Cabinet – 16 September 2009

Walsall Community Safety Plan

Portfolio: Councillor Perry - Communities & Partnerships

Service: Public Safety

Wards: All

Key decision: Yes

Forward plan: Yes

1. Summary of report

This report seeks Cabinet endorsement of the revised borough Community Safety Plan (**Appendix A**) and approval of the revised Strategic Priorities contained within it. These priorities, based on a comprehensive Strategic Assessment, will drive the work of the partnership over the coming year as it strives collectively to make Walsall a safer borough. The decision to agree these priorities is therefore key to both the Council and Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP).

The plan also highlights activity already undertaken and importantly activity to be undertaken in the current year to deliver against these priorities. This will include work to deliver Walsall's Local Area Agreement targets around community safety. The plan sits beneath the borough Sustainable Community Strategy and in particular the People are Safe and Secure theme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet endorse the revised Walsall Community Safety Plan.
- 2.2 That Cabinet agree the revised Strategic Priorities (section 3, page 15).

3. Background information

3.1 It is a statutory requirement that SWP produces a three year borough Community Safety Plan that identifies the community safety priorities on which the partnership will focus its efforts. The plan should be a live document and based around a robust performance framework that can be used to monitor and review progress. The plan covers a three year period to allow short, medium and longer term priorities to be tackled and to align with Local Area Agreement planning cycles. It should also set out the contribution of all partners to deliver against these priorities and the resources that will be used to support that delivery. The

plan is also a key document through which the partnership communicates with local communities. A summary of some of the key achievement over the past year are as follows:

- SWP funded the long running and highly successful "Be Safe" initiative to directly target and reduce offences in Walsall's night time economy. During 08/09 within the Be Safe area total recorded crime fell by 22.1% whilst violent crime fell by 23.5%. In real terms this relates to 128 and 79 fewer victims respectively.
- SWP successfully held the first Safer Walsall Question Time event (SWQT) in January in the Bloxwich and Blakenall LNP area as part of our community engagement agenda.
- Youth Wardens Scheme transferred to SWP and made permanent positions to continue targeted work with key schools and young people across the borough.
- SWP gained a borough wide Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) in December 08 to enable the police to stop people from drinking alcohol and behaving disorderly in public.
- SWP developed a comprehensive multi agency Prostitution Strategy, based on national good practice and Home Office guidance to address issues associated with prostitution.
- SWP sponsored the Best Bar None Awards, which are supported by the Home Office and aims to promote the responsible operation of alcohol-licensed premises leading to subsequent reductions in crime and ASB.
- The Walsall Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme was successfully implemented, receiving in total 1159 referrals from custody staff and Addiction workers in either police custody blocks or the Magistrates Court. An average of 36 referrals was received per month 85% of which were then successfully engaged as a result of the programme.
- SWP CCTV operators dealt with 2682 incidents between April 2008 March 2009 generating 740 arrests during the same period.
- Dome Hawk Cameras were deployed at numerous locations across the borough to tackle anti social behaviour and other community safety issues.
- A "12 Days of Christmas" campaign on the BBC West Midlands Ed Doolan Radio show was run during December 2008. This was a very successful initiative during which a range partners highlighted and discussed a different community safety related topic each day.
- 3.2 The first Walsall Community Safety Plan 2008, based on the comprehensive findings of the 2008 Strategic Assessment, highlighted the Partnership's strategic priorities and the work that would be undertaken to deliver against them. These priorities are as listed below:

Priority 1: Tackle Volume Crime (Violence and Anti Social Behaviour)
Priority 2: Tackle Acquisitive Crime (Burglary, Robbery, Vehicle Crime)

Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Priority 4: Reduce the Fear of Crime

Priority 5: Reduce Crime and Disorder in High Crime Areas
Priority 6: Improve Community Cohesion and Social Inclusion

Over the last twelve months, the Partnership has worked hard to achieve its crime reduction targets and has continued to deliver successfully. Crime has continued to fall year on year since 2005 and in 2008/09 total recorded crime fell by a further 12%. We will however not be complacent in our efforts and understand that there is a lot more that can and should be done to make Walsall safer.

3.3 The Partnership is required to refresh the Community Safety Plan annually to ensure that it accurately reflects and addresses the key priorities for Walsall. This refreshed plan has been developed following a new borough-wide Strategic Assessment that collated data and information from a broad spectrum of partners and stakeholders. This assessment highlighted the priorities on which the Partnership must concentrate its activities over the next twelve months and ensures that the work undertaken is directed by a sound and robust evidence base. By adopting this approach we will maximise the outcomes for our communities. The new strategic priorities for the Partnership are as listed below.

Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime (specific focus on Domestic Abuse and Town

Centre Violence)

Priority 2: Tackle Anti Social Behaviour

Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Priority 4: Improve Community Cohesion and reduce the Fear of Crime by

Tackling Crime and Disorder in High Crime Areas.

3.4 These refreshed priorities represent a slight shift in focus and ensure that the Partnership is concentrating its efforts to the areas of greatest risk and where it can work collectively to bring the greatest benefit to our communities. Key targets for 2009/10, based on the indicators included within the LAA are as follows:

National Indicator	Target
NI 1 - Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	Target to be set at 75.1% for 10/11 in line with the next Place Survey
NI 16 – Serious acquisitive crime rate	4% reduction in 09/10
NI 17 – Public perceptions of ASB	Target to be set at 29.8% for 10/11 in line with the next Place Survey

NI 19 – Rate of re-offending by young offenders	3.6 % reduction in 09/10
NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate	4% reduction in 09/10
NI 30 – Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	18% reduction in 09/10
The number of referrals to Children's social care for domestic abuse	4.75% reduction in 09/10

4. Resource considerations

- **4.1 Financial**: Funding required to target the priorities identified in the plan comes from partners' mainstream budgets and Central Government grant allocations which include the Safer Communities Fund.
- **4.2 Legal**: It is a statutory requirement that the Partnership produces a three year Community Safety Plan and that this is updated annually based on the findings of a comprehensive Strategic Assessment (Police and Justice Act 2006 and subsequent Regulations).
- **4.2 Staffing**: To be delivered through existing Partnership staffing arrangements.

5. Citizen impact

The recent Place Survey identified that, for residents of Walsall, the level of crime was the most important issue in determining their quality of life and one of the most important areas for improvement, albeit that the number of residents that thought this had fallen since the previous survey in 2006. It also identified the need for work around perceptions of ASB and making residents aware of the extent to which partners are working together to improve community safety. Clearly, work driven by the plan and addressing the identified priorities will have a significant impact upon the lives of the citizens of Walsall.

6. Community safety

The Community Safety Plan and the priorities it identifies should underpin all community safety related activity in Walsall. Reducing crime and anti social behaviour, tackling alcohol and substance misuse, dealing effectively with environmental issues and increasing community reassurance are all included

within the plan and essential if we are to make Walsall a safer place for its residents.

7. Environmental impact

The plan also deals with environmental issues which include graffiti, litter and fly tipping. These are signal crimes which have a significant impact on how residents perceive the area in which they live with, for example, 51% of residents feeling that rubbish or litter lying round are a problem in Walsall.

8. Performance and risk management issues

- **8.1 Risk**: Risks such as insufficient funds and not achieving LAA targets will be managed by the Safer Walsall Executive Group and ultimately by the Safer Walsall Partnership Board.
- **8.2 Performance management**: The Partnership is experienced at and has in place a robust performance management framework that will allow us to deliver effectively on the priorities and objectives that have been set in this plan. Performance will be managed through the Safer Walsall Executive Group (SWEG) and ultimately by the Safer Walsall Partnership Board. This will include the monitoring of all community safety National Indicators and specifically those contained within the LAA.

9. Equality implications

The final plan will be subject to a full Equality Impact Assessment and the Partnership will continue to work to ensure the services it offers and work undertaken is available to all communities of Walsall.

10. Consultation

The Strategic Priorities have the support of all partner agencies that make up the Partnership and have been agreed by the SWP Board. All partner agencies have also been consulted on the development of the plan.

Background papers

None.

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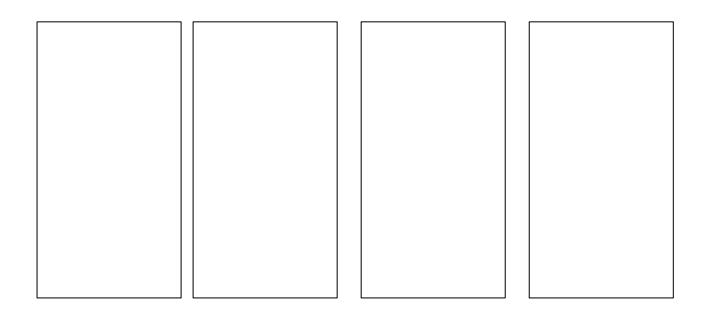
Jamie Morris Executive Director Councillor Garry Perry Portfolio holder

4 September 2009

7 September 2009



WALSALL
COMMUNITY
SAFETY PLAN
2008 - 2011
YEAR 1 REFRESH



Contents	Page
<u>Foreword</u>	3
Section 1 – Background	
Safer Walsall Partnership Safer Walsall Partnership Board SWP Strategic Priorities 2008/09 Our Achievements in 2008/09	4 4 4 5 - 8
Section 2 – Informing the Plan	
Profile of Walsall Borough Links with Other Strategies Walsall Council Vision Walsall Strategic Assessment 2009 Place Survey Feeling the Difference Survey Public Service Agreements & National Indicators Community Safety National Indicators 2008/09 & 2009/10 Targets Section 3 – Vision, Priorities and Targets SWP Vision and Strategic Priorities	9 10 10 11 11 12 13 14
Priorities, Targets & Associated Activity	16-33
Section 4 – Performance Management	
Performance Management	34 - 35
<u>Appendices</u>	
Roles and Responsibilities of Partner Agencies SWP Governance and Delivery Structure SWP Team Structure SWP Achievements 2005 – 2008 Glossary of Abbreviations	36 - 39 40 41 42 43

Foreword

Building a safer Walsall remains one of the top priorities for all those who live and work in Walsall. Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, tackling alcohol and substance misuse, dealing effectively with environmental issues and increasing community reassurance are all essential if we are to make Walsall a safer place in which to live, work and play.

