

Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Annual Report 2015-16

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Foreword

Dear residents, workers and visitors of County Durham and Darlington,

In May 2016 I was re-elected as Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington. I was, of course, delighted that people re-affirmed their trust in me; with that trust comes great responsibility.

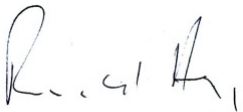
I have thoroughly enjoyed working with partners in a variety of organisations this year, in the public, private and voluntary sectors. From signing an agreement to work together to combat cyber-fraud with my colleagues in Northumbria and Cleveland and the Institute of Directors in February, to commissioning services from organisations in the voluntary sector, it has been inspiring to see the good work that takes place across our area to prevent crime and keep communities safe. Of course, I work very closely with Durham Constabulary. Under the excellent leadership of Chief Constable Mike Barton, they were the only force in the country to be awarded 'outstanding' in two of the three police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy assessments undertaken by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary during the year, which all Forces are subject to. We have been pleased to be able to say, as a consequence, that Durham Constabulary is the best police force in the country. Whilst extremely proud of that status, I am well aware that it will be a real challenge to maintain it.

I am conscious of the need to continue to impress upon the Government how vital it is that police funding is set at a level which enables the Constabulary to keep communities safe.

I have worked hard to be able to spend time with people from all over County Durham and Darlington. I have attended a lot of local meetings and I will continue to listen to local people over the coming years. It is only by really understanding the issues and concerns facing local people that I am able to set objectives for the Police, our partners and for my own office.

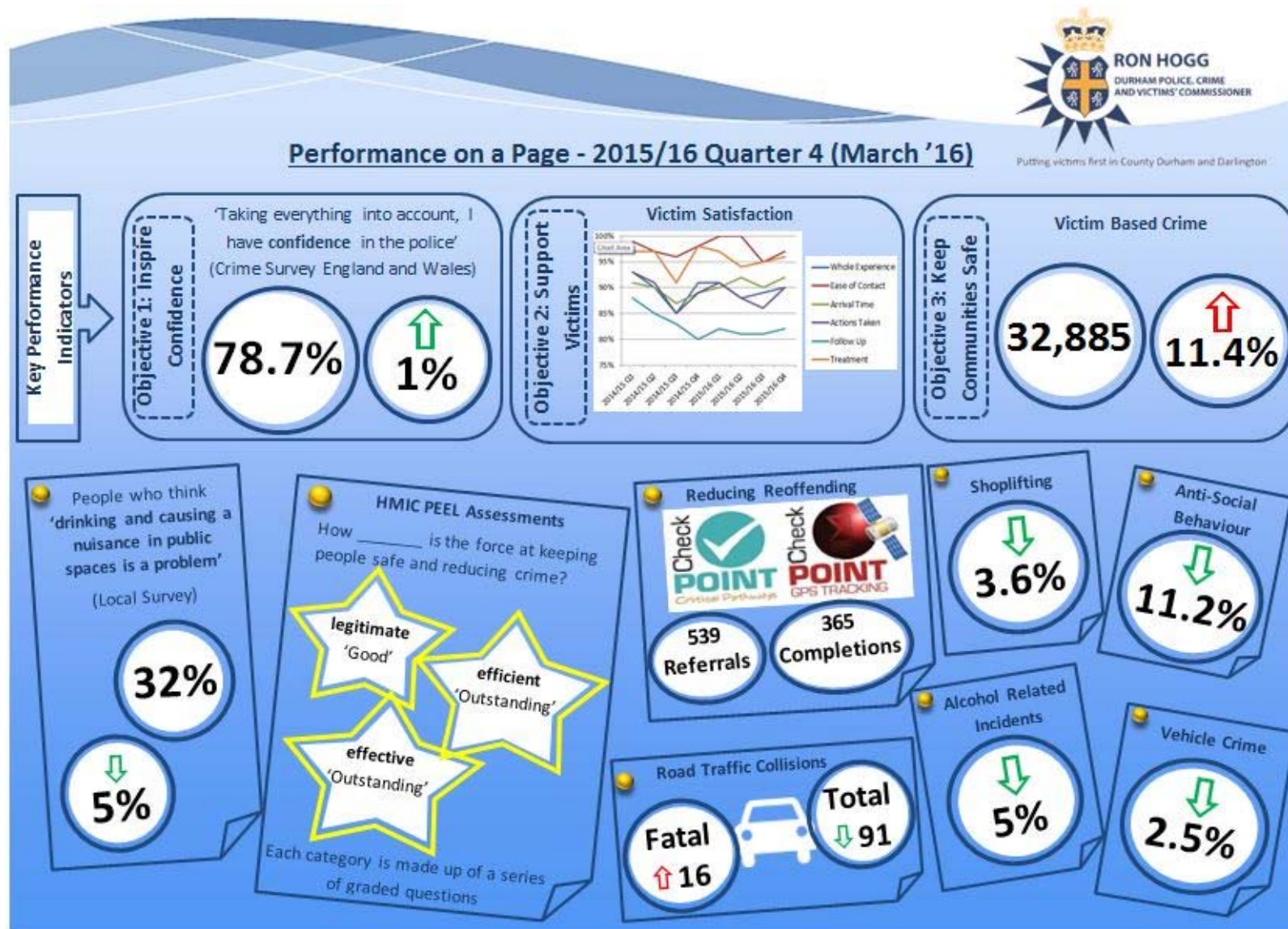
Straight after the election in May 2016, I changed my everyday job title to 'Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner' to emphasise how important it is to me to focus on the interests of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. This Annual Report covers the period April 2015-March 2016 and I have therefore used the term 'Police and Crime Commissioner', or PCC, throughout the report. It will be clear from reading the report that supporting victims was a key element of my role then, as it will be in the future.

It is a privilege to be your elected representative and I will continue to put all my efforts into delivering my duties on your behalf.



Ron Hogg

The Year in Numbers – Key Achievements of 2015-16



Fulfilling the Role of Police Crime Commissioner and Delivering the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17

I set out my objectives in the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17. This Annual Report sets out the progress made towards achieving those objectives between 1st April 2015 and 31st March 2016.

I have overall responsibility for securing an **efficient** and **effective Police Force**. I am responsible for appointing the Chief Constable who is in turn responsible for the operation of the Police Service. As Police and Crime Commissioner, I:

- set the direction for Durham Constabulary through the **Police and Crime Plan**, and set the **budget** and **precept** for policing;
- **hold the Chief Constable to account**, on behalf of local people, for the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan;
- **commission local services** to help cut crime and improve community safety; and
- represent the **views of local people** and ensure that they **have a voice in policing**.

In 2015 I refreshed my Police and Crime Plan. The Plan includes the vision:

‘inspire confidence in policing by ensuring efficient and effective services are delivered to support victims and keep all our communities safe.’

The Police and Crime Plan contains four key objectives which collectively encompass the vision. Under each objective, I set out a range of key areas of focus which I believe should be addressed in order to achieve the objective, and in turn deliver the vision.

This document sets out each of the Police and Crime Plan objectives and reports the progress made towards their achievement.

The objectives and associated key areas of focus are shown below.

Objective 1: Inspire confidence

Key areas of focus:

- Improve **engagement** across the Constabulary area.
- Make our policing service **visible and accessible**.

Objective 2: Support victims

Key areas of focus:

- Commission effective, appropriate and efficient **services for victims**.
- Deliver the regional **Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy**.
- Reduce the incidence and impact of **domestic abuse** in all its forms.
- Reduce the impact of **hate crime**.

Objective 3: Keep all our communities safe

Key areas of focus:

- Deliver the **Strategic Policing Requirement** and understand and tackle **emerging threats**.
- Tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by **alcohol and drugs**.
- Tackle **anti-social behaviour**.
- Improve **road safety** by tackling careless and dangerous driving, speeding and other related road safety issues.
- Work with partners to improve the service provided to those with poor **mental health** (victims and offenders).

I also identified **‘reducing reoffending’** as a cross cutting area of focus which impacts upon each of the above objectives.

Objective 4: Deliver an efficient policing service

Key areas of focus:

- **Value for money**.
- **Robust accountability** and **performance management**.

Objective 1 – Inspire Confidence

Public confidence in the police force is vitally important. When communities are confident and cohesive, people feel safer and are more likely to report a crime. I want communities to feel that they can trust the police.

In my Police and Crime Plan I identified two **key areas of focus** to help achieve this objective:

- Improve my **engagement** with the communities across County Durham and Darlington.
- Make our policing service more **visible and accessible** at all times.

The Constabulary worked with Durham University to study what factors affect confidence locally and they then developed the detailed local survey for our area. I have used the *public confidence* measure from the local survey to measure progress against this objective.

The results of the local survey data for confidence are as follows:

Measures	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
People who think that the police do a good job	62%	70%	69%
People who have confidence in the police	71%	74%	74%

The Constabulary implemented a number of initiatives within a new confidence plan, which initially had a positive impact. However, over the past 12 months the percentage of people who have reported having confidence in the police and believing the police do a good job has remained relatively stable, as opposed to continuing to increase.

Both the Constabulary and I also use data from the Crime Survey England and Wales (CSEW) to assess public confidence. It uses slightly different and fewer survey questions, and is carried out across the country so that it is possible to compare police forces.

The latest data from the CSEW (December 2015) shows that there has been a slow, gradual increase in the percentage of people who have reported having confidence in the police over the past 9 months, and Durham Constabulary has mirrored this pattern at a continually higher level than the national average.

In the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17, I said '*Durham Constabulary should be one of the top performing forces in relation to public confidence*'. Based upon the national CSEW data over the last five years, Durham's confidence rates have increased from 69% to 79%, and the national position has moved from 31st to 18th. Also, the percentage of people who think that the 'police do a good job' has increased from 56% to 64%, which is reflected in a move from 30th to 16th in the national positions.

Confidence rates are particularly hard to increase due to external factors, and in some areas of the country confidence rates have fallen. I am satisfied with the activity which the Chief Constable undertakes to address confidence issues within our communities, and the fantastic results and praise which the Constabulary receive from HMIC regarding their work demonstrates the strength of the force in this area.

Further details of progress towards achieving the key areas of focus are in the next sections of this report.

Key area of focus: improve my engagement with the communities across County Durham and Darlington

I have been to over 150 events and activities over the past year. These include PCC Community Days, County Durham Area Action Partnerships (AAPs), community events, and a variety of seminars and conferences. A map showing how these meetings were distributed across the area can be found at Appendix Two to this report.

I have introduced my **Community Day Programme**. Through the programme, I visit a community for a whole day, attend local groups, and meet with local businesses and projects. This immersive approach helps to give me a real understanding of life within that community. I use my time with the community to listen to local concerns, comments and views, so that I can take forward their opinion. I then use all of this community information/ intelligence to help develop the Police and Crime Plan and the achievement of the key areas of focus.

In October 2015 I hosted the 'PCC's Celebration of Superheroes' family event at Sedgefield Racecourse. The event brought together our local superheroes from across a range of emergency services, including the Police, the Fire and Rescue Service, HM Coast Guard, Mountain Rescue, and key voluntary and community sector partners such as the Cornforth Partnership, Community Hands, Stanley Women's Centre, and many more. The organisations were able to showcase the excellent work that they do, and to provide insight into some of the hidden aspects of their roles. I was overwhelmed by the success



of the event, as over 1250 visitors came along. It was fantastic to see families having fun and engaging with all of the interactive activities, whilst learning about our excellent services.

Residents within some **rural communities** raised concerns with me, and in response I held a series of Rural Crime Forums to explore their concerns. The forums resulted in the development of the **Rural Crime and Policing Statement 2016-2021**. This Statement sets out both mine and the Constabulary's commitment to address crime and anti-social behaviour in rural areas.

I have given a stronger emphasis to working with the **business** community. I signed a landmark agreement to work together to combat crime against businesses along with my regional counterparts and the North East Institute of Directors in February 2016. The Agreement says that businesses and the Police will work together to share information about trends in crime, that we will explore how to investigate fraud jointly, and we will provide comprehensive advice to businesses about preventing crime and how to engage with employees to combat crime.

I have continued to use **social media** and the internet to engage with the community. During 2015-16, the number of Facebook followers has increased by over 50% to 3120 and the number of Twitter followers has increased by 48% to 3495.



