

Safer Stockport Partnership

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Stockport Strategy for Crime, Drugs and Disorder Reduction 2005-8

1) Introduction

a) The Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP) is required under the recently amended 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, to produce a three-yearly strategy for tackling crime and disorder, and now also for tackling drug misuse in the borough.

b) Setting priorities for the New Strategy

The priorities for the new three-year Crime, Drugs and Disorder Reduction Strategy will be based on the following sets of information:

- The findings of the Crime, Drugs and Disorder audit, *Crime Drugs and Disorder in Stockport 2004*, which is available both in summary form and as a full report at www.stockport.gov.uk/saferstockport
- Further in depth analysis of issues undertaken on behalf of the SSP under the 'Greater Manchester Against Crime' (GMAC) business process
- The responses to consultation with the public and other organisations in Stockport in the autumn of 2004 (see appendix 1)
- Three sets of guiding documents:
 - Greater Manchester Policing Plan
 - Stockport Community Strategy
 - Government guidance and priority plans.

c) This document is in three main sections:

- i) Background and context (page 2)
- ii) Performance measures and targets (page 6)
- iii) Delivery Structures (page 10)

Attached at appendix 2 is an action plan, setting out how a range of partnership groups will work together to address the Partnerships' objectives.

d) This document will inform and complement the Drug Action Team annual plans for its work areas, to be published in April, and the Youth Justice Plan to be published in June.

Section 1 Background and context

1) Stockport's Community Strategy

- a) The Stockport Partnership brings together voluntary, community, public and private sector organisations to work co-operatively with local communities. The role of the Partnership is to improve the quality of life for local people by setting out a long term vision for the borough, identifying local needs within neighbourhoods and pinpointing specific problems in order to design and deliver local services.

The Stockport Partnership aims to be an inclusive body with a wide membership, as well as providing leadership and a framework for partnership working. This is set out in the Stockport Community Strategy, which identifies five key challenges to be addressed over a ten year time-span:

- i) Putting people first
- ii) Promoting a strong and responsible economy
- iii) Creating safe and healthy communities
- iv) Protecting and promoting our environment and heritage
- v) Developing learning communities

Further details are available on the Stockport Council web-site.

2) The Safer Stockport Partnership

- a) The Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP) is the organisation which co-ordinates the efforts of the Police, Stockport Council, the Health Service, Victim Support and many other agencies in their work to reduce crime, disorder and drug misuse in Stockport. Such Partnerships are known as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) and now incorporate the Drug Action Team (DAT) activity. These partnerships are required by law to produce and implement strategies for reducing crime, disorder and drug misuse in their areas. The SSP is accountable to the Stockport Partnership, and while it's primary impact is in relation to the third challenge, its work also has connections with all of the five challenges.

3) Stockport Borough profile

- a) Stockport is in many ways representative of England and Wales in its social and economic profile, with a mixed economy and a range of areas from the very wealthy outer suburbs to areas with high levels of deprivation, and some rural areas. Overall, Stockport has high rates of employment in comparison with the regional and national figures. The 2001 Census recorded the number of Stockport residents as 284,528, comprised of 137,268 males and 147,260 females.
 - i) Stockport's population has remained reasonably stable since 1991 although there has been a notable decrease in the 20-24 and 25-29 year old age groups.
 - ii) There is a higher percentage of pensioners in Stockport living alone than in the North West and England and Wales, and a lower percentage of 'all student' households.
 - iii) The number of households with cars has increased, and compared to the regional and national figures Stockport has a higher percentage of households that own one or more cars.

- iv) There has been an increase in the number of residents from minority ethnic groups, with 4.3% describing themselves as being from an ethnic group other than White.
- v) The most common household arrangement in Stockport is a married couple with dependent children (18.6%), and high levels of owner-occupation have been retained.

4) Crime, Drugs and Disorder Audit

The Crime, Drugs and Disorder audit, *Crime Drugs and Disorder in Stockport 2004* identifies current levels and trends in crime, disorder and drug misuse in the borough. Key findings of this were that, comparing 2003/4 with 2001/2 year figures:

- i) Car crime is down by 23.5%. This means Stockport has exceeded the ambitious five-year target, to reduce car crime by 30% from 1998/9 levels. However, car crime remains relatively high compared with other 'similar' areas identified by the Home Office
- ii) Domestic Burglary has remained almost level over the three years, but was 9.4% lower in 2003/4 than in 1998/9. Burglary rates are high compared to other similar partnership areas. The Partnership has recently launched 'Operation Intense' to reduce burglary further, and based on figures for the current year so far, the Partnership is confident that it can achieve the target of a 25% reduction against 1998/9 levels.
- iii) Other Burglary (such as business premises, school buildings or garden sheds) has fallen by 13.8%
- iv) Personal Robbery, ('muggings') have been reduced by 18.8%
- v) Business Robbery is down by 25.8%
- vi) Violence against the person in Stockport remains well below the national average rate. While the recorded numbers of assaults and woundings have increased, this is believed to be due to increased reporting of such incidents, which have often gone un-reported in the past.
- vii) Anti-social behaviour: Complaints to the Police of 'Youths causing annoyance' have remained almost level, while criminal damage has reduced by 3%. The Partnership has secured 28 Anti-social behaviour orders to deal with the worst cases most of whom are adults. It has also successfully put in place 89 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, whereby young people and their parents or carers agree on clear standards of behaviour, and these have proved very successful.
- viii) **Drugs:** it is estimated that there are 1268 problem drug users in Stockport – 0.6% of the adult population, and nearly half of these are in treatment. The Drug Action Team is working to increase the number in treatment, and undertakes a wide range of educational and support work to help prevent drug misuse. The Partnership has recently introduced a system of drug testing on charge to identify people charged with acquisitive crime, to make sure this is addressed in sentencing and bail decisions.

5) New Home Office Public Service Agreement targets

- a) The Home Office has committed to a new set of Public Service Agreement targets, to replace those for burglary, car crime and robbery, which end in March this year. The new targets will have to be addressed in the

Partnership's new strategy. The key PSA targets for Crime, Disorder and Drugs partnerships are as follows:

i) **PSA1**

A national target of a 15% reduction in crime between April 05 and March 08. This is to be based on 02/03 British Crime Survey (BCS) measures of the set of crimes listed below. However, for CDRP areas in the top quartile in terms of crime levels, including Stockport, targets will be based on recorded crime figures for 2003/4, and a reduction of over 20% will be required. The list of crimes to be measured is:

- Theft of a vehicle
- Theft from a vehicle
- Vehicle interference and tampering
- Domestic burglary
- Theft or unauthorised taking a pedal cycle
- Theft from a person
- Criminal Damage
- Common Assault
- Wounding
- Personal robbery.

ii) **PSA2**

Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the criminal justice system without compromising fairness.

iii) **PSA4**

Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs, including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justices system.

iv) These are underpinned by a commitment to involve citizens and communities in working towards these objectives, as set out in the Civil Renewal Unit report *Firm Foundations: The Governments Framework for Community Capacity Building*.

6) Safer and Stronger Communities funding

- a) A number of Home Office and OPDM funding streams are to be combined into a new 'Safer and Stronger Communities' funding stream (SSCF). In Stockport, this means the Rangers funding will be included in the SSCF, in addition to Building Safer Communities, anti-social behaviour, domestic violence, and some Drug Action Team (DAT) funding. The guidance encourages pooling with Basic Command Unit funding, as has been done in Stockport, and in the first year existing commitments to the Rangers and DAT are protected by 'passporting'. It is suggested that the existing commitments should be re-considered in for the second year of the SSCF.
- b) Local Strategic Partnerships are expected to play a key role in co-ordinating this with other sources of funding, and the funding will be linked to 'mini Local Area Agreements', negotiated with Government Office North West. In

effect this means the Stockport Partnership and Safer Stockport Partnership will have to commit to achieving an agreed set of targets in return for the funding. These targets form the basis of the Crime, Drugs and Disorder Strategy.

- c) The guidance for this funding sets out the intended outcomes and broad performance measures. For Stockport these performance measures will focus on:
 - i) BCS comparator crimes for the Home Office PSA1 (see 3ai above)
 - ii) Domestic Violence
 - iii) Public perceptions of anti-social behaviour
 - iv) Public perceptions of drug dealing and misuse
 - v) Community empowerment, and involvement in voluntary work

- d) The national set of DAT Performance Indicators was being reviewed at the time of writing. Therefore, the Home Office has advised that published strategies should include broad objectives rather than specific performance indicators and targets, as these will not be finalised and agreed with GONW until April.

- e) **Mainstream services contribution**

The Government's Local Area Agreements prospectus also highlights the importance of mainstream activity in addressing the LAA objectives. Therefore it is important that the business plans of mainstream Council services and the Health Service, as well as the Police, clearly identify how their service development and investment plans contribute to the outcomes to be identified in the Crime, Drugs and Disorder Strategy. **This is reinforced by for the Council by the Corporate Performance Assessment framework in its Safer and Stronger Communities theme, and the Community Safety Unit is working with services to help identify and enhance community safety impacts of mainstream services.**

Section 2: Performance measures and targets for the Stockport Crime, Drugs and Disorder Strategy

- 1) The following section outlines the key performance indicators to be used to measure effectiveness and success in the strategy. In some cases firm targets have been set, while for others baselines need to be established, and targets will be set against these as soon as possible.

a) **PSA1 (recorded crimes)**

A 21% overall reduction in recorded crimes based on figures for 2003/4, broken down as follows:

Crime Category	2003/4 level	Target % reduction	Target level
Theft of vehicle (incl. attempts)	1890	30	1323
Theft from a vehicle (incl. attempts)	3884	25	2913
Vehicle interference	864	20	691
Domestic burglary (incl. attempts)	3515	30	2461
Theft of a cycle	422	10	380
Theft from person	461	20	369
Criminal damage	7214	20	5771
Common assault (incl. on a PC)	735	10	662
Woundings (serious and other)	2560	5	2432
Robbery of personal property	525	20	420
Total of selected offences	22070	21	17421

2) **Domestic Violence**

- a) Based on the Government's own domestic violence performance indicators, the following are proposed as appropriate local indicators

i) **Key Indicators**

- Increase in the proportion of domestic incidents, in which a power of arrest exists, where an arrest was made. The target is to make an arrest in 100% of such cases (existing Police Best Value Performance Indicator)
- Identify and reduce rate of attrition in domestic violence cases in the Criminal Justice system (i.e. increase the % of arrests leading to a successful trial)

ii) **Other indicators**

- Number of civil orders made to protect individuals from domestic violence
- Proposed new Best Value indicator to measure effectiveness of services provided by the local authority in partnership with other agencies
- Victim satisfaction with key agencies.

3) Perceptions of Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

a) The following measures are proposed for measuring anti-social behaviour and fear/perceptions of it:

i) **Key Indicators**

- Based on the Stockport Council Citizens Panel findings:
 - To increase the % of residents feeling safe out after dark, in Stockport Town Centre from 6% in 2003 to 12% by 2008
 - Reduce the % of residents who think youth ASB is a big problem in their area, from 54% in 2003 to 45% by 2008
- Level of anti-social behaviour incidents as per GMAC definition
- Impact of crime on quality of life in Stockport as measured by the GMPA surveys

ii) **Other Indicators**

- Satisfaction levels of anti-social behaviour complainants recorded by YOT, measured by customer feedback questionnaires
- Satisfaction levels of racist crime complainants, recorded by START
- Proportion of ABCs that are:
 - accompanied by a programme of interventions
 - completed without, need for escalation of enforcement action, such as ASBO applications
- Outcomes resulting from breaches of ASBOs
- YOT Performance Indicators:
 - Recidivism- reduce the recidivism rates (re court decisions, first tier penalties, community penalties, custodial sentences) by 5% by December 2005
 - Final warnings- ensure that 80% of all final warnings are supported by an intervention programme
- **Every Child Matters: Change for Children** Outcomes Framework indicators under the Staying Safe theme:
 - The proportion of children and young people reporting that they feel safe from crime and anti-social behaviour
 - The proportion of children and young people that have been victims of crime in the last 12 months
- Reduction number of 'cracked' trials, (i.e. where cases fail due to non-attendance of witnesses)
- Satisfaction with the Criminal Justice System as measured by Local Criminal Justice Board Citizen's Panel, including among minority ethnic groups
- Minority Ethnic communities' perceptions and fear of crime, compared to the average for Stockport, measured by the Stockport Council Citizens' Panel
- Incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour on buses and train lines/stations (GMPTE and BTP data)
- Incidents of bus shelter vandalism

4) Perceptions of Local Drug Use & Dealing

- a) The Drug Action Team already has to report on a range of indicators, under the National Performance Management Framework, which is currently being revised by the Home Office. A number of these indicators have been identified as appropriate measures of the impact of drug misuse in the borough:
- i) **Key Indicators**
 - (a) **Treatment**
 - Increase the number of problematic drug users in treatment by 100% (1998 baseline) by 2008.
 - (b) **Young People**
 - Increase number of young people in treatment (2004/5 baseline) by 10% year on year
 - (c) **Communities**
 - Responses to a set of Citizens' Panel questions on perceptions and concerns about drug dealing and misuse
 - (d) **Prolific and Other Priority Offenders**
 - Pre Arrest targets:
 1. 100% Pre Arrest clients to be incorporated into the PPO Scheme
 2. 30% reduction in offending rates of identified clients
 - ii) **Other Indicators**
 - (1) **Treatment**
 - (a) Increase year on year the proportion of problematic drug users sustaining or successfully completing treatment programmes
 - (b) Customer satisfaction levels among clients of the CDT
 - (2) **Young People**
 - (a) All young offenders referred by the YOT are assessed within 10 working days and following the assessment receive access to the early intervention and treatment services they require within 20 working days
 - (3) **Communities**
 - (a) Carry out local consultation for 75% of campaigns (3) during the planning stage, to ensure the work will be relevant to the public and meet the target audience's need.
 - (b) Carry out a feasibility study into women only services (including need) and set up one women only service.
 - (4) **Criminal Justice**
 - (a) 95% of those who test positive for Class A drugs (heroin and/or cocaine) and agree to see a Criminal Justice Worker to undergo an assessment interview.
 - (b) 60% of those assessed as needing treatment by Criminal Justice Worker to have a care plan completed and be referred to Tier 2, 3 or 4 services.