Dealing effectively with these issues is too much to expect of any agency acting alone and over the last twelve months we have continued to demonstrate the success that can be achieved through partnership working.

The first Walsall Community Safety Plan 2008–11 based on the comprehensive findings of a strategic assessment highlighted the partnerships strategic priorities and the work that would be undertaken to deliver against them. Over the last twelve months the partnership has worked hard to achieve its crime reduction targets and has continued to deliver successfully. Crime has continued to fall year-on-year since 2005 and in 2008/09 total recorded crime fell by a further 12%. We will however not be complacent in our efforts and understand that there is a lot more that can and should be done to make Walsall safer.

The partnership is required to refresh the Community Safety Plan annually to ensure that it accurately reflects and addresses the key priorities for Walsall. This refreshed plan has been developed following a new borough-wide strategic assessment that collated data and information from a broad spectrum of partners and stakeholders. This assessment highlighted the priorities on which the partnership must concentrate its activities over the next twelve months and ensures that the work undertaken is directed by a sound and robust evidence base. By adopting this approach we will maximise the outcomes for our communities.

The Safer Walsall Partnership Board is responsible for collectively overseeing the delivery of this plan and co-ordinates the multi-agency activity that is required if we are continued to deliver. This change in title reflects a broader change in the governance structure of the partnership that has been put in place to streamline its activity and strengthen its delivery arrangements.

In developing this refreshed plan we have sought to build on the strong foundations laid out in the previous plan whilst at the same time making sure it is up-to-date and as relevant as possible for Walsall today. This multi-agency plan has the full support of all partner agencies and the local community and details the means by which we will continue to collectively contribute towards building a safer borough. The Community Safety Plan is a key document supporting the delivery of Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy.

Councillor Garry Perry Portfolio Holder Communities & Partnerships

Nozmul Hussain Director Safer Walsall Partnership

Section 1 Background

Safer Walsall Partnership

Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP) comprises Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, NHS Walsall, Walsall Probation Service, West Midlands Fire Service and representatives from the Walsall Housing Partnership, Education Walsall, the Chamber of Commerce and other key partner agencies. SWP is responsible for co-ordinating activity to make Walsall safer and to increase the level of community reassurance. SWP co-ordinates activity across the borough to improve community safety and reassurance, reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, alcohol and substance misuse and environmental crime.

Safer Walsall Partnership Board (SWPB)

The Safer Walsall Partnership Board (SWPB) is responsible for undertaking the duties placed by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police and Justice Act 2006 which includes a duty to produce a community safety plan to reduce crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, alcohol and substance misuse and environmental crime in the borough. The SWPB is also responsible for undertaking duties under other key pieces of community safety legislation including the ASB Act 2003 and the Drugs Act 2005 and supports local delivery of the requirements within the National Community Safety Plan, National Drugs Strategy and the National Alcohol Strategy.

The SWPB is responsible for collectively overseeing the delivery of the Community Safety Plan and co-ordinates the multi-agency activity that is required to deliver against it. The SWPB will also ensure that the partnership meets new statutory requirements around both the overview and scrutiny of partnership activity and the recently introduced "Councillor Call for Action" in respect of crime and disorder matters. This represents a new way of working for partnerships and reflects the government's drive to create a clearer link between partner agencies and the public on community safety matters.

Partnership priorities identified in the first Community Safety Plan

Following an extensive borough-wide Strategic Assessment that utilised data from a range of partner agencies and which was then supported by extensive stakeholder and resident consultation the partnership identified the following strategic priorities for 2008–2011 in its first Community Safety Plan. These priorities directly supporting the delivery of Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy.

- Priority 1: Tackle Volume Crime (Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour)
 Priority 2: Tackle Acquisitive Crime (Burglary, Robbery, Vehicle Crime)
- Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse
- Priority 4: Reduce the Fear of Crime
- Priority 5: Reduce Crime and Disorder in High Crime Areas
 Priority 6: Improve Community Cohesion and Social Inclusion

Our Achievements during 2008/09

Over the last twelve months the partnership has worked hard to achieve its community safety targets and has continued to deliver successfully. Crime has continued to fall year on year since 2005 and in 2008/09 total recorded crime fell by a further 12% which in real terms equates to 3138 fewer offences. Our achievements as a partnership and against the above strategic priorities over the last twelve months include the following:-

Crime Type	Achievements
Total Recorded Crime	12.9% ?
Serious Acquisitive Crime	15.3% ?
Anti-Social Behaviour	7.5% ?
Domestic Burglary	12%?
Burglary other building (including sheds, garages, shops, factories and schools)	17.1%?
Criminal Damage	13.3%?
	10.10/.0
Vehicle Crime	18.4%?
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Violence Against the Person	18%?
Deliberate Small Fires	21.3%?
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Deliberate Property Fires	3.6%?
Deliberate Vehicle Fires	0.7%?
Drug Offences	7.3% ?
Domestic Abuse Incidents	6.4% ?
Domestic Abuse molucing	VIT /U I

(Figures taken from the borough Strategic Assessment 2009/10 for the period February 2008–January 2009 and are compared to the corresponding months of 2007/08)

Community Safety and Reassurance

- SWP funded the long running and highly successful "Be Safe" initiative to directly target and reduce offences in Walsall's night-time economy. During 2008/09 within the Be Safe area total recorded crime fell by 22.1% whilst violent crime fell by 23.5%. In real terms this relates to 128 and 79 fewer victims respectively.
- SWP funded police "Operation Serene" which successfully targeted additional police resources to anti-social behaviour hot spots across the borough.
- SWP successfully held the first Safer Walsall Question Time event (SWQT) in January in the Bloxwich and Blakenall LNP area as part of our community engagement agenda.
- SWP funded the Domestic Violence Forum to deliver the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) which provides a pro-active multi-agency response to all victims of domestic abuse.
- SWP funded the refurbishment of one of the West Midlands Fire Service garages at Bloxwich Fire Station into a Young Fire Fighters Association room. The Young Fire Fighters Association has set up a 12-week accredited rolling training programme for 11 to 17 year olds.
- SWP implemented void property enforcement action through effective use of legislation, improving our response to complaints about void properties that were resulting in ASB and other related activities.
- Hundreds of thousands of pounds of counterfeit goods have been seized through closer working between the Police and Trading Standards at the markets in Brownhills and Bescot.
- Youth Wardens Scheme transferred to SWP and made permanent positions to continue targeted work with key schools and young people across the borough.
- Community Safety Officers deployed in high crime areas to develop multi-agency interventions to tackle key crime issues through Community Action Tasking Groups.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit jointly working with partner agencies has dealt with in excess of 600 reported ASB cases in 2008/09.
- SWP gained a borough-wide Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) in December 2008 to enable the police to stop people from drinking alcohol and behaving disorderly in public.
- SWP successfully established and helped over 70 families with the 'Triple P Positive Parenting Programme' in Walsall. The programme is a system of family interventions for parents of children and adolescents who have or are at risk of developing behavioural problems.
- SWP developed a comprehensive multi-agency Prostitution Strategy, based on national good practice and Home Office guidance to address issues associated with prostitution.
- A street count of ASB incidents was completed to establish which streets across
 Walsall have the highest number of repeat incidents and using this information
 identified the five worst streets for both the entire borough and for each policing
 area.

Drugs and Alcohol

- A successful bid was made for £13,000 from the Home Office to tackle dangerous drinking in Walsall. This funding was then used to implement the Safe and Social initiative in Walsall Town Centre.
- SWP sponsored the Best Bar None Awards, which are supported by the Home Office and aims to promote the responsible operation of alcohol-licensed premises leading to subsequent reductions in crime and ASB.
- The Walsall Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme was successfully implemented, receiving in total 1159 referrals from custody staff and Addaction workers in either police custody blocks or the Magistrates Court. An average of 36 referrals were received per month 85% of which were then successfully engaged as a result of the programme.
- The Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR) was successfully piloted and then mainstreamed in the West Midlands Region. As part of this requirement 52 individuals have been ordered to attend the service provider of which 41 are currently successfully receiving treatment.
- Two Alcohol Support Workers were appointed and placed in the Accident & Emergency Department at Walsall Manor Hospital to help reduce alcohol related hospital admissions.
- A prescribing service was set up through Addaction to enable people coming out of prison to have immediate access to drug treatment. In 2008/09, 76 people had access to this service.
- Alcohol training was carried out with GPs from North Walsall to allow them to intervene and refer patients on to successful specialist drug treatment programmes.

Security and Surveillance

- SWP CCTV operators dealt with 2682 incidents between April 2008 March 2009 generating 740 arrests during the same period.
- Dome Hawk Cameras were deployed at numerous locations across the borough to tackle anti-social behaviour and other community safety issues.
- A robust business plan was developed to extend the services the unit is able to offer, which now includes CCTV installation/maintenance and provides additional revenue for the unit.
- Funding was successfully secured to upgrade the CCTV control room to allow images to be recorded digitally enabling a move away from the old analogue system. This should improve the quality of recorded images and reduce the costs/resources associated with regular tape changes and tape storage.

Policy Strategy and Communication

- The first three year borough Community Safety Plan was produced based on the findings of a comprehensive borough-wide Strategic Assessment.
- A new governance structure for the partnership was established to improve the coordination and delivery of key priorities as well as refocusing the partnership board on community safety matters only.