I believe that **volunteers** can bring strength to an organisation, through their skills and knowledge. I am very grateful to the skilled Independent Custody Visitors who are responsible for visiting and inspecting, on my behalf, the police stations within the Constabulary area that have custody suites to ensure that they are fit for use and that any detainees are treated well. During 2015, the custody visitors undertook 150 visits to custody suites.

Volunteers are involved in the delivery of **restorative justice**; more detail can be found in the cross cutting 'reducing re-offending' key area of focus section.

I have funded the **Community Peer Mentor** scheme in Darlington, in partnership with Darlington Borough Council, which supports those who feel vulnerable and isolated owing

to anti-social behaviour or neighbourhood disputes, perceived or real; more detail can be found in the 'tackle anti-social behaviour' key area of focus section of this document.

Key area of focus: make our police service visible and accessible at all times

Neighbourhood policing is at the heart of policing in Durham and Darlington.

My Police and Crime Plan 2015-17 states that I want the Chief Constable to:

- Prioritise neighbourhood policing to continue to make our policing more visible and accessible.
- Continue to develop the Police's engagement activities, to:
 - increase public awareness;
 - ensure how our communities know how to access policing services and the levels of service that can be expected; and
 - promote performance.

Being visible, approachable and accountable to local communities is important in sustaining public confidence in the police.

I echo the findings and welcome the comments received in the HMIC PEEL Inspection Legitimacy Report, in which inspectors stated:

'...we found that engagement is at the heart of the policing model in Durham Constabulary. It is both innovative and comprehensive, providing a thorough understanding of the issues affecting the community. The importance of engagement is understood at all levels of the organisation and the leadership of the Chief Constable in this area of business is impressive. As a result, we believe that engagement in Durham Constabulary is both sustainable and effective.'

I am keen to look at innovative and creative solutions to continue to deliver neighbourhood policing. An excellent example of this is the introduction of **Community Safety Responders** in County Durham during 2015. They work for Durham Constabulary as PCSOs, for County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service as retained firefighters and as first responders for the North East Ambulance Service. This is the first scheme of its kind in the North East and is believed to be only the second project of its kind in the Country.

The Constabulary is keen to maintain appropriate staffing numbers to continue to deliver excellent neighbourhood policing services across County Durham and Darlington. I

welcomed the recruitment activity undertaken by the Constabulary during 2015-16, which saw 13 Special Constables, 27 PCSOs and 56 Police Constables recruited.

The Constabulary also continues to use skilled volunteers to help deliver their services and achieve excellent outcomes. Volunteers undertake a wide range of tasks, contributing to Neighbourhood Watch, Farm Watch, support for victims, restorative justice and community speedwatch schemes, as well as Special Police Constables, who undertake the same roles as other Police Officers. The Constabulary currently has 166 active police volunteers, plus 92 Special Constables.

The Constabulary have continued to develop their **engagement activities** to inform the community of ways of accessing police services. Their engagement activities have included:

- **PACT (Police and Communities Together)** – local meetings between residents and their local police officers. The Constabulary, with my support have undertaken a review of their PACT meetings to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and value for money.
- The Constabulary is also going out to **meet the public in the community**. They regularly go to community centres, post offices, local events, sports classes, baby groups etc.
- **Mutual Gain** - The programme is designed to improve community engagement and build social capital within the communities. The Constabulary have moved in to the second phase of the Mutual Gain Programme, by expanding into four additional areas of the Constabulary area.
- I have continued to support the Constabulary initiatives of **Mini Police** and the **Police Cadets**, which increase youth engagement and the participation of young people. The Mini Police currently involves 850 primary school children, across 43 schools, with another 24 schools scheduled to join the scheme during 2016-17.
- The Constabulary continue to build their use of **social and online media**. They have over 53,000 Facebook Likes on the main Constabulary page, an increase of over 10,000 in the past year, and over 33,000 Twitter followers, an increase of 3,000.

Objective 2 – Support Victims

Any crime can have a significant impact upon the life of the victim, those closest to them, on witnesses and on occasion the wider community. Those who have been affected can feel vulnerable and anxious for the future.

In the Police and Crime Plan I identified the following **key areas of focus** to help achieve this objective:

- Commission effective, appropriate and efficient **services for victims**.
- Deliver the **Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy**.
- Reduce the incidence and impact of **domestic abuse**.
- Reduce the impact of **hate crime**.

I use the *victim satisfaction* measure from the Constabulary's local survey to measure progress against this objective. The Police and Crime Plan included an **outcome measure** that '*victims of crime in County Durham and Darlington should have high levels of satisfaction for the service they receive.*'

The results of the local survey are as follows:

Measure	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	PCC Verdict
Victims who are satisfied with their 'whole' experience	89%	90%	90%	😊

It is extremely positive to report that the satisfaction of victims in Durham with their 'whole experience' has been maintained at a very high level for another year, with Durham Constabulary currently ranked the 3rd highest police force in the country. Despite this, both myself and the Chief Constable are not complacent and would like to see this percentage increase. Therefore, I also monitor victim satisfaction with ease of contact,

arrival time, actions taken, follow up and treatment, and discuss these at my meetings with the Constabulary Executive Team in order to identify any improvements that need to be made.

The Constabulary is also collating victim satisfaction data specific to victims of domestic and sexual violence and hate crime. These are often crimes which require a more specialist response; therefore receiving feedback from victims on their experiences is extremely important. Due to the nature of these crimes and the low numbers of reported hate crimes, there is only a small amount of data available so far.

Victim satisfaction of those reporting incidents of anti-social behaviour are also collected separately, as these incidents can also be treated differently to crimes. Satisfaction for these incidents is slightly lower. You can read more about anti-social behaviour later in this report.

In addition to the excellent Constabulary satisfaction data, I am also pleased to see that Durham Constabulary's commitment to Total Victim Care is also strongly embedded in the culture of the organisation.

This is further endorsed in the findings of the HMIC Peel 'effectiveness' assessment, which stated:

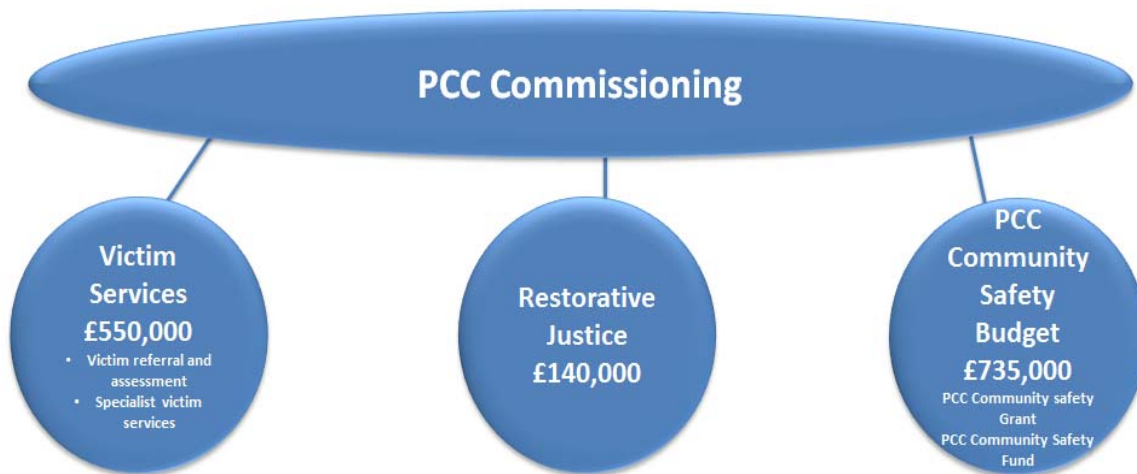
'The service to victims of crime is clearly very important to Durham Constabulary. Officers we interviewed demonstrated a commitment to a high level of victim care, which included regular contact to update the victim on progress in their case.'

The Constabulary were rated as GOOD.

Further details of specific activity and progress towards the achievement of the key areas of focus are in the next sections of this report.

Key Area of Focus: commission effective, appropriate and efficient services for victims

I am responsible for commissioning a range of community safety services using a combination of funding streams. This money sits outside of my core operating budget. Some of these funding streams were new in 2015/16 and some were previously directed to local authorities and other agencies. The funding available is illustrated below:



In the Police and Crime Plan I said I would continue to monitor the use of the **Victims Code**. A task and finish group has been established and adherence to the code has been included in the accountability structure and outcomes for VCAS.

- **Specialist Victims' Services** – Working together with partners I have identified gaps in the network of services, and have taken steps to fill them by commissioning:
 - Counselling support for victims of rape and sexual assault.
 - Mental health and well-being support service for victims.

The new Victim Care and Advice service will help to identify gaps in provision and where specialist services are needed.

- **Restorative Justice** – I have appointed a Restorative Justice Coordinator for Durham and another for Darlington. The Coordinators ensure that a consistent and coordinated victim-led approach is available across the Constabulary Area. Further details of their work can be found in the 'Reducing Reoffending' key area of focus of this report.

Victim Services include:

- **Victim referral and assessment** – During 2015/16 I have worked with the PCC in Cleveland to commission the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS). This will be delivered by Safe in Tees Valley during 2016-2018. An outcomes framework has been developed with partners to inform the accountability structure for VCAS.



Key Area of Focus: deliver the Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

Together with the other two PCCs in the North East, I launched the first ever regional strategy to end violence against women and girls in 2013. We developed a 20 point action plan to protect and provide support for women and girls who are victims of violence and abuse of any kind. This includes pledges around:

- Domestic abuse
- Harassment and stalking
- Human trafficking and sex work
- Forced marriage and so-called honour crimes
- Female genital mutilation

In the Police and Crime Plan I said I would:

- ask the Chief Constable to deliver the policing aspects of the strategy
- work with partners to deliver the strategy as it is wider than policing and it needs a coordinated approach
- monitor progress

Monitoring and delivering aspects of the strategy is now a core item within the delivery structures of the Community Safety Partnerships, as well as for all three PCCs.

I am committed to developing **awareness raising** events for domestic abuse and sexual abuse in the workplace. Examples of this include:

- A 'Two Years On' event to showcase the achievements of the strategy across the region. A progress brochure was produced which documented all of the achievements relating to the strategy in more detail. The brochure can be downloaded at [Violence-against-Women-Strategy-Durham-2-years-on-Dec-2015.pdf](#)
- A regional Business and Crime Summit with the Institute of Directors, was organised which raised awareness of domestic abuse and sexual abuse in the workplace.
- I have commissioned Changing Lives to produce research into the scale of sex work within the Constabulary area, to develop a further understanding.

Activities which I have supported

- The Rape Scrutiny Panel is now well established and scrutinises case files that have failed to obtain the requisite level for prosecution. The panel has recently published its first Annual Report and the Constabulary are producing an action

plan in response to the recommendations. The report is available at <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Document-Library/Scrutiny/Rape-Scrutiny-Panel-Report-15.01.2016.pdf>

- I have funded a live link service from our Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC) which means that victims can be interviewed and cross-examined without the need to go to court. This enables the victim to give quality evidence in a safe environment without facing the perpetrator. This system has been recognised nationally for its innovation and increases to the number of prosecutions.
- I have supported the HALO project to assist victims of honour based violence and female genital mutilation. I also commissioned HALO to provide training in how to support victims and to date approximately 400 police officers and other agencies have participated in the training.
- Partners have worked closely with police intelligence, Barnardos, and Changing Lives to understand the profile of Human Trafficking and sexual exploitation. This includes, a group of seven Soroptimist Clubs working together across the North East to bring the UN GIFT Box to the North East to raise awareness of human trafficking and sexual exploitation and campaign for organisations to work together to root out this appalling practice.

The Constabulary's activities

- The Constabulary have set up the 'ERASE team' aiming to increase intelligence about sexual exploitation, improving response and early intervention.
- Durham Constabulary is the first UK force to adopt 'Intervene to Protect a Child', a child protection initiative from the US. It sensitises front line professionals to potential child sexual exploitation by applying the principles of forensic behavioural analysis to their routine interactions. More than 400 frontline Durham Constabulary officers and 250 multi-agency frontline professionals from across the North East have undertaken the training.
- Both Durham and Darlington have a MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) which are central points for agencies to share concerns about safeguarding issues. This enables

proactive working as the agencies are co-located, enabling the sharing of intelligence, and facilities to make decisions swiftly, helping to protect those most vulnerable.

