11, Council 10/11
- **Calderdale** - Cabinet 9/11, Council 11/11
- **Kirklees** - Council 11/11, Executive 12/11
- **Leeds** – Executive 9/11, Council 11/11
- **Wakefield** - Cabinet 10/1, Council 11/11
- **WYCA** - 10/11

2.9 Subject to authorisation of the Combined Authority and each Constituent Council, it is proposed to agree that the final Order is delegated to the Managing Director of the Combined Authority, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive of each Constituent Council and the Chair of the Combined Authority for final minor amendments or changes to wording should they be required.

2.10 As part of the parliamentary process, the draft Order is being considered by Parliament's Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments (JCSI). Their role is to focus on the technical quality of the draft Order as opposed to the policy content and amendments at this point would be those required to ensure that the Order is well drafted. The JCSI process may therefore lead to technical amendments being made to the Order, these will be non-negotiable.

2.11 The Order is to be laid before Parliament in December and made in January/February 2021. This is essential to enable a mayoral election to take place in May 2021 and further

to enable the first gainshare payment to be received during this financial year.

- 2.12 Once the Order has been laid in parliament, the functions detailed in the Order will be conferred to the Combined Authority in line with the following timescales
- Combined Authority functions will be conferred once the Order has been made in parliament.
 - Mayoral functions, once the mayor is in office.
- 2.13 Local protocols will be developed and agreed between the Combined Authority and constituent councils. These protocols will detail how any concurrent functions will be operated and how consent functions will work in practice.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

The premise of the “minded-to” Deal is on bringing funding and functions to a more local level. In due course, it is anticipated that the establishment of the Mayoral Combined Authority will have staffing implications in terms of additional resources to deliver the ambition of the Deal and these will be considered at the appropriate point to ensure operational effectiveness and efficiency of the Combined Authority.

3.2 Working with Partners

The “minded-to” Deal will encourage collaboration on systems, structures and procedures to support the area to make decisions, set strategy and manage delivery across a range of partners in West Yorkshire. Inclusive Growth is a key priority for West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the LEP. Although there are no immediate implications on Inclusive Growth arising as a direct result of the report.

3.3 Place Based Working

The “minded-to” Deal will put in place appropriate governance structures that reflect the needs and opportunities across the West Yorkshire area and the places within it.

3.4 Climate Change

As part of the “minded-to” Deal text, the Government welcomed West Yorkshire’s commitment to becoming a net zero carbon economy by 2038, with significant progress by 2030. There are however, no immediate implications on Clean Growth arising as a direct result of the report.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

The “minded-to” Deal includes measures around funding and functions focused on skills and education, including careers advice, apprenticeships and Further Education.

3.6 Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

- Statutory processes need to be followed, before any Order or regulations may be made to implement the “minded-to” Deal.
- S101(5) Local Government Act 1972 provides that two or more local authorities (defined to include a Combined Authority) may discharge any of their functions jointly and may arrange for the discharge of those functions by an officer of one of the authorities.
- The ‘minded to’ Devolution Deal includes a number of flagship funding arrangements including £38m for 30 years into the West Yorkshire Investment Fund, £317m from the Transforming Cities Fund and control over the £63m annual Adult Education budget. The implications of these and the other funding provisions contained within the ‘minded to’ Deal will be subject to future reports.

- Equalities Impact Assessments have been undertaken for both the consultation process and the overall implementation of the deal. These assessments have taken account of the obligations under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (i.e. the public sector equality duty). It is not expected that the proposals described in this report will have any adverse impacts on people with protected characteristics. The Combined Authority will ensure that the equality impact assessments are reviewed throughout the devolution implementation process.

4. Consultees and their opinions

- 4.1 As part of the statutory process, as set out above, a public consultation has been undertaken. The summary of the results was discussed at Council in September and submitted to the Secretary of State in September 2020.
- 4.2 Kirklees Council also submitted additional feedback following discussion at Council, namely:
- The Leader of the Conservative Group asked that the recommendation which had been agreed by Leeds (at both Council and at Cabinet) relating to the ability to veto Mayor decisions relating to planning be included in the Kirklees decision.
 - Members asked that the report in November should not be subject to exemption from call-in. They are aware of the tight timetable but nonetheless there is a degree of unhappiness about the process.
- 4.3 The consultation was discussed by Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee formally 9th June and informally 10th July.
- 4.4 WYCA Scrutiny Committee are holding a workshop 3rd November to discuss how a future scrutiny model may look once the mayoral arrangements are in place. All scrutiny chairs from the 5 constituent councils have been invited.

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

- 5.1 To note progress on the devolution process in West Yorkshire, notably the next stage in agreeing to the draft order.

6. Appendices

[Appendix 1](#) – Timetable for implementation

7. Contact officer

Julie Muscroft – Service Director, Legal Governance and Commissioning –
julie.muscroft@kirklees.gov.uk – 01484 221000

Nick Howe – Partnerships and Corporate Planning –
nick.howe@kirklees.gov.uk – 01484 221000

Karl Larrad – Legal Governance and Commissioning –
karl.larrad@kirklees.gov.uk - 01484221000

8. Background Papers and History of Decisions

The 'minded to' Devolution Deal is referenced as a background document within this report.

West Yorkshire Devolution Deal – Review of Governance Arrangements: Cabinet 24th March 2020

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s35794/West%20Yorkshire%20Devolution%20Deal.pdf>

Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire – Review, Scheme and Consultation: Cabinet May 21st 2020

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g5962/Agenda%20frontsheet%2021st-May-2020%2015.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=0>

Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire – Consultation Outcomes: September 9th 2020

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s37412/Council%20Devo%20Consultation%20Report%209%20Sept20.pdf>

9. Service Director responsible

Jacqui Gedman – Chief Executive –

jacqui.gedman@kirklees.gov.uk – 01484 221000

APPENDIX 1 - Devolution Implementation Timetable

Step	Action/Decision	When – proposed timescales	Who
1	Carry out statutory Review	April - May 2020	Each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority jointly
	Consider Review outcome and resolve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that an Order would be likely to improve statutory functions • agree Scheme for publication • agree to consult public on the Scheme 	W/c 18 May 2020	Each Constituent Council, and the Combined Authority
2	Publish Scheme	25 May 2020	Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority jointly
3	Consultation	25 May 2020 - 19 July 2020	Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority jointly
4	Consider outcome of consultation and resolve to submit a summary of responses to the Secretary of State	1-8 September 2020	Each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority
5	Secretary of State approves proposals set out in Scheme and decides to lay draft Order/Regulations	October 2020	Secretary of State
5	Consent to draft Order	w/c 9 November 2020	Each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority
	Draft order scrutinised by the JCSI legal advisers	November 2020	Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments
	Final consent to the order sought	w/c 23 November	Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority by delegation
6	Order laid	December 2020	Secretary of State
	Order made and final deal published	January/February 2021	Secretary of State
-	Notice of Mayoral Election	March 2021	Mayoral Combined Authority
-	Election of Mayor	May 2021	-

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Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 29th October 2020

Title of report: Strategic Intelligence Assessment & Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan – Refresh October 2020

Purpose of report: This purpose of this report is to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee with the opportunity to discuss and comment upon the refreshed 2020 Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan which outlines the key strategic priorities for the next 12 months.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not Applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Yes - As the Plan is an Article 4 Strategy the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee are asked to provide comments and feedback
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Service Director Jill Greenfield 19 th October 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Strategic Director Mel Meggs 19 th October 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Carole Pattison

Electoral wards affected: ALL

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Summary

Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent legislative amendments places a statutory duty on a number of responsible authorities to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder. Known as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) the act defines CSPs as “An alliance of organisations which generate strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area”.

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act also places a statutory duty on CSPs to develop a strategic plan which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents. In Kirklees, this Plan is known as the Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan (2018-2021). To ensure the Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan is fit for purpose it should be refreshed on an annual basis using insight, data and analysis from the most recent Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) of which can be found at Appendix 1.

The Partnership Plan refresh has become more relevant in 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the impact Coronavirus has had upon our data and intelligence, service delivery and inequalities within communities. The changing landscape of the pandemic with local and national restrictions requires the Kirklees Partnership to be agile, adapt and respond quickly within the context of addressing inequality and building resilience. The refresh this year recognises the significant challenges presented by the current Coronavirus pandemic for people, places and partners, whilst continuing to address our long term identified priorities.

The refreshed Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan can be found at Appendix 2.

2. Information required to take a decision

A decision is not required as the refreshed Partnership Plan will be presented at Cabinet (date to fix).

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

We will continue to engage local people and build relationships based on trust, working directly ‘with’ local people and communities to solve problems restoratively. Our preventative approach means we work with communities using an asset-based approach – building on the positives and strengthening communities the deeper we engage. We have seen a significant increase in successful community grants across the district for local people developing initiatives that deliver outcomes right across our theme areas. Working in partnership with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner the Community Safety Partnership has supported over 40 local community groups with grants worth over £200k through the Safer Communities Fund since September 2017.

There is no doubt that working with people during a period of local and national restrictions is proving challenging and we will continue to support community groups

to address local issues safely and adapt our working practices in line with guidance at the time.

3.2 Working with Partners

The Communities Partnership continues to build upon its effective engagement and collaborative working across the system from agencies such as the Police, Health, Council services, Housing providers, the Voluntary and Community Sector and local elected members. Our combined efforts have achieved some significant results in tackling youth anti-social behaviour and secondary fires. Through close partnership working with the Fire Service, Police, Housing, elected members, local community organisations and Safer Kirklees incidents of youth related ASB and fires have been resolved quickly and timely through the use of early intervention measures and partnership community engagement resulting in a 100% decrease in secondary fires, calls for service and no attacks on fire crews during the 2019 bonfire season. Work with partners on the ground continues within safe limits whilst coordination and strategy has mainly moved on line.

a. Place Based Working

The Partnership for a number of years recognised the diverse geography of Kirklees and as such has organised itself into a four-district model. Our data, intelligence and insight is produced at a neighbourhood level so that our resources are targeted and therefore outcomes can be delivered in a place based way that reflects the diverse geography. A recent example of this work includes the sentencing of two individuals for exploiting and stealing from vulnerable people in Batley. Place based partnership working and local insight from communities together with, the Police, Safer Kirklees, Housing and local businesses ensured that a number of vulnerable victims were identified and supported to come forward with the perpetrators being brought to justice.

b. Climate Change and Air Quality

As part of our commitment to climate change and air quality Safer Kirklees were one of the first services within the Council to use electric vehicles which enables our Community and Environmental Support Officers to travel across the district in an environmentally friendly way. In addition, research being undertaken by the University of Huddersfield to support the Partnerships Road Safety Network will draw upon psychological nudge techniques to make roads safer for vulnerable road users such as cyclists.

c. Improving outcomes for children

The strategic themes within the Partnership Plan all have an impact upon children and young people within Kirklees. This includes improving outcomes for children and young people who may find themselves as a victim of crime and or ASB or within the approach of Prevention and Early Intervention and mitigating children and young people becoming involved in risky behaviour at the earliest opportunity.

d. Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

Over the past 12 month the Partnership has worked intensively to improve and increase its communication around the key themes within the partnership plan to highlight successful outcomes and improve perceptions. The Stay Safe this Christmas Campaign ran throughout December 2019 with the aim of reminding and educating staff and residents about staying safe during the festive period. The campaign was delivered in partnership with Pub Watch and local businesses reaching an audience of over 175k. The campaign contributed to a number of successful outcomes including reductions in theft of mobile phones, shop lifting and violent crime. This years campaign is likely to be significantly different in light of COVID.