- The Safer Walsall Executive Group (SWEG) was established. This is a new multiagency body to strategically co-ordinate commissioning of community safety services and monitor partnership performance against set targets.
- A new Borough Tasking and Co-ordinating Group was set up supported by SWP to address key issues identified through the use partnership data and intelligence.
- Community Action Tasking Groups (CAT's) were established in each LNP area to pick up local concerns and address them through multi-agency/cross-partnership working.
- Pioneer Area status and associated resources for Walsall were acquired under the Home Office Neighbourhood Crime and Justice Programme and Walsall's Neighbourhood Crime and Justice Co-ordinator was appointed
- A "12 Days of Christmas" campaign on the BBC West Midlands Ed Doolan Radio show was run during December 2008. This was a very successful initiative during which a range partners highlighted and discussed a different community safety related topic each day.
- The SWP Communications Group was established to promote joined up working with partners and promote the work of the partnership.
- Over ninety community safety related press releases were issued to local media to communicate key partnership messages to the community and highlight work being undertaken to benefit our communities.
- The SWP Communication Strategy was developed and delivered improving how we collectively communicate our message to the communities of Walsall.
- SWP made a significant contribution to the delivery of the feeling safe strand of the boroughs Sustainable Community Strategy.

(Achievements taken from SWP 101 Achievements)

Profile of Walsall Borough

Population

AREA	POPULATION
Walsall Total	254, 480
Aldridge North + Brownhills	25,790
Aldridge South + Streetly	26,140
Bloxwich and Blakenall	37,960
Darlaston	25,560
Palfrey + Pleck	28,980
Pelsall, Rushall, Shelfield	23,110
Pheasey + Paddock	22,060
St Matthews, Leamore + Birchills	26,440
Willenhall	38,440

Age Profile

- Children and young people (0-15) account for 21% of the overall population
- The working age population (16-64) accounts for 62% of the overall population
- The older population (65+) account for 17% of the overall population.

It is important to consider the age profile of the population in informing all community safety interventions. Evidence suggests that people aged 60+ are most likely to have a high fear of crime but are amongst the least likely to become a victim. Conversely people aged 14-25 are least fearful of crime but are most likely to become a victim. Age profile is most important when looking at issues such as perceptions of anti-social behaviour.

Ethnicity

According to the national census (2001), the black and minority ethnic population (none white ethnic groups) of Walsall Borough is 13.5%, compared to a 9.1% national average. The largest minority ethnic groups are black (1.4%) and Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi (10.45%). The latest ethnic population estimates (2007) suggest that Walsall's BME population has increased slightly since 2001.

It is important to note that these figures vary greatly by Local Neighbourhood Partnership area. BME groups account for only 3% in Aldridge North and Brownhills compared with 44% in Palfrey and Pleck. These figures are particularly important when looking at community engagement and communications. Consideration is also given to the potential increase in the population from Eastern Europe.

Housing Tenure

65% of households in Walsall are living in owner occupied accommodation compared with a national average of 69%.

In some areas rented property is as high as nearly 53%.

Skills and Qualification

Walsall Borough has a much higher average population with no qualification (42.7%) compared with the national average (29.1%). The population of Walsall borough achieving four/five qualifications is at 11.1% well below the national average of 19.8%.

The educational qualification of an area affects not only the level of young people on the road to success, but also issues around poverty and future well being.

Labour Market

Worklessness in Walsall has increased sharply as a result of the recent economic downturn. Between April 2008 and April 2009 the number of individuals claiming Jobseekers allowance rose by 3.3% to 7.1%. This figure is higher than the national average and this gap has widened over the last twelve months.

This figure does however vary considerably by LNP area.

Links with Other Strategies

In developing the Community Safety Plan we have taken consideration of other important strategic plans and have incorporated the key agendas from each into this plan. In particular, the following strategies have been dovetailed:

- Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy
- Policing Strategy 2008–2011
- Walsall Council Corporate Plan 2009/10
- West Midlands Fire Service Strategic Plan
- National Community Safety Plan
- National Drug Strategy
- National Alcohol Strategy
- Youth Justice Plan
- Domestic Violence Strategy
- Parenting Strategy
- Walsall's National Treatment Agency Plan
- Walsall's Alcohol Strategy
- Community Cohesion Strategy
- Voluntary Sector Strategy

Walsall Council Vision

The Council has a continued commitment to the shared vision for the borough of Walsall set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) that sets out the key outcomes for local citizens. To this end, the Council has endorsed, and signed up to the new shared vision for the borough of Walsall, looking ahead to 2021, that is set out in the SCS. The vision is that:

Walsall will be a great place to live, work and invest, where...

- People get on well with one another
- People can get around easily and safely
- People support and look after one another
- There are more and better jobs for local people
- People can live an independent and healthy life
- There is a wide range of facilities for people to use and enjoy
- People consider the impact of what we do now on future generations
- There exist high-quality and distinctive designs of buildings and spaces
- Growing up is as good as it can be and young people fulfil their potential
- People are our strength and have the skills and attitude required by employers
- Everyone has the chance to live in a home fit for their purpose and fit for the future
- People feel proud to live

This vision is highlighted in the SCS which sets out what needs to be done to ensure that:

- People are healthy
- People are safe and secure
- People are aspiring and achieving
- Places are greener and easier to get around for those that live there

- People are active contributing to their communities
- People are materially and financially secure achieving economic well being
- People are free from discrimination and harassment

Under the People are safe and secure theme the Council's objective is to involve and engage communities in crime reduction and address the fear and perceptions of crime, through a range of area based initiatives and by improving the way we deal with antisocial behaviour.

Walsall Strategic Assessment 2009

The Government requires a strategic assessment of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime to be undertaken annually. Safer Walsall Partnership has completed a third strategic assessment, which provides detailed analysis of the different crime and disorder issues in the borough.

• A strategic assessment brings together information from a range of agencies including the police, local authority, fire service, health and probation.

The key findings of the 2009/10 Strategic Assessment were that between February 2008 and January 2009 Total Recorded Crime fell by 12.9% continuing a year on year reduction since 2005. Anti-Social Behaviour, a key concern for local residents also fell by 7.5% over the same period. At least 45% of Anti-social Behaviour was flagged up as being youth related. Key reductions have also occurred in Violent Crime and Serious Acquisitive Crime which fell 16.9% and 15.3% respectively over the same period.

Incidents of Domestic Abuse have increased by 6.4% over the past year and whilst it is likely that increased publicity around this offence will have increased the level of reported incidents it is accepted that this still remains a vastly under reported offence. In addition recorded drug offences have increased by 7.3% over the same period largely as a result of a significant increase in possession of cannabis offences. Overall however the risk of being a victim of crime in Walsall remains historically low.

Place Survey

From 29 September to 19 December 2008, Walsall Partnership carried out a postal survey to find out what residents think about Walsall as a place to live and about the service provided by local public services including Walsall Council, the police and fire service, NHS Walsall, housing providers, businesses and the community and voluntary sector.

The questionnaire was sent out to a random sample of 5,000 households in the borough and the survey was undertaken on behalf of Walsall Partnership by leading market researchers Ipsos MORI. Locally the results will be used to identify what residents think is being done doing well, where improvements are needed, as well as a clear indication as to what public service priorities should be. Importantly it will also help to track progress against our Local Area Agreement (LAA). The Place Survey captures in total 18 National Indicators, four of which are LAA priorities covering community cohesion, decision making, neighbourhood satisfaction and views on anti-social behaviour. All of which have relevance either directly or indirectly to community safety and the work of SWP.

Key findings

- Crime levels and clean streets are most important to residents when considering their quality of life.
- Perceptions of crime are a neighbourhood satisfaction driver.
- Perceptions of ASB in Walsall are mixed, one in four residents think ASB is a problem in their area.
- 51% of respondents felt that teenagers hanging round on streets was a very big problem in Walsall.
- 51% of respondents felt that rubbish or litter lying around was a very big problem in Walsall.
- 83% of respondents in Walsall feel safe during the day whilst 44% feel unsafe after dark.
- Residents of Walsall are more likely to disagree than agree that the police and other local public services are seeking people's views or dealing with crime and ASB successfully.
- 71% of respondents feel that residents in Walsall generally feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together.

Feeling the Difference Survey

West Midlands Police is undertaking a large-scale survey programme exploring quality of life, reassurance and fear of crime issues. The aims of the survey include, measuring the effectiveness of policing strategies, to enhance the police understanding of the role of policing in quality of life and reassurance issues and to measure public perception of the police service and the way it currently polices communities.

The most recent findings come from Waves 17-20 (2008/09) of the Feeling the Difference Survey and draws comparisons between local authority areas in the West Midlands Police Region. The survey programme comprises 4 waves of research, with each wave being completed on a quarterly basis over a 12-month period.

Key Findings

- 98% of respondents feel safe outside in their neighbourhood during the day.
- 93% of respondents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously.
- 78% of respondents agree that the Council and police are dealing with ASB and crime matters in the area.
- 33% of respondents felt that lack of facilities for young people was the biggest social problem in the area closely followed by crime at 30%.

The findings of both the Place and Feel the Difference Surveys were considered during the development of the 2009/10 borough Strategic Assessment.

It is of note that the above surveys do differ on some of the measures returned. However, differences in the methods of data collection, the sample group and the number of points in each survey require that some care should be taken when undertaking a direct comparison.

Public Service Agreements (PSAs) and National Indicators

PSAs set out the Government's objectives for public service delivery and explain how success in delivering those objectives will be measured. The PSAs for 2008/2009 to 2010/2011 demonstrate much more clearly a partnership endeavour. The Community Safety related PSAs below can only be delivered through agencies working together.