- The Constabulary have developed Safeguarding Training for personnel working in the night-time economy. 150 people have received training including bar staff, door

supervisors, Durham Street Angels, Consett Street Friends, Student Welfare officers and student bar staff from Durham University.

- The Constabulary have developed Domestic and Sexual Abuse and the Workplace Strategy, under which individuals can sign up to become Domestic Abuse Work Place Champions and over 850 champions have signed up so far in 2015/16.

Key areas of Focus: reduce the incidence and impact of domestic abuse.

1 in 4 women will experience domestic abuse at some point in their lifetime, and there is evidence that it is **under-reported**: 14,963 incidents of domestic abuse were notified to Durham Constabulary in the 12 months to the end of March 2016. I am keen to encourage victims to report such events.

Men can also be victims, whether in same-sex relationships or heterosexual relationships. Data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales in 2012-13 suggest that **for every five victims, three will be female and two will be male.**

During 2015-16 HMIC inspected all forces on how effective they are at protecting those who are vulnerable from harm and supporting victims, as part of the PEEL Effectiveness (vulnerability) Inspection. Durham Constabulary was one of 12 police forces to be judged to be GOOD at protecting those who are vulnerable from harm and supporting victims. No force was judged to be outstanding

The Constabulary continues to develop the way that it works with partners to support victims and to protect those who are vulnerable to harm

Training

I commissioned a Knowledge Transfer Project (KTP) between Durham University, Durham Constabulary, and an academic associate to facilitate innovative training. The project researched the frontline police response to victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). It identified areas to be improved within their response and then built these into an innovative drama-based training package. This combined academic knowledge alongside Constabulary resources and has produced a successful training programme for the police and partners. All front line officers have now been trained, and we are looking to roll out the training to partners.

Durham Constabulary is a member of the Home Office working group to establish a national victim survey for domestic abuse. Much of the work with the Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Durham University will be used to shape the national victim survey.

In the Police and Crime Plan I said that I would like to support the **training strategy** and **action plan** for domestic abuse, sexual violence and vulnerability groups within both Community Safety Partnerships. The groups have facilitated the launch of a new initiative which focuses on seeing domestic abuse 'through the eyes of the child', where front line officers are focussing on children in domestic abuse incidents.

The Constabulary works with partners

I said that I would like the Constabulary to continue to work with partners to tackle the causes of domestic abuse. In partnership the Constabulary have:

- Created a comprehensive 'Domestic Abuse Policy and Procedures' document which organisations can choose to adopt instead of developing their own.
- Ensured that Clare's Law is now well embedded with 199 applications being processed in 2015-16, a 56% increase from the year before.
- Worked to increase the referrals to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), where partner agencies work together to try and minimise the risk of repeat victimisation of high risk victims. A review into the MARAC process has just begun to ensure that it is as effective as possible.

Durham Constabulary has been successful in securing funding for two years to pilot an innovative team to tackle and reduce domestic abuse. In coordination with the MASHs, the focus is on pro-active intervention for serial victims and serial perpetrators. The team will also utilise innovative tools such as restorative approach, Clare's Law and Domestic Violence Prevention Orders.

Durham Constabulary has secured additional funding, via the Police Innovation Fund to establish a dedicated domestic abuse innovation team. One of their priorities is to improve the response and support provided to victims assessed as being at standard and medium risk of harm. This problem solving approach helps to reduce the number of repeat victims and perpetrators.

I have worked with the Public Health teams to map services and undertake a contract review of domestic abuse service providers.

Collaborative work between the Constabulary and academics at Durham University published research into the use of Restorative Justice in cases of domestic abuse, which was presented at a conference entitled '**Policing domestic abuse - what does 'justice' look like?**' Key partners discussed various scenarios to decide when it is and is not appropriate to use a Restorative Approach and what kind of approach is suitable, and recommendations were presented to the Chief Constable.

Key areas of Focus: reduce the impact of hate crime.

Hate crime occurs when someone becomes a victim of crime because of **who they are**. This can be because of their disability, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, or lifestyle choice.

Hate crime can severely affect the **quality of life** of the victim and sadly, it often goes **unreported** due to the victim's fear of repercussions from the perpetrator, the fear that no one will take them seriously, or that they will just be wasting police time. This is largely due to a lack of awareness of the subject and this is why I have made this a priority.

Seeking Views

In my Police and Crime Plan I said that I would ensure that my ongoing engagement would include seeking the views of and active engagement with diverse groups. I have:

- Run and supported a Hate Crime Action Week.
- Sponsored, attended and spoken at events such as Gay Pride in Durham.
- Commissioned and attended Show Racism the Red Card activities within schools, enabling more young people to familiarise themselves with the causes and consequences of racism and to respect the differences between people, regardless of ethnicity.
- Continued to support the Constabulary's Independent Advisory Groups (IAG), which represent the diverse sectors of our communities including Black Minority Ethnic (BME) IAG, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) IAG, Disability IAG.
- Continued to support the joint Hate Crime Group.

Raising Awareness

I have supported national and local awareness campaigns to encourage victims to come forward and report hate crimes. I have participated in events for:

- Holocaust Memorial Day;
- Hate Crime Awareness Weeks jointly with the other regional PCCs, which raise awareness and encourage reporting;
- LGBT History Month;
- International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO); and
- Transgender Awareness Week.

Scrutiny

I have taken the lead under the Local Criminal Justice Board, to engage in a joint scrutiny of the investigation process of Hate Crime in Durham and Cleveland police areas. Based upon

the recommendations measures have been put in place, including use of restorative approaches, correct identification of hate crimes and motivations behind offences, and appropriate use of language. Durham have undertaken an internal audit and I am satisfied that the appropriate measures are in place and that quality has improved.

The Joint Hate Crime Group has started to look at the 'first contact' a victim receives for a series of transphobic hate crime reports. The process involves surveying victims and obtaining organisational learning from their experiences. The group have published their first report and I am ensuring that their recommendations are implemented.

The Constabulary Approach

I said that I wanted the Constabulary to continue to work with the diverse communities of County Durham and Darlington to build trust, confidence and to encourage reporting of hate crime. In response, the Constabulary:

- Are continuing to develop the protected group community's network and utilise this to develop the community profiles;
- Have commissioned via the Joint Hate Crime Group a project to pull together representatives from relevant agencies to explore and address any barriers between the disabled community and the police;
- Have recruited a further 12 Community Cohesion Officer support volunteers, which will be tasked to work alongside the current Community Cohesion Officers and support the officers with their duties. They will advise about the quality control of hate crime, community engagement and raising awareness of hate crime;
- Continue to develop and deliver education and awareness packages:
 - Junior Neighbourhood Watch Schemes (schools received hate crime awareness packs),
 - The secondary schools/further education programme (safe choices) is now on schedule to complete hate crime sessions to 8,000 11 to 15 year olds in the current academic year,

- The college programme is on track to deliver to 3,500, 16 to 24 year olds in the current academic year. Durham Constabulary has been working with key members of the protected communities within County Durham & Darlington to deliver these sessions.

I said I wanted the Constabulary to continue to strengthen the data quality, recording and investigation of hate crime. The Constabulary has ensured the following:

- Regular quality audits are undertaken; following the initial awareness activity with staff on procedures for identification and classification of incidents and crimes were running at 92 – 96% accuracy.
- Independent Advisory Groups now scrutinise a small sample of incidents on a quarterly basis from the victim perspective and learning is fed into the organisation.
- Joint scrutiny with Crown Prosecution Service of all disability and homophobic hate crime cases that have resulted in offenders being charged now takes place.

I said that I wanted the Constabulary to continue to work with me and partners to deliver and monitor the progress of the **Joint Hate Crime Action Plan**. The action plan is well developed, and activity is continuing. Current activity has included:

- A 'Joint Cleveland and Durham Hate Crime Improving Prosecutions' group to track the victim's journey from report through to sentencing. Representation on this group includes Police, LCJB, CPS and Victim Support.
- The 'Safe Place' scheme. This scheme provides 'safe havens' in public areas for anyone feeling vulnerable or threatened and they can receive help and advice. There are around 65 locations currently signed up to the scheme across the area, with new places still joining. The group is now looking at developing within the network third party reporting as well as the continued growth of the network.
- Community Hands, a dedicated volunteer helpline number for potential victims of Hate Crime.



Objective 3 – Keep all our communities safe

Keeping all our communities safe is the essence of policing and I am committed to working with all of them. The Chief Constable and I want the communities and neighbourhoods of County Durham and Darlington to be safe and feel safe. We know that communities which are safe and feel safe are cohesive, responsive, resilient and settled. This means that they are more confident and are more likely to report crime. The knowledge and intelligence that communities provide is essential to the policing service.


Keeping County Durham and Darlington as one of the safest places in England and Wales to live, work and visit is not only a job for the Constabulary. I have established close working relationships with the Safe Durham Partnership and the Darlington Community Safety Partnership, as well as many other organisations within the public and voluntary and community sector that work to keep the communities safe.

I identified the following **key areas of focus** to help to achieve this objective:

- Deliver the **Strategic Policing Requirement** and understand and tackle **emerging threats**.
- Tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by **alcohol** and **drugs**
- Tackle **anti-social behaviour**
- Improve **road safety** by tackling careless and dangerous driving speeding and other related road safety issues.
- Work with partners to improve the service provided to those with poor **mental health** (Victims and Offenders)

I use the 'Victim based Crime' measure drawing on the Constabulary's own data to measure progress against this objective.

The performance data shows:

Measure	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	PCC Verdict
Victim Based Crime	26,535	29,275 (+2740/ +10.3%)	29,570 (+295/ +1%)	32,885 (+3370/ +11.4%)	

Victim based crime includes crimes such as violence against the person (with and without injury), sexual offences, robbery, theft offences, criminal damage and arson.

The Police and Crime Plan includes the **key outcome measure**: 'County Durham and Darlington to remain as one of the safest places to live, work and visit by having low levels of crime'

Increases in recorded crime have been seen across the country and is not unique to Durham. A large proportion of this increase has been attributed to a change in recording practices, in which the guidelines for recording violent crimes have changed. This means all incidents must be recorded if they are reported to the police, including, for example, a child pushing another child. Also, a recent change to the recording of harassment means that these offences are now immediately recorded as a crime on the receipt of the first call from a victim. Previously a number of calls would need to have been made before it would constitute harassment in the recording guidelines. If the previous monthly average for harassment is used rather than the new, increased level, reported victim-based crime can be seen to have experienced a 6% increase.

HMIC PEEL Effectiveness Inspection rated Durham Constabulary **OUTSTANDING**. The inspection consisted of the following four areas:

- Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour, and keeping people safe – **OUTSTANDING**
- Investigating crime and managing offenders – **OUTSTANDING**
- Protecting from harm those who are vulnerable and supporting victims – **GOOD**
- Tackling serious and organised crime, including arrangements for fulfilling national policing responsibilities **OUTSTANDING**

I have highly praised the Chief Constable for the excellent results received from the HMIC Inspection and welcomed the findings of the report which stated:

'Durham Constabulary is outstanding at keeping people safe and reducing crime. Its approach to preventing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour is innovative and based on finding long-term sustainable solutions. Crime is investigated thoroughly and considerable effort is placed on reducing re-offending.'

Further details of specific activity and progress towards the achievement of the key areas of focus are in the next sections of this report.

Key area of focus: deliver the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) and understand and tackle emerging threats

The SPR sets out the Home Secretary's view of the national threats and the appropriate national policing capabilities required to counter those threats. This is intended to ensure that there are sufficient capabilities in place to respond to serious and cross boundary criminality and to support the work of national agencies such as the National Crime Agency.

I included the importance of the SPR in the Police and Crime Plan to demonstrate how seriously Durham views the issues raised in the SPR.

Whilst many threats can be tackled by individual police forces within their own force areas, the SPR includes national threats of:

- terrorism;
- civil emergencies;
- serious and organised crime;
- public order;
- cyber threats;
- child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse.

These threats require a coordinated or aggregated response in which resources are brought together from a number of police forces. Forces often need to work collaboratively, and with other partners, national agencies or national arrangements, to ensure such threats are tackled effectively.