4. Next steps and timelines

To be presented at Cabinet – Date to Fix

To be presented at the Kirklees Communities Board 4th November 2020

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee note the Strategic Intelligence Assessment and Refreshed Partnership Plan and make comments/recommendations.

6. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

As Chair of the Communities Board and Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities, Cllr Pattison commends the plan and the timely manner of the refresh in light of the Coronavirus pandemic and welcomes comments and feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

7. Contact officer

Jo Richmond, Head of Service, Communities

Lee Hamilton, Safer Kirklees Manager

Chris Walsh, Performance Manager, Communities

8. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Previous Partnership Plan was presented to scrutiny in 2019

9. Service Director responsible

Mel Meggs, Director for Childrens Service

Kirklees Communities Partnership

2018 - 2021

2020 Refresh



Working together for a
Safer Kirklees



Forward – Cllr Pattison

As Chair of the Communities Board and Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities, it is my pleasure to introduce the refreshed Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan. This Plan identifies the key strategic challenges to make Kirklees a better place to live, work, visit and study.



The purpose of the Communities Partnership Board is to make sure that people throughout Kirklees live in communities where they get along, are safe, and experience clean and high-quality neighbourhoods.

It is important that we continue to engage residents and build relationships based on trust, working with people and communities to solve problems to give them better control of their lives. Our approach of People, Place and Partners is vital to this as is our effective engagement and collaborative working with multi-agencies such as the Police, Council, Housing providers, the Voluntary and Community Sector and local elected members. It is essential that our approach places communities at the heart of delivery, listening and working with communities to increase their confidence and resilience.

We are fortunate that here in Kirklees our communities are predominately caring and compassionate towards one another. The coronavirus outbreak in 2020 has had, and continues to have, a devastating impact on our residents across the district but it has brought out the very best in people. From the thousands who offered to volunteer as part of the community response, to those who went the extra mile to protect the vulnerable in their communities, it has made me proud of Kirklees and its residents.

On behalf of the Communities Board, I would like to recognise the excellent work that has been undertaken to improve residents' quality of life and we all know we must continue to work hard if we are to tackle all forms on inequality. I look forward to seeing the work continue to improve neighbourhoods and safeguard vulnerable citizens.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Carole Pattison'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cllr Carole Pattison

Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities.

About the Partnership Plan

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and other subsequent legislation places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships to develop a strategic plan which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2018 – 2021 outlines the key strategic priorities for Kirklees. These include:

- Preventing and Reducing Crime
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Protecting People from Serious Harm
- Improving the Place

The Partnership Plan is updated on an annual basis to ensure priorities remain fit for purpose and this update has become more relevant in 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The refreshed plan recognises the impact Coronavirus has had upon our data and intelligence, service delivery and inequalities within communities. The changing landscape of the pandemic with local and national restrictions requires the Kirklees Partnership to be agile, be able to adapt and respond quickly within the context of addressing inequality and building resilience

For each of the strategic priorities and subsequent themes within the plan, action plans are in place to detail multi-agency interventions along with more specific performance measures for each area. Delivery of these are scrutinised and supported through the governance arrangements outlined at the end of this document and the Kirklees Communities Board.

The priorities within this plan are informed through insight from Public Health Information and an in-depth analysis of data from a range of community safety agencies which are contained in the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment for Kirklees. An executive summary of the most recent Kirklees Strategic Intelligence Assessment is set out in the next section.

Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment – October 2020

The purpose of the PSIA is to provide an up to date picture of the current issues impacting on Communities in Kirklees in terms of their safety and the environment they live within. This picture is used to inform a Communities Partnership Plan which tackles the main themes – these are currently Reducing Crime, Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Protecting People from Serious Harm and Improving Place. This PSIA has a particular focus on the impact of COVID19 on Communities and the disproportionate impact this has had on more deprived communities in the District, a pattern which reflects the national picture.

The next section of the Partnership Plan provides an overview of the key findings from the PSIA under the 4 strategic themes.

Reducing Crime

In the 12 months up to September 2020, overall crime has reduced by 10% - whilst it did reduce slightly in the first half of this period, the significant reduction was over the Coronavirus lockdown period.

Trends did vary by offence type with the most significant reductions in areas where opportunities were also reduced (for example shop theft / those associated with the night time economy) and where there was increased informal surveillance by people being at home (burglary). There were however increases in areas such as stalking / harassment and crimes involving online platforms.

The experiences of Kirklees are similar to those in other areas and consequently Kirklees has remained broadly in line with the average levels of recorded crime of other similar areas. Results from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (August 2020¹) provide an insight into experiences of crime during lockdown show a similar picture for those evident in Kirklees and perceptions of the Police very favourable.

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

The lockdown period saw an increase in anti-social behaviour with a 6% increase in **nuisance complaints** particularly relating to off road motor cycles. People being at home for longer periods of time has both improved neighbourliness but also has increased reports of **personal ASB** where there have been ongoing issues. In terms of **environmental ASB**, there has been an increase in fly-tipping – in part to do with new ways of recording but also due to an actual increase – particularly whilst the recycling centres were closed and people were decluttering their houses.

Urban Street Gangs – since the team formed in July 2017, there have been over 240 referrals for individuals (predominantly teenage males) mainly from wards around North Huddersfield.

The number of people killed and seriously injured in **Road Traffic Collisions** in Kirklees continues to reduce – less traffic during lockdown further reduced these figures. Vulnerable road users such as cyclists, pedestrians and children continue to be an area of concern to retain focus on.

Protecting People from Serious Harm

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

National estimates suggest that **Domestic Abuse** is experienced by around 25% of women and 15% of men. The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police (and DRAMM and MARAC referrals) over lockdown was broadly similar to the levels recorded the previous year – this is probably associated with under reporting and Covid related changes in front line working reducing opportunities to spot potential abuse. In contrast, Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership did see an increase in referrals which at times put some of the strain on accommodation (including refuge spaces and temporary accommodation).

Levels of recorded **Hate Crime** have increased (by 11%) over the lockdown period compared with the previous year. The majority of incidents (76%) related to Race – a recent report from Victim Support highlighted a 62% increase in hate crime referrals nationally. This report concluded that this was in part attributable to more people coming forward as a result of increased awareness following publicity of the Black Lives Matter movement over the summer. In Kirklees, incidents were mainly neighbour related or not involve direct contact such as threats, harassment and malicious communications.

The number of new referrals for children at risk of **Criminal Exploitation** reduced during lockdown primarily due to restricted free movement but also because of the closure of schools and changes in service delivery of some partners meaning that early indicators of risk might not have been picked up / reported. In the case of Child Sexual Exploitation, cases are either historic or current with abuse often co-ordinated through organised groups or grooming on social media platforms such as Facebook.

Cases of **Human Trafficking** and **Modern-Day Slavery** can be both international or within the UK to facilitate a range of offences including forced labour, sexual abuse or criminal exploitation such as transportation of drugs. The number of offences were relatively stable over lockdown although it is recognised that there are significant levels of under reporting.

Prevent – the overall counter terrorism threat rating reduced in the last year to substantial. The main risks currently are from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups and the extreme right-wing groups. Threats are seen to be from both organised groups and lone actors using easily accessible objects such as knives / vehicles. Channel referrals have reduced significantly and continue to be evenly distributed between non-ideological, Islamic, extreme right wing and those with no particular ideology.

Improving Place

In response to the need to support vulnerable people with essential supplies during the lockdown period, over 140 community led mutual aid groups and nearly 1,500 volunteers came forward in a massive display of **community mobilisation**. Having

said this, Coronavirus has caused worry and some tensions around inconsistent rule following and adherence to social distancing.

Coronavirus has highlighted the significant risks posed to people seeking **asylum and refugees** as particularly vulnerable to issues such as language barriers to understanding restrictions, financial difficulties, digital exclusion, safeguarding issues (such as modern-day slavery and domestic abuse) and lockdown measures restricting the availability of some support services.

The latest **Perceptions** survey took place just before lockdown and showed a slightly improving feelings of safety, satisfaction, and agreement that “people from different backgrounds” get on together. During lockdown, an online “community conversation” showed people were generally “coping well” and a comprehensive survey from KNH found people’s main priorities were good quality housing and environments.

Drugs and Alcohol - The PSIA refresh identifies the 5 most harmful substances as alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, methamphetamine and cocaine which can impact on individuals, families, and communities in both the immediate and longer term. Lockdown has seen increased levels of substance misuse, with prices of drugs increasing and purity decreasing. Treatment services have adapted to remote working and have contacted more people although the suspension of courts impacted on the use of drugs rehabilitation orders.

Overview and review of Strategic Themes – October 2020

The analysis of multi-agency data through the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) should continue to inform the strategic outcome themes which provide the focus and direction for the Partnership Plan. Based upon the refreshed PSIA, the themes within the Partnership Plan remain **current** and **unchanged** but have been **refreshed** to consider the updated intelligence and the unprecedented times our partners and communities now face. This next section provides an overview of each of these themes and the key performance indicators.

It should be noted that based upon the current PSIA, a number of areas within these themes are cross cutting and have been highlighted under a particular theme for the purpose of coordination.

Preventing and Reducing Crime

Within this area, preventing and reducing crime covers the following key themes;

- Crime
- Reducing Re-offending, and
- Drugs and Alcohol

The lack of opportunity for certain crime types to take place due local and national restrictions because of the Coronavirus pandemic i.e. closing of shops, more people being at home, has meant that some crime types have reduced. We are aware that due to services being closed or paused for periods of time because of Coronavirus and through a reduced number people being out within communities, that this may have resulted in a lack of reporting or support for those at risk or involved in criminal activities i.e. through the court system being closed.

Our work on **crime** will therefore continue to focus on personal crime (e.g. violence and robbery) and property offences (e.g. burglary and vehicle offences) and in common with other areas in this plan, should continue to focus on prevention and reducing opportunities for crime by focusing on the people (offender and victim) and targeting places where crimes are concentrated.

Reducing the likelihood of Re-Offending is a key element within the crime theme and moving forward have a closer working relationship to our violence reduction activity and tackling serious violence. Our work to reduce Re-Offending will continue to have a particular focus on two key areas;

- Preventing individuals from entering the Criminal Justice System
- Supporting individuals in the Criminal Justice System to reduce the frequency and severity of further offending with the aim of abstinence from recidivism.

Our work on crime and the relationship between **Drugs and Alcohol** interventions relate to the use and supply of drugs and alcohol

What will we do?