PSA 23	Making communities safer		
PSA 25	Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs		
PSA 14	Increase the number of young people on the path to success		
PSA 13	Improve children and young people's safety		
PSA 24	Deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice		
	Service for victims and the public		
PSA 21	Build more cohesive, empowered and active communities		
PSA 16	Increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled		
	accommodation and employment, education or training		
PSA 26	Reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from		
	international terrorism		

A single set of 198 National Indicators (NIs) was announced as a result of the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review. This list was refreshed following consultation in 2008 and reduced by 10 such that there are now 188 National Indicators. The National Indicators will be the only performance measures on which central government will require local authorities to report. The NIs replace all other existing sets of indicators including Best Value Performance Indicators and Performance Assessment Framework indicators. Of the 188 National Indicators, many link directly to community safety and form part of the PSAs listed above. There are 30 National Indicators within the Local Area Agreement for Walsall of which 6 are related directly to community safety. These 6 are as listed below.

- NI 16 Serious acquisitive crime rate
- NI 17 Public perceptions of ASB
- NI 19 Rate of re-offending by young offenders
- NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate
- NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders

Local Indicator – The number of referrals to Children's social care for domestic abuse

We will still however be measured on all NIs that relate to community safety and the partnership will continue to work to deliver against them all.

Community Safety National Indicators 2008/09 – Achievements

- There has been a 19% reduction in the number of serious acquisitive crimes (NI 16 LAA).
- The re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders (PPOs) has seen a reduction of 32% exceeding the target of 19%. (NI 30 LAA).
- The number of deliberate secondary fires has seen a reduction of 11% from 2007/08 to 2008/09 (NI 33b).
- As of the end of Feb 2009 the numbers of drug users in effective treatment has increased by 32% from 2007/08 to 2008/09 and exceeded the 2008/09 target by 30% (NI 40).
- The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10–17 years is 377 for 2008/09, representing a reduction of 34% against the target of 507.

LAA Community Safety National Indicators 2009/10 targets

National Indicator	Target
NI 1 - Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	Target to be set at 75.1% for 10/11 in line with the next Place Survey
NI 16 – Serious acquisitive crime rate	4% reduction in 2009/10
NI 17 – Public perceptions of ASB	Target to be set at 29.8% for 10/11 in line with the next Place Survey
NI 19 – Rate of re-offending by young offenders	3.6 % reduction in 2009/10
NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate	4% reduction in 2009/10
NI 30 – Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	18% reduction in 2009/10
The number of referrals to Children's social care for domestic abuse	4.75% reduction in 2009/10

Our Vision

Our vision is:

'Working together for a Safer Borough'

Our Strategic Priorities

To achieve our vision and following the recent Strategic Assessment we have agreed the following strategic priorities:

Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime (specific focus on Domestic Abuse and Town

Centre Violence)

Priority 2: Tackle Anti-social Behaviour

Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Priority 4: Improve Community Cohesion and reduce the Fear of Crime by

Tackling Crime and Disorder in High Crime Areas.

For each of these priorities, a brief explanation of why it is a priority, what targets are to be set to tackle each priority and what has been done to address each priority in 2008/09 and planned activity for 2009/10 is documented below. In some cases, where the targets are new, baseline figures have been gathered in 2008/09 to be targeted against in subsequent years.

We have also continued to embrace the Government's Hallmarks of Effective Partnership working to ensure we have a strong and robust partnership that can deliver the desired results. The partnership will also be assessed against these Hallmarks.

The 6 Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships are:

- 1. Empowered and effective leadership
- 2. Intelligence-led business practices
- 3. Effective and responsive delivery structures
- 4. Community engagement
- 5. Visible and constructive accountability
- 6. Appropriate skills and knowledge

Strategic Priorities for 2009/10

Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime (Domestic Abuse and Town Centre Violence)

Why is it a priority?

The Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder highlights that:

- Reported domestic abuse is increasing with 24% of violence offences related to a domestic abuse incident.
- Violence against the person currently accounts for 20% of total recorded crime in the borough.
- 14% of violence against the person occurred in Walsall Town Centre.
- Both domestic abuse and violence against the person are underreported and could therefore be subject to an increase in recorded offences.

Our targets for 2009/10

- 1. Reduce serious violent crime rate (NI 15) by 4%.
- 2. Reduce assault with injury crime rate (NI 20) by 4%.
- 3. Reduce repeat victims of domestic violence (NI 32).
- 4. Reduce number of referrals to children's social care for domestic violence LAA local target).

	Objective	Progress in 2008/09 (Year 1)	Planned Activity for 2009/10 (Year 2)
POLICY	Develop a strategy and action plan to tackle violence including domestic violence	 Police continued to work with partners to tackle violent crime, arrangements in place currently to monitor and reduce violent crime include – Be Safe, Domestic Violence (DV) Forum, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Between February 2008–January 2009 Violent Crime fell (compared with same period the previous year) by 16.9%, which in real terms is 986 fewer offences. 	 All partner groups which address violent crime to continue. Partnership to use the Safer Walsall Executive Group and the Borough Tasking Group to monitor all violent crime types and put any required interventions in place.
PREVENTION/ AWARENESS	Promote pro-social behaviour and domestic violence programmes across the borough	 Children's Services Directory (web-based) and Walsall Domestic Violence (DV) Forum website promote DV services across the borough. Leaflets and promotional items around DV and services offered distributed across a range of statutory and voluntary sector venues. Presentations about DV delivered at a range of events. S.A.F.E. (Stopping Aggression in the Family Environment) programme promoted across the borough through leaflets, presentations and other promotional activity. 	 Good news stories to be promoted through local media. Fundraising campaign to be undertaken to increase awareness of domestic violence services and generate income. S.A.F.E. will be promoted across the midlands region RESPECT, the national association of perpetrators challenging behaviour model, will continue to be utilised through the SAFE Programme.
TREATMENT/ SUPPORT	Provide support services for victims of Domestic Abuse	 Support service provision includes: Stepping Stones 24-hour help-line, SAYA 24-hour multi-lingual help line, Crisis Intervention Service; Domestic Abuse Response Team; Family Support Team; Drop-in groups (3 each week) Risk assessments were carried out for 1973 victims. 123 drop-in groups were held with 486 victims using these facilities. 1734 victims received one to one ongoing support during the year. Training was provided to a total of 1371 front line professionals 	Current services to be maintained DV training programmes to be promoted across the midlands

Priority 2: Tackle Anti-social Behaviour (including Criminal Damage and Arson)

Why is it a priority?

The Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder highlights that:

- There were 17,146 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded between February 2008 and January 2009.
- The Town Centre continues to be a hot spot for ASB with the police neighbourhood for that area seeing a 24% increase in ASB incidents.
- Criminal damage offences account for 20% of total recorded crime.
- Criminal damage is estimated to have cost residents of Walsall over four million pounds in the monitoring period.
- ASB continues to be a major concern for residents in Walsall.

Our targets for 2009/10

- 1. Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (NI 17).
- 2. Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour (NI 21).
- 3. Increasing perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children (NI 22).
- 4. Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local Council and police (NI 27).
- 5. Reduce arson incidents number of deliberate primary fires per 10,000 population (NI 33a) by 1.6%.
- 6. Reduce arson incidents number of deliberate secondary fires per 10,000 population (NI 33b) by 1%.
- 7. Reduce criminal damage by 4%.

Progress in year 1 (2008/09) and plans for year 2 (2009/10)			
	Objective	Progress in 2008/09 (Year 1)	Planned Activity for 2009/10 (Year 2)
POLICY	Develop a borough wide multi agency Anti-social Behaviour Strategy	 Multi-agency strategy working group established and an initial strategy drafted. Between February 2008 – January 2009 ASB fell (compared with same period the previous year) by 7.5%, which in real terms is 1390 fewer incidents. Over the same period Criminal Damage fell by 13.3% which in real terms is 657 fewer offences. Deliberate outdoor fires fell by 21.3% equating to 270 fewer incidents. 	Strategy content and focus to be refreshed, reflecting current direction of ASB work, the recommendations of the ASB Scrutiny Working Group and links with West Midlands Police Community Safety Team.
		 ASB Scrutiny Working Group set up to investigate ASB policy and practice across Walsall. The group was made up of elected members and co-opted specialist advisors and after an extensive investigation process which included consideration of both local activity and best practice made a number of recommendations. 	Decision by cabinet in respect of the recommendations of the ASB Scrutiny Working Group to be implemented.
PREVENTION/ AWARENESS	Proactively engage with communities most affected by ASB and criminal damage	 SWP Community Safety Officers (CSOs) continue to work in targeted areas as identified from previous strategic assessment. SWP Anti-social Behaviour Unit (ASBU) Officers have supported CSOs to deliver a number of preventative interventions. 	 Undertake review of allocated areas in line with findings of new strategic assessment and the Community Safety Team (CST) will continue to coordinate multi agency area based activity. Continue to support the Community Action Tasking Groups.
	Continue to publicise Anti-social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Injunctions	Leaflets have been printed explaining actions that have been taken and detailing conditions placed on offenders. These leaflets are then distributed amongst the communities in which offences took place.	 Continue to publicise ASBOs & injunctions. Link work to the Neighbourhood Crime and Justice strand around sentencing outcomes and the Home Office "Justice Seen Justice Done" agenda.

