



York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum

Update October 2008

Aim/distribution

The aim of these quarterly updates is to provide a more systematic form of communication between the wider safer communities 'family'. The update will encourage a two-way exchange of information / development of mutual understanding between county-wide and district structures and organisations. The updates will include key messages from the Forum structure and district CDRPs. These updates will be circulated electronically to members of the Forum structure, district CDRPs and chairs of the other North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSPP) thematic partnerships. It is requested that the update is included on relevant agendas for information and forwarded to other interested partner organisations.

Revised Structure

The newly established Forum structure has now been embedded. The Forum is the key decision making body and meets twice a year. It is supported by the Joint Officer Working Group (JOWG) that is responsible for taking issues forward on behalf of the Forum. These two bodies are supported by ten Joint Co-ordinating Groups (JCGs). Five of these groups focus on delivery themes, which are; alcohol; domestic abuse; prolific and other priority offenders; violent crime; and road safety. The other five groups focus on facilitation themes to improve the way the Forum operates. These are; funding; horizon scanning; communications; performance; and data and information.

North Yorkshire Community Safety Agreement 2008/09

There is a duty on the Forum to produce an annual Community Safety Agreement for North Yorkshire. The 2008/09 Agreement has now been signed off. The agreement is an opportunity for the Forum to consider the data, intelligence and analysis from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships' (CDRPs) annual Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessments (JSIAs) and identify ways in which partners can work more effectively, both individually and collectively, to address the priorities and issues identified. The agreement is available at www.nysp.org.uk (click on 'Safer Communities' and then on 'Documents').

Priority Setting

The Forum has established a process to identify priority work streams for the next two years to tie in with the lifespan of the Local Area Agreement. These priorities will be drawn from current issues being tackled by the Forum, which include; domestic abuse; alcohol; prolific and other priority offenders; violent crime; road safety; data and information; substance misuse; anti-social behaviour; and young offenders. Partners have been encouraged to comment on the proposals submitted.

Funding

The Funding Joint Co-ordinating Group is developing principles for allocation of the safer element of the Area Based Grant (ABG) Funding. This will ensure that funding is allocated according to need (i.e. based on crime data), will provide greater security as funding will now be agreed for a two year period to the end of the current ABG programme, and will ensure value for money as partners will be expected to make efficiency savings. The priority setting process detailed above will be used to allocate the top-slicing pot of the ABG to the highest priority work streams across the County. Funding for CDRPS will be allocated in accordance with these principles although it is recognised that the sustainability of funding to these partnerships needs to be considered over the two year period.

Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA)

There is a statutory obligation and a practical need for CDRPs to produce a JSIA for their district. There have been some issues around determining who will produce the assessment, what information will be used and who will provide this information. Over the next few months the Data and Information Joint Co-ordinating Group will produce a matrix of the information held by each partner that could contribute to a JSIA and will assess the quality of this data in terms of translating it into a meaningful contribution to the assessment. Additionally the group will also produce a pilot JSIA for one CDRP and circulate it for comment in relation to its usefulness and composition. A presentation on this work will take place at the next meeting of the group on the 18th November at Police HQ. For further information contact Nick Warnes, Tel: 01904 669080, Email: nick.warnes@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Progress in delivering the Y&NY Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy

The Alcohol Joint Co-ordinating Group is in the process of implementing this strategy. Key issues include:

- looking to 'piggy back' on Teesside approach through consultancy to map services across North Yorkshire;
- funding challenges, including the fact that the re-commissioning of drugs services in North Yorkshire has highlighted gaps in provision for alcohol-related abuse;
- effective progress of the Strategy will also rely on closer engagement with the third sector (such as Alcoholics Anonymous) and the alcohol industry; and
- three Accident and Emergency projects are planned for hospitals in Scarborough, Northallerton and Harrogate to assess and reduce the impact of alcohol-related harm.

For further information contact Rosemary Taylor, Email: RoTaylor2000@aol.com

School Watch Group

A joint 'School Watch Group' is about to be established involving North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and key representatives from schools. The initiative will involve prioritising trouble spot locations and categorising them into "high risk", "medium risk" and "low risk", based on information from partners. A range of interventions will then be delivered depending on the level of risk. A joint official launch will take place in the next few months and the intention is to pilot the scheme in the new year. For further information contact Brian Williams, Tel: 01609 534465, Email: brian.williams@northyorks.gov.uk

Prolific and Other Priority Offenders (PPO)

The aim of the Prolific & Other Priority Offenders (PPO) strategy is to develop a joined up approach with the explicit aim of moving offenders away from committing further crime. The work of the PPO Joint Co-ordinating Group during the last 6 months has, in the main, been concerned with developing and reviewing the processes and mechanisms involved in identifying, managing and reviewing PPOs across all three strands (Catch & Convict, Prevent & Deter and Rehabilitate and Resettle). To this end the group commissioned two major pieces of work:

- A review of the PPO Premium Service that aims to deliver faster processing, prioritisation of resources, enhanced quality standards and increased multi-agency collaboration.
- A review of the processes and mechanisms involved in identifying, nominating and reviewing PPOs. The process is to be produced on a CDROM for all agencies to embed within their PPO identification and management activity.

For further information contact Liz Race, Tel: 01723 380834, Email: Liz.Race@north-yorkshire.probaton.gsi.gov.uk

The next update will be published in January – contributions from CDRPs and Joint Co-ordinating Groups are welcomed.

For further information about the York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum please visit www.nysp.org.uk or contact Tom Bryant tom.bryant@northyorks.gov.uk Tel: 01609 532749.