



**To:** Community Planning Partnership Board

**On:** 11 May 2016

**Report by:**

Shona MacDougall, Director of Community Resources, Renfrewshire Council

**Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board Spotlight Report**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board has responsibility for co-ordinating and driving multi-agency activity to ensure that we achieve our long term vision that: 'Renfrewshire is known as a safe and tolerant place where residents and visitors enjoy a high level of personal safety and public protection and are free from crime. A culture of fairness, respect and equality exists and vulnerable children and adults are well looked after and protected'.
- 1.2 The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire element of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan clearly sets out our agreed outcomes together with the one, three and ten year targets for each impact measure. Progress against Safer and Stronger actions has been presented regularly to the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board and the performance of impact measures links directly to actions undertaken by the partners. This report provides a summary of progress against Safer and Stronger actions and measures over the first three years of the Community Plan, an overview of the agreed strategic priorities and focus for the Thematic Board and the key areas of work being taken forward by partners over the next year.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Community Plan Partnership Board:
  - a) Note the strong performance and strategic focus achieved by the Safer & Stronger Thematic Board;
  - b) Note the strategic review of priorities and focus for the Renfrewshire Safer & Stronger Thematic Board;
  - c) Note the agreed future work plan of the Safer & Stronger Thematic Board; and
  - d) Note the challenges and implications relating to a small number of impact measures.

### 3. Background

3.1 The Renfrewshire Community Plan/Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2013-2023 was approved by the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board on 12 June 2013 and was subsequently 'signed off' by the Minister for Local Government and Planning in August 2013. In order to achieve a Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire, the Community Planning partners identified four key outcomes which they aim to achieve by 2023:

- Outcome 1: Renfrewshire is known as a place where people living, working or visiting feel safe and secure;
- Outcome 2: Our communities are living their lives safe from violence and antisocial behaviour and having a responsible approach to accessing and using alcohol;
- Outcome 3: All members of our community, in particular our most vulnerable children, young people and adults, are living in a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where they are respected and free from abuse and neglect;
- Outcome 4: Renfrewshire citizens are positive, supporting equality and valuing diversity to achieve fairness for all within our communities.

3.2 Since the development and publication of the Community Plan, good progress has been made in driving forward this agenda and this is reflected in performance against the impact measures of the Safer and Stronger element of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. In year 1 all but one of the impact measures achieved their targets. This strong performance has been maintained in both year 2 and year 3 and as a result in a number of areas targets set initially have been met already and in November new more challenging targets were agreed by the Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board. Impact measures affected were:

- The increase in people who think Renfrewshire is a safe place to live –  
Current Performance, 80% (2014/15)  
Year 3 target revised from 45% to 83%  
Year 10 target revised from 66% to 87%;
- The reduction in reported incidents of anti-social behaviour -  
Current Performance, 12,177(2014/15)  
Year 3 target revised from 16,277 to 11,489  
Year 10 target revised from 13,404 to 9,575  
(The original 10 year target sought a 30% reduction, the revised target seeks a 50% reduction from the baseline);
- The reduction in the number of crimes of violence -  
Current Performance, 255 (2014/15)  
Year 3 target revised from 375 to 252  
Year 10 target revised from 333 to 208  
(The original 10 year target sought a 30% reduction, the revised target seeks a 50% reduction from the baseline);

- The reduction in complaints regarding vandalism and youth disorder -  
Current Performance, 2,627 (2014/15)  
Year 3 target revised from 2,921 to 2,614  
Year 10 target revised from 2,767 to 2,306  
(The original 10 year target sought a 10% reduction, the revised target seeks a 25% reduction from the baseline).

### 3.3 Over the past year or so some of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board's Key achievements have included:

- Responding to the Scottish Government's consultation on working together for people who go missing in Scotland. Going missing is an indicator of vulnerability and can be both a symptom and cause of distress, for the missing person and their friends and families. It is a serious issue – with over 30,000 incidents a year reported nationally – 64% of which involve children and young people. Around 1 in 3 incidents are repeat missing incidents and for young people, going missing regularly can be an indicator of poorer future outcomes in life.