The SPR focuses on what, in strategic terms, the police need to achieve rather than how they should achieve it.

The SPR outlines the Policing requirement required to counter the threats in terms of:

- capacity
- contribution
- capability
- consistency
- connectivity

I hold the Chief Constable to account for each of these five areas. The accountability framework is reviewed regularly in meetings with the Chief Constable.

I am satisfied that the Chief Constable is delivering the SPR through targeted work and actions are in place to ensure that desired outcomes are achieved.

This has further been confirmed when HMIC undertook their effectiveness inspection as part of the PEEL Inspections and rated Durham as outstanding for tackling serious and organised crime, including arrangements for fulfilling national policing responsibilities.

The HMIC report stated

'It is beyond the scope of this inspection to assess in detail whether forces are capable of responding to the six national threats. Instead, HMIC has checked whether forces have the necessary arrangements in place to test their own preparedness for dealing with these threats, should they materialise' 'Durham Constabulary is meeting its responsibilities in respect of The Strategic Policing Requirement..... 'The Constabulary has appropriate arrangements in place to meet its national policing responsibilities and is developing a capacity to tackle cyber-enabled crime.'

The SPR sets out almost 600 capabilities, and over 600 standards across all of the areas identified. The only area where there are gaps in compliance for Durham Constabulary is Cybercrime. However, over the last 12 months, there has been considerable activity and Durham Constabulary is now fully compliant in all but only 22 specified areas. Work is ongoing to address these through the Cyber Crime Action plan, and the Chief Constable and I are confident that these will be achieved.

Durham is the only force in the region to have its own local cyber capability and not solely rely upon the NERSOU (North East Regional Serious and Organised Crime Unit), to ensure that they remain responsive and achieve optimum results. The HMIC Peel Effectiveness Report stated *'The Constabulary has expertly trained staff to monitor the threat of internet-based crime and draws on specialist volunteers to add capacity in this area.'*

Although child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse are included in the SPR, there is also some information about work that has been completed in this area under the Violence against Women and Girls section of this Annual Report.

Key Area of Focus: tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by alcohol

Alcohol cuts across the whole spectrum of policing including domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour, violent crime, and road traffic offences.

Dealing with people under the influence of alcohol is resource intensive in both time and money. Alcohol related incidents can divert officers from other issues, as additional care is needed when dealing with an intoxicated person.

Raising Awareness

We all need to raise awareness of the risks and consequences of consuming too much alcohol. The alcohol industry and the retailers have a responsibility to market and promote consumption of their products responsibly.

In July 2015, I came together with the other two North East PCCs, and local leaders to pledge our commitment to the Local Government Declaration on Alcohol, an initiative which encourages partners to work together at a local level actively to tackle problems caused by drinking. It also emphasises the importance of rebalancing licensing laws in favour of local authorities and supporting evidence-based measures to regulate the price, promotion and availability of alcohol. Leaders from other regions are keen to adopt similar initiatives.

I contributed to the regional and national licensing and Public Health forums to address affordability / availability of alcohol.

I have continued to support awareness raising activities to highlight alcohol related harm, including:

- Campaigns to introduce minimum unit pricing for alcohol;
- A campaign to lower the drink-drive limit in collaboration with the other PCCs in the region;
- The One Punch North East-launch In June 2015, in partnership with the victim's family, to raise awareness of the issue of drunken violence and how it can destroy lives;
- Partnership with Balance NE and supporting their campaigns;

- The Dead Drunk campaign, which is an education based campaign from the Constabulary's Road Policing Unit. It contains practical simulations which aim to reduce the number of pedestrian casualties who are intoxicated; and
- The Constabulary is developing an education package delivered in schools by PCSOs to highlight the effects, harm and consequences of using alcohol.

I have continued to support the County Durham Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2015-17 and the development of Darlington Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Board Substance Use Strategy.

Campaign for reform of licencing laws

I have continued to call for the Licensing Act 2003 to be reviewed. I want to secure improved recording and sharing of information and enable the views of the community to be considered. In February 2016, I hosted the 'Reduce Alcohol Related Harm Conference'. The Conference was supported by a range of organisations and over 150 people attended. The conference focused upon alcohol harm and the impact it has across the emergency services (police, fire, NHS and Ambulance service).

I am part of a national APCC working group which provides strategic support for a reform in the Licensing Act.

In addition to the conference, I have been involved in the production of a video called 'The Impact of Alcohol on the Emergency Services' which is being used to raise awareness of alcohol related harm, provide education and shine a light on the problems alcohol causes for the emergency services.

The Constabulary Approach

In the Police and Crime Plan I said that I wanted the Constabulary to continue to address alcohol related crimes and incidents, and continue the targeted activity of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit (AHRU).

I have noted some excellent initiatives including:

- Ensuring that the Checkpoint and the Multi-Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) programmes consider brief interventions to reduce people's alcohol intake;
- The introduction of the Alcohol Diversion Scheme: all people issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice for alcohol-related disorder are offered an awareness course to reduce the fine;
- Intelligence-led test purchase operations are carried out in partnership with local authority trading standards and licensing where necessary and a number of penalty notices have been issued as a result, or led to a review of a premise licence;
- The Constabulary are engaged with Alcohol Concern on a national project to reduce the risk of Domestic Homicides in the treatment of resistant drinkers. Training is to be delivered across agencies based on a Blue Light toolkit for this client group;
- Joint AHRU Durham & Darlington has continued to improve their effectiveness in the control and management of licensed premises. They have expanded their partnership working to successfully target taxi licensing, CSE hotspots, counterfeit goods, illicit alcohol and tobacco, and legal highs;

AHRU was inspected by HMIC 2015 and recognised as best practice, and is continually assessed by overview and scrutiny as highly efficient and effective.

The unit was also asked to showcase their work at the recent Global Alcohol Policy Alliance Conference.

- Operation Aries, a Constabulary-wide Community Alcohol Partnership to address alcohol issues around young people. Partners include representatives from retail. There have been over 1,000 (1,060) underage drinkers engaged with Neighbourhood Teams during 2015-16;
- I have supported the work of the City Safety Group in tackling concerns raised by river death tragedies 2014-15. Work has continued throughout 2015-16 and has included initiatives with university students to raise awareness of alcohol issues and a programme of vulnerability training from the Constabulary delivered to student groups, door supervisors, licensees and staff; and

- I was successful in lobbying the Government with the Local MPs to alter the revised police funding formula in order to take into consideration the impact that alcohol places on the Constabulary and community.



Key area of Focus: tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by drugs

We have **excellent outcome rates** in relation to drugs offences across County Durham and Darlington. The Constabulary recorded an outcome rate of 96% for the 12 months to the end of March 2016. For the rolling 12 months to the end of March, there has also been a reduction of 16% in recorded drug offences, thanks to the excellent targeted operations undertaken by the Constabulary⁷.

Public perceptions of drugs suggest there is a concern which needs to be addressed:

- 37% of people think that drug dealing and abuse is a problem, compared with 23% nationally (CSEW – See Glossary);
- During 2015/16, Durham Constabulary recorded 3,564 drug related incidents. This equates to 2% of all incidents recorded within that time period;

Durham's approach to addressing drug issues

Myself and the Chief Constable take the pragmatic view that valuable police resources are not always best used seeking and challenging low-level users of drugs. Of course if someone is caught in drug possession they will be treated in accordance with the law, but the Police have not prioritised the proactive targeting of low-level drug users. I believe that drug addicts should be given treatment and counselling to help address their addiction, whereas police resources should be used to target the drug dealers and organised crime groups.

As part of the Durham approach, I have continued to lobby for a **reform to UK drug policy**.

Activity has included:

- Speaking at the multi-agency conference 'Time to talk' hosted by the Derbyshire PCC. The conference supported my approach to drugs by calling for change in UK drugs policy and for a national review of the UK drugs policy. This won overwhelming support from the delegates at the conference.
- Influencing the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Drug Policy Reform. The Group draws upon available evidence and experience in order to inform their recommendations to the Government. The Home Affairs Select Committee

invited me and the Chief Constable to give evidence on current drug policy to inform their recommendations.

- I was invited to showcase the excellent work of Durham Constabulary at the Drug Policy Alliance Conference in Washington DC, USA.
- I was invited to the launch of the Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP UK) along with politicians from all sides to engage in genuine dialogue on drug policy reform.
- Engaging with the national media in July 2015 to explain the Durham approach.

I have continued to support the **Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service**, which includes education and awareness-raising in County Durham through the Community Safety Budget. I have seen the service in action as I have visited many of the recovery and treatment centres across the county.

The integrated drug and alcohol services in Durham and Darlington offer a flexible approach. Ongoing monitoring and discussions are underway to ensure that it meets requirements and to consider gaps in provision.

I continue to support addicts into **recovery based programmes**, including the new **Drugs Strategy** for County Durham developed by the Durham Health and Wellbeing Board. I receive regular updates on its delivery focusing on prevention, supply and recovery. In parallel, the Darlington Substance Use Strategy is in development.

I supported national Recovery Month to celebrate the excellent achievements of those individuals in recovery. This included the UK Recovery Walk in September 2015. Durham City was honoured to be the host location for the walk, which celebrates the achievements of individuals in recovery and raises awareness of substance use disorders and recovery from addiction.

The Constabulary use drug treatment and recovery programmes and drug testing on arrest as part of the **integrated offender management** approach, enabling offenders to kick their habits and make a positive contribution.

The Constabulary have been proactive in our joint-enforcement response to Psychoactive Substances, previously also known as legal highs. Durham was one of the first forces in the country to set up a multi-agency stakeholder group to deal with the rising issue of Psychoactive Substances. This group focuses on the capture and analysis of data to give

information on local prevalence and demographics, education, training, awareness raising, and tackling supply.

Key Area of Focus: tackle anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour can impact terribly upon a person's quality of life. Despite anti-social behaviour rates declining and victim satisfaction levels increasing, public confidence is affected by false perceptions of the severity of this issue.

The CSEW shows that, across the force area, 62% of people agreed that the police and local council are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their community, which is slightly higher than the national average.

Anti-social behaviour continues to fall year-on-year and currently stands at 11% lower year-to-date than the same period in 2014/15 and 39% lower than the same period in 2011/12 when the current definition of anti-social behaviour was introduced. There are no specific areas of concern with all localities showing the decreases.

In the 12 months to March 2016, compared to the previous year, we have also seen:

- A reduction 14% in youth related anti-social behaviour incidents.
- A reduction of 18% in alcohol related anti-social behaviour.

Throughout 2015-16 the satisfaction levels of victims of anti-social behaviour has increased. In quarter one, 79% of victims reported they were satisfied with the whole experience. This increased to 82% in quarter two, with a further increase to 84% in quarter four.

In the HMIC PEEL Effectiveness report the Constabulary were praised for:

- the way victims are treated;
- successfully tackling anti-social behaviour through community engagement and understanding the causes of offending;
- improving satisfaction levels for victims of anti-social behaviour; and
- using Restorative Approaches effectively.

The **Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014** introduced significant changes to the way Police and local authorities respond to anti-social behaviour (ASB), introducing new tools and powers to replace existing provisions. These new powers have been used with some success, although there is more to do to embed this into everyday business for the Constabulary and partners. I am continuing to monitor the implementation and the use of the tools which the Act has enabled.

I am committed to encouraging and using Restorative Approaches and Restorative Justice, as well as working collaboratively with partners to resolve anti-social behaviour issues (*see reducing reoffending section for more information*).



I have funded the **Darlington Community Peer Mentors** project. The project aims to support those who feel vulnerable and isolated owing to real or perceived anti-social behaviour or neighbourhood disputes. The project aims to reduce the pressure on the frontline services of the police, council, fire and rescue service, GPs, Accident and Emergency departments, by engaging with individuals who make frequent calls to these services.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal received a very warm welcome when she came to open the new Restorative Justice Hub in Darlington which brings perpetrators of low level crimes, anti-social behavior and neighbour disputes face-to-face with their victims to make amends, focusing on what the victim wants and needs.

Key area of focus: improve road safety by tackling careless and dangerous driving speeding, and other related road safety issues

Improving road safety featured in my Police and Crime Plan as 14% of all road collisions in the Constabulary area involved someone being killed or seriously injured in the 12 months to the end of March 2015.⁷ Although the total number of traffic collisions referred to the police decreased in 2015/16, it is extremely disappointing to report that the number involving someone being killed or seriously injured increased.

