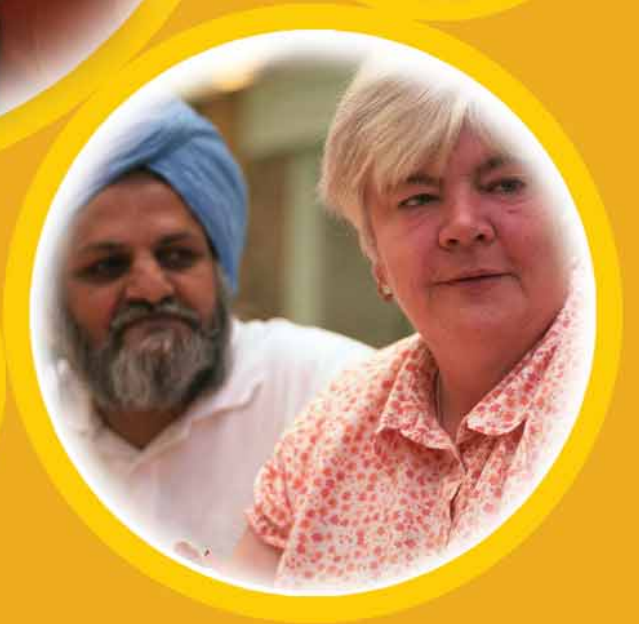
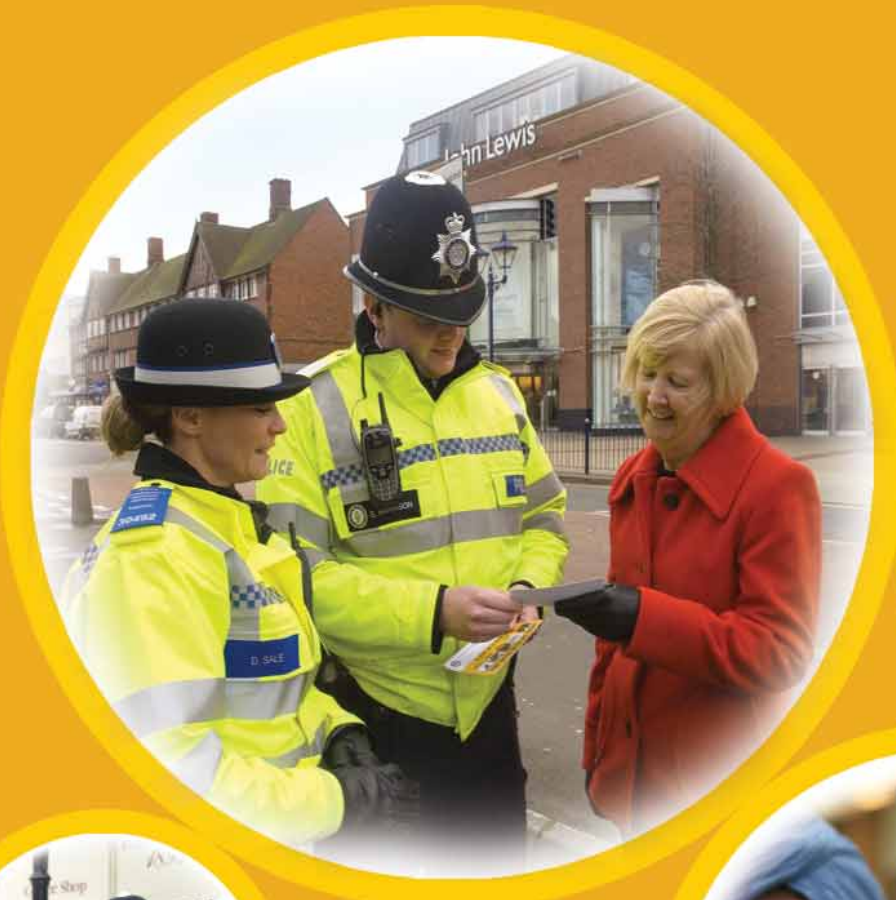


Solihull Safer Communities Plan

Working to reduce crime and disorder and make our communities feel safer.



We hope you find our Safer Communities Plan useful.

If you or someone you know needs this leaflet in another language or format, please contact Solihull Council on 0121 704 8000.

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Solihull Safer Communities Plan

2008-2011

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**Foreword from Mark Rogers,
Chief Executive of Solihull Council**

Welcome to the Solihull Community Safety Plan for 2008 –2011, which has been produced by the Safer Communities Strategic Group, part of the Solihull Partnership.

We hope that the plan will provide you with an overview of what partners will be doing to address crime, disorder, the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse and anti social behaviour in our Borough over the coming years.

We have achieved a great deal already but there is always more to be done. Although Solihull has relatively low crime levels, and local people are unlikely to become a victim of crime, we are always looking for more opportunities to drive down crime and make the borough a place where everyone has an equal chance to be healthier, happier, safer and prosperous.

We know from what our communities have told us that crime, disorder and anti social behaviour are important issues that need to be tackled to further improve quality of life, and this is why we remain committed to ensuring Solihull is safe place in which to live, work, learn and play. Through our efforts we need to make sure that our communities actually feel reassured and that community confidence is increased. We appreciate that we cannot do this alone, that we all have a part to play and, as such, we are seeking ways to work together better.

The plan will be refreshed each year to make sure that it reflects any changes in the levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour, our communities concerns, and changing national policies. We hope you find it useful and if you have any questions, suggestions or issues regarding the plan or community safety please feel free to contact the Crime and Disorder Reduction Team on 0121 704 8000.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SA Mark Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mark Rogers - Chief Executive – Solihull Council

Chair of the Solihull Safer Communities Strategic Group.



1. Introducing our vision

We want Solihull to be a place where people can enjoy an improved quality of life, now and in the future.

The reduction of crime is a priority both locally and nationally. We know from what our residents have told us that this is one of the greatest causes of concern for our communities. It affects the quality of life and what people think about the area in which they live, visit or work. Therefore our vision for Solihull is to reduce crime and disorder and to make our communities feel safer.

Through the development of this plan and other strategies such as the Solihull Partnership Sustainable Communities Strategy, "One Borough: An equal chance for all" we have developed a long-term vision for Solihull aimed at improving the quality of people's lives. We have set out a framework for the borough that considers people's aspirations for the future. We aim to enhance the quality of life through action to improve economic, social and environmental well being, taking into account the views of local people and organisations.

Tackling crime and disorder is one of the key priorities in our Sustainable Communities Strategy. Much has been achieved already but there are still areas we need to improve if we are to achieve our overall ambition to make Solihull a place where everyone feels safe. We have developed this three-year plan after gathering and analysing data from a wide range of sources, consulting with our residents and key partners. We want to address the issues that we know are really important to our residents and in doing so, ensure that we commission services which will have the most impact upon reducing crime and disorder within the borough.

Led by Solihull's Safer Communities Strategic Group (SCSG), formerly known as Solihull Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), this plan brings together the desired outcomes of a whole range of organisations including the Police, Fire Service, Solihull Community Housing, Solihull Care Trust, Probation, Criminal Justice system and Solihull Council. It explains our aims, values and our priorities for improvement over the next three years and is specific about what will be done, by whom and by when. Our work will support the aspirations of the Sustainable Communities Strategy and its other four thematic groups: Children and Young People's Trust, Healthier Communities, Prosperous Communities and Stronger Communities and the Local Area Agreement.