- Be flexible and adapt our approach to preventing and reducing crime in response to the Coronavirus pandemic and local restrictions, which may affect people's ability to commit, report crime or find support
- Focus on crime prevention through tactics including increased awareness, target hardening and secured by design approaches.
- Increased deterrent presence in emerging hot spots through deployment of partnership staff and community resources including neighbourhood watch.
- Offender focus through the delivery of the reducing reoffending strategy
- Strong emphasis on victim focused working to repair harm
- Development of a Kirklees Drugs and Alcohol Strategy that acknowledges the impact substance misuse has across all 4 themes within the Partnership Plan
- Broaden our work with the night-time economy to reduce alcohol related violence and irresponsible sales considering the impact of local restrictions placed upon pubs and bars
- Continue to work with offender management services to tackle drug related crime
- Develop links with health providers to address long term harm of drugs and alcohol

Overview of outcome measures

Property Crime

- Reduction in residential burglary and vehicle crime (in comparison to similar areas in IQUANTA family).
- Improved perceptions concerning fear of crime

Personal Crime

- Reduction in serious violent offences (in comparison to similar areas in IQUANTA family).

Reducing Re-offending

- To reduce reoffending through the Reducing Re-Offending plan, tackling areas known to impact on offending

Drugs & alcohol

- To reduce demand, restrict supply and build recovery through the delivery of the Kirklees Drugs & Alcohol strategy

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

For the purpose of the Partnership Plan, the tackling Anti-Social Behaviour theme covers the following key priorities:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Tackling Serious Violence
- Road Safety

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is defined as behaviour which causes “harassment, alarm or distress” to individuals and communities. ASB can be broken into the following 3x categories:

- Personal ASB (e.g. neighbour noise, threats and intimidation)
- Nuisance ASB (e.g. rowdy behaviour and speeding vehicles) and
- Environmental (e.g. graffiti, litter and fly-tipping).

ASB can be directed at individual, the wider community and tends to be concentrated in particular locations (increasingly including the internet). Where ASB is not addressed, it tends to have a serious negative impact on wellbeing in communities and can often escalate in severity to serious and or gang violence.

What will we do?

Through the delivery of the Kirklees ASB Strategy and Violence Reduction Partnership there will be a focus on preventing and reducing ASB and serious violence/ gang affiliation through;

- Be flexible and adapt our approach to tackling ASB in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, working with partners to address issues as they arise. i.e. large gatherings and groups and breach of restrictions
- Education interventions to develop responsible citizenship throughout people's lives
- Community Engagement to ensure ASB is not tolerated and is tackled through active citizenship
- Training and development for front line officers and community contacts to ensure they have the knowledge to identify risk factors at the earliest opportunity
- Effective use of tools and powers and area-based problem-solving approaches to address persistent ASB, Gang / serious violence
- Development of the Kirklees Violence Reduction Partnership and Public Health approach to tackle serious violence in Kirklees including engagement in identified areas
- Developing effective links to ensure a coordinate response to those individuals that move from acts of ASB into serious violence and Organised Crime Groups (OCGs)
- Effective links to more specialist services to deal with underlying issues such as mental health and substance misuse
- Where necessary, efficient, and effective prosecution to ensure people are held to account for their actions and to provide a message that such behaviours will not be tolerated

Outcome Measures

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Increased perceptions of levels and response to ASB (% of people who say ASB has got worse in past 12 months).
- Increased satisfaction from victims of ASB in management of cases (vs previous 12 months)

Serious violence

- A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp among those victims aged under 25;
- A reduction in knife-enabled serious violence especially among those victims aged under 25;
- A reduction in the number of school exclusions linked to serious violence

Road Safety

- Continued reduction in road casualties in Kirklees, focusing on cyclists and motorbikes.

Protecting people from serious harm

This theme covers a wide range of areas which all require strong relationships between community safety / safeguarding partners and communities to identify and address serious harm at the earliest opportunity, ideally by preventing it in the first place. For the purpose of this plan this theme includes;

- Exploitation, including criminal and child sexual exploitation
- Domestic Abuse
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Forced Marriage
- Hate crime
- Modern Slavery
- Preventing Violent Extremism
- Community Tensions

We are aware that Coronavirus and the subsequent local and national restrictions have resulted in a drop in referrals for many of the areas highlighted above and the true picture is still relatively unknown. However, our partnership engagement to share key Public Health messages with communities has provided an opportunity for front line staff to engage in communities identifying and uncovering potential potentially hidden issues. Through our increased discussions with partners and the community around Coronavirus it remains important to have excellent partnership co-ordination to protect victims and disrupt perpetrators as rigorously as possible.

What will we do?

- Adapt our approach utilising our Coronavirus Public Health engagement work within communities to raise awareness and increase reporting based upon threat, risk and harm
- Focus on prevention through a combination of education / awareness of risk and communicating a clear message about partnership work with communities.
- Working with communities to improve victim confidence to report issues and improve general awareness of the signs of possible harm.
- Comprehensive and co-ordinated training for front line workers to have the awareness of what to report and the confidence and drive to take responsibility for reporting issues.
- Effective operational links between partners to ensure there is effective case management in place both to ensure offenders are held to account for their actions and victims are appropriately safeguarded.
- Strategic links in place between Community Safety Partners and the Safeguarding Boards for adults and children to ensure joined up approach is in place.
- Development of a clear and robust referral pathway for partners and front-line officers to raise concerns of significant harm with children and young people to ensure that risk and vulnerability are addressed through effective cooperation and partnership working between agencies and services.

- Review the Kirklees community tensions process to ensure we are receiving community-based tensions from community sources in a timely manner to reduce the local impact.

Outcome Measures

Domestic Abuse

- Reduce prevalence in domestic abuse by supporting victims and holding perpetrators to account
- Increased awareness of communities and staff to spot signs and how to refer to appropriate interventions to reduce future domestic abuse.

Hate Crime

- Reduce prevalence in hate crime by supporting victims and holding perpetrators to account.
- Increased awareness of communities and staff to spot signs and how to refer to appropriate interventions to reduce future hate crime.

Modern Day Slavery

- Increased awareness of communities and staff to recognise and report signs of modern-day slavery to increase number of cases identified for support.

Prevent

- Reduce threat of extremism through the delivery of the Prevent plan, to safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation.

Improving Place

Place based working is one of the core elements of the Councils Corporate Plan. It is based on the view that citizens and communities are best placed to know their own local challenges and strengths. The development of mutual aid groups in 2020 to support vulnerable and isolated residents and communities, without the intervention of statutory agencies has demonstrated how communities can come together and tackle local issues. Feeling safe is consistently identified as one of the most important priorities for residents to enhance their quality of life and we will continue to develop our relationships with anchor and community groups to develop community safety initiatives and confidence in within local areas. If we are to develop interventions that are sustainable and take account of what works locally, it is vital that local people and places are at the heart of our approach to building community resilience.

In terms of the physical appearance, often seemingly lower level issues can indicate the general decline of a neighbourhood, and typically, there is an escalation into more serious issues. Therefore, if issues such as graffiti, fly-tipping and litter do not get addressed, not only will it make an area look uncared for, it can also serve as a signal that residents don't care and acts as a barrier for any participation in neighbourhood involvement.

A cohesive and resilient Kirklees is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities and where the diversity of people's different

backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated. Those from different backgrounds (including those who have migrated to Kirklees from overseas) should have similar life opportunities where strong and positive relationships are developed.

What will we do?

Areas of work in this theme to be delivered are;

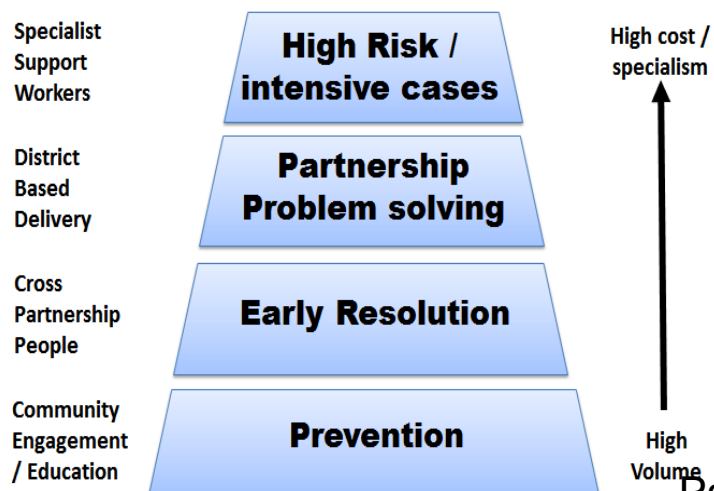
- Work collectively to secure good quality Housing and Neighbourhoods
- Coordinate activity to maintain and improve high standards in street scene provision (clean & green)
- Work in partnership, linking with the Kirklees Loneliness strategy to provide opportunities for community connectedness, and coordinate intergenerational work, breaking barriers at a young age and perceptions of unfairness
- Continue to develop our work to tackle all form of inequality and deprivation and the community safety impact this has on people and communities
- Lead on collaborative work to ensure the successful resettlement of Syrian migrants in Kirklees
- Using an asset-based approach, work in partnership with the voluntary and community sector to ensure communities are at the heart of design and delivery

Outcome Measures

- People in Kirklees live in cohesive communities, feel safe and are safe/protected from harm to include;
 - Kirklees respondents who say they felt safe
 - Kirklees respondents who said they felt people get on well together
- People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment to include;
 - Kirklees respondents who said they were satisfied with their local area
 - Kirklees respondents who said they felt their area is “better now”

Action / Delivery Models

The Kirklees approach to creating safer communities is based on the principle that the best way to tackle community safety issues and reduce the fear of crime is to prevent issues happening in the first place and where they do occur address them at the earliest opportunity before they become more difficult to tackle and harmful to individuals and communities. Our approach now also considers our approach to tackling and responding to the Coronavirus pandemic



The following section outlines each of these levels.

Prevention

Prevention can be focused on individuals and communities and involves changing behaviours both through education and engagement.

Education – General and targeted educational input with priority given to children and young people to develop the concept of lifetime responsible citizenship

Community Engagement – Engaging and supporting communities in tackling community safety issues by moving them from lacking confidence or skills through to active and involved citizenship.

Communications – Ensure members of the public and stakeholders are kept regularly informed of the work that is being undertaken by the Communities Partnership. We will communicate through a wide variety of channels including traditional media, publicity materials, social media and perhaps most importantly, key messages delivered through trusted voices. The Partnership recognises the central role elected members play in communication with members of their communities.

Early Resolution

This tier of the Community Safety approach involves partnership officers, local communities and other stakeholders taking ownership for reporting and tackling crime and ASB where it occurs.

Addressing these low-level signal crimes is vital to improving perceptions in local areas as they are often associated with fear of crime. It is critical that there is a broad understanding of techniques such as restorative justice and neighbourhood resolution to tackle issues as soon as possible.

Partnership Problem Solving

Where community safety issues are more entrenched either on an individual or geographic level, it is important an intelligence led partnership problem solving approach is used to identify the most appropriate solution including using ASB tools and powers.

High risk / Intensive Cases

This involves dealing with a smaller volume of more costly cases which have not been addressed at an earlier stage. These cases will be harder to resolve and are likely to be more complex in terms of underlying issues (such as mental health and drugs / alcohol) or require individuals to be held to account for their actions through enforcement and prosecution.

Quite often these issues require longer term approaches to address them – they often relate to a small number of recurrent families and areas which don't seem to "move on".