Negative perceptions in the Constabulary area have unfortunately also increased. In 2015/16, 51% of people surveyed reported thinking that dangerous driving is a problem, compared to 49% the previous year. The percentage of people who think that speeding vehicles are an issue also increased from 65% to 67%, and around half of the local people completing the survey still think parking is a problem.²

Speeding

We believe that the public perception of speeding is that it is more of a problem than the reality, with speeding only ranked 6th in the causes of serious and fatal accidents. The most frequent cases of these accidents have been failing to look properly and failing to judge correctly. Only 20% of these collisions were classed as the result of criminal behaviour such as excess speed, dangerous driving, or driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

I have participated in Community Speed Watch operations, which are proven to be successful for community reassurance in targeted areas and for driver education.

Durham Constabulary is the only policing area which does not have any fixed speed cameras: the Chief Constable and I believe they are blunt instruments which can impact upon confidence and perceptions.

I continue to fully support Durham County Council as they introduce the 'Slow to 20 for Safer Streets' project, from which 16 schools have benefited so far. Darlington Borough Council already have 20mph zones in place at some of their schools.

The Aycliffe Road Management Safety Group comprising of school head teachers and Councillors continues to address local concerns around inconsiderate parking and

Multi Agency Intervention Service (MAIS) is a computer database which enables professionals to input information and allocate a named case worker for each case. The implementation has been very positive, as partners are becoming more adept at using the system. This is reducing the burden on police, as the correct lead professionals from partner agencies are quickly identified.

speeding outside schools. I have shown my strong support for this group, attending a 'week of action' at various schools.

Raising Awareness

Working in conjunction with partners from the Road Policing Unit, Local Authorities and the North East Ambulance Service, I am involved in or support a number of Road Safety Initiatives:

- Bike Wise
- Bike Safe
- Think Bike
- Community Speed Watch – an education tool for the community and drivers who contravene the speed limit
- Enforcement campaigns, for safety and seatbelts, speeding, mobile phone use, drink driving, etc.
- National Citizen Programme – Education in respect of young/future drivers providing an overview of a real fatal investigation and comments from the family
- EXELerate – a young driver training course
- National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme (NDORS) Courses include Speed Awareness, Driver Alertness, What's Driving Us and Driving for Change.

I encourage the development of **countywide road safety campaigns** with schools to educate pupils, the community and road users on safe driving and parking near to schools.

These include:

- Wise Drive (Durham) Oct 5th – Oct 23rd: 24 schools and 1200 students currently signed up to the young driver event
- Operation U-Turn: Education work to commence with individuals and groups from the Youth Offending Service from both Cleveland and Durham force areas

- My support for the #Dead Drunk campaign enabled its continuation within the Constabulary area
- Bereaved relatives of fatal collisions have featured in my community engagement work.

I am represented at the quarterly meetings of the County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Partnership (CDDRSP). Partner agencies involved include a number of representatives from Local Authorities, Fire Service, Public Health as well as the Police.

CDDRSP consider all injury accidents as part of their fundamental role to strive toward reducing casualties. Where trends are identified through evidence-led research, partnership work is ongoing, particularly through educational and enforcement campaigns, to work toward reducing those accidents and where appropriate through engineering solutions at specific locations.

Area of focus: work in partnership to improve the service provided to those with poor mental health (victims and offenders)

Evidence suggests that there is a need to have a clearer understanding and awareness of the impact that mental health issues have on policing services, and how policing services can best support people suffering with such issues.

The Home Secretary stated that 20% of police time is spent dealing with incidents arising from mental health concerns. Over 770 calls a month to the police have a mental health need or component. It is likely that this number is greatly underestimated. Mental health incidents are resource intensive for the Constabulary, as each mental health incident requires two police personnel to attend. Evidence shows that people with mental health problems are more likely to be victims of crime.

Additionally, at least 70% of the prison population has a mental health problem, and one in five has four major mental health disorders.

Raising Awareness

The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat has been signed locally by all relevant partners (including myself). I support the development and delivery of the **Crisis Care Concordat Action Plan**. The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat is managed by the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat Group, and owned by the Mental Health Partnership.

In addition I am also a member of a national working group looking into mental health issues for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners. The group is helping to shape local and national policing in this area.

To raise awareness of the issues that people with mental health problems face, and help to bring partners together to improve the services available to sufferers, I support initiatives such as:

- **Women's and Men's CREE projects** which have been funded through Durham County Council Public Health and supports drop in groups based on an Australian idea known as 'Men's Sheds'. These are groups in communities whereby participants get involved in various activities but the real focus is general discussion in an informal atmosphere.

- **Suicide Prevention Conference** on the 9th September 2015, organised by Public Health provided a platform for the exchange of ideas to help achieve our goal of

reducing suicides across County Durham. I took part in activities on the day to support world suicide prevention day and participated in the Inside Out campaign, which advises that people should never underestimate the power that a conversation may have in preventing suicide.

- The Government's new **Liaison and Diversion scheme**, designed to divert some mentally ill people from the courts and ultimately prison. This service allows underlying mental health issues to be highlighted at the earliest point in the criminal justice system so that more effective solutions can be pursued, and support can be put in place for release/bail and also remand in some cases. County Durham and Darlington were pleased to welcome Lord Bradley, who instigated the national review into the treatment of people with mental health problems or learning difficulties in the criminal justice system, to our local launch in January 2016. The scheme is now fully operational within police stations and magistrates courts across the Constabulary area.
- Promoting **campaigns** such as:
 - Mental Health Awareness Week;

- Suicide Prevention Day; and
- 'A day in the park' Mental Health Awareness Event- Part of the UK Youth Parliament Mental Health Campaign held in South Park Darlington.

Local Initiatives

The force has worked in partnership to implement schemes aimed at reducing demand on resources, whilst still assisting people in a mental health crisis. These include:

- The **Tele-Triage process** is in place for officers to call and speak with Crisis Team members from the scene of an incident/location to share information and seek advice as to the most appropriate action for potentially S136 patients, avoiding unnecessary detentions.
- Durham Constabulary is 1 of 3 forces nationwide involved in an **Early Alert Suicide scheme**, identifying potential needs for friends and families bereaved by suicide, who often become high risk to suicide themselves, in order to support them through this difficult period. The Constabulary has linked with Durham County Council in commissioning "If You Care Share" to deliver this support and I also commissioned this to train PCSOs and other front line officers.
- Other newly developed meetings are set up to discuss problem solving approaches for frequent callers/users of A & E and other crisis services. This addresses those people who suffer mental health/ learning difficulties identified by a range of agencies, who are also causing the most demand on resources.

I am committed to reducing the number of people arrested and taken to police custody as a "place of safety" when they are having a mental health crisis, under section 136 of the Mental Health Act. There has been ongoing work with Custody Inspectors and Health partners, to further challenge the appropriateness of some s136 detainees coming into Police Stations. Of particular note, there have been no persons under the age of 18 placed into Police Custody under of S136 of the Mental Health Act across the

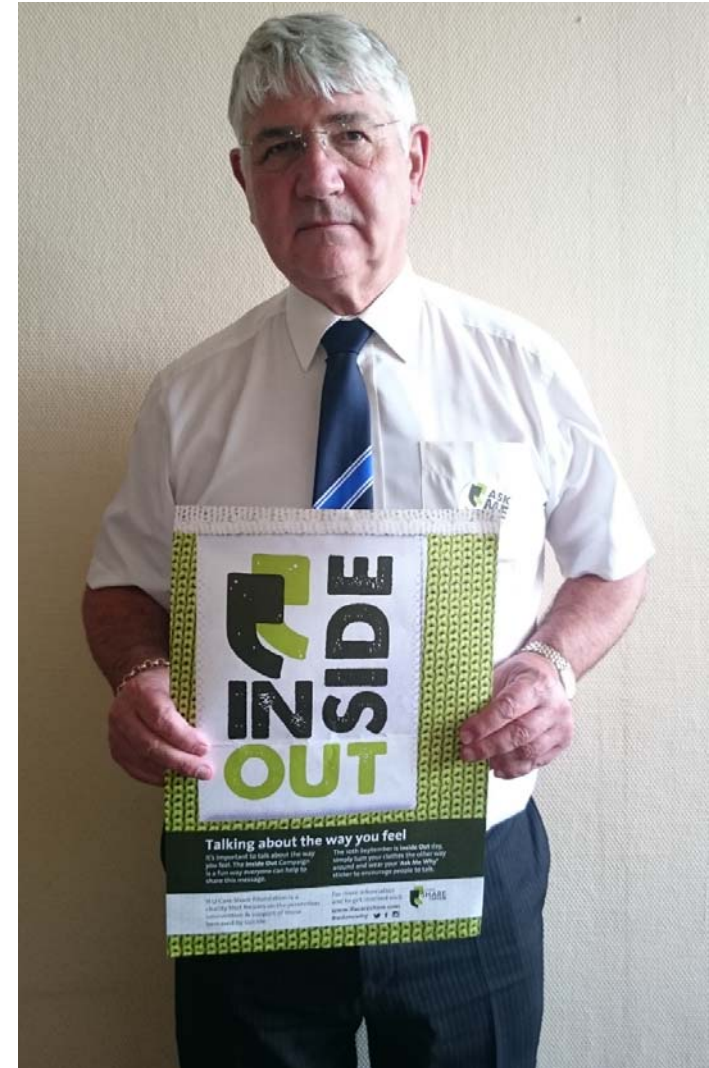
Constabulary area during 2015-16 and a 40% reduction in adult detainees compared to 2014/15.

Current Working Practices

I am committed to improving current working practices and processes between the Constabulary, Mental Health Services, Accident and Emergency and Ambulance Services. Examples of this include:

- Work by the force and partners to deliver mental health and learning difficulties communication and training;
- Various awareness raising events that have been organised and resulted in increased effective partnership working arrangements and are ongoing;
- Training on the Mental Health Act legislation including Places of Safety roles and responsibilities, which has reduced police resources being used inappropriately for tasks such as welfare checks on behalf of Mental Health colleagues;
- Selected officers being trained through the Durham County Council Public Health Team in Neuro Linguistic Programming and Mindfulness; and
- A Suicide Audit that has been undertaken to identify key areas within the Criminal Justice Services, including post-prison release, post-police contact or within the prison, where pathways may be improved in order to lessen the suicide risk of those in contact with these services.

I have funded a dedicated Mental Health Development Worker to provide additional support to victims of crime, who suffer from poor mental health. This has provided an advocacy role to improve the victim's journey through the criminal justice system.



Cross cutting area of focus: reducing re-offending

Reducing reoffending is vital to cutting crime and supports each of the objectives in my Police and Crime Plan. If we reduce the number of perpetrators who continue to offend,

that will also reduce the number of victims. Interventions help offenders break their cycle of offending and make a positive contribution to society. The most recent data from the Ministry of Justice in 2016 shows Durham's proven reoffending rate was 28.8% and Darlington's was 32.5% against a national average of 26.2%, calculated using data from 2014.

Working with partners

I have a duty to work collaboratively with a range of Criminal Justice partners including the National Probation Service, the Community Rehabilitation Company, and the Crown Prosecution Service. This is to ensure that an efficient and effective criminal justice system is provided for the area.

In 2015-16 I continued my role as Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board. In response to 'Working in step?', a joint inspection of local criminal justice partnerships by HMIC, HMCPSI and HMI Probation, I have instigated a review of the LCJB.

In partnership with a range of organisations, the Constabulary has introduced processes and pathways that form an integrated approach to offender management to reduce reoffending, which has shown a significant impact on offending patterns. It targets those offenders who continually commit offences, irrespective of sentences given. Once identified, this group of offenders are offered intensive support to avoid future offending; but should they reoffend they will be caught and convicted.

Local Initiatives

I support existing **partnership collaboration** including the joint County Durham and Darlington Reducing Reoffending Thematic Group, which is providing strategic coordination across the force area.

I have encouraged Durham Constabulary to team up with Walking with the Wounded to develop Project Nova. It is an early intervention scheme focussed on diversion at the point of arrest, and early intervention for veterans identified in police custody, in order to prevent repeat offending and/or a prison sentence. The project assists veterans after police custody release with support and interventions/referrals to military charities and civilian support organisations - via a Nova Consortium of local partners (employment, housing, welfare, finance, families).