We know that different things are important to different people and the strategic group will not lose sight of the variety of issues that are important to our residents. However, this plan has identified through its strategic assessment, the five key areas that we should concentrate on to have the greatest impact, within the constraints of limited resources, to reduce crime and disorder and fear of crime. We acknowledge that in doing this we still need to keep an awareness of the evolution of crime patterns and its impact on our communities. Whilst we are focusing on five priority areas we will endeavour to monitor the evolution of crime and its impact that it will have on all of our communities as a whole. We will give equal consideration to everyone's needs, whilst acknowledging our obligation to be inclusive and aware of the diverse needs of our communities.

Working closely with our Adult and Children and Young Peoples safeguarding boards we will ensure that the particular needs of our most vulnerable residents are taken into account and will work proactively to reduce the risk of harm or abuse.

Initiatives linked to vulnerable people and the prevention agenda are:

- **Awareness raising campaigns** to share personal safety messages
- **Shipshape home improvement register** to help people make contact with genuine trades people and avoid rogue traders
- **Home check scheme** to help identify ways to make homes more secure, provide help to fit security devices and avoid the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime.

This plan will also provide a written record against which the Safer Communities Strategic Group can be held to account by the Solihull Partnership and our communities and through the development of commissioning plans will provide a mechanism against which progress can be measured.





2. Our Borough

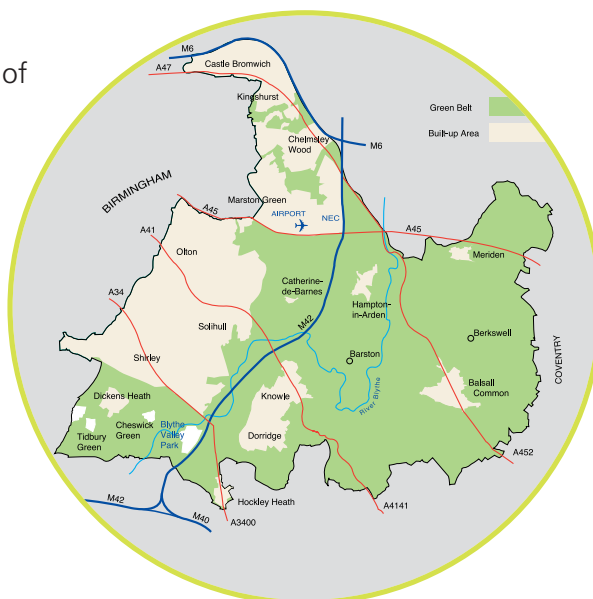
The Borough of Solihull is home to a population of around 203,900 living in over 87,000 households located mainly in the residential suburbs of Solihull, Shirley, Olton, Balsall Common and Knowle in the south and in Castle Bromwich, Smith's Wood, Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst and Fordbridge in the north.

Solihull's population is broad, with year on year increases in our older population. Currently a quarter of our residents are aged over 65 and a quarter are aged 20 and below.

We have fewer people from minority ethnic backgrounds than our nearest neighbours - 5.4% living in the Borough. However, this being said the daytime students, working population and visitors to the borough bring many more diverse people into the area on a daily basis and profiles within the North show a significant increase of young residents from minority and ethnic backgrounds.

The Borough has two contrasting characteristics, highly recognised economic success and general affluence to the south against high levels of deprivation* to some areas in the north. Some 28% of our neighbourhoods are amongst the 20% most deprived (Index of Multiple Deprivation, Indices of Deprivation 2004), with 10 neighbourhoods amongst the 10% most deprived overall. A 15-year programme of regeneration is currently underway to address this imbalance and create opportunity for employment, more affordable homes and education to the north of Solihull.

Solihull residents generally have a good quality of life. However, people living in the north of Solihull generally have poorer health, less suitable housing, lower educational attainment levels, child poverty and traditionally poor transport links to the south of the borough and most of the West Midlands.



* Indices of deprivation 2004.



3. Nature and extent of crime in Solihull

Crime rates in Solihull are amongst the lowest within the West Midlands conurbation. Crime rates have steadily declined over the past three years with a reduction of 11.8%, to a total of 17,194 crimes in 2007 compared to 2006, which equates to 2,299 fewer victims of crime.

We have achieved further notable successes in reducing vehicle crime, domestic burglary and incidents of robbery. However there remain issues for concern that we need to address if we are to achieve our ambition to make Solihull a place where everyone feels safe.

Since the introduction of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, we have built on our understanding of the role that each partner has to play in the complex and ever evolving field of crime reduction. As a multi agency partnership, we are very well placed to understand the whole picture in relation to crime and its many causes, the social dynamics that cause someone to offend and the far-reaching effect that crime has on the community and its impact on the victims.

In September 2007, we commissioned the production of our first partnership Strategic Assessment. This comprehensive assessment, which gathered and analysed data held by a wide range of partners and through various consultation exercises with our communities has enabled us to assess the current, emerging and long-term issues and the areas, which are affected to a greater or lesser degree. The assessment has helped us to identify what our priorities should be now and in the future, and to help us target different interventions within localised targeted activity.

The assessment also demonstrated that a number of important issues from our previous strategy had been successfully delivered. Key successes include:

- Levels of recorded crime have significantly reduced and are the lowest recorded in over four years with a total reduction 24% which equates to 5,656 fewer victims of crime.
- Victims of Domestic Violence have received better support through the criminal justice system with the introduction of a special domestic violence court held each week at Solihull Magistrates court
- We have achieved a reduction in arson figures for 07/08 compared to 06/07:

Arson involving people's homes 13% reduction.

Arson involving businesses and schools 34% reduction.

Arson involving vehicles 19% reduction.

- The number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time has been significantly reduced.
- More drug users are now receiving treatment - 584 were receiving treatment at the end of January 2008, which included 75 young people. More young people now have access to drug treatment.
- 98% of adults arrested for an offence which suggests drug use have been tested for drugs.
- 40 victims of domestic violence have been helped to live free from harm and in their own home through the installation of sanctuary schemes in their homes
- We helped more victims of domestic violence in the year ending 2006/07-2,044 compared to previous years. 63 of these were male victims.
- Fewer people were repeat victims of domestic violence - falling to 29% in 2006/07 compared to the rate of 32.5% in 2005/06
- A reduction of robbery of 33% in 2007/08. Compared to 2006/07, there were 195 fewer victims of crime.
- Through the work with our partners from Solihull Council's Leisure Services team we have provided additional sporting activities for young people in both the North and South of the Borough to encourage positive behaviour. This provision has resulted in significant reductions of reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in the areas where the activities have taken place and encouraged more young people to become involved in leisure activities.
- Achieved a number of awards through Leisure Services – Fusion Project for the provision of targeted sports intervention programme in high crime areas of the Borough.
- Working with Solihull Community Housing provided a team of Anti Social Behaviour officers leading to improved handling of ASB cases to change behaviour of offenders and improve the lives of our communities.





4. How this plan links to our Local Area Agreement

Solihull's Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), known locally as the Solihull Partnership is a non-statutory, multi-agency partnership. It brings together at a local level the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so that they can work together more effectively. By working together as part of an LSP we will have a far greater chance of success by changing the way we work, reallocating our resources and developing our mainstream services to tackle issues that really matter to local people. To deliver these changes the LSP has decided on its main priorities for the next 3 years and it is easy to see how our priorities from our strategic assessment fit in with the priorities of the LSP. The LSP priorities that relate to the community safety agenda are detailed below.