Applying the Community Safety Model

For each of the 4 tiers, partners and other stakeholders will use multi-agency intelligence to develop interventions which target one or more element of the traditional Problem Analysis Triangle of Victim, Offender and Location (including virtual locations via the internet) to tackle community safety problems.

In applying this approach, interventions will consider risk and protective factors which make individuals and locations at heightened risk of community safety problems and need managing.

Consequently, there is a strong focus on promoting behaviour change through the delivery of the Kirklees reducing re-offending strategy by addressing a range of risk factors including drugs and alcohol.

To deliver safer communities in a sustainable and effective way, it is critical that partners and elected members are working in an integrated way to solve shared problems. More important still to sustainable solutions is our relationship with communities as it is critical that local people are at the core of creating safer communities.

Governance and Delivery

It is vital that stakeholders and communities are fully engaged and actively involved in delivering this plan if we are to achieve our aim of developing Kirklees as a better place to live, work, visit and study. As we continue to develop our restorative approach in the way we work we will provide high challenge and high support to enable and encourage Kirklees citizens to do more for themselves, become resilient and become more independent.

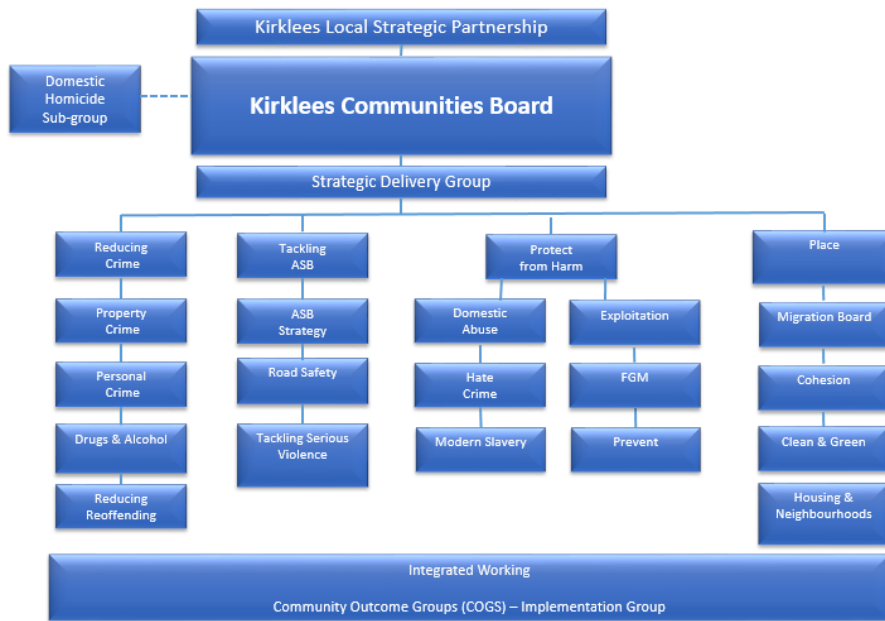
The Communities Partnership Board fulfils the statutory duty of the Community Safety Partnership for Kirklees but also has responsibility for cohesion, integration and for high quality, clean, sustainable green environments.

The board, which is elected member led, oversees the implementation of the Partnership Plan, and works with other strategic boards to address shared strategic issues through the Local Strategic Partnership for Kirklees. The Strategic Delivery Group sits under the Communities Board and provides appropriate challenge and support for the delivery of each of the action plans including diverting resources to thematic areas within the Partnership Plan. In addition to these channels, there is also a mechanism whereby the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the implementation of the Community Partnership plan. The Communities Board is aware of the need to continue to refresh the partnerships accountability and has highlighted its intent to review the current arrangements in light of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We will ensure we continue to maintain our close working relationships across West Yorkshire and nationally with key partners such as the Office for the Police Crime Commissioner and Home Office to ensure there is strategic alignment between policies and priorities and to ensure the sharing of best practice.

Overview of Communities Board Governance Arrangements

Communities Board - Governance Structures



Safer Kirklees

3rd Floor
Kirkgate buildings
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Email: saferkirklees@kirklees.gov.uk



Kirklees Communities Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment Refresh

October 2020



Executive Summary

About the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA)

The purpose of the PSIA is to provide an up to date picture of the current issues impacting on Communities in Kirklees in terms of their safety and the environment they live within. This PSIA has a particular focus on the impact of COVID19 on Communities and the disproportionate impact this has had on more deprived communities in the District, a pattern which reflects the national picture.

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Executive Summary

Protecting People from Serious Harm (Ctd.)

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Prevent – the overall counter terrorism threat rating reduced in the last year to substantial. The main risks currently are from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups and the extreme right-wing groups. Threats are seen to be from both organised groups and lone actors using easily accessible objects such as knives / vehicles. Channel referrals have reduced significantly and continue to be evenly distributed between non-ideological, Islamic, extreme right wing and those with no particular ideology.

Improving Place

In response to the need to support vulnerable people with essential supplies during the lockdown period, over 140 community led mutual aid groups and nearly 1,500 volunteers came forward in a massive display of **community mobilisation**. Having said this, Coronavirus has caused worry and some tensions around inconsistent rule following and adherence to social distancing.

Coronavirus has highlighted the significant risks posed to people seeking **asylum and refugees** as particularly vulnerable to issues such as language barriers to understanding restrictions, financial difficulties, digital exclusion, safeguarding issues (such as modern-day slavery and domestic abuse) and lockdown measures restricting the availability of some support services.

The latest **Perceptions** survey took place just before lockdown and showed a slightly improving feelings of safety, satisfaction, and agreement that “people from different backgrounds” get on together. During lockdown, an online “community conversation” showed people were generally “coping well” and a comprehensive survey from KNH found people’s main priorities were good quality housing and environments.

Drugs and Alcohol - The PSIA refresh identifies the 5 most harmful substances as alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, methamphetamine and cocaine which can impact on individuals, families, and communities in both the immediate and longer term. Lockdown has seen increased levels of substance misuse, with prices of drugs increasing and purity decreasing. Treatment services have adapted to remote working and have contacted more people although the suspension of courts impacted on the use of drugs rehabilitation orders.

Kirklees Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment

About the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA)

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and other subsequent legislation places a statutory duty on Partnerships to develop a strategic Plan every 3 years which addresses quality of life issues identified through a Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA). This document is an annual refresh of the PSIA and as such gives an assessment of current issues in Kirklees.

The Assessment will pay particular attention to the impact of COVID-19 on Communities and also the extent to which there have been inequalities evident both with the virus and also wider community safety issues.

The PSIA pulls together a wide range of data sources relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental issues, substance misuse and harm alongside perceptions information concerning public confidence and reassurance. The PSIA considers the changing socio-economic and demographic profile of Kirklees to contextualise some of the community safety hotspots in the district.

The PSIA refresh will consider the current intelligence picture for the 4 themes in the Partnership Plan;

- Reducing Crime
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
- Protecting People from serious harm (e.g. Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime, Human Trafficking and Preventing Violent Extremism)
- Improving Place

The regular assessment provided by the PSIA is one element of the intelligence led approach undertaken by the Communities Partnership through regular tactical products to inform and evaluate the work of multi-agency action theme groups and neighbourhood problem solving approaches.

The format of the PSIA will be to initially provide an overview of some of the current contextual information relating to Kirklees, considering the current key intelligence highlights for each of the 4 themes in the Partnership Plan and then considering any refinements to the priorities in the current Partnership Plan.

Kirklees in Context

District Profile

The Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees is one of five Local Authorities in West Yorkshire. It covers an area of 157 square miles and has a population of 439,800.

For the Communities Partnership, Kirklees is viewed in the context of 4 districts

- **Dewsbury and Mirfield**, which includes the urban centres of Mirfield, Dewsbury,
- **Batley and Spen** - Cleckheaton along with the more rural Spen Valley
- **Huddersfield**; the largest town in Kirklees with about 143,200 residents
- The **rural** and semi-rural area south and west of Huddersfield, including small towns such as Holmfirth, Slaithwaite and Denby Dale.



Kirklees' minority ethnic communities make up 20.9% of its resident population with the majority living in the District's urban centres. Kirklees' Muslim population of 61,280 is one of the highest in the country.

Since 2004, there has been a significant arrival of people from the EU Accession States (mostly from Poland) coming to work in the District, and there also refugees and asylum seekers from Africa, the Middle East and parts of the former Yugoslavia.

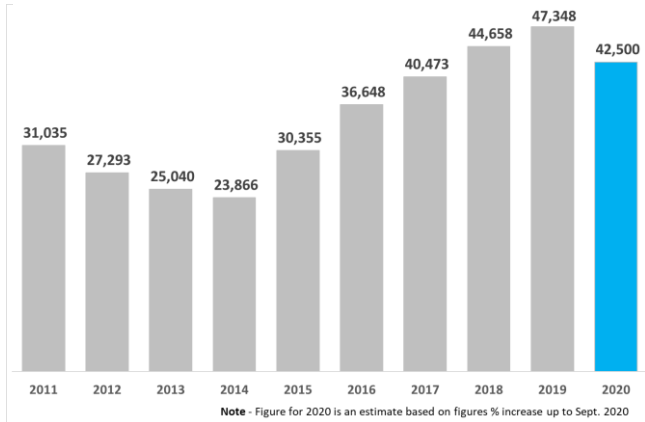
According to the 2018 Subnational Population Projections, the population of Kirklees is projected to grow by 6% by 2043 – below both the regional (7%) and national average (9%). The number of people of pensionable age is projected to increase while numbers in the 0-15 are projected to decrease. Numbers in the 16-24, 25-44 and 45-64 age bands show little change.

In addition to the usually resident population, Kirklees has a significant transient population of over 17,295 people studying at the University of Huddersfield. This includes over 12,625 full time undergraduate students of which approximately 17% are from overseas (many of which from non-EU countries). This has a potential impact for community safety both in terms of victims of crime and also possible anti-social behaviour.

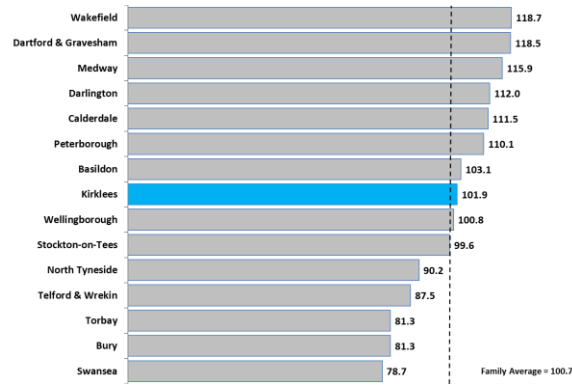
According to the 2019 Index of Deprivation, Kirklees has slipped from 101st (in 2015) to be ranked as the 87th most deprived district nationally – this slip is similar to other areas in West Yorkshire where Kirklees is 4th of 5 deprived areas. It is estimated that around 55,000 residents live in the 20% most deprived areas which are concentrated in inner urban Wards in Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley. Analysis in the Strategic Intelligence Assessment highlights the links between deprivation and a number of community safety issues which will be discussed later in the document.