I have worked with partners to introduce, develop, embed and evaluate the Checkpoint scheme. Checkpoint is a voluntary adult offender programme within County Durham and

Darlington. It is aimed at low level and medium risk offenders at the earliest stage of the criminal justice process, and offers them an alternative to prosecution. It gives the offender an opportunity to address the underlying causes of their offending, by encouraging them to engage with services instead of going to court. Over 500 cases have been referred to Checkpoint since April 2015, with a success rate of 93%. A Randomised Control Trial commenced in March 2016 to enable an academic evaluation of the project.

I have funded the **Darlington Community Peer Mentors** project. The project aims to support those who feel vulnerable and isolated owing to real or perceived anti-social behaviour or neighbourhood disputes. *Further information can be found in the anti-social behaviour section of this report.*

Restorative Justice

I have funded a pilot programme at Durham Crown Court. The programme offers Restorative Justice post-conviction but pre-sentence. The legislation allows for adjournments or the deferring of sentence to facilitate this, if it is requested by the victim and if the offender is willing to engage in the process. The pilot will allow us to influence the way it may be rolled out in the future, as well as offering a further pathway for the victim.

The newly commissioned Victim Care and Advice Service (*see commissioning Victims Services section for more details*) ensures that there is an increased awareness and assessment of victims, so that victims can make informed decisions about participating in Restorative Justice and how to access it.

The youth offending services in our area have celebrated many successes reducing the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system, through their innovative approaches to diversion and tailored intervention packages to suit individual needs.

I have appointed a Restorative Justice Coordinator for Durham and another for Darlington. The Coordinators are ensuring that there is a consistent and coordinated victim-led approach available across the Constabulary Area. The coordinators have:

- trained over 50 volunteers across the area;
- supported the two safeguarding partnership strategies around Restorative Justice; and
- supported the delivery of the pre-sentencing pilot programme at Durham Crown Court.

Objective 4 – deliver an efficient policing service

As Police and Crime Commissioner, I am responsible for:

- securing an efficient and effective police force for the area;

- setting the police precept (police element of council tax) and budget; and
- commissioning services through crime and disorder reduction grants.

My Police and Crime Plan identified the following **key areas of focus** to help achieve this objective. They are:

- **Value for Money**
- **Robust Accountability and Performance Management**

Along with all other forces in England, Durham Constabulary was inspected by HMIC in 2015/16 under the PEEL classifications: efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy.

Details of the results of these inspections can be found in the following sections.

Key area of focus: Value for Money

Governance arrangements exist with the Constabulary to ensure that Value for Money (VFM) is monitored and delivered across the breadth of the Constabulary's services, and I ensure that all major financial decisions are effectively recorded and published on my website to ensure scrutiny and transparency.

To achieve value for money I work with the Constabulary to develop:

- The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTF)
- The budget
- People – an effective workforce model which includes volunteers
- Collaboration

Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

Working with the Constabulary, we have updated the MTFP during 2015-16, projecting the financial position over a four year period. The projections in the plan will require some difficult decisions. However, the past practice of trying to 'keep ahead of the curve' in terms of delivering savings puts the budget in a relatively strong position as a basis for planning ahead. The MTFP anticipates a continuation of the central government public sector funding reduction program to 2020, and for funding from central government to continue to fall by at least 3.2% each year from 2016/17 onwards.

Budget 2015-16

The budget available to me for policing in County Durham and Darlington for 2015-16 was £113,320,000, a reduction of £2,680,000 compared to the previous year. The amount allocated to Durham Constabulary in government grant has fallen by approximately £20m from March 2010 to March 2015, and is set to fall further by 2021.

Full details of the budget and expenditure for the Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner can be found at <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Information-Hub/Openness/What-We-Spend--How-We-Spend-It.aspx> as the PCC has a duty to publish the approved Statement of Accounts.

Income	2015-16
Government Grant	£86,240,000 (76%)
Council Tax	£26,390,000 (23%)
Income	£690,000 (1%)
Total	£113,320,000

Over three quarters of the income available comes from government grant and less than a quarter comes from council tax.

I made an **increase of 1.98%** to the police element of council tax for 2015-16. This was supported by the public and agreed by the Police and Crime Panel. This generated circa £500,000 in additional income for Durham Constabulary, which equates to the approximate cost of keeping 10 police officers on the street. This equates to an increase of 4p per week or £2.11 per year for a council tax band A property.

The available budget is split between:

Expenditure	2015-16
PCC Costs	
Office of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner	£968,000 (1%)
PCC Commissioning	£1,425,000 (1%)
Policing Services under the Chief Constable	
Police Officer & Police Staff Pay (includes pensions, NI contributions)	£98,073,000 (87%)
Non Pay Budget, includes the costs of premises, transport and supplies and services.	£12,854,000 (11%)
Total	£113,320,000

Police and Crime Commissioner Costs

A small team is in place to assist me in effectively fulfilling my role. I am determined to keep this as lean and as efficient as possible.

A copy of the staffing structure is available on the Office of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's website. <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Your-PCC/The-PCCs-Team.aspx>

As part of my **commissioning activity** I have the PCC Community Safety Budget - This is split into two sections:

- **Community Safety Grant** – I have always supported the work of both the Community Safety Partnerships within the Constabulary area. They use this funding for activities and initiatives that support our shared objectives. For 2015-16 I reduced the allocations from the previous year in line with reductions to the Police Budget.
- **PCC Community Safety Fund** – I created this fund to support a wide range of community projects and initiatives. In 2015-16, I went into partnership with County

Durham Community Foundation, an independent grant administrator who was able to help secure matched funding. This process has enabled 23 projects and initiatives to the sum of £149,983 to be supported during 2015-16. Full details can be found in Appendix One.

Policing Services under the Chief Constable

The Chief Constable and I recognise that the people within Durham Constabulary are the organisation's greatest asset; their knowledge, passion and attitude are the driving force behind what makes Durham unique and different - *the Durham Difference*.

People

The below table shows the current staffing numbers compared with the levels of five years ago. A total of 350 police officers and PCSOs have been lost in this time.

	2015-16
ODPCC Staff	12
ODPCC Volunteers	135

	2010-11	2015-16	Difference
Police Officers	1,473	1,144	- 329
PCSOs	175	154	- 21
Special Constables	127	92	- 35
Police Staff	861	928	+ 67

Collaboration

The Constabulary currently has more than 80 separate initiatives for collaborative partnership working. These initiatives range from legally binding contracts to ad-hoc arrangements between managers on a regional or local level on functions such as intelligence, firearms and roads policing and serious and organised crime. There are also a number of national collaborative initiatives where the Constabulary is an active partner, the most notable being Operation Tornado, which is the national response to the issue of metal theft. Currently around 9% of the overall expenditure is spent in connection with collaborative initiatives and we are working with more than 40 strategic partners. Examples of collaboration include:

- **Evolve Programme**

Evolve is an umbrella term used for the collaborative activity which Durham Constabulary undertakes with the police forces of Cleveland and North Yorkshire. We are committed to working collaboratively with one another, in order to provide each of our communities with the most effective and efficient service possible. Our collaborative activities may include agreeing to co-operate on specific issues at specific times, establishing joint teams made up of people and resources from each separate organisation to tackle a common issue, or developing integrated services where we operate as one.

- **Collaboration with Cleveland**

Durham Constabulary and Cleveland Police have long-standing collaborative arrangements, most notably in the Cleveland and Durham Special Operations Unit, which includes roads and firearms. The Roads Policing Unit have gained national recognition as their activities have been entering households across the country on Channel 5's Police Interceptors programme. In addition, the Cleveland and Durham PCC offices collaborate on a range of issues, from strategic planning, learning and development, and specialist legal services, in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the offices.

- **Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service**

The Police force and Fire and Rescue Service are facing similar challenges. They both provide vital services with the shared aim of protecting the public. In December 2015 we collectively signed a Statement of Intent for enhanced collaboration. We already have strong partnership working with the Fire and Rescue Service, and we intend to enhance our collaboration in order to help us to meet the challenges of the future. We agreed that we will consider the potential for collaborative activity in all our areas of spend, paying particular attention to the following aims:

- Better value for money
- Improved outcomes
- Reduced demand

A work programme has been developed and will identify areas for potential collaboration.

Key area of focus: robust accountability and performance management

Robust Accountability Framework

To fulfil the function of holding the Chief Constable to account I have developed a robust **accountability framework** to monitor the performance of Durham Constabulary and to enable scrutiny of the key areas of focus as set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

The framework sets out the mechanisms that I use to hold the Chief Constable to account as well as showing how I am held to account on behalf of you, the public.

The following diagram illustrates the accountability framework. It shows my relationship with the Chief Constable, how I am ultimately responsible to the public, and the additional scrutiny mechanisms which are in place.

Openness and transparency

I am committed to being open and transparent to you, our communities. The publication of this **annual report** and the **quarterly Public Performance Report** are ways of demonstrating this.

I provide regular information regarding activities via the website, existing engagement channels, social media and at face to face meetings. I give the public the opportunity to contribute their views about policing and community safety and comment upon strategy developments.

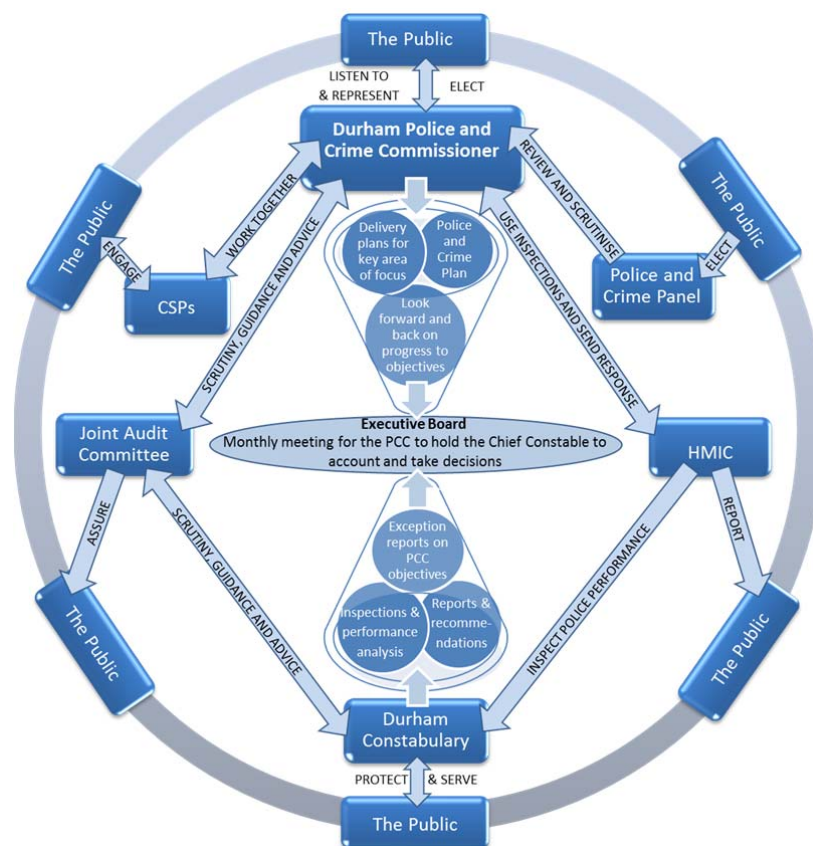
All of the key decisions that I make are published on the public decision register.
<http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Information-Hub/Openness/Decisions.aspx>

In line with national requirements, I publish certain information and documentation as means of improving accountability, via the Publications Scheme. This can be found at
<http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Information-Hub/Openness/Who-We-Are--What-We-Do.aspx>

Holding the Chief Constable to Account

I formally meet with the Chief Constable and the respective statutory officers on a monthly basis at the **Executive Board** meetings. It is at these meetings that I hold the Chief Constable to account and any key decisions relating to the police service are formally documented. At the meetings a variety of topics are discussed, including:

- progress towards the achievement of the Police and Crime Plan;



- performance management;
- budget and financial information; and
- issues and emerging threats and how the Chief Constable and I can work together to tackle them.