National Indicator no.	National Indicator definition
NI 1	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area
NI 15	Most serious violent crime rate
NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate
NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
NI 21	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
NI 32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence
NI 39	Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates
NI 45	Young offenders engagement in suitable education, employment or training
NI 47	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
NI 69	Children who have experienced bullying
NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)

How this plan links to our local area agreement

In developing this Plan we have set out:

- What we know about the nature and extent of crime and disorder problems in our area and what our achievements have been so far.
- What kind of place we want Solihull to be and the key areas we need to develop further in order to close the gaps between the way things are and the way we want them to be over the next 3 years.
- What we need to do to get there by focusing on our priority outcomes and ambitions for the Borough of Solihull.
- And finally, how we will get there, by developing our commissioning intentions and delivery plans and creating better ways of working together to deliver our vision.



5. Our key priorities for the next three years

Our assessment has shown us that we have a number of priority areas that need to be addressed if we are to achieve our ambition to make Solihull a place where everyone can feel safer and to achieve the outcomes we have set for ourselves as outlined within the plan. Our priority areas are:

- **ASB including criminal damage and arson**
- **Substance misuse including drugs and alcohol related crime and disorder**
- **Violent crime including domestic violence and robbery**
- **Youth offending, disorder and young people**
- **Vehicle crime**



6. Anti-social behaviour including criminal damage and arson

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – What do we know

Whilst recent reductions have been achieved, criminal damage including ASB still accounts for 43% of total recorded incidents within Solihull.

ASB has an estimated cost of £10 million to the Borough.

ASB and criminal damage are issues that affect the quality of life of our communities and increase their fear of crime.

Hotspots for ASB and criminal damage are spread around the Borough but occur mainly in the northern most wards.

Consultations we have undertaken have made it clear that crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and a perceived lack of police visibility remain critical issues for our residents. Although we have achieved some reductions in criminal damage and introduced neighbourhood-policing teams to the Borough in April 2006, recent consultations have made it clear that for the majority of our residents these issues are still their greatest concern. We appreciate that people's experience of crime and anti-social behaviour will not only determine the way they feel about their community but will shape their perception of the effectiveness of the partnership and the agencies represented upon it. Therefore dealing with ASB, criminal damage and reassuring our communities remains a priority for us.

What we have achieved so far

We have reduced criminal damage including incidents of ASB reported crime by 19% or 822 crimes from 1 April 2007 to the end of March 2008.

We have held community clean-up days involving Solihull Community Housing, Probation, Neighbourhood Police teams, schools, volunteers, our communities and other partners to combat criminal damage, particularly graffiti in hot spot areas around the Borough.

We have reduced criminal damage including incidents of ASB reported crime by 19% or 731 crimes from 1 April 2007 to the end of February 2008.

We have worked in partnership with Solihull Community Housing to recruit a team of officers who deal with ASB for private homeowners. The private sector team, being co-located with colleagues in the Solihull Community Housing ASB team provide a complete service dealing with all ASB in the Borough.

Working with Neighbourhood Management and the Enforcement Team of Solihull Council we have recruited volunteer Environmental Champions from within our communities to help clear off graffiti and pick up litter in and around their local areas.

We have held a graffiti summit, which was attended by over 110 councillors, practitioners, managers, and members of our communities and leaders to agree actions for the borough to tackle graffiti.

Launched Neighbourhood police teams to work with and for our communities to combat crime, ASB and build respect within communities.

Introduced "blag a tagger" reward scheme to encourage people to report offenders who commit graffiti offences.

Solihull Community Housing and Youth offending services working together have ensured that a number of offenders have undertaken community restorative action to put something positive back in to the communities that they were caught causing damage to.

An 'Arson Task Force' has been created. This comprises of a collection of professionals seconded from the Police and Fire Service who identify and target specific hotspots. Working together they help understand and analyse trends to come up with solutions for local issues such as "Target Hardening" persistent locations with physical barriers.

Fire crews are undertaking free 'Home Fire Safety Check', fit smoke detectors where required and offer fire safety advice to homeowners. They attended over 2000 individual homes each year.

What are we going to do to build on our successes?

Outcome Number 1:

We want to achieve a better quality of life for our communities by reducing the incidents of Anti Social Behaviour experienced by the public.

An important and developing strand of the partnership work has been to address those causes of crime that impact upon our residents at a neighbourhood level and affect their quality of life. These include the menace of criminal damage, arson, speeding traffic, environmental crimes such as noise nuisance, graffiti, fly tipping and littering. These issues all have direct impact on the quality and appearance of the neighbourhood and can cause considerable damage to the esteem of individual's and families more directly affected. These offences often associated with Anti Social Behaviour can often develop into far more severe problems and crimes and therefore remain a priority for the partnership.

We will:

Prioritise ASB and criminal damage at a neighbourhood level with Neighbourhood Police teams, Neighbourhood Management, Solihull Community Housing and other partners meeting regularly with residents to obtain feedback to ensure that we are aware of what is happening in our communities and respond accordingly.

Develop further how we engage with our communities through - particularly hard to reach groups.

Increasing the use of neighbourhood watch and other community involvement schemes

Hold "weeks of action" in hot spot high crime areas involving partner agencies and community volunteers

Increase the number of volunteers enrolled as Environmental champions

Make more effective use of surveillance equipment and increase our evidence-gathering capacity.

Continue to work with Solihull Community Housing ASB teams and all our partners to challenge and change anti social behaviour in the Borough, support more vulnerable groups, eg, victims of hate crime, elderly.

Work with the Police, Solihull Community Housing, Probation and Youth Offending Services to increase opportunities for offenders to undertake restorative justice in our communities.

Measure our success through engagement with our communities and information available to us from processes such as: The Place survey, Feeling the difference survey, Citizens panel survey, Performance Information systems and by measuring the volume of total recorded crime.



7. Substance misuse

Substance misuse drugs and alcohol – what do we know?

Drugs:

Reported Class A drugs offences accounted for 2.7% of total recorded crime in Solihull during 2006/2007, but was causally linked to many other problems.

A third of those who had committed 'trigger' offences tested positive for drugs – these offences are estimated to have cost Solihull £7.5 million per year.

The majority of drugs offences were possession (80%).

Drugs offences have increased slightly since 2007, with peaks at Christmas and over weekends.

Drugs offences and misuse are clustered in the north, correlating with the borough's areas of deprivation.

Issues around drugs misuse are a concern expressed by many local residents through our consultation processes.

What we have achieved so far

More people are receiving treatment for their drug use

We have established a Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) for targeting drug-using offenders, providing drug testing on arrest and drug workers in the police stations and magistrates court.

We have developed and launched our Young Persons Substance Misuse Commissioning Strategy setting out our intentions to tackle drug and alcohol use among young people.

We have launched a young people's drug and alcohol service STR8 Up in 2006 and implemented a common screening and assessment process (DUST) across children's services for early detection of drug and alcohol use.

Through our work to tackle crime and disorder we have grown to appreciate the significance of drug misuse as one of the factors in reducing crime and disorder. In line with the national strategies we are addressing drug misuse to get more users into treatment, tackle the links between drugs and crime and to break the cycle of drug related offending and the problems that it causes communities and families.

What are we going to do to build on our successes?

Outcome Number 2a:

- We want to enable more drug users in Solihull to manage and eliminate their dependence on illegal drugs
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in the likelihood of young people experimenting with illegal drugs and becoming addicted to their use
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in supply, increase in the costs and increased risk of prosecution and punishment for all those involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

We will:

We have and will continue to provide effective solutions to complex problems ranging from early intervention, referral to treatment services, situational prevention, through to policing and law enforcement and to programmes that work to change an offender's behaviour pattern and reduce re-offending.