Total Recorded Crime

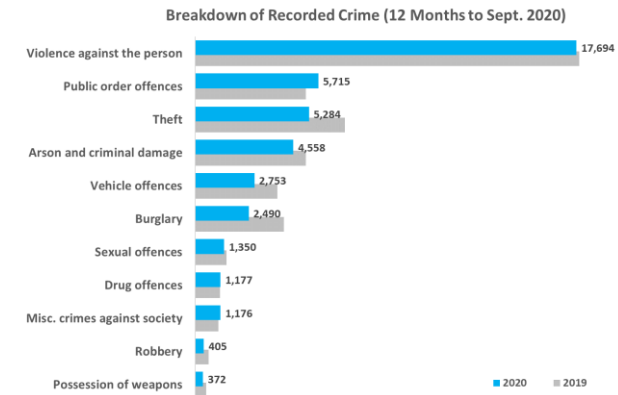
Long Term Trends in Recorded Crime



Kirklees compared with similar areas



Total Crime by Offence Type



Key Points

Total Recorded Crimes refers to crimes reported to the police which appear in the Home Office count of notifiable offences according to strict counting rules concerning what constitutes a crime.

The number of crimes recorded by West Yorkshire Police in the 12 months to the end of September 2020 **reduced by 10% (4,853 offences)** compared with the previous year. The majority of this decrease occurred over the lockdown period – there was a 5% reduction in the first half of the year compared with a 15% between April and September in comparison to the previous year.

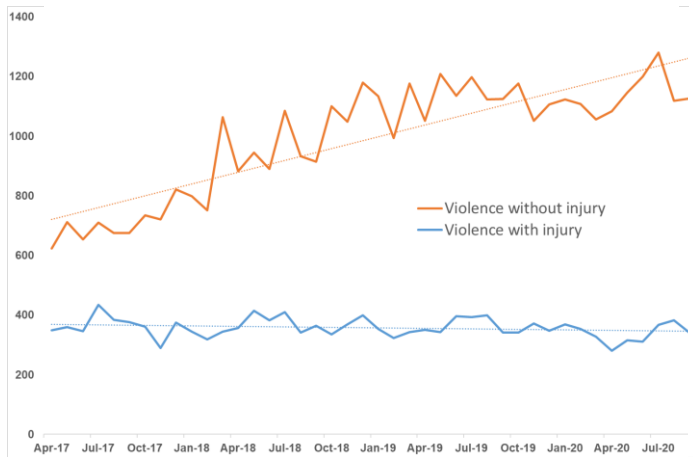
Looking at the breakdown of offences, there were reductions in all types of offence (to a greater or lesser extent) – the only offence to see a noticeable increase were public order offences (up 11%) which include threats, insults and breaches of molestation orders. The most notable decreases were ones where there were fewer opportunities or greater surveillance e.g. shop theft (premises closed) and burglary (increased numbers at home and more noticeable to see people out and about).

In comparison with other similar areas in the IQUANTA family (which compares Kirklees with other similar areas), the level of recorded crime in Kirklees is slightly above average. However, it should be noted that West Yorkshire were recently rated as “Outstanding” for its victim centred approach to recording crimes. This means that it is highly likely that some incidents which are recorded as crimes in West Yorkshire will not be recorded as such in other forces which should be borne in mind when making comparisons between areas.

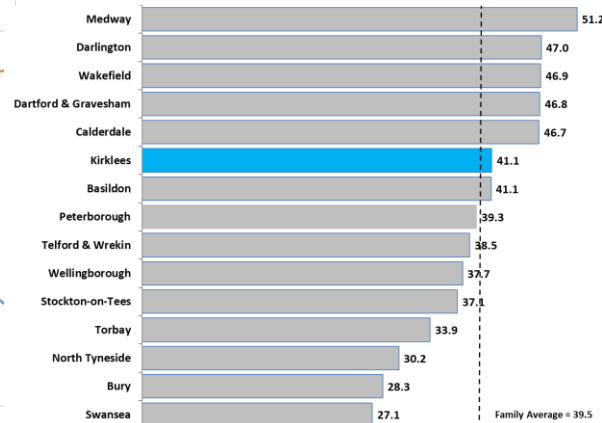
Results from the latest Crime Survey for England and Wales (August 2020) provide an insight into experiences of crime during lockdown restrictions. The report indicates a national crime reduction of 32%. However, this varies by offence type with significant reductions in property crime such as burglary / vehicle crime (due to less opportunities & more informal surveillance) and theft of personal property (less people about in public spaces and closure of night time economy). The report does however indicate increases in fraud and computer misuse and also drugs offences which increased sharply although this is thought to be associated with more proactive policing of these offences.

Violence Against the Person

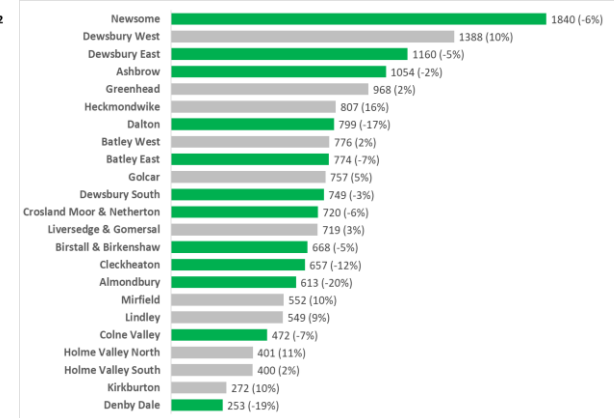
Long Term Trends in Recorded Crime



Kirklees compared with similar areas



Total Crime by Offence Type



Key Points

Despite a 1% reduction (133 offences) in violence against the person, it still accounts for 41% of all recorded crimes.

Violence against the person is made up of 2 categories of offences – **violence with injury** (including homicide) which makes up around 24% and **violence without injury** (such as assaults without injury, harassment and malicious communications) making up 76% of offences.

Over the past few years, violence without injury offences have increased and violence with injury have slightly fallen. In the 12 months to September 2020, violence with injury saw a 5% reduction whereas violence without injury saw a 1% increase. This trend is even more pronounced over the lockdown period compared with the previous year: violence with injury reduced by 10% and violent without injury increased by 2%.

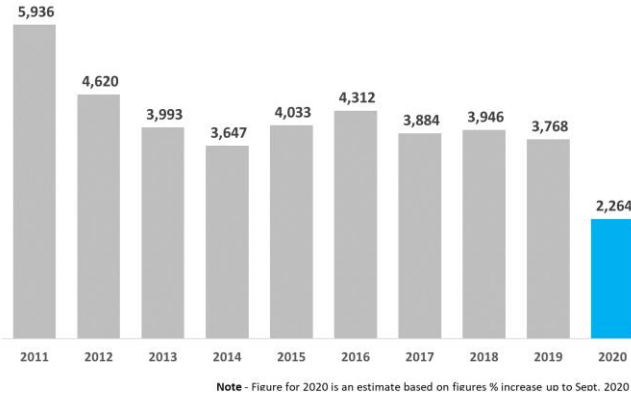
Broken down by offence type, the offences under the “violence against the person” which saw the most notable increases in crimes recorded over lockdown (April – September 2020 compared with previous year) were in the violence without injury category and in particular malicious communications (up 9% / 137 offences) and stalking (up 400% / 332 offences).

The level of violence against the person in Kirklees is slightly above the average for the IQUANTA family of similar areas.

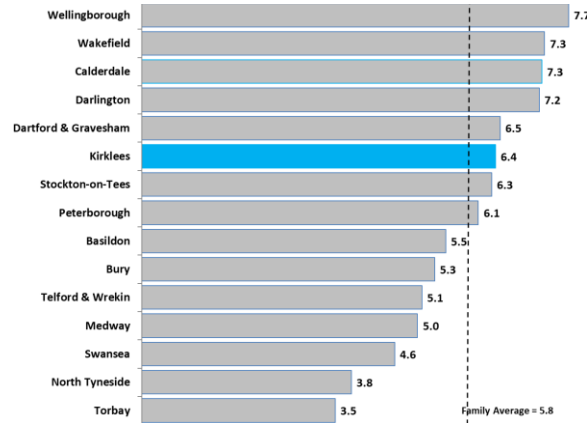
At a ward level, some areas saw reductions in the number of violent offences whilst other areas saw increases – there were however significant reductions in alcohol related violent crime associated with the night time economy as pubs and clubs were shut for large parts of lock down.

Burglary

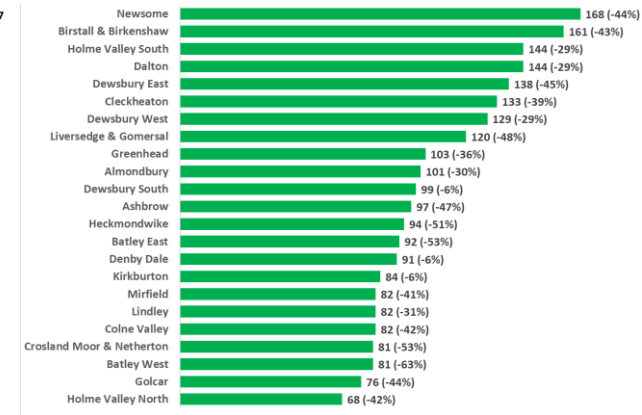
Long Term Trends in Burglary Offences



Kirklees compared with similar areas



Burglary Offences by Ward



Key Points

Burglary offences are either residential (72%) or targeting businesses or community buildings (28%). After a number of years where burglary was relatively stable, based on current figures, it is predicted that there 2020 will see a 40% reduction in burglary compared with the previous year. The fact that more people were at home and people behaving suspiciously were more likely to be spotted, Burglary reduced by 52% over the lockdown period compared with the previous year (42% reduction for Residential, 67% for Business / Community).

Recording rules mean that the count of burglaries includes “attempted burglaries” (around 20%) where the offender failed to enter the property.

Despite the significant reductions in Burglary, the level in Kirklees continues to be higher than other similar areas nationally.

All Wards in Kirklees saw a reduction in the number of recorded burglaries although the level of this reduction did vary between Wards. Since the figures presented combine residential and business / community burglaries, when viewed at a Ward level areas where there are more buildings to burgle such as town centres tend to feature more prominently –lockdown measures in town centres meant this was less evident.

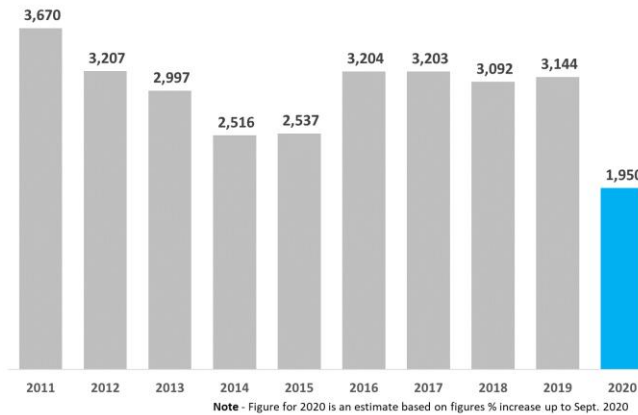
At a sub-ward level, it was possible to identify links with factors such as deprivation – over 50% of residential burglaries occur in top 30% most deprived areas.