5) Crime against business

- a) The Safer Stockport Partnership recognises that crime against the business community affects not only the individual business and its employees, but also impacts on the broader community by damaging local services, amenity and

employment opportunities, and increasing costs. The Partnership will continue to support Stockport's business community in addressing crime by

- continuing funding of the Raid Control project for 2005/6. This will be reviewed following evaluation of the project
- supporting District and Town Centre Partnerships by providing local crime analysis and advice and support on addressing the issues identified
- working with the licensed trade to support them in effective management to reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and violence, and considering extending street drinking bans to other district centres, where there is sufficient evidence of need

i) **Key indicators**

- (a) Recorded business robberies
- (b) Completion of District and Town Centres area crime analyses

ii) **Other indicators**

- (a) Repeat victimisation at Raid Controlled premises
- (b) Proportion of licensing applications in high crime areas, in which Police and/or SSP have been involved in the development of premises management plans
- (c) Increase from 2004 level of 6, the number of licensed premises adopting good practice standards, such as the SK:OK safer nights initiative

6) Community Capacity and Empowerment

- a) The Stockport Partnership is committed to supporting and empowering communities in Stockport and is developing a partnership Community Development Strategy to complement the Stockport Compact and the Charter for public participation and involvement. This will be key to achievement of the targets for community engagement and empowerment. However, there are many ways in which the work of the SSP can contribute this work, which will contribute to the broader SSCF objectives (see section 9 below).

i) **Key Indicators**

- (1) The % of people surveyed who are
 - (a) involved in decision-making and
 - (b) feel they can influence decisions in their area
- (2) The % of people who have worked in a voluntary capacity over the past 12 months.

These will be measured by the Stockport Partnership using the Stockport Council Citizen's Panel

ii) **Other Indicators**

- (1) Implementation of Community Cohesion Best Value review objectives
- (2) Number of volunteers for Victim Support and YOT (e.g. referral panels, and mentoring)
- (3) Numbers participating in SSP consultation events and exercises
- (4) Numbers/ membership levels of active home/business/pub watch schemes
- (5) YOT Performance Indicator: Use of Restorative Processes and victim satisfaction- ensure that 75% of victims of all youth crime referred to the YOT are offered the opportunity to participate in a restorative process and 75% of victims participating are satisfied

7) Section Three: Delivery Structures

1) Thematic approaches to Crime, Drugs and Disorder

a) The 2002-5 Stockport Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy successfully developed thematic partnership working based on a range of approaches to crime and disorder reduction under the groups:

- Offenders (Prolific and other Priority Offenders)
- Youth Crime and Disorder
- Patrol and response
- Alcohol-related Crime, Incidents and Disorder (ACID)
- Environmental Crime Reduction
- Domestic Abuse Forum
- Stockport Against Racism Today (START)
- Victims
- Witnesses

These are complemented by the Drug Action Team groups:

- Treatment
- Communities
- Young People's Substance Misuse Group
- Drug Interventions Programme Group

b) These groups now provide the partnership delivery means for the Greater Manchester Against Crime business model. This process uses a range of information to analyse patterns and trends in crime, and to identify strategies for addressing crime and disorder problems. The work of these groups is co-ordinated and performance managed by the Crime and Disorder Executive, and Drug Reference Group, attended by the chairs of the groups. Appendix 2 sets out the proposed activity of these groups, how they contribute to the broad strategy objectives and how their performance and impact will be measured.

2) Prolific and other Priority Offenders Strategy

a) The Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) strategy is a key element of this strategy. It includes three strands:

- Prevent and Deter
- Catch and Convict
- Rehabilitate and Resettle'

b) The **Offenders Group** will take the lead on the 'Catch and Convict' and 'Rehabilitate and Resettle' strands. Catch and convict work targets around 30 individuals identified as the most prolific known offenders in the borough, and co-ordinates a number of interventions to tackle their offending by tailored packages of enforcement and directing them to support such as drug treatment. The 'Rehabilitate and Resettle' work aims to reduce re-offending by prisoners on release, by co-ordinating and improving services and support, including drug and alcohol treatment, physical and mental health, housing, education, training and employment.

c) The **Youth Crime and Disorder Action Group** will steer the Prevent and Deter element of the PPO strategy. This work will target those young people

identified as most at risk of offending or becoming prolific offenders, and their families. The Youth Offending Team Executive is responsible for identification of those on the cusp of offending careers and the delivery of intensive programmes to divert them, and secondly the development of systems to identify young people through the work of many services and agencies working with young people in Stockport.