ENFORCEMENT	Tackle street prostitution and drug dealing/ use in public places through a range of actions Implement a strategy to tackle issues of bullying ASBU to take punitive measures against people unwilling to change unacceptable behaviour Orders, Parenting Contracts and Parenting Orders following supportive interventions	 Operation Nominal ongoing to address concerns around prostitution. Local Authority is now leading on this problem supported by all partners – Police (enforcement), Street Teams and the SWP ASB Unit. New Prostitution Action plan and protocol in place developed from an initial plan prepared by a multi agency group looking at issues in the Caldmore area of Walsall. This included a joint police/ASBU operation to target kerb crawling. Links made with the Prostitute Action forum. Youth Wardens deliver initiatives aimed at bullying and other unacceptable behaviour. Improved links with police and Legal Services in order to take enforcement action as necessary and appropriate. Protocol for Acceptable Behaviour Contracts now in place. 	 Current action plan to be reviewed and amended if required. All partners to continue to work together in order to address this problem – Borough Tasking group to monitor and commit extra resources if required Multi-agency group to merge with existing Prostitution Action Forum. Continue to promote this activity to a wider school audience ASBU to develop protocol for implementation of Dispersal Orders and work with Police Community Safety Team and Legal Services in order to establish guidelines for all punitive measures.
TREATMENT/ SUPPORT	Ensure victims of violence and ASB have access to support and advice	 The Anti-social Behaviour Unit has made links made with local service providers. Sign-posting of victims where appropriate to providers who offer support including WHG (witness support programme), Walsall Domestic Violence Forum and Walsall Voluntary Service. 	ASBU will work collaboratively with the Neighbourhood Justice Co-ordinator, who has remit and funding to address victim and witness support needs through provision or commission of appropriate services.

EDUCATION/ TRAINING/ DIVERSION Engage with schools to ensure that young people understand the consequences of ASB.	 Youth Wardens continue to work with identified schools and young people including those involved or at risk of involvement or are involved in ASB. Hot-spot schools identified and issues addressed through police, youth wardens and Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) interventions. 	 Develop the role of the Youth Wardens as suggested in the ASB scrutiny report Junior ABC programme to be established, in collaboration with youth wardens.
Promote and provide a Positive Parenting Programme	 SWP Parenting Practitioner in post and delivering Triple P programme. Both group and one to one programmes are in place and successfully delivered. SWP Parenting Practitioner working beyond agreed referral targets. Triple P Programme promoted within Anti-social Behaviour Unit and partner agencies. Appropriate promotional material available for both partner agencies and members of the public. Parenting Practitioner has pursued engagement of target families. 	 Year 2 of programme will include consolidation of Year 1 activity. Continued promotion of programme to partner agencies through methods including Triple P 'Champions' (WHG) and links with Youth Intervention Support Programme (YISP) and Think Family /Family Intervention Programme (FIP). Links with broader 'Think Family' agenda to be explored as a source of referrals to the Triple P Parenting Programme and clinical support of practitioner. Continue exploration of referral sources.

Priority 3: Address harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Why is it a priority?

The Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder highlights that:

- Drug and alcohol misuse is frequently linked to violent crime, criminal damage and ASB.
- Despite this link, drug and alcohol misuse as a causal factor of crime is statistically very difficult to prove.
- Walsall has seen a 7.3% increase in recorded drug offences over a twelve month period.
- It is estimated there are approximately 34,000 binge drinkers in Walsall and that 23% of over 16s are either harmful or hazardous drinkers.

Our targets for 2009/10

- 1. Reduce drug-related (class A) offending rate (NI 38).
- 2. Reduce alcohol harm related hospital admission rates (NI 39).
- 3. Increase drug users in effective treatment to 1038 (NI 40).
- 4. Reduce substance misuse by young people (NI 115).



Progress in year 1	Progress in year 1 (2008/09) and plans for year 2 (2009/10)		
	Objective	Progress in 2008/09 (Year 1)	Planned Activity for 2009/10 (Year 2)
POLICY	Develop and implement a partnership Alcohol Strategy and Plan	 The Alcohol Strategy Group has been set up and has evolved into 4 themed groups aimed at implementing the Strategy. An up to date Alcohol Needs assessment has been commissioned and completed in July 2009. Themed groups have been re configured to address any outstanding areas of the action plan. The Walsall Alcohol Arrest Referrals Scheme (WAARS) was consolidated and Walsall successfully piloted the Alcohol Treatment Order. 	 Use Needs Assessment to focus on improving care treatment pathways that link all 4 tiers of interventions. Link the Alcohol Strategy more effectively to the realization of reductions in alcohol related hospital admissions, in line with the NHS Walsall Outcome Metrics. Build on the reductions in alcohol related crimes supported by the combined WAARS/Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR) schemes.
	Develop and implement local interventions based on National Drug Strategy 2008-18.	Commissioned services against review of existing services and implemented needs assessment findings and treatment plan	Fulfil the requirements of the NHS Worlds Class Commissioning cycle competencies including delivery of annual needs assessment & treatment planning process.
	Implement a borough wide Designated Public Place Order	 DPPO in place from Dec ember 2008 in accordance with all relevant guidelines and legislation. Appropriate signage in place across the borough. 	Joint initiatives with Police, Public Protection and DAAT to be explored.
PREVENTION/ AWARENESS	Prevent harm to children, young people and families affected by drug misuse.	Commissioned services against review of existing services & implemented needs assessment findings and treatment plan.	Fulfil the requirements of the NHS World Class Commissioning cycle competencies including delivery of annual needs assessment and treatment planning process.
	Evaluate Taxi Marshal Project and consider safer travel schemes.	The taxi marshal pilot secured area based grant funding and was initially well received. There were difficulties however with the appointed contractor and the scheme was suspended mid year.	None at this time.

ENFORCEMENT	Implement a minimum enforcement standard for alcohol related crimes in Walsall Town Centre	 Be Safe reduced violent crime (much of which is alcohol related) by over 25% during the 2008/09 performance year. Analytical software now at Walsall Manor A&E dept to capture all admissions with alcohol/injuries – this is now used by the SWP Analyst to produce gap analysis and enables the Borough Tasking group to address problem areas. 	Continue Be Safe initiative for next two years – funded until end of LAA 2010/11.
	Protect communities through tackling drug supply, drug-related crime and anti-social behaviour	Implementation of the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) to engage individuals, whose drug usage is impacting on their offending behaviour, promoted and informed wider partnership of process and effectiveness.	Develop work in partnership with organisations such as courts and Crown Prosecution Service to support reduction in crime and provide enhanced community sentencing options.
	Continue to test purchase for illegal underage sales of alcohol	Information is input monthly to the Borough Tasking Group (BTG) about the under age sales alcohol test purchasing exercises carried out on off -licence premises and in conjunction with Police on-licence visits.	 Ongoing as set out in the Public Protection service plan and linked to work of Borough Tasking Group. A communications plan is to be implemented during 2009/10 around the action being taken to combat crime and disorder, including alcohol related issues.
TREATMENT/ SUPPORT	Continue the Walsall Alcohol Arrest Referral Scheme (WARRS)	WAARS exceeded the target for referrals and led to the selection of Walsall as the pilot area for the introduction of the Alcohol Treatment Requirement.	The WAARS and ATR schemes have been combined and funded for a further 12 months via the Safer Communities Fund.
	Develop Strategies to engage Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPOs) who commit the majority of acquisitive crime	 System of case progression embedded across police/probation including weekly case progression meetings. Shared Priority Forum (SPF) operations group making multi agency decisions about exit and entry on to PPO scheme. Between February 2008 – January 2009 Serious Acquisitive Crime fell (compared to same period the previous year) by 15.3%, which in real terms is 818 fewer 	 Work to embed PPO coordination into the 'Integrated Diversion and Offender Management (IDOM) project. Continue with case progression and operation of a virtual multi agency PPO team. Improve links with the worklessness agenda and the Council Regeneration Department.

		 incidents. Over the same period Domestic Burglary fell by 12% and Vehicle Crime by 18.4% representing in real terms 185 and 617 fewer offenc es respectively. 	
EDUCATION/ TRAINING/ DIVERSION	Utilise public information campaigns, communication and community engagement strategy.	 Tackling Drugs promotional event took place May 2009. Communications news letter highlighting service provision in Walsall distributed. 	 Future DAAT communications to be channelled via partnership communications officer making use of SWP web site, newsletters and e communications.

Priority 4: Improve Community Cohesion and reduce the Fear of Crime by tackling crime and disorder in high crime areas.

Why is it a priority?

The Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder highlights that:

- Total recorded crime has been reducing over the past four years yet the perceptions of crime remain elevated across the borough.
- Perception does not mirror reality, similar to national trends exhibited through the British Crime Survey.
- 68% of residents felt that the most important Council priority should be to ensure that citizens are safe and secure.
- There is some evidence that disaffected young people could lead to the emergence of a gang culture in Walsall.

Our targets for 2008/09

- 1. Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area (NI 1).
- 2. Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhoods (NI 2).
- 3. Reduce serious acquisitive crime rate (NI 16) by 4% 09/10 target is 19.82 (per 1000 population).
- 4. Increase perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and dignity (NI 23).
- 5. Perceptions of drink or rowdy behaviour as a problem (NI 41).