On an annual basis I undertake a formal **Performance Development Review** (PDR – Appraisal process) with the Chief Constable. During this review I set the Chief Constable objectives for the year ahead.

Additional Scrutiny

I have ensured that there are additional scrutiny mechanisms in place to help to hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of an effective and efficient policing service. These mechanisms include:

- **Joint Audit Committee**

The independent Joint Audit Committee is responsible for enhancing public trust and confidence in the governance of my Office and Durham Constabulary. It consists of six members who are independent of me, the Constabulary and the Police and Crime Panel. The Committee meets at least four times per year. For further details on the role of the committee or to view agendas and minutes please see <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Your-PCC/Scrutiny/Joint-Audit-Committee.aspx>

- **Independent Custody Visitors**

I am responsible for maintaining an Independent Custody Visiting Scheme whereby trained volunteers visit police stations to check on the welfare and treatment of detainees. It offers protection to both detainees and the police, and reassurance to the community at large. There are currently twenty four custody visitors who fulfil this role. Further details can be found on my website at: <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Get-Involved/Independent-Custody-Visitors.aspx>

- **Rape Scrutiny Panels**

I established a Rape Scrutiny Panel to review case files which have failed to attain the requisite evidential level for prosecution or where prosecution has failed, and look for lessons to be learned. Further information can be found at: <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Your-PCC/Scrutiny/Rape-Scrutiny-Panel.aspx>

- **Police and Crime Panel**

The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) provide checks and balances on my work and activity. The Panel does not scrutinise Durham Constabulary but rather how I carry out my statutory responsibilities. While the Panel is there to constructively challenge me, it also has a key role to support me in my role in enhancing public accountability of the police force.

I have met with the Police and Crime Panel at all 5 of their meetings during 2015-16. The Panel agreed to my proposals to refresh the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17, agreed with my proposals to increase the precept and they offered congratulations following the excellent outcomes of the HMIC Inspections.

Robust Performance Management

I have introduced robust performance management arrangements to strengthen the accountability framework. This includes the introduction of a quarterly **Public Performance Report**, with the aim of ensuring performance data is more transparent and easier to understand.

I set three key measures (without targets) in the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17. Each objective of the plan has a key measure and a key outcome. These are then used to determine the successful achievement of the Plan. Each of the three measures are used as part of the quarterly interactive Public Performance Report, which I introduced to ensure that the public could see how the police are doing and how I hold them to account.

The public performance reports include data on the three measures, along with data and narratives on additional indicators to provide context for the key areas of focus as set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2015-17. The quarter 4 (end of year) Public Performance Report can be found on my website at: <http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Your-Police/Performance/Police-Performance.aspx>

Hard copies of the performance report are also available in the libraries across the constabulary area, as well as from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, to ensure that those who do not have access to the internet can still access the information. The performance for each of the key measures and key outcomes is set out at the beginning of each objective in this report.

HMIC

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is independent of the Government and the police. They assess police forces and the whole spectrum of policing, in the public interest. In preparing their reports they ask the questions citizens would ask and publish the answers in an accessible form, using their expertise to interpret the evidence. They provide authoritative information to allow the public to compare the performance of their force against others, and their evidence is used to drive improvements in the service to the public.

Details of the recent HMIC inspections can be found below:

The HMIC PEEL **Efficiency Inspection** graded Durham Constabulary as **OUTSTANDING** at how efficient the force is at keeping people safe and reducing crime. The three strands of the inspection were graded as follows:

- Using resources to meet demand – **OUTSTANDING**

The assessment highlighted:

- The Constabulary understands fully the demand for its services, especially from the public.
- The Constabulary is using widespread and innovative ways of working to reduce demand, often working with other organisations.
- There is a robust performance management regime in place.
- The Constabulary is using IT to bring about greater efficiencies.
- Sustainability and affordability of the workforce model – **OUTSTANDING**

The assessment highlighted:

- The Constabulary's operating model matches current demand, organisational need and financial requirements.
- The Constabulary has a good understanding of the level of skills and capability it needs to ensure it can meet current and future demand and is continuing to make a significant investment in training its workforce.
- The Constabulary is projecting a requirement to lose more staff.
- HMIC is of the view that these projections are based on realistic assumptions.
- Sustainability of the financial position for the short and long term – **OUTSTANDING**

The assessment highlighted:

- The Constabulary has detailed financial plans in place to achieve the savings required through to 2018/19.
- The Constabulary is maximising opportunities for additional funding and income generation.
- The Constabulary has the capability, capacity and governance structures to achieve the required savings and organisational change.
- This provides confidence that the Constabulary will be able to achieve the required savings in the future.

The HMIC PEEL **Legitimacy Inspection** graded Durham Constabulary as GOOD at how legitimate the Constabulary is at keeping people safe and reducing crime. The three strands of the inspection were graded as follows:

- Extent to which practice and behaviour reinforces the wellbeing of staff and ethical culture – **GOOD**

The assessment highlighted:

- Strong leadership within the Force.
- An ethical culture where unprofessional behaviour and misconduct are challenged.

- The views of staff are sought, including around their wellbeing.
- The code of ethics is taken seriously.

- Understanding, engaging with and treating fairly the people it serves to maintain and improve legitimacy – **OUTSTANDING**

The assessment highlighted:

- Engagement is at the heart of policing and staff understand its importance to legitimacy.
- Staff are innovative and employ a wide range of methods to engage, in person and on-line including PACT, other local meetings, and local Facebook and Twitter discussions.
- The Chief Constable is considered to be a role model.

- Extent to which decisions taken on the use of stop and search and Taser powers are fair and appropriate – **REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT.**

The assessment highlighted:

- The use of Taser is fair and appropriate.
- A large proportion of stop and search records did not contain reasonable grounds for carrying out the search; the majority had been endorsed by a supervisor (Sergeant), suggesting a lack of understanding of what constitutes legal use of the power; also suggesting that the practice of recording is inadequate.
- However, Durham is complying with most requirements of the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme.
- There is still more to do in recording and publishing outcomes on-line and explaining how the powers are being used following a community complaint.
- Durham carried out 8377 stops and searches in the year to March 2015. Per 1000 population, this is nearly double the average of Durham's 'most similar group' of Police Forces.

The inspection report was very positive about the ethical culture of the Force and community engagement. However, the findings relating to Stop and Search clearly need to be addressed. My role is to hold the Chief Constable to account and discussions have already taken place. The Police are now putting in place the following actions:

- A Chief Superintendent has been identified to drive forward the changes required relating to Stop and Search.
- A new IT system will go live imminently which will relieve officers of some of the burden of paperwork relating to Stop and Search.

Looking ahead 2016 – 2021

When I was re-elected in May 2016, I immediately announced that my job title was changing to Police, Crime and **Victims'** Commissioner. I added the word 'victims' to my job title, because I want to focus very closely on the interests of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour in my second term of office.

In April 2016, I worked with Barry Coppinger, my equivalent in Cleveland, to introduce the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS). VCAS helps victims to cope and recover from the impact of the crime by offering practical and emotional support as well as referring them on to appropriate support services who can assist them with their individually assessed needs. VCAS will also be a source of intelligence about any gaps in services for victims, and I will use this intelligence to further commission, with partners, services which are customised to the needs of specific groups and victims. I will, for example, be looking to commission advocacy services for victims of hate crime, and for those with mental health problems.

Over the next few months I need to produce a new Police and Crime Plan, and I have already started work to identify key objectives and areas of focus to include in it. At the time of writing I am about to commence a wide-ranging eight-week public consultation exercise during which time I will attend public meetings with people all over the force area, and carry out on-line surveys so that anyone can comment on the draft Police and Crime Plan, which will be published on my website. I expect to be able to publish the final version in November, which will include a business plan indicating how the objectives will be met by the Police, my office, and by our partners. I am aware that the nature of crime is changing: there are increasing threats on-line and some crimes such as domestic violence and child sexual exploitation are becoming more prominent. I expect that the next Police and Crime Plan will reflect these changes.

I am also conscious that potential changes to my role are enshrined within the Policing and Crime Bill 2016. I will consider these in detail when the Bill becomes an Act. For the moment it is clear that there will be choices to make around the

process for dealing with complaints from the public and others, and around the extent to which the Police, Fire and Rescue Service and other partners collaborate together.

The Police service, and indeed the services which I commission to reduce crime and to support victims, need to be adequately resourced. Despite the Government's public reassurances to the contrary, the budget for Durham was cut this year. The Government's funding formula review is a threat and we have seen calculations which point towards a possible cut in our budget of around ten per cent. We will have to campaign hard, together, to ensure the Government recognises the needs of places like County Durham and Darlington, and make sure that a budget reduction like that never happens. We will also, of course, need to work with our partners to make the very best possible use of the resources available to us all.

So there are a number of challenges ahead. We are well-placed to address them, with a force that is currently the best in the country and strong partnership arrangements in place in Durham and Darlington. I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure that communities are safe, victims are well-supported, and the best use is made of the resources available to me.



Appendix one: List of activities commissioned from the Community Safety Fund 2015-16

Organisation	Grant Awarded	What the grant is being used for (wording has been taken from the grant applications)
Dawdon Youth and Community Centre	£2,480	Dawdon Youth and Community Centre is a voluntary organisation with charitable status in an area of high deprivation, enabling the local community to access recreational, luncheon clubs, food banks, welfare advice, educational courses, information technology resources and free guidance. The organisations youth section which is called The Youth Hub endeavours to reduce mental health inequalities by promoting and encouraging children and young people to participate in positive activities.
Domestic and Sexual Abuse Network (DASAN)	£1,840	Darlington and Sexual Abuse network (DASAN) is an initiative of Darlington Community Safety Partnership involving organisations and agencies in Darlington that work towards tackling domestic abuse. DASAN members work collectively and proactively to an agreed agenda with the aim of enabling victims of abuse/violence to find an appropriate route to safety.
Ferryhill L.a.d.d.e.r Centre Ltd.	£2,350	Ferryhill Lakes and District Development Education Resource Centre (The Ladder Centre) was established in 2002 and operates as a community resource centre delivering a wide range of services for local residents in Ferryhill. This grant will help children and young people with a varied programme of activities – combining safety, awareness and fun.
Junction 42	£2,500	Junction 42 is an established charity that has worked with offenders for over 15 years, formerly as a department of a previous youth charity before setting up as a charity independently working with adult and young offenders. It aims to provide help to people who have criminal convictions or those considered at risk of offending. Current services are mentoring, education/enterprise, faith based groups and outreach.
Northumbria Coalition against Crime	£2,000	Northumbria Coalition against Crime (NCAC) is a registered charity, set up in March 1990 as a partnership between business, community, voluntary and statutory sectors, with a mission to reduce crime, anti-social and unacceptable behaviour in the North East.
Seaham Have Your Say	£500	To deliver a place of learning that young people will be happy to attend and learn. We believe that the countryside is the biggest classroom to learn in and it creates a relaxed atmosphere making it easier to engage with our young people. We aim to get our young people fitter and healthier through outdoor activities. We intended to use our environment to do this through growing food from seed to the table, also take them to do outdoor activities i.e. bird watching, fossil hunting, flower/tree i.d, camping, cooking out etc. and with the marine activities we can offer a full package throughout the year. We are also looking at doing a outdoor residential to learn team building and self-confidence.
Wear & Tees Rural Watch (Farmwatch)	£2,500	The main aim and objective of Farm Watch is to organise those living in rural areas to reduce, prevent and detect rural crime. There are 4 major farm watch operations throughout the year involving up to six Police forces and dozens of rural volunteers. Additionally there are several smaller operations within the Wear and Tees area which unfold in response to local concerns and crime patterns. Farm Watch can also act as the eyes and ears of the Police and look out for any suspicious activity; The Police can get a message out to members and ask them to look out for vehicles that may be involved in crime.
City of Sunderland YMCA Ltd	£5,000	Chester-le-Street YMCA is situated in the town centre near transport links and amenities and the organisation offers support to over 150 homeless, socially excluded and the community in a residential project, in dispersed outreach properties and in our purpose built training department. (The organisation name is actually City of Sunderland YMCA. Chester le Street YMCA is a project of the main charity.) Those that use the service have various support issues including drug and alcohol issues, family breakdown, mental health issues, criminal behaviour etc. This group is typically classed as difficult to reach and/or are socially isolated.