- i) A Youth Inclusion Support Panel will be the primary means by which individually tailored packages of interventions are identified, to divert the young people away from criminal and anti-social behaviour. Children's Fund projects will be a key part of the work, including the Junior Youth Inclusion Project.
 - ii) The Youth Crime Reduction Group will also continue to address broader issues of prevention and youth nuisance. This will include provision of diversionary activities for young people who are not included the Prevent and Deter work, but may be at increased risk of being involved in criminal and anti-social behaviour, either as offenders or victims.
- 3) The implementation of the **Every Child Matters: Change for Children** programme will help identify needs and opportunities to improve services to protect children from crime, anti-social behaviour and drugs and alcohol abuse. The SSP will work with the Children's Strategic Partnership to ensure compliance with the Every Child Matters outcomes framework.
- 4) **Patrol and Response**
 - a) The data collection and analysis undertaken under the GMAC process will be used by the Patrol and Response Action Group, to direct resources of a range of uniformed patrol services (including Police Community Support Officers, Rangers, and Park Rangers) and CCTV monitoring, to ensure they are in the right places at the right times to deter or detect crime and disorder, and reassure the public. As well as co-ordinating operational deployment issues, it will take a strategic role in identifying need for changes and improvements to services and infrastructure. This group will also lead on dealing with crime on public transport, working with Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive, British Transport Police and service operators, to identify and address patterns and trends of incidents.
- 5) **ACID**
 - a) The ACID group is implementing the current Think Safe Drink Safe Strategy which is seen as the key to reducing violent crime, as well as alcohol-fuelled anti-social behaviour. This focuses in particular on the Town Centre, and aims to work with the licensed trade to make best use of the changes brought about in the Licensing Act 2003 and other new powers to tackle this problem. The Partnership will consider extending the Town Centre street drinking ban to some District Centres in the borough, based on assessment of need and effectiveness.

6) Environmental Crime Reduction

- a) Perceptions and fear of crime are key issues, and the Environmental group can make a significant impact on such perceptions in relation to specific locations, as well as directly impacting on crime on the streets, in car parks and in green-space, by situational crime prevention measures. Its work includes improvement to landscaping and boundaries at high crime locations, dealing with problems associated with footpaths and alleyway, including potential closure, and tackling graffiti.
- b) This group also links the work of the SSP with the ‘cleaner, greener’ objectives of the Community Strategy. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill currently before Parliament, proposes to amend the Crime and Disorder Act to require Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships to consider the state of the local environment in their audits and strategy development. The bill also proposes new powers to deal with abandoned cars, gate nuisance alleyways, and deal with fly-tipping, litter and fly-posting, including greater use of on the spot fines. The Environmental Crime Reduction group is well placed to lead on implementation of these issues on behalf of the SSP.

7) Domestic Abuse Forum (DAF)

- a) Domestic Violence not only affects the lives and health of those directly involved, but also damages the life chances of children affected and increases their risk of involvement in crime and substance misuse. It is recognised that this is a widespread issue, affecting a large number of people in Stockport. The 2004 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act provides further impetus and opportunities for improving the Partnership’s effectiveness in addressing this harm. The DAF is implementing a broad strategy for tackling domestic abuse, and this is currently being reviewed in the light of new Home Office guidance.

8) Stockport Against Racism Today (START)

- a) Addressing racist crime remains an important issue, particularly in the light of the severe impact on people experiencing it. The START group’s role is primarily concerned with race crime while supporting action to tackle other hate crime, and the group will continue to monitor cases and trends in order to develop and implement best practice in tackling racist crime and incidents.

9) Victims Group

- a) This groups co-ordinates work to help protect victims of crime from further victimisation, including practical help with security, advice and support. It also works to provide information, education and advice to help people avoid becoming victim of crime in the first place.

10) Witnesses Group

- a) This group will report to both the Local Criminal Justice Group and the Crime and Disorder Executive, and will locally co-ordinate the witness-focused elements of the Government’s ‘Narrowing the Justice Gap’ objectives. This national initiative sets out to increase the proportion of offences brought to justice, and reduce the number of cases where charges are made that fail to come to trial, including where witnesses fail to appear due to intimidation.

This groups work will include implementation of the new guidance on dealing with cases of domestic violence in the criminal justice system.

11) Stockport Anti-social Behaviour Strategy

The SSP launched its strategy for tackling anti-social behaviour in September 2003, and this will be reviewed during 2005-6. All the action groups listed above contribute to this work, as well as key services in the Partnership, including Police and PCSOs, Rangers, the Anti-social Behaviour Action Team, Council Housing and other Registered Social Landlords, Parks management, Education Welfare and the Council's Environmental Health and Consumer Protection service. Part of the review process will be to consider Housing's own anti-social behaviour strategy and the implications of the proposed development of an Arms Length Management Organisation to take over the management of the Council's Housing Stock.