Progress in year 1 (2	2008/09) and plans for year 2 (2009/10)		
	Objective	Progress in 2008/09 (Year 1)	Planned Activity for 2009/10 (Year 2)
POLICY	Develop a multi agency tasking process to address crime and community safety issues across the borough	Borough Tasking Group and Community Action Tasking Groups looked to address key crime and community safety issues across the borough – last year total recorded crime reduced by 12 % across Walsall.	Continue to work with and develop the Borough Tasking Group and also look to link to the outcomes of the Crime Target Action Plan to pool resources and address local issues.
	Ensure that all crime reduction projects take into account the make up of the communities they are designed to support.	Borough Tasking process uses, where available, data that would pick up any trends for example around age or ethnicity. SWP officers work to ensure that all interventions are suitable for their target audience.	Continue to use where suitable demographic, ethnicity and other data to plan projects/programmes.
	Implement actions from the Alcohol strategy to target areas most affected by alcohol related incidents.	An up to date Alcohol Needs Assessment has been commissioned and completed in July 2009. This will serve to strengthen the referral pathways.	Modify Alcohol Action Plan to reflect issues highlighted by the Needs Assessment.
	Assist Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) in signing up to the Housing Standard	Nothing to report.	Links with RSLs to be re-established following several mergers and service changes.
PREVENTION/ AWARENESS	Proactively engage with communities most affected by ASB and criminal damage	 Operation Serene 3 dealt with ASB across both H1 and H2 OCUs with great success. Schools interventions and the Youth Bus looked to address ASB specifically relating to young people. Borough Tasking group addressed ASB through partnership interventions using analytical documents SWP Community Safety Team has established strong links with communities within their designated areas and inform ation is fed back to the ASBU following consultation/engagement activities. Attendance at CAT meetings by officers from a range of partners who engage with communities at grass route level provided a clear route for issues to be raised/tackled. Results were then fed back to the 	 Borough Tasking group to monitor high crime types across the borough. ASB is mentioned as a key threat as per the 2009/10 Strategic Assessment. Agencies to work together in identifying community priorities. Neighbourhood Justice Coordinator will coordinate local Community Pay-Back initiatives. Links with Public Protection on environmental issues to be explored following merger of service areas. Attendance at CAT meetings by partnership officers to continue. Engage with the Community Cohesion Events

	community.	Panel.
Promote crime prevention initiatives through various media e.g. Local Neighbourhood Partnerships / CAT Meetings, Neighbourhood Watch & Town Centre Business Forum.	SWP CSOs supported the Community Action Tasking process and maintained/developed local community contacts in target areas. CSOs worked with partners to develop and promote crime prevention and community safety initiatives.	Community engagement/communication channels to be further developed.
Pro actively provide feedback to community on action taken to rectify local issues	 Feedback took place via a range of media including the CAT process, LNPs, WHG Customer Panels, Neighbourhood Watch/Residents Groups and a range of publications. 	Community feedback channels to be further developed using a range of available media.
Have a designated SWP CSO in each LNP area	 SWP CSOs allocated to hot spot areas as identified in the Strategic Assessment process. However there are insufficient officers to cover every LNP area. 	Current working arrangements to be reviewed in light of recent strategic assessment.
Utilise SWP CSOs in high crime areas to develop and implement community based crime reduction projects	 CSOs developed and implemented action plans for their allocated hot spot areas implementing a range of specific interventions. CSOs now operate within the borough tasking framework. 	CSOs to continue to support the tasking process and coordinate multi agency activity in high crime areas.
Provide a scheme for gating problem alleyways and implementing other	 Temporary Security Improvement Officer delivered a number of security improvement schemes in 08/09. 	 Approved carry over from the 08/09 Security Improvement Programme will allow a limited number of interventions in 09/10.
site specific situational interventions Utilise re-deployable surveillance options in hotspot areas.	 The surveillance unit has worked closely with officers from the ASBU to target problem locations through the deployment of Domehawk Cameras and interactive LED CCTV signage. A Re Deployable Surveillance Deployment Protocol was developed and implemented. Protocol updated in December 2008 	 Using the partnership analyst and working closer with partners will continue to target hot spot areas with available surveillance equipment. A greater number of surveillance options to be made available utilising all surveillance unit equipment. Monitor and update protocol as necessary as an increasing number of Domehawk Cameras are project managed by the unit.

Retail Radio Scheme to be rolled out to businesses in all district centres	Trials took place in April 2009 to boost the radio frequency from the district centres back to the control room. The trial was however unsuccessful due to lack of coverage and weak signal strength.	Proposals are in place subject to available funding to use an Internet Protocol based radio system in each district centre which would allow all retail radios to be monitored by the CCT V control room.
Promote pro-social behaviour programme across the borough	Through collaborative working with partners, appropriate schemes were identified and individuals signposted accordingly	 Development of Junior ABC scheme to take place in collaboration with SWP Youth Wardens. Develop links with partner agencies in order to establish suitable pro-social behaviour service provision outside of the ASBU.
Promote crime prevention initiatives, community safety, raise the profile of SWP and increase community reassurance.	 During 08/09 the work of SWP was promoted through a range of media including press releases/editorials, radio sponsorship and interviews, SWP and other newsletters, SWP promotional DVD and bus/lamp post advertising. Formation of the SWP Communications Group and the development of a SWP Communication Strategy. A Communication Action Plan was developed and supported via a publication/community reassurance budget The first Safer Walsall Question Time event was planned and delivered. 	 Continue to develop the SWP Communications Group and associated Communication Plan to promote the work of SWP and key community safety messages. Link the activities of the SWP Communications Group to the on going work of the Borough Tasking Group. Continue to deliver a SWQT event in every LNP area over the next two years.
Engage businesses in town and district centres to tackle business crime	 SWP CSOs engaged with businesses in allocated hot spot areas. Dedicated CSO allocated to Town Centre. 	Continue to develop links with both town and district centre business communities.
Ensure that community tensions are monitored and acted upon	 Community tension reports from partner agencies were coordinated centrally within the Council before being forwarded to Government Office West Midlands. Community Tension reports now form part of the 	Community tension monitoring will continue into be fed into the borough tasking process.

		monthly Borough Tasking report	
	Continue to carry out Home Fire Safety Checks (HFSCs)	WMFS completed 3954 HFSCs in 2008/09. An additional 149 specialist alarms were fitted by officers trained in sign language to the homes of individuals who have a hearing impairment.	WMFS will complete a minimum of 3376 HFSCs in 2009/10 in the Walsall borough. A minimum of 70% will be with identified high risk groups. Fitting of specialist alarms for the hearing impaired will also continue.
	Provide Fire Safety Education to those in high risk areas.	 All Key Stage 2 schools were offered fire safety training in 2008/09 of which 67% engaged in the programme. Safer Saddler Project at Walsall Football Club engaged 650 young people. WMFS Fire Safety Quiz engaged 1005 young people 	 WMFS now have specialist Key stage 3&4 SEN Educators to deliver fire safety education. WMFS main stream educators to target all special and high schools in the borough.
ENFORCEMENT	Continue to provide increased Police presence in Walsall Town Centre during peak periods of the night time economy, utilising data and events analysis to allocate resources.	This has taken place in both Walsall Town and all District centres. Borough Tasking document now includes seasonal calendar of partnership events. Partnership resources are allocated to areas of need, if these needs cannot be met and dealt with by the local CAT teams.	 Borough Tasking Group to continue to monitor and address this across the Borough. Greater liaison between the CAT and Borough Tasking groups to ensure only issues of greatest threat are discussed at Borough Tasking and that local issues are first addressed through the CAT process.
	Proactively target identified high risk areas and offenders.	 Hot spot areas targeted through Borough Tasking and Community Action Tasking process. SWP CSOs coordinate multi agency activity in hot spot areas identified through Borough Tasking process. Police and Probation continue to address PPOs and High Crime Causing Users (HCCUs) across the borough. 	 Continue to use tasking arrangements to focus partner resources into areas of greatest need. SWP Community Safety Team to continue to operate in hot spot areas. Borough Offender Management to evolve along the lines of IDOM. SWP to look at whole spectrum of offending from young person to adult
	Increase the level of Fixed Penalty Notices /Public Notices for Disorder for alcohol related ASB, littering and graffiti.	 Joint litter patrols undertaken between Environmental Health staff and the Police. A Joint Enforcement Board has been established to implement an Environmental Crime Improvement Plan. Active task groups established around Graffiti and Void 	 Ongoing 6 weekly meeting of Joint Enforcement Board and tasking group meet monthly or as required. Although funding for the generic enforcement officers ceases in June 2009 there are plans to

	 Property. Active Law and Evidence group operates to improve consistency and professional practice across a range of service areas. Intensive work has been carried out to combat environmental crime using 4 temporary generic enforcement officers, resulting in fines and costs awarded exceeding £20,000 Software has been purchased to enable spatial mapping and reporting of incidents of ASB and environmental crime An educational programme has been implemented in target secondary schools in partnership with Street Pride, Community Safety Officers and Youth Wardens to look at the impact of littering around schools. 	 introduce enforcement responsibilities to staff in Green Spaces from June. A communications plan is to be implemented during 2009/10 around the action being taken to combat environmental crime.
Target perpetrators of racist graffiti	 Police attended the inter agency Graffiti group and have looked at setting up a graffiti 'Tag' database. Measures in place for referral of pictures of TAGs to the police. 	Ongoing partnership work through the interagency Graffiti group.
Target hot spot areas for counterfeit sales	Intensive work has been carried out to combat counterfeiting using 4 temporary generic enforcement officers at Brownhills and Bescot markets and other locations resulting in the seizure of hundreds of thousands of pounds of counterfeiting goods and equipment used in counterfeiting.	 Funding for the generic enforcement officers ceased in June 2009. Ongoing as set out in the Public Protection Service Plan and through the activities of the Borough Tasking Group.
Continue to publicise ASBO's and Injunctions	Printing of leaflets has taken place, advising details of action taken against perpetrators and restrictions applied to them.	Distribution of information to be consulted upon with Youth Offending Service, where necessary.
Undertake joint evidence gathering and CCTV surveillance in crime hotspot locations to support	 Surveillance unit provided 34,641 minutes of CCTV footage from 1850 tapes during 2008/09 to our partners. Assisting in many investigations and prosecutions. 	Provide quicker and higher quality evidence from the new digital upgrade allowing footage to be reviewed instantly and made more readily available to our partners.