Increase the number of drug users in Solihull accessing effective treatment.

Reduce drug related offending by targeting drug using offenders and engaging them in treatment.

Ensure that there is a reduction in the likelihood of young people experimenting with illegal drugs and becoming addicted to their use by providing good quality drug education in schools and early identification.

Increase the risk of prosecution and punishment of offenders involved in possession and supply of illegal drugs.

Encourage and support the community to resist drugs and associated harm.



Alcohol related crime and disorder – what do we know?

Alcohol misuse is estimated to cost Solihull £60 million per annum.

A fifth of total recorded crime in the Borough could be attributed to alcohol, with most offences occurring around Solihull Town Centre.

Victims believe that offenders were under the influence of alcohol in around half of all violent incidents.

Two thirds of reported ASB incidents were due to rowdy behaviour and have links to the consumption of alcohol.

Binge drinking is strongly linked to crime or disorderly behaviour, with 39% of young people aged 18-24 falling into this category.

Public perception is that alcohol misuse is a major problem and we know that alcohol is often a factor in Domestic Violence cases.

Both victims and perpetrators of alcohol related violence are likely to be aged under 30, and to frequently visit pubs and nightclubs consuming a high level of alcohol.

Partnership working is crucial to success in delivering change. For some partners, such as the Care Trust, the Police and Council, tackling alcohol-related harm is part of their core business. However, for others, there is also an important role to play in designated areas of their own work. To achieve the greatest impact, we will coordinate our actions in an agreed approach, maximizing the contribution of each partner.



Whilst it is essential that attitudes towards binge drinking change we must also identify other ways of tackling the effects of alcohol-related crime so that all partners have an opportunity to contribute.

What we have achieved so far

Developed local action plans with the support of licensees to tackle alcohol related violence within their premises.

Approved 13 areas of the Borough as areas where alcohol cannot be consumed through the awarding of Designated Public Places Orders (DPPO) – Alcohol Restricted Zones (ARZ).

We have carried out underage alcohol sales checks of licensed retailers.

Used powers to enforce areas of the Borough as “dispersal” areas allowing police greater power to disperse large numbers of people away from gathering in gangs, consuming alcohol and causing nuisance.

Undertook audits of licensed premises to assess standards and offer guidance on best practice.

What are we going to do to build on our successes?

Outcome Number 2b:

- **We want to reduce the levels of alcohol related violent crime and disorder**
- **We want to reduce the percentage of the public who perceive drunk and rowdy behaviour to be a problem in their area**
- **We want to reduce chronic and acute ill health caused by alcohol resulting in fewer alcohol related accidents, incidents and hospital admissions**

Alcohol-related crime is a growing problem nationally as well as locally and is of concern to everyone. Too many people drink more than is good for their health, relationships and the safety of others. Alcohol misuse has a significant impact on local communities and we acknowledge the costs to society of alcohol-related crime, disorder and anti social behaviour and the links between alcohol consumption and offending amongst adults as well as young people.

Because of these concerns and impact, the Partnership remains committed to dealing with Alcohol misuse. We hope to develop our current programme of activities and build on the success we have already had in reducing alcohol disorders and to target those most at risk.

We will:

Develop an Alcohol Strategy with our partners to realign our resources and our approach to tackling alcohol related crimes

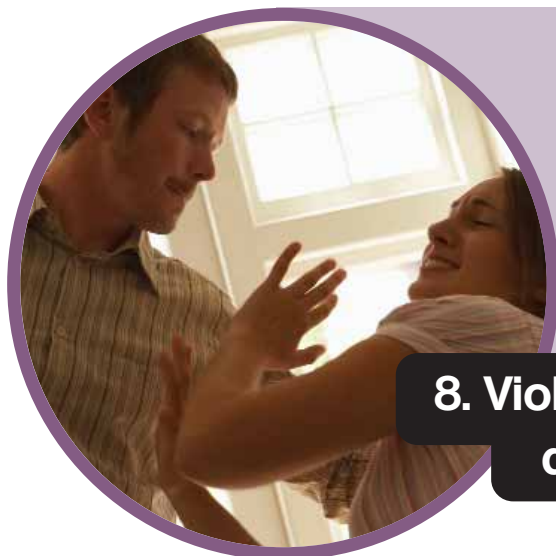
Continue our work with licensing authorities and retailers to help promote and ensure safe and sensible alcohol sales and consumption.

Work to reduce the number of people admitted to hospital for acute alcohol related illnesses.

Reduce the misuse of substances among children and young people.

Carry out responsible sales checks by licensing officers to check that licensed premises are selling alcohol responsibly within their premises.

Roll out of the premises audits to share best practice and minimum standards amongst license premises.



8. Violent crime including domestic violence and robbery

Violent crime – what do we know?

Violent crime covers a wide range of offences, including homicide and serious wounding, offences involving weapons, domestic violence, hate crime and serious sexual offences including rape.

The cost of violent crime in Solihull is considerable – an estimated £9.3 million.

Fear of crime is closely associated with perceptions of violent crime and there are clear links between alcohol and violence.

Around a fifth of all crime in Solihull is either crime against the person or personal robbery, with Solihull town centre unsurprisingly one of the hotspots for violent crime.

Reductions in violence (12%) in the last 12-month period (2007/08) have been mirrored by equivalent reductions in personal robbery offences (13% over the last five years).

Around half of violent offences take place at weekends with a peak between 7p.m. and 2 a.m. Robberies peak in the afternoon and evening.

Both the victims and offenders involved in violent crime and robbery are much more likely to be young people, namely young men aged between 16 and 24 and from minority ethnic backgrounds.

A substantial amount of both victims and offenders do not reside in Solihull.

What we have achieved so far

Incidents of wounding are beginning to show a reduction with there being 12% in the period August 2007 to 29th August 2008 compared to the previous 3 month period.

Established a multi agency action group to develop specific actions to target violent and serious violent crimes in the Borough.

We have conducted operations in our town centres to target hot spot locations, days and times.

We have performed checks on licensed retailers to detect sale of alcohol to young people.

Licensees, working with police and licensing officers have developed and implemented plans to reduce violent crime in licensed premises in the town centres.

Incidents of robbery have reduced by 34% - 204 crimes in the period 1st March 2007 to 29th February 2008.

Whilst serious violent crimes are extremely rare - together they account for only about 1% of all crime nationally - when they do occur they cause significant harm, both to individual victims and their families in terms of physical injury and psychological trauma, and to society more widely in terms of fear. The total volume of violent crime has fallen in recent years (British Crime Survey (BCS) and police recorded crime figures), in line with overall crime levels but the rate at which serious violence has fallen is less and it remains a significant influence of people's fear of crime. The partnership will therefore continue to address the national and local priorities of violent crime including robbery but will have greater focus on the most serious violent crimes including domestic violence.

Domestic violence – what do we know

Domestic violence has more repeat victims than any other crime, and alcohol is often an aggravating factor. Domestic violence peaks during school holidays, and at weekends.

It is difficult to measure prevalence due to a number of factors, including under reporting.

It is estimated to cost Solihull £80.5 million a year.

Sep 06 – Aug 07 recorded 1980 domestic incidents in Solihull (average 165 per month).

The incidence of domestic violence has historically been less in Solihull than in the remainder of the West Midlands, however the trend is upwards both regionally and locally.

Only 55% of reported domestic incidents were classed as crimes.

Most, but not all, victims were female and most offenders were male.