12) Drugs Misuse

- a) The DAT has established structures for development and co-ordination of work to address drug and substance misuse in Stockport. The approaches taken are set out in the DAT annual plans, covering the following work areas:
 - Treatment
 - Drugs Interventions Programme
 - Young People's Substance Misuse
 - Training
 - Diversity
- b) Plans for 2004-5 will be finalised by April, following consultation with interested parties, and these will be reviewed annually. The DAT has developed a local performance management framework, based on the national framework. This has been agreed with the National Treatment Agency and GONW.

13) Links and relationships to other strategies

- a) It is clear that many other strategies can have an impact on community safety issues, such as employment, education and lifelong learning, and regeneration. It is important that these strategies identify their impact on community safety issues. The Stockport Partnership will have a role in identifying which specialist partnerships should be the lead on particular issues. For example, the SSP may not be the best placed partnership to lead on education and training packages for drug users or ex-offenders, but ensuring progress of such issues will clearly be very important to the success of the Crime, Drugs and Disorder Strategy. The Stockport Partnership may be able to take a role in co-ordinating and directing a range of strategies in the borough to ensure synergy, by identifying shared objectives and appropriate lead organisations for achieving them. This should help to 'join up' initiatives and avoid duplication.

14) Mainstream services contributions to Community Safety

- a) While many mainstream public services contribute to the work of the partnership groups identified above, it is also important to identify and make the most of the opportunities for mainstream services to impact on crime,

drugs and disorder problems, in their routine service planning and delivery. There is a legal requirement under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, for the Council and Police. The Council's performance in respect of this will also be measured as part of the government's Corporate Performance Assessment under the Safer and Stronger Communities theme. The Community Safety Unit will continue to support service managers in addressing this in their business plans and service development.

15) Community Engagement and Area based initiatives.

a) The Safer Stockport Partnership will seek to achieve a balance between borough-wide interventions, and area / community-based work to address crime, drug misuse and disorder, and their causes. While dedicated Community Safety resources are limited, there are a number of ways in which the SSP will seek to develop and improve links with Stockport's communities, set out in the following paragraphs:

b) Communicating with the public

i) The partnership will develop its communication strategy, to ensure that the public are informed of its work and the results achieved. This will include use of the Safer Stockport Partnership web-site (www.saferstockport.org.uk), articles in the Review (the Council's regular newspaper delivered to all households) and press releases and advertising as appropriate, in connection with particular campaigns and issues.

c) Diversity Issues

The Safer Stockport Partnership recognises the value of cultural diversity and aims to promote equality of opportunity. It is important to clearly identify how the work of the Partnership impacts on our diverse communities in Stockport, and ensure that action is taken to prevent discrimination, and, where possible, to work against social exclusion. The Partnership will ensure that appropriate diversity monitoring systems are in place for all projects and initiatives, and use the information gathered to review the management and promotion of its work, by undertaking an Equalities Impact Assessment of the Strategy. In this work we will focus, in particular, on those groups characterised by gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief. The SSP will also consult where appropriate with a number of groups, including:

- i) The Greater Manchester Police Independent Advisory Group in Stockport which advises policy and issues from the perspective of race, cultural and religious diversity
- ii) The BME Children's Fund Steering Group
- iii) People Like Us Stockport
- iv) Greater Manchester Police Authority consultation with BME groups, including young people
- v) Disability Stockport

d) Quality of life in disadvantaged neighbourhoods

The Safer and Stronger Communities Funding at national level aims to support the objective of improving quality of life in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. While this is not a mandatory objective for Stockport, the Partnership

recognises the value of this aspiration. We will work with existing community regeneration areas, and seek to address issues in a number of smaller communities, identified as vulnerable in terms of community cohesion by the GMAC strategic assessment. As the SSCF funding for Stockport does not include any element for this kind of work, this work will seek to target existing mainstream and other funding and resources.