The most common items targeted in burglaries are cash / cards, jewellery, electrical items and car keys (often the primary reason for the burglary). In terms of residential burglaries, the primary methods of entry are through doors and windows which are frequently left open / insecure with no obvious signs of home security measures in place.

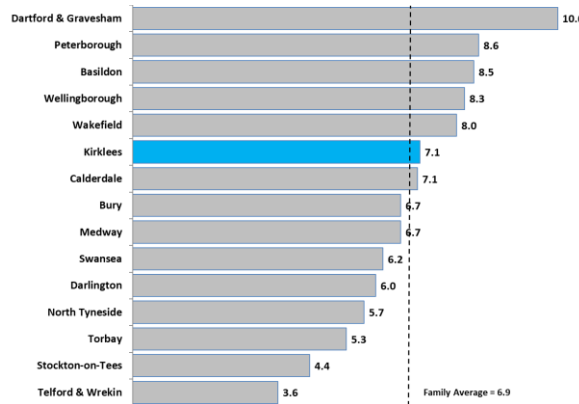
Burglary traditionally has a seasonal dimension (more prevalent in Summer months associated with door / windows left open and in winter when nights are darker) – as reported, there was no peak in the summer but vigilance is still needed for the possible future spikes as economic hardship increases.

Vehicle Crime

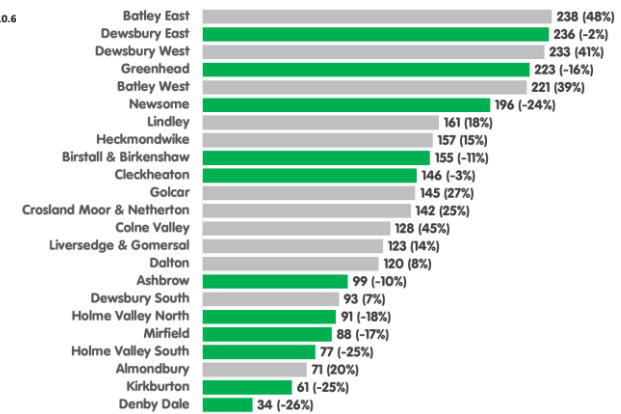
Long Term Trends in Vehicle Crime



Kirklees compared with similar areas



Vehicle Crime by Ward



Key Points

Vehicle crime is a combination of theft from motor vehicles (68%) and theft of motor vehicles (32%). Overall, there has been a 31% reduction in vehicle offences in the 12 months to September 2020. The fact that vehicles were travelling significantly less and not being left for long periods of time (for example whilst at work) meant that the rate of reduction for theft from vehicles (down 35%) was higher than thefts of vehicles (down 20%).

In comparison with other similar areas, the level of vehicle crime in Kirklees is slightly above average for the IQUANTA family.

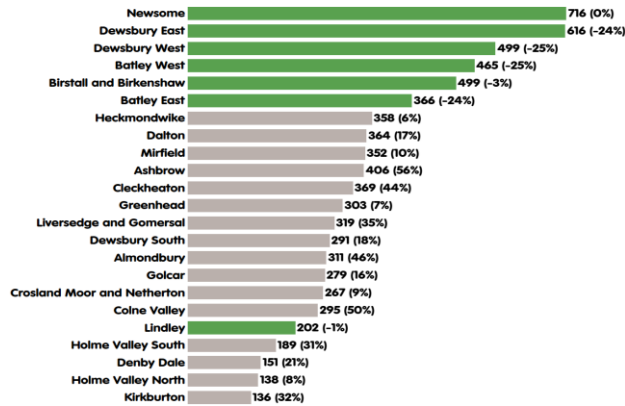
At a Ward level, there was a great deal of variation in the figures for the 12 months to September 2020 compared with the previous year – some of this is explained by the characteristics of the area – for example Wards with a Town Centre or commuter base.

Improved security of vehicles has contributed to the longer term reductions in thefts of vehicle – where they take place, it is more likely to target either older vehicles (with limited security measures such as immobilisers) although it is also the case that certain vehicles are specifically targeted because of their prestige / high value parts (offences often involve the use of the vehicle's own keys).

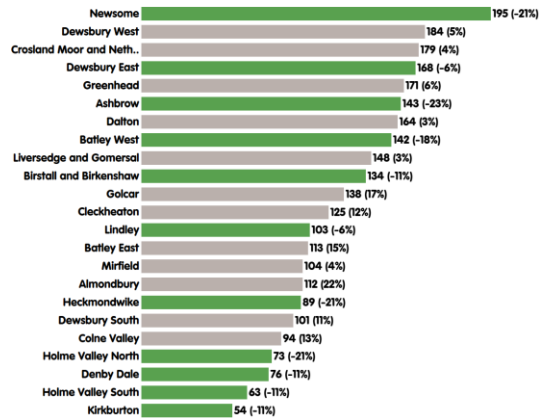
Thefts from vehicles frequently target items (e.g. cash, bags and phones) that have been left on display or to target equipment such as work tools. Having said this, many of the thefts from vehicle offences involve speculative searches of vehicles whose doors have been left unlocked. Since vehicles were used less frequently and to go for specific things such as shopping, thefts from vehicles did reduce significantly over the lockdown period.

Anti-Social Behaviour

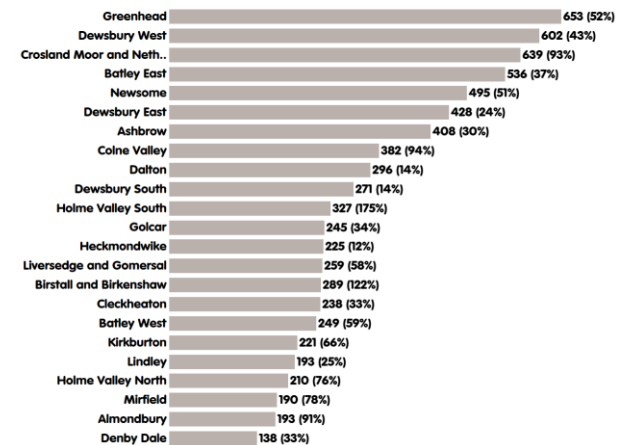
Police ASB



Noise Complaints



Fly-tipping



Key Points

COVID-19 has also had a significant impact, in terms of increasing ASB across Kirklees – both personal and nuisance ASB saw increase reporting over lockdown. This may partly be due to lower thresholds of reporting with citizens reporting breaches of restrictions rules as ASB, and due to the increasing time people have spent at home meaning there is more opportunity for ASB to occur.

Fly-tipping has also seen a significant increase across Kirklees. There was a period during which the tips across Kirklees were closed that contributed to this increase. Fly-tipping has undergone a change in reporting whereby fly-tips not reported to the council and removed are now recorded by staff. The wards with highest levels of fly-tipping are, Greenhead, Crosland Moor, and Dewsbury West.

The issues for each of the 4 Partnership Areas in Kirklees were as follows;

Batley and Spen - Over the past year, the main issues identified were Youth, and Nuisance Motorbikes ASB. Youth ASB occurs in the early throughout the week, Motorbike ASB peaks over the weekend, clustering in the early afternoon.

Huddersfield – the two main issues were fly-tipping particularly in the Greenhead and Crosland Moor Wards (e.g. Birkby and Hillhouse) and ASB in the Town Centre, the ASB level broadly mirrors the levels of restriction the area has been under following COVID-19 especially in Youth ASB

Dewsbury and Mirfield – Incidents of Adult / Youth ASB are evident in open areas in Dewsbury Town Centre during the late afternoon / early evening. The other issue identified relates to Fly-tipping in the Dewsbury West Ward with incidents most noticeable in Ravensthorpe and parts of Dewsbury Moor.

Rural – The main priorities in the area were Youth related ASB, this has seen an increase post March 2020 and COVID-19 restrictions. Youth ASB was higher during the evening in settlements such Slaitwhaite, Linthwaite, Skelmanthorpe, and Milnsbridge.

Key Points

Urban Street Gangs Referrals - In total, there have been 241 referrals received since the process started in July 2017.

The majority of referrals (71%) relate to individuals living in South Kirklees (Dalton and Ashbrow Ward had highest number). In North Kirklees, the only Wards with significant numbers of referrals were Dewsbury South / West. Analysis of home addresses of young people identified as at risk of urban street gangs, there was a concentration in the most deprived 20% areas – in particular the worst 10% (Note – in the previous SIA, it was the 10 – 20% most deprived - the change is because the same areas were rated as more deprived in the 2019 index of multiple deprivation).

The vast majority (93%) of all referrals are males and the peak age is in the mid-teens (peaking at 15). In terms of ethnicity, there are more total referrals (54% of total) for White individuals. However, when the relative population size is factored in, there are proportionately more referrals for black and mixed heritage groups.

Road Safety

The latest long-term trend figures (to March 2020) for Kirklees show a 32% reduction in Killed and Seriously injured casualties (vs 15% for WY) and a 3% reduction in all casualties (vs 12% for WY). These are the lowest numbers recorded in the District.

There is a mixed picture for vulnerable road users with the number of pedestrian casualties KSI in Kirklees reducing by 31% reduction (vs 10% increase for WY) but Kirklees has seen a 50% increase in cyclists KSI which exceeds the figure of 12.5% for WY. The number of child (0 – 15 years of age) casualties show a significant reduction in KSI for Kirklees (40% fewer vs 47% increase for WY).

Travel restrictions due to COVID-19 has significantly reduced the volume of traffic over the lockdown period and consequently resulted in a significant reduction in road traffic casualties although this has started to increase to pre-lockdown levels (still reducing in the longer term).

Road Traffic Collisions continue to happen at peak commuting times during the morning and in particular in the early evening.

Protecting People from Serious Harm

Key Points

Domestic abuse relates to “any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality”. The Domestic Abuse Strategy highlights the following main categories; psychological and emotional including verbal abuse, physical abuse including violence, Sexual violence and abuse (in a domestic setting), financial abuse and Coercive and controlling behaviour.

Nationally, it is estimated that 26% of women and 15% of men aged 16 to 59 had experienced some form of domestic abuse since the age of 16, equivalent to an estimated 4.3 million female and 2.4 million male victims. The Home Office estimates the economic and social cost of domestic abuse to be in the region of £66 billion to the country – this can relate to physical / mental harm and related costs to health, police and victim services.

In the 12 months to September 2020, there were 5,639 domestic abuse incidents reported to the West Yorkshire Police. This is broadly similar to the levels recorded the previous year = there was no noticeable spike in the lockdown period which is also the case for DRAMM and MARAC referrals.