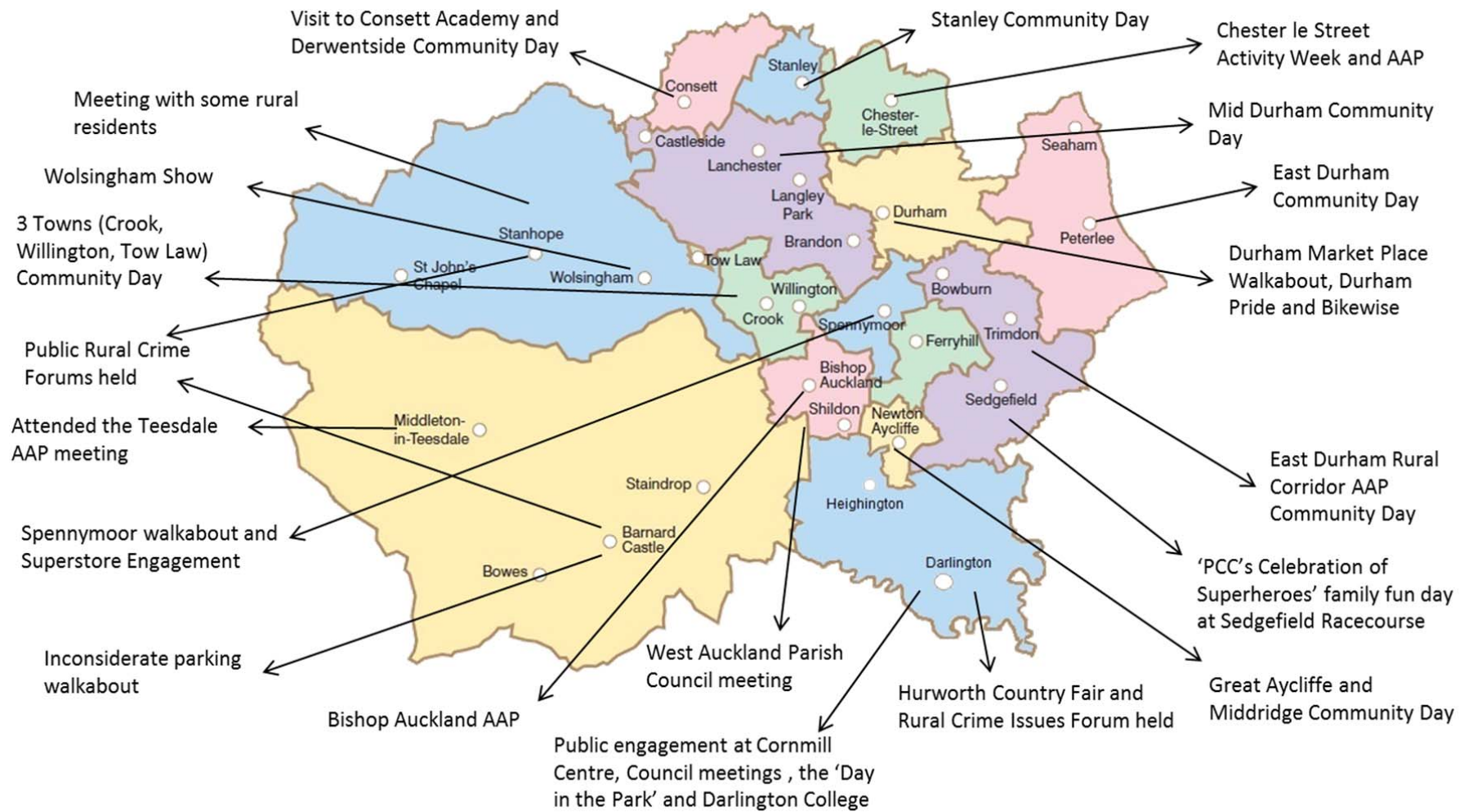
Appendix one: List of activities commissioned from the Community Safety Fund 2015-16 (continued)

Organisation	Grant Awarded	What the grant is being used for (wording has been taken from the grant applications)
Cornforth Partnership	£10,000	The Cornforth Partnership aims to provide the right support, in the right place, at the right time; to enable the development of healthy, vibrant and aspirational communities. Their three main streams of work are Health and wellbeing, adult employability and youth work.
Deric Youth Bus Project	£12,000	DERIC Youth Bus Project is a registered charity, established in April 2001. The charity offers a unique mobile youth work service (using a converted single decker bus) for young people living in the Durham and Chester-le-Street area by providing opportunities to participate in positive activities in communities where there is little or no youth provision.
Durham Alcohol Self Support	£5,000	Established in March 2011, Durham Alcohol Self Support (DASS) is a registered charity. The organisation was founded by a number of individuals that had experienced issues relating to alcohol misuse and who were concerned about relapse once their government funded (time limited) support programmes had ceased. In response they set up a self-support recovery group which has now grown to 7 weekly group meetings in Durham (x2), Chester le Street, Consett, Bishop Auckland, Newton Aycliffe and Shildon.
Durham Christian Partnership	£4,000	This is a registered charity, established in 1999 that supports Christian communities in County Durham to work with each other and with other organisations. It delivers a range of projects - these currently include Beyond Ourselves (a charity shop in Framwellgate Moor), Durham Money Advice Centre (offering free confidential help for those struggling with debt), County Durham Foodbank, Durham Cathedral Listening Service and Street Lights.
East Durham Community Development Trust Ltd	£11,265	East Durham Trust is the established lead Voluntary Community Sector organisation serving the former Coalfield area of East Durham and surrounding communities in the North East of England, based in a purpose built building in the heart of the community. The overall aim is to counter the social and economic deprivation in the area through engaging local communities. A registered charity and company limited by guarantee the trust is an independent entity which is led by and for the community.
Handcrafted Projects	£10,000	Handcrafted was set up to work with disadvantaged and socially excluded people in County Durham who long to turn their lives around, but need opportunities, mentoring and practical help. The majority of their trainees struggle with multiple needs, including homelessness, poor mental health, substance misuse and offending. They get involved in meaningful and empowering training and experience doing woodwork, gardening and house renovation projects. They are taught both practical and social skills. Trainees can progress onto our Enterprise project to set up their own business or start an apprenticeship.
Horden Youth & Community Centre	£18,300	The Centre's primary aim is to strengthen and motivate the local community, particularly the more disadvantaged and isolated individuals and families in our area, by encouraging them to explore ways of improving their physical, mental, emotional and social health and wellbeing through a wide and varied programme of activities, courses and events.
Just for Women Centre	£8,000	Just for Women Centre is a not for profit organisation based in Stanley and offers a safe environment for women to access a range of support services. The Thread Project is the primary service and has been specially developed for women who have been subjected to domestic or historic abuse or have more complex mental health needs as a result of substance/alcohol abuse and/or homelessness. The women supported are aged between 16 and 65 years of age.
Open Gate	£10,209	Open Gate aims to encourage women towards a new life free from crime. Open Gate works in partnership with HMP & YOI Low Newton in Durham, supporting women from custody to community to aid resettlement into North East communities and help reduce the risks of re-offending.

Appendix one: List of activities commissioned from the Community Safety Fund 2015-16 (continued)

Organisation	Grant Awarded	What the grant is being used for (wording has been taken from the grant applications)
Pelton Community Association	£3,583	Formed in May 1972, PCA is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The community association and trustees are responsible for the management of Pelton Youth and Community Centre. The organisation aims to offer a modern and vibrant community hub where all members of the community can access educational, leisure and health activities.
SHAID (Single Homeless: Action Initiative Derwentside)	£10,000	Housing and supporting the young homeless of Derwentside and Durham across all tenures. We also work and house ex armed forces homeless personnel with multiple health issues. Exploring with the clients and developing bespoke support packages around each client to achieve sustainability of life choices. Developing support networks using a multi-agency approach to meet the needs of our clients as well as clients from other agencies.
Wheatley Hill Community Association	£9,490	Established in 1970, Wheatley Hill Community Association operates from The Greenhills Centre the former (and now extended) miners hall in the village. The building was extensively renovated between 2005 and 2010 and provides a base for a wide range of community activities including soft play, fit kids gym, dance classes, youth drop-in sessions, children's parties, holiday activity programmes, fitness activities, weekly tea dance, luncheon club and meals on wheels service. In the year ending March 2014, the footfall of regular users was in excess of 700 per week.
WM Morrison Darlington Enterprise Trust	£18,966	Wm Morrison Darlington Enterprise Trust is a registered charity established in 1995. It aims to deliver projects which support people who are disadvantaged in accessing the labour market to gain paid employment

Appendix Two – Engagement Map



Appendix Three: Glossary

Word/Phrase	Meaning
Area Action Partnerships	Local partnerships to identify priorities and take action to improve communities. There are 14 in County Durham
ARIES	Operation to reduce anti-social behaviour fuelled by underage drinking
Association of Police & Crime Commissioners (APCC)	National body to support and represent all Police and Crime Commissioners
Austerity	Difficult economic time by Government reducing public expenditure
Checkpoint Project	Programme to reduce reoffending
Commissioning	Providing funding in return for a particular task or service
Community Rehabilitation Company	Service that supervises and supports medium-low risk offenders when released
Community Remedy	List of actions a victim may choose for an offender of some crime and ASB
Community Safety Grants	Funding to be allocated to protect the community
Community Safety Partnerships	Group of responsible partners working together to protect the community
Community Speedwatch	Public monitor speeding and refer to police to educate drivers
Community Trigger	Way a victim of constant anti-social behaviour can request a case review
CONTEST	A counter-terrorism strategy by the Home Office designed to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from terrorism
Crime Survey England & Wales (CSEW)	Survey about experiences of crime from around 38500 members of the public, 2014
Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)	Responsible for prosecuting criminal cases investigated by the police in England and Wales
Deprivation	Lacking of any material benefits that constitute basic needs, not just financial
Durham Agency Against Crime	Charity creating safety initiatives to reduce crime and fear of crime in locality
Front Line Policing	Those officers and staff directly in contact with the public
HMIC	(Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary) Inspects our Country's police forces
Independent Custody Visitors	Volunteers who check on the treatment of those detained in police custody
Joint Audit Committee	Study both internal and external audit reports for PCC and Chief Constable
Joint Hate Crime Group	Constabulary wide multiagency group who are responsible for the delivery of the hate crime action plan.
Key Performance Measure	Way in which achievement of an aim can be measured
Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)	Heads of all the local criminal justice agencies. They are committed to bringing more offenders to justice and to increase public confidence in our Criminal Justice Services
Local Survey	Local surveys undertaken by the Constabulary

Word/Phrase	Meaning
Minimum Unit Pricing	A minimum price per unit of alcohol in a drink
Ministry of Justice	A department of UK Government to provide justice and civil liberties
National Crime Agency	Agency which provides a national response to serious and organised crime.
National Probation Service	Service that supervises and supports high risk offenders when released
Neighbourhood Policing	A small team localised to each area within the force
Neighbourhood Watch	Community safety agencies and public coming together to protect community
Opportunity Knocks	Coordinated door knocking activity within communities with the overall aim of improving community engagement
Partners	Organisations, agencies, charities who we work with
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
PEEL Assessment	PEEL stands for the police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy programme
Police And Communities Together (PACT)	Meetings to share concerns and thoughts
Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)	Uniformed member of police support staff
Police and Crime Panel	Panel of councillors and independent members who scrutinise and support my work
Police Professional Body	The College of Policing, who maintain the policing standards through education and training
Police Authority	Localised panels maintaining efficient police force pre 2012
Protected Characteristics	These are characteristics upon which discrimination is unlawful. These are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and pregnancy & maternity.
Rehabilitative	To be able to reintegrate the offender back into society safely
Restorative Justice/Approach	Focusing on needs of victim and offender together in serving justice
Retributive	Punishment proportionate to the crime
Section 136	Section of the Mental Health Act, in which it states someone in mental health crisis can be detained in a police cell as a place of safety.
Special Constabulary	Part-time volunteer police officers
Strategic Assessment	Snapshot of the current threats and risks to the Constabulary
VAWG Strategy	Strategy to reduce all the different aspects of Violence Against Women and Girls
Victim-based Crime	Crimes directly against an individual victim or victims
Victim Support	A charity providing support and information to victims of crime