A large proportion of victims reporting domestic violence live the wards in the North of the Borough.



What we have achieved so far:

We have recruited a Domestic Violence co-ordinator to work with partner agencies to tackle Domestic Violence.

Through a number of marketing and awareness raising campaigns we have shared the messages about Domestic Violence with our communities and schools and through the work of our partner agencies.

With the support of Solihull Community Housing, Police and other partners we have launched a Sanctuary scheme for victims of domestic violence enabling them to live more safely in their homes.

We have established a multi agency Domestic Violence Strategic Group who co-ordinate their work to reduce domestic violence in Solihull. Through the delivery of its action plan it has seen positive developments offering enhanced support to victims of domestic violence.

Victims of Domestic Violence now have greater scope to seek accommodation through Solihull Community Housing (SCH) or the Boroughs first women's refuge. Giving them access to emergency accommodation and support to get themselves and their children out of danger.

In November 2006 the partnership secured Special Domestic Court Status for its Domestic Violence court. The court, which is held every week at the magistrate's court, provides targeted support and access for victims of Domestic Violence to the criminal justice system.

We have also secured funding to employ an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) to help support victims of domestic violence and signpost them to the numerous Domestic Violence support mechanisms and agencies.

What are we going to do to build on our successes?

Outcome Number 3:

- **We want to reduce incidents of violent crime, in particular serious violent crime occurring in the Borough, to make our communities feel safer and bring offenders to justice.**

We will:

Develop a mechanism for identifying early, those "AT RISK" of involvement in violence either as a victim or offender, giving specific consideration to those members of our communities that are more vulnerable and harder to reach.

Manage offenders of violent crimes to reduce the likelihood of them re-offending.

Provide more Local Authority enforcement through the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure compliance from businesses and the alcohol industry to deliver a safe sensible leisure time environment, with particular emphasis on the night-time economy.

We will:

We will continue to conduct under age sales test purchase operations.

Continue with police and partnership operations to combat violent crime in hot spot areas of the Borough associated with the night time economy.

Work more closely with representatives of the alcohol industry so that they can represent licence holders interests through forums such as PUB WATCH.

Make best use of analytical data showing trends and patterns of violent crime in the Borough to inform the partnerships response to emerging issues.

Media and marketing opportunities to publicise good news stories to reassure members of our communities and raise awareness of the impact of alcohol on behaviours.

Fire and rescue services to undertake additional enforcement, high visibility and education activities, within our schools and communities.

Use information from the health service to help understand the full extent of the impact of violent crime to Accident and Emergency units and to measure the reduction of violence and alcohol related admissions.

Develop and use education programmes in schools and colleges to raise awareness and reassure communities and young people of violent crime, domestic violence and its impact on society.

Continue to identify and intervene early to offer support to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence through Multi Agency Risk Assessment conferences (MARAC), challenging the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic violence.





9. Youth offending, disorder and young people

Young people – what do we know?

Youth offending is a high profile issue both locally and nationally. Young people are most likely to commit violent and acquisitive crime, and criminal damage. 14 – 18 year olds commit 30% of violent offences.

Two fifths of young people aged 18-24 may be binge drinkers.

Almost half of anti social behaviour involved children or young people aged 11 – 18.

Young people aged 10 -15 are more likely than any other group to become a victim of crime.

Personal safety was the highest priority in the 2006/07 Solihull Youth Service Needs Analysis.

The Solihull Children and Young People's plan 2007 – 2011 priorities anti bullying and personal safety.

What we have achieved so far:

Seen significantly fewer young people in Solihull entering the youth justice system for the first time – a 25% reduction in 2006.

Diverted young people into positive activities through the Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP) by providing preventative support and tailored guidance to meet their individual needs.

Reduced re-offending rates for young people after they have been in custody.

Published our Children and Young People's Plan 2007-2010 – " An equal chance" and developed delivery plans to ensure the outcomes of the plan are achieved.

We have undertaken community work with some of our schools, by painting off graffiti on Virgin Telewest boxes, participated in community clean up days with Groundwork and performed direct victim offender mediation sessions.

Targeted preventative work to tackle early onset of criminal and anti social behaviour through managed ASB case conferencing.

Developed targeted sports intervention activities for young people at specific locations through the Solihull Fusion project which has contributed to a reduction in recorded crime in a number of northern and southern wards of Solihull.

We have worked with our schools and colleges to tackle bullying and prevent escalation into anti-social behavior. Having produced guidance on developing an Anti-Bullying Policy for Schools we have seen some very good anti-bullying work being developed:

- 21 different schools have participated in the “Playground PALS Scheme”.
- Anti-bullying Behavior Alliance, raises awareness of anti-bullying locally. They have developed a project called REACT, which is a self-development and support programme for young victims of bullying.
- Targeted Bully-Proof work at Secondary Schools.

Solihull Fire Service appointed three ‘Fire Setter Tutors’. In conjunction with Solihull Youth Offending Services and Youth Inclusion Support Programme tutors to help educate children with previous criminal convictions or fascinations with fire.



In order to create a culture of respect, we need to provide opportunities and support to children and young people and to challenge bad behavior as it occurs. We know that taking part in sport, constructive activities and volunteering has a long-term beneficial effect on young people’s lives in helping them to develop as individuals, find new perspectives, interests and aspirations and to make a positive contribution to their communities.

At present the availability of these activities in Solihull is limited to within the Borough. Many young people feel there is nothing for them to do locally, or nothing they want to do. This is particularly the case for disadvantaged young people. Where we have been able to encourage participation in activities such as NS Fusion and Positive Activities we have seen reductions in crime and ASB.

The youth offending team service(YOS) has a critical role in terms of tackling young people's behaviours. Their role extends beyond managing those who have offended and includes the prevention of and diversion from offending and becoming involved in criminal activity. They are able to confront young offenders with the consequences of their offending and establish punishments proportionate to the seriousness and persistence of offending.

In certain circumstances it may be appropriate to consider some form of restorative justice. This will aim to bring together the offender and the victim to repair the harm caused by their criminal behaviour. It attempts to create opportunities for the victims, offenders and community members to take steps to repair the harm that has been caused and it seeks to restore the offender back to being an individual who can once again contribute positively to society.

Solihull's Safeguarding Board aims to ensure those vulnerable children and young people including children in need and those at risk of significant harm are safe guarded. The group work to ensure that children, young people and their families have access to information, guidance and support services that meet their individual needs. They work to ensure that all young people, particularly those with special needs have improved well-being through opportunities of active involvement and engagement.

Solihull Youth services through their youth workers carry out their youth work in different contexts, determined by geographical location, by need and by young people's natural gathering places. This can be at "club" based centres, via detached youth work, Borough wide work, school based activities, residential or trips and outings.

What are we going to do to build on our successes?

Outcome Number 4:

- **We want all children and young people in Solihull to be safe, healthy enjoy life and achieve success and make a positive contribution to their communities.**

Children and young people are our future. We want to make Solihull a place where all children and young people have an equal chance and achieve their full potential by being healthy, safe and able to enjoy life.

We know that most young people are well behaved and want to contribute in a positive way to their communities. It is important to remember that young people are more likely to be victims of crime than perpetrators of it. Although more young people volunteer than ever before, we need to make sure that all children and young people are all able to engage in positive activities easily, expanding on opportunities for all young people outside of school.

Positive parenting and schooling can help children and young people make the transition to adult life successfully. We will try to strike the right balance between rights and responsibilities, by appreciating and where possible publicising the enormous contribution that young people make while expecting them in return to appreciate and respect the opportunities available to them.