During 2015 the Scottish Government developed a draft strategy for consultation that proposed 8 commitments structured around 4 objectives:

- Prevent
- Respond
- Support
- Protect

Renfrewshire Child and Adult Protection Committees jointly hosted a consultation event on the 23rd November 2015 attended by practitioners from across Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership. Following this a formal written consultation response was produced and approved by the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership. The Scottish Government has since invited Renfrewshire to participate in a pilot project in relation to the strategy:

- Overseeing the development of refining the Community Safety Partnership daily tasking process. An evaluation of the Renfrewshire Community Safety Hub Daily Tasking meeting was conducted during September 2015. The main aim was to identify gaps, or weaknesses, in the process and to make recommendations to mitigate against these in order to ensure that the communities of Renfrewshire receive the most effective service from the Partnership and that the process is as comprehensive and efficient as possible,

Overall, the results indicate that the daily tasking process works very well and brings significant benefits for all participants when they attend. However there are clear issues for some services in balancing competing demands on time and in considering how best to share and disseminate relevant information effectively,

In addition to these issues, consideration will be given by the Community Safety and Public Protection Steering Group to the impact that new legislative

requirements will have on resources and working practises as it concludes its evaluation of the daily tasking process and how best all agencies at these meetings can maintain and improve on the strong performance of this service;

- Overseeing the delivery of phase 1 of the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership Hub. Over the past year the construction works of the new integrated control room at the former District Court building in Mill Street, Paisley have been completed. The £1.3m project included the replacement of all of the existing public space cameras on the network and a further 10 cameras being installed across Renfrewshire to improve coverage and resilience in the network. Improved mobile camera functionality has also been provided through the replacement of the mobile CCTV vans used within the wardens service. Upgraded software and functionality has been made available to the control room operators through the improved system, which is producing images of a much higher quality than was previously possible. The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership hub now brings together key services of the Community Safety Partnership such as Mediation, Investigation, Youth Team and Police and Council analytical services;
- Establishing an active and effective Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference within Renfrewshire supported by the Gender Based Violence Strategy Group and the Community Safety and Public Protection Steering Group;
- Contributing to the work of Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Strategy, through the expansion of the Streetstuff programme of diversionary activities, with over 37,000 participants at 2,000 sessions. The expanded programme has also developed links to the Families First programme and the enhanced breakfast club model;
- Supporting the night time economy of our Town Centres through the promotion of the Purple Flag accreditation for Paisley and the continued success of the Best Bar None awards, with 6 Renfrewshire premises recognised nationally during each of the last 2 years;
- Submission of a Renfrewshire Transition Plan to the Scottish Government as part of the legislative change needed to establish the new community justice model in Scotland;
- Contributing to the Strategic Police Agenda through the coordination of Renfrewshire's response to the draft annual Police Plan and the review of Strategic Police Priorities which is currently ongoing.

#### **4. Agreed Priorities/Strategic Focus**

- 4.1 As a result of the work undertaken in the previous year and the sustained good performance against the performance indicators, overall, the action plan agreed by the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board has been delivered successfully. However, the environment in which the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board is operating is continuing to evolve and develop, and

over the past 6 months strategic focus has changed to reflect the development of the City Deal programme, Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Strategy, the Paisley 2021 Bid, and the regeneration of Paisley.

4.2 To achieve this next step the Board acknowledged that it was necessary to undertake a review of its strategic focus and the future direction of its work programme. This process has been shaped by:

- The recent review of governance arrangements for public protection in Renfrewshire; and
- The wider strategic landscape in which the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership now operates.

4.3 The review of governance arrangements for public protection was carried out by Renfrewshire's Chief Officer's Group and has been instrumental in shaping the future strategic focus of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board. The Chief Officer's Group review highlighted the following key themes as requiring particular focus:

- Community safety and public protection;
- Child protection;
- Adult protection;
- Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA);
- Alcohol and Drugs; and
- Gender Based Violence.

4.4 The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board intends to reflect these key themes in its future work programme thereby ensuring a strong strategic fit with the local public protection agenda. In addition, work will continue across the wider Safer and Stronger agenda to ensure that the overarching strategic focus of the Community Planning Partnership on issues such as tackling child poverty, protecting vulnerable people, regenerating and improving town centres are reflected in the workload and future focus of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board.

## 5. **Future Priorities**

5.1 On the basis of this review, the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board agreed at its meeting in March 2016 the development of a focused programme of work that would ensure delivery of these broad strategic issues:

5.2 **Outcome 1: Renfrewshire is known as a place where people living, working and visiting feel safe and secure.**

The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board will:

- Oversee the Building Safer Greener Communities Programme which seeks a flourishing, optimistic Renfrewshire in which resilient communities, families and individuals live their lives safe from crime, disorder and harm;
- Support Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Strategy through an expanded Street Stuff diversionary programme and the joint employability initiative with Police

Scotland in order to address areas where there is limited opportunities for young people; and

- Continue to support the Town Centre Strategies which ensure that our town centres thrive and meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors. In Paisley this will focus on developing the night time economy, delivering Purple Flag and enhancing the public realm as the basis for support to the Paisley 2021 City of Culture bid.