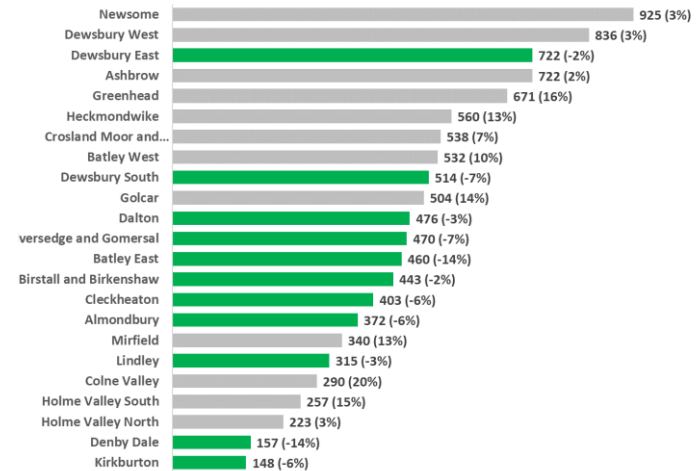
There has been a strong emphasis on communications to reach out to victims and vulnerable people during the lockdown period, this needs to continue to raise awareness of ongoing support available. It is acknowledged that the lack of contact with vulnerable people over the lockdown period does increase the risk of less chance of incidents involving children being picked up and the heightened risks of domestic homicides have been raised.

A summary of some of the key features of incidents reported to the Police are;

- Most common types of incident are violence (56%) and verbal disputes (25%).
- 48% incidents involve repeat victims (48% also involve repeat suspects)
- 24% of incidents attended resulted in arrest
- Children were recorded as being present at 27% of incidents
- Based on their relative population size, Males are over represented as Suspect and Females as victims

Over the Lockdown period, Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership has continued to see an increase in referrals although this is manageable and as lockdown restrictions are eased, some of the strain on accommodation (including refuge spaces and temporary accommodation) and support has lessened.

Domestic Abuse Incidents by Ward



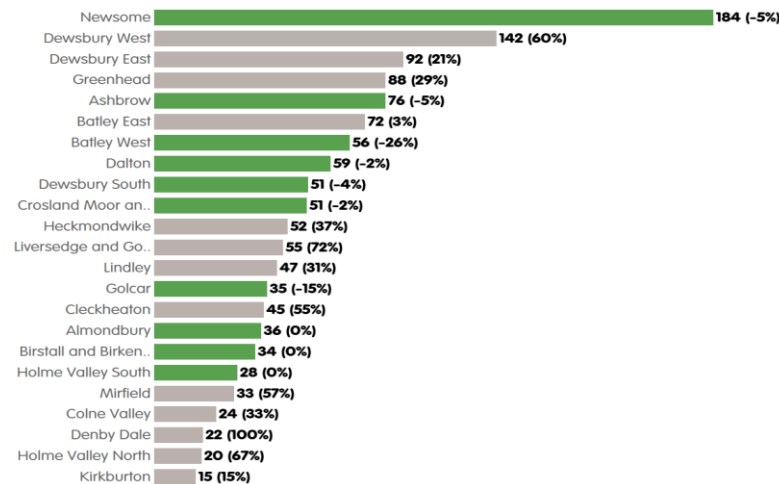
Protecting People from Serious Harm

Key Points

Hate incidents / crimes relate to 'any incident' which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on personal characteristics disability, gender-identity, race, religion / faith and sexual orientation.

Compared with previous years, the numbers of incidents recorded has increased (11%). The period May to August 2020 has seen consistently higher reports each month compared to the previous year. Compared with other areas in West Yorkshire, Kirklees recorded 16% of incidents (3rd highest) which is slightly lower than might be expected relative to the population size.

Hate Incidents by Ward



The majority of incidents in Kirklees continue to be racist incidents (76%) which is similar to the picture for West Yorkshire as a whole. In Kirklees, there have been increases in racist incidents and slight increases in hate incidents relating to disability. A recent report from Victim Support highlighted a 62% increase in hate crime referrals nationally. This report concluded that this was in part attributable to more people coming forward as a result of increased awareness following publicity of the Black Lives Matter movement over the summer. In Kirklees, incidents were mainly neighbour related or incidents which did not involve direct contact such as threats, harassment and malicious communications.

Latest figures (12 months to June 2020) suggest the vast majority (89%) of incidents involve violence (which includes "non-injury" incidents such as threats, harassment and malicious communications).

The arrest rate varies across the strands of hate, for race incidents it is around 12% (although this varies on a month by month basis and with cases). Approximately 20% of all incidents involve repeat victims (within the same year) – it should be noted that this does not necessarily indicate an escalation in severity of incidents due to lack of action as it might equally indicated victims keeping agencies informed because they are satisfied with response to date.

Geographically, Newsome and Dewsbury East / West continue to be the Wards with the highest number of recorded incidents. This may be associated with better recording mechanisms in the area as opposed to more incidents taking place. Other geographical features of incidents include approximately 25% taking place in Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH) areas, 16% could be classed as "neighbour related". This rises to 31% in KNH areas.

Protecting People from Serious Harm

Key points

Children at risk of Exploitation - The rate of new referrals and notifications reduced during the Pandemic lockdown. Some of the reasons for this include; restrictions to free movement in lockdown meaning less people were in public space and the closure of schools / changes in service delivery of some partners meant early indicators of risk might not have been picked up / reported. Of the cases referred to Risk and Vulnerabilities / YES / ESP, the majority related to either criminal or child sexual exploitation. The trends in exploitation to occur through cyber enabled mechanism continued over the lockdown period.

Modern Slavery encompasses human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. **Human Trafficking** is defined as the “movement of a person from one place to another (both cross border and within a country) into conditions of exploitation, using deception, coercion”. Trafficking can be either international, often for the purpose of forced labour (including domestic servitude) or within the UK, usually associated with exploitation such as sexual abuse or trafficking drugs.

Human trafficking and modern day slavery continue to be **significantly under reported** and consequently intelligence gathering remains a priority. In the 12 months to September 2020, the number of MDS recorded offences increased by 26% (22 offences) – in part connected with the front line partnership staff visiting more businesses in connection with COVID19 engagement. The two main types of offence are mainly sexual exploitation (mainly child) and criminal exploitation (forced gang / labour in illegal activities – people at risk of criminal exploitation are typically males aged 10 to 19 whereas females in the same age group are at more risk of sexual exploitation. Broken down by Ward, there continue to be more offences in the North of Kirklees. Although not evident in the recorded figures (due to under reporting), Lockdown did heighten risk of young people in potentially risky situations over the summer and economic hardship heightening risks of criminal exploitation.

PREVENT – The latest threat profile (June 2020), highlights the following as key extremism risks;

National Threat Level lowered from severe to substantial, meaning that a terrorist attack is judged as a strong possibility. The main threats are perceived to be from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups although there is an increasing threat from extreme right-wing groups. Threats are both through planned actions and from lone actors using readily available equipment such as bladed instruments and vehicles.

A key area of concern is terrorist threats emerging from online platforms which is likely to have increased over the lockdown period. Some prominent figures have had their main social media accounts shut down and have reopened accounts on alternative platforms. Although not terror related, there has been evidence of an increase in conspiracy theories relating to COVID19 and concerns to do with Black lives matter movement – some of which has a call for social disobedience and anti-police rhetoric.

Within Kirklees, some of the main risks have been associated with far-right stickers being put up in local parks. In Kirklees there has been a 55% reduction in Channel referrals although it should be noted that schools were closed during this period which are one of the main referral points. The main types of referral have been evenly split between Daesh and extreme right wing concerns.

Improving Place

Community Cohesion

In response to the need to support vulnerable people with essential supplies during the lockdown period, over 140 community led mutual aid groups and nearly 1,500 volunteers came forward in a massive display of **community mobilisation**. Having said this, Coronavirus has caused worry and some tensions around inconsistent rule following and adherence to social distancing.

Community Tensions

Ongoing reporting of court cases relating to child sexual exploitation cases and subsequent arrests of predominately Pakistani heritage males. Local and national media covered this story and there was a Yorkshire Patriots demonstration in Dewsbury against grooming gangs. There have been hundreds of comments on social media although locally tensions in the community were low.

There has continued to be a number of gang related knife / shooting incidents ongoing within Huddersfield, mainly in town centre and North Huddersfield, however this has reduced significantly during 2020. There have been several serious Arson attacks in North Kirklees over the past year, targeting cars and property.

A man was murdered in a vicious attack outside a factory in Linthwaite in January 2020. This resulted in daily tensions monitoring and lots of reassurance and support was needed from the partnership as the community were deeply concerned by what had happened.

A racist incident occurred in June 2020 at Holmfirth Cricket Club which was filmed and went viral on social media. This occurred around the same time as the George Floyd murder in the USA, which also raised tensions in Kirklees, especially on social media. A BLM protest took place in Greenhead Park on the 13th of June, which was well attended and peaceful.

Coronavirus is having a significant impact in Kirklees. Many people are worried about what is happening and how this is affecting their daily lives. Daily tensions monitoring has been in place for much of the spring / summer of 2020 to gather feelings and reassure local people.

Possible Future Tensions

COVID19 and associated restrictions on people are highly likely to be a concern for local people with the strong possibility of tensions developing in relation to this.

It is anticipated that developments relating to the Brexit implementation may cause tensions and possible negativity between communities. There has been an increase of far right stickering and graffiti in Kirklees, particularly in places where people gather such as Parks.

Child Sexual Exploitation continues to be an ongoing concern for people in Kirklees. Trials are currently on-going and it is likely that there will be others arrested for historic CSE which is highly likely to result in tensions.

Migration and Refugee Resettlement

People have migrated into Kirklees for a variety of reasons including work, study, to join families and those who have fled for humanitarian protection reasons. Kirklees continues to see the arrival of many vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees and wider migrants, resulting in an increased pressure on services and the voluntary sector.

A migration profile produced in early 2020 considered a range of datasets to provide an insight into migration and the changing nature of the Kirklees population. This analysis highlighted the main migration has been from Romania, Poland, Pakistan and Hungary (based on NINO: National Insurance number information). For those arriving seeking humanitarian protection, the top countries are: Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Afghanistan and Eritrea.

The analysis identified several deprived urban neighbourhoods **in** with higher concentrations of EU Citizens, Refugees and Asylum seekers. These are typically urban areas with high levels of deprivation and often characterised by higher population density / birth rates and English spoken as a second language.

Kirklees is a Home Office designated Asylum Dispersal area. Currently, there are approximately 750 asylum seekers in Kirklees (a significant number are single males). Accommodation has been mainly located in South Kirklees in relatively close proximity to services provided in the vicinity of the town centre although this is expanded to areas in the North of the District.

COVID19 has highlighted the significant risks posed to people seeking asylum and refugees as particularly vulnerable to issues such as language barriers to understanding restrictions, financial difficulties, digital exclusion, safeguarding issues (such as modern-day slavery and domestic abuse) and lockdown measures restricting the availability of some support services. Combined with this is an increase in right wing propaganda and protest in some areas about the presence of asylum seekers.

Perceptions Results – West Yorkshire

Key points

The latest results available from the comprehensive **“Your Views” survey** undertaken by the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) are for the period ending March 2020 (prior to lockdown). The results from this survey indicate:

- 1% improvement (not statistically significant) in “How safe people feel in their local areas” to 79% (compares with 81% for West Yorkshire).
- 2% improvement (not statistically significant) in “Satisfaction with local area as a place to live” to 74% (compares with 75% for West Yorkshire).
- No change in “Do people from different backgrounds get on well together in your local area” to 55% (compares with 57% for West Yorkshire).
- When asked about particular problems in the local area, when compared with other areas, Kirklees respondents expressed most concerns over violence and Hate Crime – having said this the top concern was dangerous driving (speeding) followed by Drugs.
- Satisfaction with the work of Community Safety Partnerships improved by 3% (not statistically significant) from the previous year although there has been a significant improvement since the previous quarter.
- Stronger perceptions scores in the Rural area and lowest scores in parts of the North of the District – in particular Dewsbury and Mirfield.