A minority of young people, however, can face more serious problems. They may have differences with their parents, which may lead to them missing school. They may have health problems, which can affect their ability to learn and to achieve. Difficulties experienced at home, such as bereavement or family breakdowns or problems experienced at school may lead to the development of bad behavior and problems of drug or alcohol misuse. Through projects such as our Youth Inclusion Support Panels, Straight up substance misuse programme and the development of our parenting strategy, we will seek to address these issues providing support, guidance and services to families as a whole.

We will:

Reduce the misuse of drugs and alcohol among children and young people.

Provide more opportunities for young people to take part in positive leisure time activities based on their needs and publish up to date information about these positive activities.

Look to realign our resources to address issues with young people within crime hotspot locations.

Improve the levels of attendance at school amongst children and young people most at risk of non-attendance.

Increase access to parental support programmes for parents and their families to offer guidance and support through the development of a Borough wide parenting strategy.

Promote anti bullying and personal safety messages to our children and young people working within the education settings, in partnership with Health schools and school improvement priorities. This includes a communication strategy for children's centres, schools and extended provision.

Actively involve young people in our decision-making processes so that they are able to influence the services we develop.

Seek to get more young people into education, training or employment.

Develop good neighbourhood agreements with young people and look to provide intergenerational work to develop understanding and tolerance within our communities.





10. Vehicle crime

Vehicle crime – what do we know?

Although there have been significant yearly decreases in theft from vehicles and vehicle interference. Vehicle crime accounts for a fifth of our total recorded crime.

Solihull has 4th highest vehicle crime in the West Midlands, with most of its crime occurring on the NEC and because it has an international airport in its boundary.

A fifth of vehicle crime occurs in the Bickenhill ward, especially in Chelmsley Wood near to the NEC. Other hotspot areas are located near to arterial routes.

Three quarters of offences were theft from a motor vehicle with Sat Navs being the most common target.

The worst months for vehicle crime are those (excluding December) with darker evenings.

The majority of offenders are from outside the area, with many being repeat offenders.

The economic costs to Solihull of vehicle crime are estimated to be in the region of £3.2 million per year.

Vehicle crime causes distress and inconvenience for the owners and has considerable costs to society and businesses. By understanding where our vehicle crime occurs and why, we have been able to develop localised solutions to deal with it. Our solutions have covered prevention, raising awareness and reducing the opportunity for the crime to occur. Enforcement, taking action to detect offenders and bring them to justice, changing the behaviour of persistent offenders and through community reparation.

What we have achieved so far

Working with our businesses we have developed action plans to reduce the number of vehicle related crimes on their premises.

Brought a number of persistent vehicle crime offenders to justice.

Deployed resources to hot spot areas to reduce vehicle crime through multi agency partnership activity.

Developed our surveillance opportunities by upgrading our domehawk cameras, CCTV systems and purchasing more surveillance equipment enabling us to gather more intelligence about vehicle

crime and capture offenders.

Worked with Solihull Community Housing to make best use of their high tech surveillance equipment to help prevent and detect crime in north Solihull.

Four of our town centre car parks have been awarded the British Parking Association "Park Mark", which is awarded to those car parks that can demonstrate a commitment to reducing crime and fear of crime.

Liaised with schools and colleges to raise awareness and share intelligence about the adverse impact vehicle crime has on individuals, communities and businesses.

Vehicle crime including the theft from and theft of vehicles reduced by 23% resulting in fewer victims of crime (Year to date as at 25th March 2008)

What are we going to do to build on our successes

Outcome Number 5:

- **We want to reduce incidents of Vehicle Crime occurring in the Borough.**

We have come to understand more about where vehicle crime occurs within our borough, the impact it has on our lives and the ways in which we can prevent it. We have seen changes to the pattern of vehicle crime and the way it is performed, our interventions have resulted in significant reductions over the last few years. Down 38% for taking of vehicle and 41% for theft from vehicle as at the end of february 2008 compared to our figures at the end of 2004 to a total of 643 and 1916 respectively. However, vehicle crime still remains one of our highest volume of crimes in the Borough.

We will:

Seek opportunities to design out crime hot spot areas working with businesses, through planning processes and in partnership with Solihull North Regeneration programme.

Changes in the way parking areas are designed and managed, working with parking enforcement officers to increase their presence, and businesses to raise awareness of personal safety in public parking areas.

Increase surveillance opportunities to capture intelligence and deter offenders.

Targeted enforcement activities with partner agencies to high vehicle crime areas.

Reducing the market for stolen goods working with trading standards and police neighbourhood teams.

Target young people at risk of vehicle crime through the education services.

Publicity and communications campaigns targeted in high crime hot spot areas.

Improve our detection figures for vehicle crime through the deployment of Automatic Number plate recognition (ANPR) around the Borough.



11. Underpinning principles and areas for further development

Whilst acknowledging the good work that Solihull Safer Communities Strategic Group (SCSG) has already achieved it has been recognised that a number of areas need to be addressed.

The opportunities for development are:

That this, our Community Safety Plan and vision of the partnership for the next three years be developed to address roles and responsibilities of partners to deliver against our priorities.

That the plan, along with an annual review of the Strategic Assessment will inform multi agency commissioning plans that will provide information about the actions the partnership will be taking to deliver against its priorities.

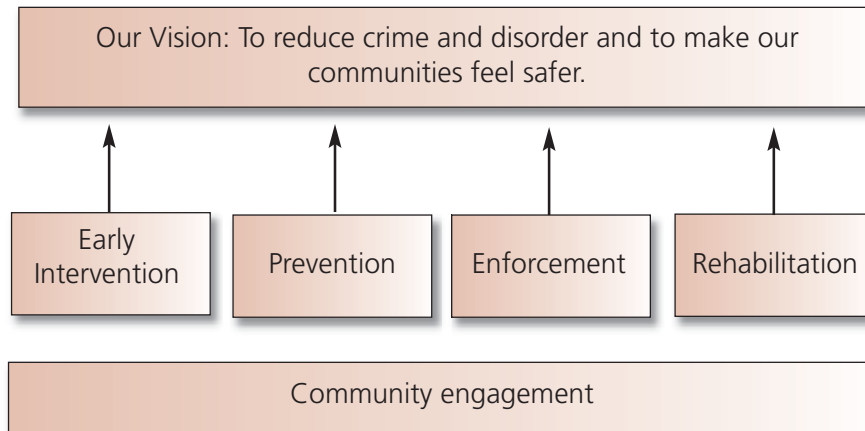
That the roles and responsibilities of the partnership be reviewed to provide clarity to everyone to support the plan and ensure local accountability through neighbourhood action planning and delivery.

That finance and procurement be managed within a framework, which recognises that in addition to the priorities of other strategies and policies, such as the Local Area Agreement, the partnership will need to ensure that value for money is achieved and all the national indicators will be met.

That the existing performance management frameworks be revised to reflect the newly introduced Assessment of Police and Community Safety (APACS) and to meet our identified outcomes and performance indicators.

We aim to deliver a comprehensive joined up approach to responding to our priorities that involves all key partners including the full spectrum of our communities.

We will use a combination of short, medium and long-term interventions and projects. Our strategy will incorporate a range of different solutions for achieving the priorities that we have identified and will be tailored to meet the differing pressures and priorities with each of our neighbourhoods.



Early intervention: taking action at the earliest possible opportunity, where practicable, to reduce the number of people, particularly our young people becoming involved in crime and anti social behaviour or becoming a victim of crime.

