

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE COMMUNITY 2 SEPTEMBER 2008

COMMUNITY SAFETY ANNUAL REVIEW

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To give members an opportunity to comment on the progress of the work by the Exeter Community Safety Partnership to deliver the actions in the Community Safety and Misuse of Drugs Strategy 2005 - 8. The 2007/8 Annual Report is attached.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Exeter Community Safety Partnership was established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

2.2 The current membership is

Exeter City Council
Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Devon and Cornwall Police Authority
Devon Primary Care Trust
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Devon and Cornwall Probation Area of the National Probation Service
Exeter Business Forum
Youth Offending Service
Exeter Council for Voluntary Services
HM Prison Exeter
Exeter Drug and Alcohol District Implementation Group
Devon Partnership NHS Trust
Magistrate

3. STRATEGY 2005 – 8, TARGETS and REVIEW

3.1 In summary, the themes of the strategy were

Alcohol and alcohol-related crime	Anti-social behaviour
Domestic Violence	Drugs and drug-related crime
Prolific and other priority offenders	Vulnerable victims

3.2 The targets for the three-year strategy were laid down. The national target was to reduce crime in specific categories, as shown below, by 15%, which translated into a target of 16.9% for the South West, and 17.5% for Exeter. This overall target was then sub-divided into targets for the specific crime types being measured by the Home Office. The targets were based on the 2003/04 figures.

	% reduction	Base figure 2003/04	Reduced figure by March 2008
Domestic burglary	12%	565	497
Theft from the person	10%	221	199
Robbery	10%	74	67
Theft of vehicle	10%	364	328
Theft from vehicle	20%	1,598	1,278
Vehicle interference	20%	119	95
Theft of pedal cycle	20%	408	326
Common assault	17%	661	549
Wounding	17%	1,383	1,148
Criminal damage	19%	2,525	2,045

3.3 The work of the Community Safety Partnership is, however, seen as even longer term than a three-year strategy. The principles of early identification and early intervention, with diversion and support, have been agreed as the way forward.

3.4 The figures for these crime categories at the end of March 2008 are shown below.

	Target reduced figures by March 2008	March 2008 figures
Domestic burglary	497	522
Theft from the person	199	242
Robbery	67	62
Theft of vehicle	328	270
Theft from vehicle	1,278	893
Vehicle interference	95	115
Theft of pedal cycle	326	371
Common assault	549	448
Wounding	1,148	1,057
Criminal damage	2,045	2,238
Total	6,532	6,218

3.5 The figures show that the target of 17.5% reduction has been achieved – and exceeded by some 4%

3.6 The development of new strategies for 2008 onwards has been part of the work of the Safer Devon Partnership, in line with the overall development of the Local Area Agreement. New government targets focus on violent crime and most harmful offending behaviour, which have been included in the LAA priorities for Safer Devon.

3.7 Future progress will be measured against targets for the National Indicators included within the full suite of indicators for local government. The main chosen indicators for the LAA are NI 16 (serious acquisitive crime rate) and NI 20 (assault with injury). Full details of all the community safety indicators are included in the Partnership Annual Report which is attached.

3.8 The targets will be set for these chosen indicators, though performance against all indicators will be monitored.

4. RECOMMENDED

That the Exeter Community Safety Partnership progress be noted.

EXETER COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)
Background papers used in compiling this report:

Exeter Community Safety Strategy 2005 - 2008

S:LP/Committee/908SCC15
19.8.08