	enforcement actions including ASBO's, CRASBO's and injunctions	 A small number of surveillance operations have taken place to tackle fly tipping. Closer working links between ASBU & Surveillance Unit established. 	 Investigate surveillance officer training and utilise officer and surveillance equipment to combat fly-tipping. Continued training for ASB Officers around RIPA requirements. Funding sources to be explored for up-grading of surveillance equipment
	Look to use measures such as ABC's, ASBO and CRASBO packages on the PPO's who will not change their offending behaviour.	Enforcement measures are taken by police when rehabilitation has not worked. This process is assisted by multi agency information sharing and risk management.	Work to embed PPO coordination into the 'Integrated Diversion and Offender Management (IDOM) project. This will include enforc ement action as required.
TREATMENT/ SUPPORT	Empower communities to not only report problems of crime and disorder, but to take active steps to address them.	 Delivery/tasking model provides clear route for front line staff from all agencies to engage with communities and then report issues into the CAT process. SWP CSO's coordinate multi agency activity that both engages and empowers local communities. We have seen a reduction in First Time Entrants to the 	 Continue to utilise existing mechanisms to engage and empower communities. Re launch of Street Champions programme.
	Extend range of behavioural based programmes targeted at Young People.	Criminal Justice system by 32.4% compared to 2007-2008, and fewer young people have been victims of crime committed by their peers. Youth Inclusion Support Programme (YISP) has continued to work with children young people and their families aged 8-18 years across Walsall Borough. 28% of parents have engaged in parenting programmes and 85% of young people are engaged in positive activities. Youth Inclusion Programme (YIP) delivery has been commissioned to the Youth Service to deliver on behalf of the YOS. Currently mini-YIPS are being developed in Willenhall and Darlaston engaging with the young	 YISP at present will continue to September 2009. Additional funding to be identified if programme is to continue YIP will continue to develop the existing mini-YIPs, and identify areas of high level ASB

	Through the PPO programme, provide support and assistance for offenders to assist in their rehabilitation programmes.	 people aged 13 to 18 identified through a multi-agency matrix. Deter Panel identifies high risk cases with an Asset score of 21+ or those identified as a Persistent Young Offender by the Police. Young people are referred to the YISP as an exit strategy from their orders. In the six months following deter Panel convening there was a reduction of 69.7% in the number of offences committed by this group compared to the six months prior to joining the group. Though a supporting people commissioned floating support scheme support and assistance is offered to PPOs in securing and maintaining their accommodation. These 'floating support' workers provide housing related support through a key work s system. 	 where further mini- YIPs may be developed, with young people being identified through the mutli- agency matrix. Continuation of the Deter Panel in its current multi-agency format identifying those young people at high risk of re-offending. Supporting People/Walsall Housing provision will be looked at with a view to joining up the accommodation pathways between prison and probation for PPOs and High Crime Causing Users (HCCUs)
EDUCATION/ TRAINING/ DIVERSION	Provide support and advice to those with the highest fear of crime Engage with schools to ensure young people are aware of personal safety	 SWP CSO's coordinate multi-agency activity to address community reassurance and community safety issues in targeted locations. Youth Wardens continue to work in allocated schools and engage young people on community safety matters. 	 Review area allocation in line with new strategic assessment and continue to area based activity. Develop the role of the Youth Warden's as suggested in ASB scrutiny report
	Saisty	matters.	

Performance Management

The Partnership is experienced at and has in place a robust performance management framework that will allow us to deliver effectively on the priorities and objectives that have been set in this plan. Performance will be managed through the Safer Walsall Executive Group (SWEG) and ultimately by the Safer Walsall Partnership Board.

The SWEG is responsible for identifying cross cutting opportunities for partners to work effectively together, making informed and objective commissioning recommendations and monitoring performance on behalf of the SWPB against Walsall's Community Safety Plan. This responsibility includes working to ensure resources are targeted to deliver against the priorities identified in the Community Safety Plan and identifying and planning for anticipated challenges and any areas of performance weakness. This document will be the overarching plan for community safety in Walsall.

In order to ensure our performance is both of a high level and effectively monitored we will ensure that the following is in place:

- Strategic priorities and objectives that matter most to the local community.
- Secure resources and use budgets to deliver programmes that have maximise impact.
- Periodic reviews of service and performance.
- Performance targets which are challenging but deliverable and effectively monitored.
- Investment in and training provided for partnership staff, Councillors and volunteers to better respond to local crime issues.

A key aspect this year has been getting to grips with the performance management of the new National Indicator Set (NIS). Six Safer Walsall Partnership indicators are in the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and we need to make sure we manage our performance against the targets for these key priorities. During 2008/09 and moving into 2009/10 we have been monitoring our performance quarterly against all the NIS outcomes. This enables us to identify any risks involved with achieving targets and to take any required corrective actions. Walsall Council has established a Walsall Performance Framework into which the data monitored by the Safer Partnership is fed.

The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) is the new national performance management framework that came into force on 1 April 2009. It will assess how successfully local public services are working together through local strategic partnerships to deliver improvement on key outcomes for local people based on local priorities.

The CAA combines the perspectives of the seven national partner inspectorates to provide a joint assessment of outcomes for people in an area and a forward look at prospects for sustainable improvement.

For the first time, local public services will be held collectively to account for their impact on better outcomes. This means that CAA will look across Councils, health bodies, police forces, fire and rescue services and others responsible for local public services, which are increasingly expected to work in partnership to tackle the challenges facing their communities.

Hence, annually in November, partnerships will receive an 'area assessment' conveying the picture of how successfully key outcomes for the community are being met. Alongside this the Council and other key partners will receive 'organisational assessments' detailing how effective individual public services are contributing to that success. Safer Walsall Partnership feeds into this process and reiterates the importance of performance managing the data to obtain the best possible outcomes.

The Home Office has the lead responsibility for the performance management of crime, community safety and policing. The principles underpinning their approach are as follows:

- To focus on the priorities set out in the PSAs for 2008-2011.
- To use the LAA as a driver for improved performance.
- To work with other government departments to ensure closer partnership working.
- To reflect the importance of performance on crime and community safety on the public's overall sense of well being.
- To provide timely, regular and accurate information to the public.

The Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) will monitor performance in a way that reflects the relative seriousness of offences. The ethos of APACS is to ensure that all crime reduction services are effective, provide value for money and evaluate whether they are perceived by service users to be as such.

Roles and Responsibilities of Partner Agencies

Walsall MBC

As the Local Authority, Walsall Council has a number of core functions and as a responsible authority community safety has to be a key consideration in each of these functions.

The Crime and Disorder Act Section 17 states that:

"Without prejudice to any other obligations imposed upon it, it shall be the duty of each authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all it reasonably can, to prevent crime and disorder in its area."

West Midlands Police

The Police Service's role in community safety is of primary importance at all levels. The mission of the Police Service remains to protect and reassure the public, to prevent and reduce crime, to maintain order and bring criminals to justice.

The vision of West Midlands Police is to reduce crime and disorder and make our communities feel safer. In line with the Policing Pledge we will work closely with our partners to ensure we engage with the local community in order to prioritise what the local issues are. We will ensure that there are regular updates on the progress of local crime and policing issues and that these are given using a variety of means.

The Police Service is responsible for producing a Local Policing Plan which sets out, following consultation with the community, their local priorities. This ensures that national targets are localised and become a key part of delivering effective performance.

NHS Walsall

NHS Walsall is a responsible authority that works across many aspects of community safety and crime reduction. The Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) is a service provided by NHS Walsall and an important part of Safer Walsall Partnership is supporting NHS Walsall to deliver health improvement by commissioning services for substance misusers.

The DAAT is a partnership of health, police, probation and local authority departments that implement the National Drug Strategy locally, to reduce the impact of drugs on young people and families, their community, interrupt supply and provide treatment for users of drugs and alcohol. It enables the wider partnership to communicate effectively with communities and assists to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.

West Midlands Fire Service

Working towards a vision of 'making the West Midlands safer', West Midlands Fire Service has a major statutory role to play in community safety.

The Fire Service has responsibility for producing and implementing an annual service plan which includes targets and information on how the service will work with other partners, notably in the areas of arson and road safety.

Walsall Partnership

Walsall Partnership is Walsall's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and is the overarching partnership for the Borough. LSPs are non-statutory, multi-agency partnerships and exist in all local authority areas in England and Wales. Walsall Partnership brings together a wide range of partners including Council, Police, Health, Fire Service, Housing, the community and voluntary sector and the private sector to jointly agree the key local priorities for the Borough and identify programmes of activity to impact on these priorities. By bringing partners together, Walsall partnership aims to deliver improved joined-up services and ensures resources are utilised effectively and efficiently."

Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)

Registered Providers have taken full advantage of the new tools and powers issued to them in the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime committed in their localities. Already fully active in the CDRP, there is also a borough wide Landlords Respect Group working together to share good practice and expertise and which now provides opportunities to link resources and take advantage of successful initiatives.

Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)

The 42 Criminal Justice Boards in England and Wales were established non-statutorily in 2003 and were based on police force and criminal justice areas.

Membership comprises Chief Police Officers, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), HM Courts Service, the Prison Service, the Probation Service and the Youth Offending Service. Local Criminal Justice Boards are responsible for joining up the Criminal Justice System (CJS) at a local level. They work together to bring more offences to justice, to improve the effectiveness of trials, to improve the experience of victims and witnesses, and to drive delivery of the Persistent Young Offenders Pledge and PPO CJS Premium Service.

In the West Midlands, the Board operates through the work of Local Criminal Justice Groups based at borough level. Membership of these varies but always consists of senior officers from the police, CPS, courts and probation. The LCJGs focus on what happens to cases when they enter the formal criminal justice process.