Prevention: making best use of our knowledge and sharing information with our communities to enable them to reduce the risk of crime, disorder or anti social behaviour. Designing out crime seeking opportunities to develop and enhance our environments.

Enforcement: taking action to enforce laws, rules and regulations. Detecting offences and bringing perpetrators to justice through the criminal justice system.

Rehabilitation: Working intensively with offenders, particularly prolific and priority offenders, offering them support to prevent them re-offending.

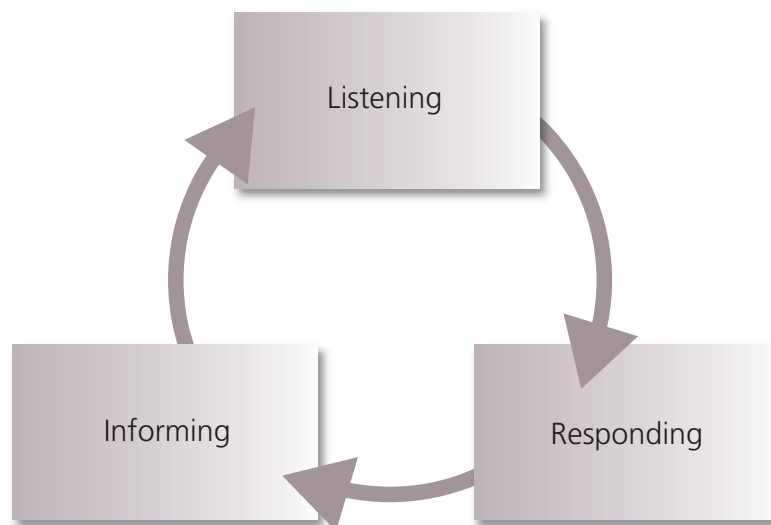




12. Citizen focus

Crime is at its lowest since 1990*, however, we understand that some sections of our communities believe that crime is rising and that they are likely to become a victim of crime at some point. This high level fear of crime, often displayed with a fear of being safe outside after dark, can harm our communities having an adverse impact upon their health and general well-being preventing people from living a good quality of life. It is important that people feel safe and have trust in the support services. We will work to build that trust by engaging with and involving our communities and businesses, affording them the opportunity to influence and help to resolve issues and tensions as well as helping us to identify what our priorities should be.

We will therefore build on our existing engagement mechanisms and seek to develop further the involvement of our communities and businesses in the solutions to the problems, developing a 'citizen focussed' approach to tackling crime and disorder throughout the Borough of Solihull. One that is capable of listening and understanding all sections of the community and their crime and disorder concerns, responding effectively to them as a partnership and informing the community of the actions taken.



* WM Police TRC data

We aim to:

Listen:

We will develop a citizen-focussed approach to information sharing and identifying local neighbourhood priorities in tackling crime and disorder for action.

To develop a Borough-wide approach to understanding and identifying the types of crime and disorder that most affect feelings of community safety within all neighbourhoods, (known as 'signal crimes').

Respond:

We will develop further our structured approach to joint partnership tasking/community tasking to co-ordinate partnership resources in effectively tackling the community priorities identified.

To develop a Borough-wide approach to respond effectively to types of crime & disorder that most affect feelings of community safety within neighbourhoods, (known as 'signal crimes').

Inform:

We will develop a neighbourhood crime and disorder communications strategy that ensures that the Solihull Partnership is able to listen to and understand community feelings relating to crime and disorder, and informs/updates neighbourhood communities of Partnership action in dealing with local crime and disorder priorities and local 'signal crimes'.





13. Arrangements for co-operation which supports this plan

Role of each partner

Solihull's Safer Communities Strategic Group" (SCSG) is a sub group of the Solihull Partnership, and takes the lead on the crime and disorder reduction elements of Solihull's Sustainable Communities Strategy and the Local Area Agreement.

Legislative requirements

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police and Justice Act 2006 identified the Council, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire and Rescue service and Solihull NHS Trust as responsible authorities. These authorities form part of the Safer Communities Strategic Group and have a statutory duty to co-ordinate and monitor how crime and disorder is managed in the borough. Working with other partners such as our elected councillors, the probation service, youth offending service, Solihull Community Housing, Connexions, magistrates and others, they bring together service users, practitioners and managers and leaders to plan, commission and deliver services that are aimed to reduce crime, disorder, anti social behaviour, alcohol and drug misuse and acts that adversely affect the environment and which fit local need.

The following gives an overview of the roles and responsibilities of those responsible authorities:

Solihull Council

The Council is the leading agency responsible for a wide range of services which complement core partnership activity, such as providing additional enforcement services, highways, planning, street lighting and waste management, and implementing by-laws. It provides a formal leadership role to the Partnership and works to create a Borough where people want to live and be educated, where they choose to come to work and visit and where businesses choose to invest.

The key aims of the Council are to:

- Provide a brighter future for our children and young people
- Ensure a sustainable improved quality of life
- Close the gap of inequality
- Ensure that everyone is treated as an individual
- Provide good value services





West Midlands Police Authority

The West Midlands Police Authority (WMPA) exists to ensure that all people who live in the West Midlands have an efficient, effective and improving police service. They work closely with West Midlands Police and its partners, such as local authorities, community safety partnerships and other agencies in the criminal justice system. The Authority is not responsible for the day-to-day delivery of policing, which is the responsibility of the Chief Constable but they adopt a more strategic role to give an overview of the policing service.

The Authority works with its committees and individual members to:

Monitor and scrutinise force performance

Maintain an awareness of policies and procedures and monitor their impact on the delivery of the Authority's Local Policing Plan.

Ensure that the force reflects the diverse community

Share best practice locally, nationally and internationally throughout the force.

Monitor and scrutinise finances and budgets, including revenue and capital expenditure.

Ensure that the force delivers the current national policing priorities of neighbourhood policing, workforce modernisation and improving the quality of service.

Take into account the views of the community and influencing the shape of policing for the West Midlands.



West Midlands Police

West Midlands Police is divided into 21 operational command units (OCU), each headed by a Chief Superintendent who is responsible for the overall policing and management of the area. There is 1 operational command unit in Solihull, the L OCU, which is coterminous with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. This means that all the boundaries are aligned, improving how the Partnership can work together better.

The OCU headquarters are based at Solihull but there are stations in Chelmsley Wood and Shirley. The OCU consists of 392 Police Officers, 26 Police Community Support Officers, 61 members of the Special Constabulary and 165 Police Staff based across the three police stations within the Borough.

West Midlands Police provide a 24 hour service. There has also been a rollout of Neighbourhood Policing throughout the Borough, which establishes dedicated, identifiable, accessible and responsive teams and provide communities with a named point of contact. The L OCU has three sector neighbourhood areas, North, East and south each of which is led by a dedicated Inspector. The sectors are further divided into 10 neighbourhood communities, each with it's own neighbourhood team led by a Sergeant. Solihull neighbourhood policing is localised and community driven, allowing the police, our partners and the public to work closely together to solve the problems of crime and disorder, improve communities and increase their feeling of safety.

The forces vision is:

'To reduce crime and disorder and make our communities feel safer'

West Midlands Fire Service

The West Midlands Fire Service is a Metropolitan Fire Brigade, which functions under the control of the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority.