- e) The SSP has supported targeted area-based working and the Crime and Disorder Audit and GMAC Strategic assessment suggests that these areas should continue to be prioritised:
 - i) The appointment of an area Community Safety coordinator in Adswold and Bridgehall has helped develop effective local partnership working and has won considerable support from the local communities. The post is funded until March 2006, and the SRB forward strategy will need to involve the SSP in considering the best way to continue both the community safety and broader community development work in the area.
 - ii) The North Reddish Crime Panel, developed with the help of the Council's Community Development team, has provided a good model of support for and empowerment of local community organisations
 - iii) Regeneration partnerships for district and local centres and the Town Centre have clearly identified community safety issues as key to success, and the SSP will continue to work to support these partnerships in addressing these.
 - iv) As part of the forward plan for the end of SRB regeneration initiative in Brinnington, Stockport Council is funding on-going community development support, which will help to address community safety issues in Brinnington. This will provide opportunities to address specific issues in partnership with the local communities in Brinnington, in ways that can make a significant impact on the borough-wide targets.
 - v) The recent re-structuring within the Police provides for a structure that is more accountable to local communities. The Community Safety Unit will link with the new area Police structure, to support the Police in engaging with the appropriate services in other parts of the Partnership, by the identification of a 'team' of CSU officers for each Police area.
 - vi) Multi-agency Targeted Response Groups have been established in a number of areas. These bring together services, including Police, social landlords, and the Anti-social Behaviour Action Team to share information and agree local strategies for dealing with the individuals causing most problems in those areas, by use of appropriate enforcement activity and support.
 - vii) The Council's recent Best Value Review of community cohesion focused on the issues of fear of crime and inter-generational conflict as the greatest challenges to the development of cohesive communities. In its recommendations the review sets out a number of clear objectives and actions to address these issues (available at www.stockport.gov.uk on the council and democracy pages). The SSP will seek to address these objectives as part of the new strategy.
 - viii) The Town Centre will continue as a priority area, in particular for work on preventing alcohol-related violence and disorder (as identified in the current 'Think Safe Drink Safe' Strategy). Good practice developed

(including the street drinking ban, subject to its evaluation) may be extended to other district centres based on assessment of need and local support.

- ix) The Prevent and Deter strand of the PPO strategy requires development of inter-agency casework procedures for young people on the fringes, or at high risk of, criminal/anti-social behaviour. This work will seek to identify opportunities for local voluntary organisations to contribute to provision of activities and support for the young people involved.
- x) Support for the maintenance and further expansion of Home Watch, Business Watch and Pub-watch schemes will continue to be an important means of engaging with communities.
- xi) GMPA consultation work has contributed to the consultation for the development of this strategy, and the Community Safety Unit is working with the GMPA consultative team to ensure this, and future consultation undertaken, links with and informs the Partnership's strategy.
- xii) The SSP will liaise with Greater Manchester Police research team to improve co-ordination of the range of different consultation surveys to avoid duplication and share findings

16) Evaluation and review

- a) This document sets out what the Safer Stockport Partnership is setting out to achieve over the next three years. While we are committed to achieving the goals set out here, we recognise that the strategy will have to continue to develop and change, in response to the changing environment. The Strategy will therefore be reviewed and a report produced on an annual basis, and any changes to the priorities, targets and indicators will be published as part of this process.

Key Findings of CD&D Consultation Survey Responses

1) Introduction

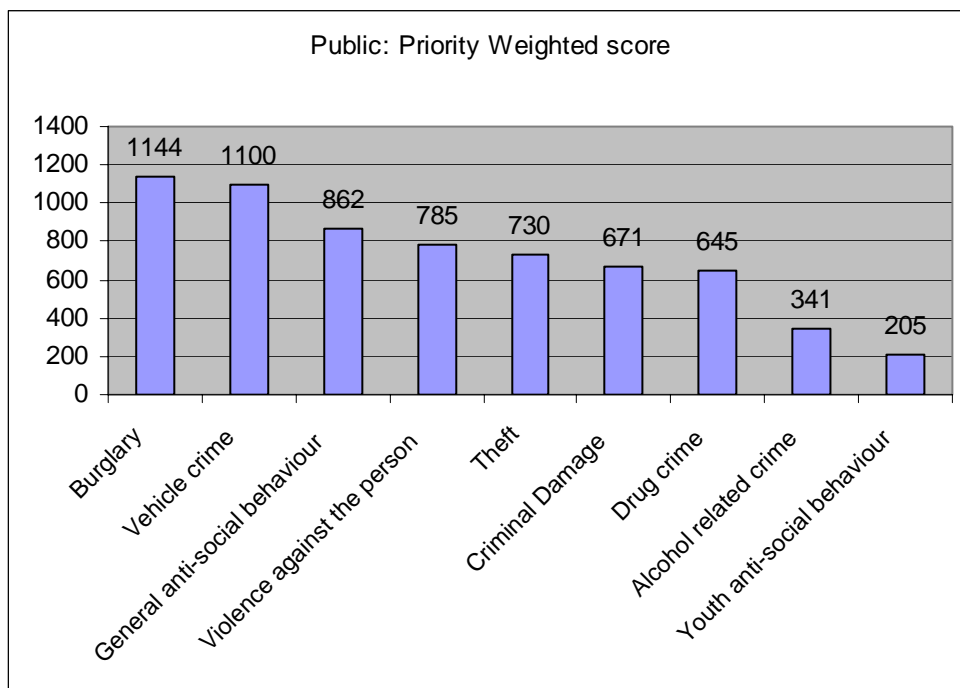
- a) Consultation was undertaken between October and December 2004. The consultation involved distribution of the summary of the findings of the audit document, ‘Crime, Drugs and Disorder in Stockport 2004’ and questionnaires. These were distributed via meetings, by post and via the Internet. Further consultation was undertaken via focus groups and a special event for members of the Stockport Partnership Forum. This report highlights the key findings of the survey.
- b) 774 completed questionnaires were received
 - 720 from members of the public
 - 54 from ‘partners’ including public service agencies, businesses, community organisations and elected representatives

2) Profile of Public respondents

- a) 58% of public respondents were female (where stated)
- b) 86% were white British, 5.3 % other ethnicities and 8.7% not stated.