The National Probation Service

The National Probation Service is a law enforcement agency and public authority which works with offenders and forms part of the National Offender Management Service (NOMS). It is a key statutory service working in partnership with police, prisons, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), courts, local authorities, health, education, housing and a wide range of independent and voluntary sector partners. Probation staff work with offenders from their first appearance in court to beyond the completion of their sentence. They challenge offender's behaviour and attitudes to encourage them to make real changes in their lives. Their aim is to reduce reoffending and to protect the public.

Walsall Probation District supervises 1,500 offenders from its complex in Midland Road, as well as servicing Walsall Magistrates court with a team of probation staff. In addition West Midlands Probation Victims Unit offers support, guidance and information to any victim of any offender who receives a minimum 12 month custodial sentence for a sexual or violent offence.

Children's Trusts

Children's Trusts bring together all services for children and young people in an area, underpinned by the Children's Act 2004 duty to cooperate, to focus on improving outcomes for all children and young people. The terms 'Children's Trust' and 'Children's Trust arrangements' also include the concept of the totality of change needed to deliver better and more responsive integrated services — a change process that is still ongoing.

The Children's Plan: "Building brighter futures" sets high expectations for Children's Trusts to deliver measurable improvements for all children and young people and, in support of this, to have in place by 2010 consistent, high quality arrangements to provide identification and early intervention for all children and young people who need additional help. The Trust will commission targeted and specialist services that will have maximum impact on the lives of children and young people and have the voice of children and young people at their centre. CDRPs should engage with Children's Trusts and support their preventative work. The overall aim of the Trust is early intervention before more serious problems develop.

Walsall Youth Offending Service

Youth Offending Teams and the Youth Offending Service were created under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. They are a holistic youth justice service that brings together both secondees from education, health, social services, police, probation service and a wide range of resources.

The focus of the YOS is to address all the factors that may bring a young person into the criminal justice system therefore preventing possible or future re-offending. Young people are made to take responsibility for their actions. Victims of youth crime are listened to and parent/carers are held to account for their child's (ren's) actions.

The Third Sector

The third sector makes a vital contribution to community safety and should be ever more seen as an essential resource that should be actively utilised by the CDRP.

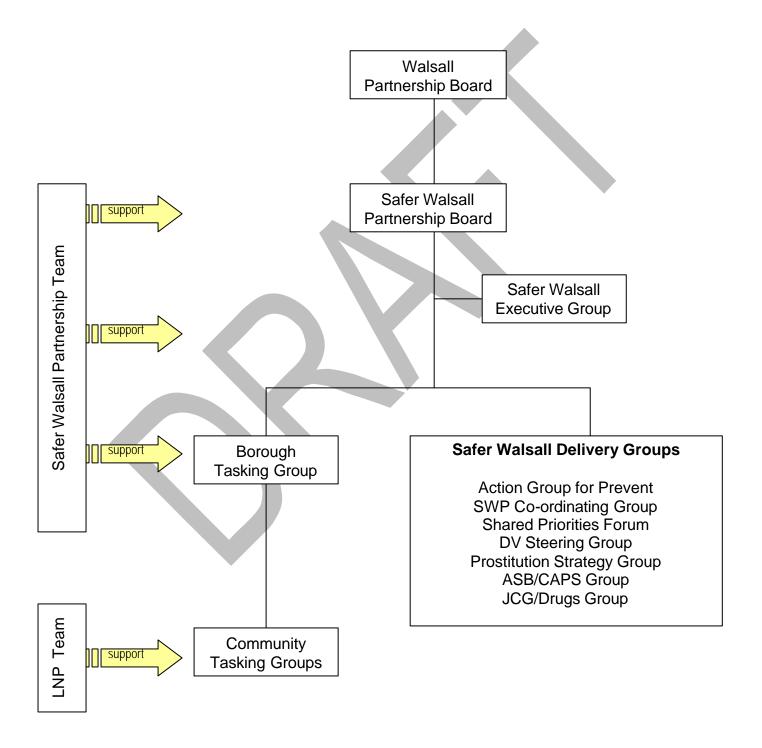
Central Government has implemented a programme to build the capacity of third sector organisations at a local level. The aim of the programme is to promote and build relationships between local organisations, the local authority and the third sector. Groups like Neighbourhood Watch are playing a key role in increasing community safety and engaging all sections of society.

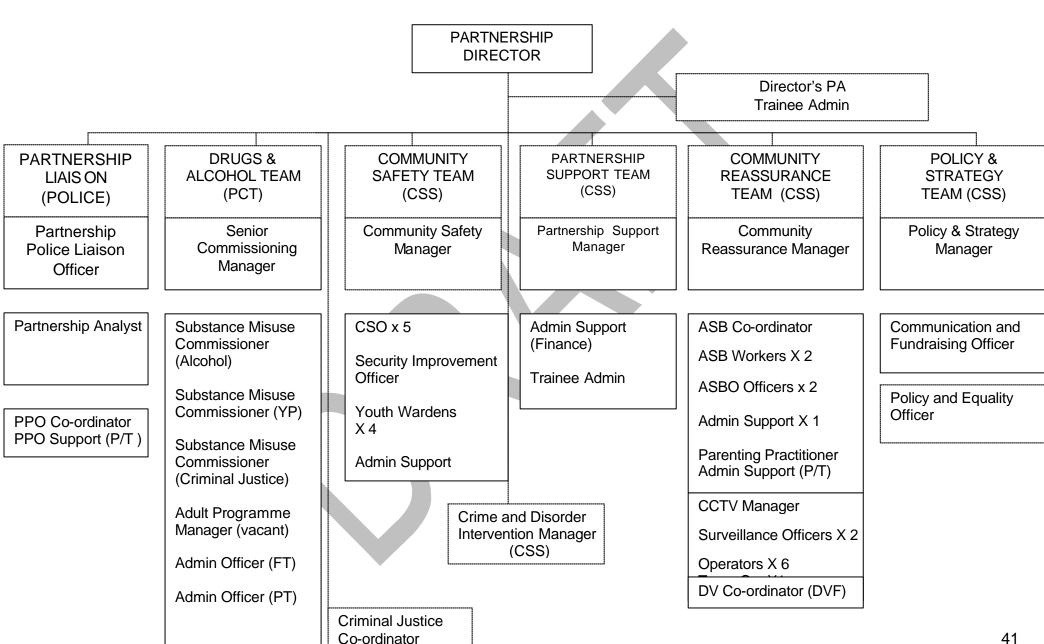
The Business Community

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 obliges CDRPs to invite representatives of the local business communities to become involved in the development and implementation of community safety strategies. It is therefore essential that businesses play a role in shaping the direction of the CDRP to ensure that business crime is addressed. With such an involvement however comes some responsibility in that the business community should work with the partnership to reduce crime and disorder and ensure that both crime and intelligence are appropriately reported.



SAFER WALSALL GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY STRUCTURE





Our Achievements during 2005-2008

There were a number of major successes against the 2005-2008 targets, these notably include a huge increase in the number of people accessing drug treatment services, a significant reduction in the number of malicious false calls, a well above target increase in hate crime reporting and a well above target reduction in acquisitive crime. The achievements against the targets in the Crime and Disorder and Misuse of Drugs Strategy 2005-2008 were as follows:

Target / Priority	Achievements	
A reduction in total recorded crime of 20%	18.2% ?	
A reduction in overall acquisitive crime of 15%	34.4% ?	
A reduction in overall ASB of 25%	4.2% ?	
A reduction in overall youth crime of 20%	4%?	
A reduction of young people reported as victims of 20%	16.6%?	
A reduction in crime relating to the misuse of drugs by 15%	34.6% ?	
A reduction in crime relating to the misuse of alcohol by 25%	5.8% ?	
A reduction in overall levels of fear of crime of 5%	Unchanged??	
Increase the level of hate crime reporting by 15%	33.4%?	
A reduction in the level of repeat victims of domestic abuse of 15%	13.6%?	
A reduction of malicious outdoor fires of 30%	20% ?	
A reduction in the number of malicious false calls of 10%	40% ?	
A reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads of 12%	5.7% ?	
An increase in the number of people accessing drug treatment services who are retained for more than 12 weeks.	261.7% ?	
Key: Green: Achieved Amber: Just Under Red	: Not Achieved	

Appendix 5

Glossary of abbreviations

ABC Acceptable Behaviour Contract

APACS Assessment of Policing and Community Safety

ASB Anti-social Behaviour
BME Black and Minority Ethnic
ASBO Anti-social Behaviour Order

BVPI Best Value Performance Indicator

CAG Community Action Group

CAPS Consultation and Problem Solving

CAT Community Action Tasking CCTV Closed Circuit Television

CDRP Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

CPS Crime Prosecution Service
DART Domestic Abuse Response Team
DAAT Drug and Alcohol Action Team
DIP Drug Intervention Programme
DPPO Designated Public Place Order

DV Domestic Violence
FPN Fixed Penalty Notice
HCCU High Crime Causing Users

IDOM Integrated Diversion and Offender Management

ISO Individual Support Order

LA Local Authority

LAA Local Area Agreement
LCJB Local Criminal Justice Board
LNP Local Neighbourhood Partnership

MAPPA Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MARAC Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

NHW Neighbourhood Watch NI National Indicator

NTA National Treatment Agency

NTE Night Time Economy
PCT Primary Care Trust
Public Notice for Disc

PND Public Notice for Disorder PSA Public Service Agreement

PPO Prolific and other Priority Offenders

RSL Registered Social Landlord
RTA Road Traffic Accident
SA Strategic Assessment
WHG Walsall Housing Group
YCAP Youth Crime Action Plan
YIP Youth Inclusion Programme

YISP/YISP+ Youth Intervention Support Programme

YJB Youth Justice Board
YJS Youth Justice System
YOT Youth Offending Team
YOS Youth Offending Service

YTD Year to Date