### **5.3 Outcome 2: Our communities live their lives safe from violence and antisocial behaviour and have a responsible approach to accessing and using alcohol**

The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board will:

- Develop phase 2 of Renfrewshire's Community Safety Partnership Hub which will focus on further integration of services to be located within the hub such as key holding facilities, community alarm response, development of the radio link system, concierge and out of hours services;
- Oversee development of national and local priorities including Gender Based Violence, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), and Scotland's Missing Persons Strategy as well as providing diversionary services;
- Work to ensure the smooth transition of Community Justice through; the completion of the Community Justice Steering Group Memorandum of Understanding the delivery of a community justice awareness raising session; and consideration of the National Strategy and Performance Framework when they are published; and
- Continue to tackle alcohol misuse and the impact it has on individuals, families and communities, being driven by the Health & Social Care Partnership.

### **5.4 Outcome 3: All members of our community, in particular our most vulnerable children, young people and adults, live in a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where they are respected and free from abuse and neglect**

The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board will:

- Maintain its strong track record of protecting the most vulnerable members of our communities who are vulnerable to exploitation or crime; &
- Work in partnership to Build Safer Greener Communities with a holistic approach to deliver a balance of enforcement, engagement and public reassurance.

### **5.5 Outcome 4: Renfrewshire citizens are positive, support equality and value diversity to achieve fairness for all within our communities**

The Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board will:

- Continue to support equality and diversity and foster good relations between diverse communities;
- Oversee Renfrewshire's DEAR group to encourage individual and third party reporting of hate crime incidents through: awareness raising campaigns;

encouraging the use of third party reporting centres that are accessible at the heart of our communities and supporting the I am Me/Keep Safe project.

## 6. Issues and Challenges

- 6.1 As previously agreed a full 3 year progress report will be submitted to the Community Planning Partnership Board in September 2016. In terms of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board progress, early indications suggest that the strong performance against impact measures, highlighted in section 3 of this report, has been maintained. However, a small number of measures are proving particularly challenging and these will be a focus for the Thematic Board in terms of improving performance.

Impact Measure	Comment
Increase % of adults who agree with the statement "I am satisfied with my neighbourhood as place to live"	Analysis is being carried out to identify issues at a neighbourhood level and an action plan will be developed to address those issues identified in the analysis.
% reduction in the perception of the local drug dealing/use in neighbourhoods	Following a decline in recent years in the perception of drug dealing/use in neighbourhoods the most recent data available for this measure has shown an increase in Renfrewshire. Further analysis will be carried out to explain this increase and develop actions to address this issue.
Number of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (combined data from Renfrewshire Council Community Safety Service and Police Scotland)	Performance for both impact measures had previously exceeded year 3 and year 10 targets which led to the Board set more challenging targets for both measures. It is likely that a drive to improve reporting of such activity and the challenging nature of the revised targets will explain the current performance.
Number of complaints regarding vandalism and youth disorder	
Reduction in the number of children looked after away from home	In recent years the number of children looked after away from home has remained static. This reflects a strong focus on finding long-term stable placements for looked after children. Going forward the emphasis will continue to be on ensuring that placements are sustainable whether this is a permanent return home, a permanent arrangement to remain with kinship carers or foster carers, or in some cases, adoption. Placement decisions will always prioritise the safety and needs of the individual child.

6.2 The results from a further four indicators will be drawn from the second study of need and perception which will be carried out in late 2016 using the Social Research Unit epidemiological approach. The study will show the changes which have occurred since the baseline study which was carried out in late 2011/early 2012. The indicators are:

- Reduction in the number of teenagers who report being involved in 4 or more delinquent activities in the past 12 months;
- Reduction in the number of teenagers who report having committed 4 or more criminal acts in the past 12 months;
- Increase the perception of secondary school pupils who report their communities are safe places to live (1-4 lower the better);
- Reduction of secondary school pupils reporting that they are living in communities with many problems

**Author:** For more information about the report, please contact Oliver Reid, Head of Public Protection, Renfrewshire Council on 0141 618 7352, [oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)