3) Public perceptions of crime, drugs and Disorder in Stockport

- a) Respondents were asked first to state what they saw as the 5 biggest crime problems affecting Stockport, in order of importance. These have been grouped in to 9 classifications. While each issue appears a similar number of times in the response (between 600 and 770 mentions) when responses are weighted according to the priority order with 5 points for top priority down to one point for fifth priority, a clear ranking emerges, as shown below:
- b) Partners gave largely similar rankings, but with higher ranking of general anti-social behaviour and criminal damage.



- c) Respondents were then asked whether they thought crime, drugs and disorder problems were getting better or worse, in their own and in Stockport as whole:

Perception of crime, drugs and disorder problems	Public		Partners	
	In Stockport	In local area	In Stockport	In local area
getting better	15.4%	23.2%	22.2%	9.3%
the same	39.2%	35.0%	18.5%	16.7%
getting worse	29.9%	26.5%	14.6%	27.8%
no reply	15.6%	15.3%	44.4%	46.3%

- i) While the general public tended to be more likely to feel positive about their local area than Stockport as whole, partners have much more negative perceptions about their local area than about the borough as a whole.

4) Top priorities for action:

- a) Given a list of 24 activities the SSP may undertake to tackle these problems, respondents were asked to choose five activities that the Partnership should concentrate on.

i) Public

The top five actions identified by members of the public were:

1. More visible patrols by Police, rangers and security officers
2. Getting better at catching and convicting offenders responsible for most crime
3. More sports, youth clubs, etc to keep young people occupied and out of trouble
4. Work with young / first time offenders and their families to prevent them getting into a 'life of crime'
5. More Acceptable Behaviour Contracts or Anti-Social Behaviour Orders

ii) Partners

The top five actions identified by partners were:

- 1) More visible patrols by Police, rangers and security officers
- 2) Work with young / first time offenders and their families to prevent them getting into a 'life of crime'
- 3) More sports, youth clubs, etc to keep young people occupied and out of trouble
- 4) Getting better at catching and convicting offenders responsible for most crime
- 5) More enforcement action to tackle under-age sales of alcohol

6) Drugs

Questions were asked about concerns and perceptions about drug misuse, with results as follows:

a) Public

Question	Regularly	Sometimes	Not at all	Don't know
Is drug dealing a problem for you?	13.0%	25.7%	24.2%	37.1%
Is drug taking in your area a problem for you?	16.6%	29.6%	19.7%	34.0%
Is finding evidence of drug use in your area a problem for you?	8.0%	27.3%	35.9%	28.8%
Are you concerned about people you know using drugs?	7.0%	12.9%	45.8%	34.4%

b) Partners

Question	Regularly	Sometimes	Not at all	Don't know
Is drug dealing a problem for you?	19.2%	46.2%	23.1%	11.5%
Is drug taking in your area a problem for you?	22.4%	49.0%	20.4%	8.2%
Is finding evidence of drug use in your area a problem for you?	19.1%	46.8%	31.9%	2.1%
Are you concerned about people you know using drugs?	4.5%	25.0%	61.4%	9.1%

7) Stockport Partnership Consultation event

A Stockport Partnership Forum took place on 2nd December 2004 to help develop the strategy. Sixty-six representatives of communities and organisations in Stockport joined the Community Safety Unit to help discuss how we should tackle crime, disorder and drugs misuse in Stockport over the coming years.

Delegates at the Forum in December identified the top priorities for action to tackle crime, drugs and disorder as:

1. Working with young offenders and their families to prevent them getting into a life of crime
2. Getting better at catching and convicting the offenders responsible for most crime
3. More visible patrols by Police Officers, Rangers and security officers
4. More Sports, youth clubs etc to keep young people occupied and out of trouble
5. Working with pubs and clubs to reduce alcohol-related trouble.

8) Other consultation

Further consultation was undertaken by means of focus group meetings with specific interest groups including

- Domestic abuse survivors
- Asylum seekers
- Young people, in a range of different settings
- Stockport Council's Area Committees

A more detailed summary of all consultation will be made available in April, and the findings will be addressed by the appropriate structures within the SSP.