In June 2020, the **OPCC held an online “community conversation”** which aimed to establish how communities were feeling during lockdown. At that time, the main consensus from respondents was that of “coping well” (these results were more positive for White compared with BME respondents) during lockdown (80%) and feeling safe in their neighbourhoods (86%).

Nearly half of respondents said there was a “boost to community spirit” although people were concerned about not seeing family and friends. People expressed confusion about social distancing guidelines although this was directed at Government as opposed to Police for supporting adherence to guidelines.

Between June and September 2020, **Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing** undertook an **engagement survey** which invited all its tenants and leaseholders to comment on living in KNH estates. Some of the key issues to emerge included;

- Key priorities for respondents related either to their homes (repairs / improvements) or the Estate (environmental maintenance / tackling anti-social behaviour).
- 65% of respondents reported feeling safe / very safe in their local area. Where they did not feel safe, some of the main concerns were drug dealing, anti-social behaviour and intergenerational concerns.
- 65% of respondents said their home / community met their needs (although slightly more to the generally rather than fully agree) and that the place had “a strong identity and I feel I belong”.

Drugs and Alcohol

Key Points

Substance misuse impacts on **all 4 of the Themes** in the Partnership Plan. According to the latest harm ranking figures, the top 5 most harmful substances for society are (in order) alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, methamphetamine and Cocaine. The impact of substance misuse on individuals, families and communities can be both **immediate** (e.g. violent crime, drug related deaths) or **longer term** (drug dependent crime, domestic abuse) and show **inter-generational** dimensions.

The assessment of substance misuse risks has been divided into use and supply issues and split by drugs / alcohol;

Drugs	Alcohol
<p>Use – Issues include offending to fund use, pressures on mental and physical health (including fatalities) and social harms to both the families and wider society.</p> <p>Supply – issues include on street dealing (street crime and negative perceptions associated with this), cannabis farms with links to other organised crime and human trafficking.</p>	<p>Use – violent crime (both associated with night time economy and domestic abuse), anti-social behaviour (such as neighbour complaints and rowdy behaviour) and longer term harm to society and health outcomes (liver disease, mental health and cancer).</p> <p>Supply – issues include unrestricted supply to meet demand, challenging underage sales and safe operating practices.</p>

In terms of the impact of COVID19, national research suggests a rise in the consumption of drugs and alcohol purchases increased by over 30% during lockdown. The same research indicates the wholesale prices of heroin and cocaine have increased substantially since lockdown and that quality has reduced, with fentanyl being more available.

Kirklees Adult substance misuse service (known as CHART) have provided remote services / support but also remained open to those service users who could not be managed remotely. All triages and assessments have been carried out remotely via telephone where possible, which has significantly increased engagement levels (from 350 contacts per week in February 2020 to 4,803 in March) and significantly reduced the stigma of attending a drug and alcohol service for the first time for many people.

CHART reported a 43% increase in the number of people accessing Structured Alcohol Treatment support in Q3 2020 compared with the previous year. As a preventative measure against overdoses, CHART has provided 80% of opiate users with Naloxone kits to reduce fatal overdoses.

CHART have supported people with more complex needs through drop in sessions at Homeless Hostels which has included development of a mobile needle exchange, supporting alcohol dependent service users towards abstinence and through close working with Children's Social Care, developed strong multiagency working to keep children safe from the impact of substance misuse.



Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 29th October 2020

Title of report: Domestic Abuse Strategic Update

Purpose of report: This report is to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee with a further update on the development of the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy. It should be noted that a separate presentation will also be attached to this paper to inform the Committee specifically about the impact and response related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not Applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes/No or Not Applicable Report requested by Scrutiny
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs, Strategic Director <date>
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	N/A
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Carole Pattison

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: N/A (only as part of the Place Based Work detailed below)

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Summary

Following the 2019-21 Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy being signed off in September 2019, it was agreed that a further update on the agenda would be routinely provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to ensure oversight and to highlight any risks. A separate presentation will be given specifically around the impact of Covid-19, as this has naturally affected progress on some areas of the strategy.

2. Information required to take a decision

None

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

At the core of the Domestic Abuse Strategy is a model that was adopted from SafeLives which promotes a pro-active 'whole picture approach' to widen the response to domestic abuse, and ensure that the needs of the individual are not considered and acted on in isolation. The strategy has a particular emphasis on early intervention and prevention (ie. acting before someone harms or is harmed) which focusses on working far more with our communities, elected members, schools, health providers, businesses and the voluntary sector to raise awareness of the issue and increase confidence for people to report and confidence to respond when a disclosure may be made. It is paramount that communities and society are strengthened to support people experiencing domestic abuse to be safe, well and resilient, supported by a sustainable, strong infrastructure of services and for provision to be in place for those most vulnerable and at highest risk.

As this element of the strategy would have required a great degree of community engagement and projects and training to have physically taken place within communities, this has been significantly affected by the restrictions put in place throughout the pandemic. However, unintended consequences have meant that there has been more opportunities to promote domestic abuse services (both locally and nationally) through a range of communications and online platforms. This was helped to some extent by the National Campaigns and awareness raising around domestic abuse but it has also prompted a lot of work to take place with providers and partners to ensure that victims knew where to go to seek help, including key information being translated into a number of community languages. Other ways in which victims have been encouraged to come forward are through a dedicated online reporting tool developed by West Yorkshire Police and a live web chat facility being established by Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership. There was recognition at the start of lockdown that the priorities needed to be focussed on service continuity and ensuring the wellbeing of staff and service users so these pressures have meant that more innovative projects have been stalled. Work is, however, ongoing to consider how these could be delivered differently in the future.

3.2 Working with Partners

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership is the lead group for the implementation and delivery of the Kirklees Strategy. It is widely recognised that domestic abuse truly is a partnership agenda as all parts of the system are points where disclosures could be made by someone of any age; have a role to play in preventative work and/or have a statutory duty. As a result of lockdown, key partners were asked to provide weekly data which was submitted in a timely manner; there were frequent meetings set up to discuss any specific pressures and examples of some reactive initiatives being made to respond to a changing situation. There continues to be strong connectivity between the Safeguarding Adults Board, Children's Safeguarding Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Boards, and again, throughout the pandemic, key messages have been shared widely and promoted through various groups to try and gain the maximum reach. Training packages have also been shared and quickly moved onto virtual platforms which have been disseminated to staff across the partnership, including staff who were deployed from their usual roles to upskill them in new frontline response settings.

3.3 Place Based Working

The work around the Place Based Working continues to progress and various options have been presented to the Place Based Leads for them to consider, before a collective decision is reached. Again, some of the original options need further development in the context of whether delivery is feasible whilst restrictions are still in place. All seven areas are currently in the process of considering these through virtual meetings and it is hoped that a firm proposal around this spend will be available by the end of the year. It is recommended that this item comes back to Scrutiny in the future.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

None, except for the reduction in travel for staff and providers as a result of the pandemic

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

Children can be significantly affected by domestic abuse which can go on to lead to life long issues. This is why the strategy places such a big emphasis on early intervention and prevention which includes the response to children; understanding the voice of the child and encouraging behavioural change where needed. Through joint work between Children's Services, the Children's Safeguarding Partnership and Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership, progress has been made in the following areas:

- Throughout Covid, the Vulnerable Adults and Children's theme group have provided regular safeguarding assurance sessions to the Council's Executive Team which has led to better joint working
- Review of Operation Encompass (schools notifications)

- Children’s Practice Review learning sessions held and key themes to be acted on will now be implemented through a specific Task & Finish Group

3.6 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

A new Domestic Abuse Bill is expected to be enacted in April 2021 which is firmly in view through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership. The key areas to note can be found in the Government Factsheet, accessible here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-overarching-factsheet>.

It should be noted that the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership is in the process of considering the roll out of training and awareness raising that will be needed across multi-agency settings and with Elected Members when the Bill is enacted so further information will be available on this earlier next year

There has been some recent personnel changes with key posts connected to domestic abuse but the transitional periods have been planned to ensure that the partnership remains strong, effective and able to collectively continue to drive the agenda.

4. Next steps and timelines

- The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership is next meeting on 3rd November to review the Action Plan and to set the priorities for 2021, especially in the context of the changing situation around Covid-19
- The data will continue to be monitored and should additional restrictions demonstrate any emerging trends, these will be picked up and acted on through the various reporting mechanisms
- The work around Place Based Working will continue to progress and a decision made on what Place Based Leads agree should be the focus of the committed spend (by Dec 2020)
- Work will continue around the roll out of the Domestic Abuse Bill (likely to continue from now for the foreseeable)

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee:

- Notes the updates provided in this paper
- Notes the additional pressures that have been created as a result of the pandemic and the response from the partnership to mitigate these
- Considers receiving future reports with a specific focus, given that the area of domestic abuse is so broad (including Place Based Working)

6. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

That the Cabinet Portfolio Holder:

- Notes the updates provided in this paper
- Notes the additional pressures that have been created as a result of the pandemic and the response from the partnership to mitigate these
- Considers receiving future reports with a specific focus, given that the area of domestic abuse is so broad (including Place Based Working)

7. Contact officer

Alexia Gray - Head of Quality Standards and Safeguarding Partnerships (but was formally the Service Manager for Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships)

Tel: 01484 221000 or e-mail: alexia.gray@kirklees.gov.uk

8. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Previous Domestic Abuse updates were provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the following dates:

- 3 September 2018
- 5 November 2018
- 22 July 2019

9. Service Director responsible

Jill Greenfield, Service Director, Customer and Communities

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – AGENDA PLAN 2020/2021

Date of Meeting	Item / Lead Officer	Comments
9 June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Priorities and the Covid-19 Response – Cllr Pandor / Jacqui Gedman • Devolution – Jacqui Gedman / Julie Muscroft • Appointment / Allocation of Co-optees 2020/21 • Re-establishment of Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel 	
Informal Meeting 10 July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution mid-point consultation update – Julie Muscroft / Nick Howe • Work Programme 	
20 August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Council Plan – Rachel Spencer-Henshall / Kate McNicholas 	
Informal Meeting 29 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny Ad Hoc Panel reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EHE – Future Arrangements for the Council’s Residential Housing Stock 	
29 October 2020 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution (representative from WYCA to attend) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Process in relation to and content of the Order – How scrutiny will work on a regional basis going forward • Crime and Disorder including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Domestic Abuse (update on the main strategy, responses to Covid-19 and Forward plan) – Refreshed Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) – Refreshed Communities Partnership Plan – Alexia Gray, Jo Richmond, Jill Greenfield, Lee Hamilton 	All councillors invited to attend

Date of Meeting	Item / Lead Officer	Comments
3 December 2020 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 	
11 February 2021 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cohesion Strategy Update (Jill Greenfield) 	
18 March 2020 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 	