

## EXETER CITY COUNCIL

### SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY 4 SEPTEMBER 2007

#### 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 2006/7 Annual Report is attached at Appendix I.

#### 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 County Council  
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

#### 3. CURRENT STRATEGY 2005 – 8, TARGETS and REVIEW

3.1 In summary, the themes of the strategy are

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 largely laid down. The national target is to reduce crime in specific categories, as shown below, by 15%, which translates 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 2007 are shown below.

	Reduced figure by March 2008	March 2007
Domestic burglary	497	570
Theft from the person	199	226
Robbery	67	63
Theft of vehicle	328	277
Theft from vehicle	1,278	1,233
Vehicle interference	95	135
Theft of pedal cycle	326	418
Common assault	549	496
Wounding	1,148	1,104
Criminal damage	2,045	2,593

3.5 The focus over the past year has been on reducing violent crime offences, and this has been successful, as shown above. Figures for burglary have increased from last year, largely due to sprees by a couple of individuals. Criminal damage remains a concern, which is reflected nationally.

3.6 It is likely that the Home Office focus for measurement of partnership performance is going to change next year. The latest Crime Strategy puts more emphasis on crime which has the biggest impact on victims – violent crime – and on the development of neighbourhood engagement.

#### **4. RECOMMENDED**

That the Exeter Community Safety Partnership progress be noted.

#### **EXETER COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

S:LP/Committee/907SCC15  
23.8.07

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