Covering the county area of the West Midlands, the Brigade serves the seven Metropolitan districts. The Brigade is run under the command of the Chief Fire Officer and his principal command team and includes 1600 operational staff providing a range of services including emergency response from 39 strategically located sites. There are 2 fire stations and 12 specialist Technical Response Units in the Borough of Solihull. The Fire Service has around 130 staff working with an Operations Commander and a team of 3 Station Commanders in Solihull.

West Midlands Fire Service work to make the West Midlands safer by providing services to reduce risk through Prevention, Protection and Response.

Solihull Care Trust

Solihull NHS Care Trust

The NHS Care Trust aims to provide joined-up health and social services. It brings together the services previously provided by the Primary NHS Care Trust and Solihull Council's Adult Social Services.

The NHS Care Trust is essentially a one stop shop for health and social care that allows people in Solihull to access healthcare, treatment and advice, support for carers, home, day and residential care and health promotion advice and guidance from one organisation.

They aim to bring better health and social care to Solihull through simplifying the way they work, reducing delays, make best use of technology and the best use of their skilled staff.



How Partners will support the plan

With contribution from all of its partners the Safer Communities Strategic Group aims to support delivery of the plan by:

Planning and commissioning

By producing the Annual Strategic Assessment to demonstrate where there is greatest need and to develop its Community Safety Plan, together with its plan for commissioning changes to services we will enable projects and initiatives to happen that will help us deliver our outcomes. We will update the strategic assessment every year and publish amendments to our Community Safety Plan to demonstrate how we are responding to the changing priorities of our communities.

Active involvement

Further develop local ward based and neighbourhood level engagement opportunities to actively involve all of our communities, particularly those hard to reach, and bring together ideas and contributions to inform both expert practitioner groups and the SCSG to enable them to oversee the commissioning plans and strategy.

Performance Management

To oversee overall delivery of the plan and associated strategies through a shared way of monitoring outcomes and to receive performance management updates each quarter with the aim to reduce crime and disorder, reassure our communities and improve quality.

We will:

Consider emerging community safety issues based on analytical evidence and what our communities tell us.

Refocus priorities, if appropriate.

Commission projects to meet priorities and re-focus resources accordingly.

Receive updates and challenge poor or failing performance.





14. How we will use our resources

Each year large amounts of money are spent on services, which are aimed at tackling crime and disorder and reducing fear of crime in Solihull. In order to succeed in delivering this plan, partner agencies must decide together how to use existing resources to get the best results for the communities of Solihull. This means looking at new ways of planning, commissioning and delivering services, and training and developing staff and volunteers.

Planning and commissioning services with a clearer understanding of 'customer' needs will reduce duplication and increase efficient use of resources. All partners, including the Voluntary and Community Sector, have an important contribution to make.

The Safer Communities Strategic Group is working to an agreed set of commissioning standards. These standards are to be applied to the commissioning of all services through the group and its supporting sub groups:

- Evidence based, outcome driven, and focused on delivering quality.
- Focused on prevention, early intervention and keeping our communities safe.
- Accessible and providing for equality of opportunity.
- Using integrated processes.
- Well governed, and actively involving service users.
- Performance managed.
- Sustainable and providing value for money.
- Compliant with legal requirements.

The Safer Communities Strategic Group will act as the Commissioning Board. A process has been developed for planning and commissioning, leading from the Annual Strategic Assessment and this our Community Safety Plan, to resource and service mapping, redesign, procurement and performance management. This process will be applied to commissioning services that will deliver the right outcomes against the identified priorities.



15. How we will measure success

Managing performance starts from being clear about what it is we want to achieve. This is the purpose of this plan, and the commissioning plans against each priority, which we will publish in 2008. The indicators we will use to measure progress against our priorities will be set out in the commissioning plans. These will form a significant part of the Safer Communities Strategic Group performance information, and will be used to monitor change across all the outcomes.

As part of this work the Safer Communities Strategic Group will establish multi-agency Performance Monitoring Groups. These groups will build on the Local Area Agreement performance monitoring framework and ensure that key performance data is produced, analysed, and reported to the Safer Communities Strategic Group in a timely way, seeking opportunities to learn from the performance information, from local and national research and evaluations, and from the experience of delivering projects and initiatives in Solihull. Each Commissioning Plan will be monitored through the Safer Communities Strategic Group.

Related Legislation and Documents

Arising out of the review of the Crime and Disorder Act Review a number of changes and developments in respect of the roles and responsibilities of crime reduction partnerships have been introduced. These are designed to assist partnerships to develop and adapt to the changing landscape of Crime Reduction and Community safety.

They include:

- A new set of National Standards, "Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships", which clarify what is expected of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.
- Police and Justice Act 2006 which contained legislative changes needed to deliver the changes under Crime and Disorder Act review. It repealed the need for partnerships to produce three-year audits and strategies and for partnerships to work and report annually to the secretary of state. It also included some duties new to CDRPs.
- The Home Office in July 2007 issued its "Cutting Crime – A New Partnership 2008-11" document which identified a number of key areas for focus in tackling crime and increasing community safety. These included a greater focus on serious violence, continued pressure on Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), renewed focus on young people, designing out crime, reducing re-offending, national partnerships and building public confidence.
- The recently published revised National Community Safety Plan 2008-11, reflects the same period as the Cutting Crime strategy and continues its former themes but with a stronger emphasis on more serious violence, greater flexibility for local partners to deliver priorities, specific outcomes to increase community confidence and acknowledgement of the increased threat to communities posed by violent extremists.
- A new set of Public Service Agreements (PSA's) setting out Governments high level objectives for public service delivery, including a PSA (PSA 23) to make communities safer was released in the autumn of 2007.
- The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Local Area Agreements (LAA), within which local indicators in respect of crime and disorder are contained
- Performance monitoring of both the police and CDRP's through the Assessment of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) is to be introduced in April 2008.
- The Home Office Action plan for Integrating Neighbourhood Policing with Local Service Delivery. The plan has been developed by a cross government multi agency working group and outlines the approach to improving community safety in neighbourhoods.

Glossary of terms

Glossary of abbreviations

ABC	Acceptable Behaviour Contract	MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition	NEC	National Exhibition Centre
APACS	Assessment of Policing and Community Safety	NHS	National Health Service
ARZ	Alcohol Restricted Zone	NI	National Indicator
ASB	Anti Social Behaviour	NTA	National Treatment Agency
ASBO	Anti Social Behaviour Order	NTE	Night Time Economy
BCS	British Crime Survey	PCT	Primary Care Trust
BVPI	Best Value Performance Indicator	PSA	Public Service Agreement
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television	PPO	Prolific and other Priority Offenders
CDRP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	RTA	Road Traffic Accident
CPS	Crime Prosecution Service	SA	Strategic Assessment
DAT	Drug Action Team	SCH	Solihull Community Housing
DIP	Drug Intervention Programme	SCSG	Safer Communities Strategic Group
DPPO	Designated Public Place Order	SDVC	Special Domestic Violence Court
DUST	Drug use Screening Tool	SMBC	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
DV	Domestic Violence	WMPA	West Midlands Police Authority
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice	YISP	Youth Inclusion Support Programme
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Adviser	YISP+	Youth Inclusion Support Programme plus
LAA	Local Area Agreement	YJB	Youth Justice Board
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership	YOT	Youth Offending Team
LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board	YTD	Year to Date
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements		appendix 4

Solihull Safer Communities Plan

2008-2011

Outcomes

Our outcomes and approach

Our Outcomes:

Outcome 1:

- We want to achieve a better quality of life for our communities by reducing the incidents of Anti Social Behaviour experienced by the public.

Outcome 2A:

- We want to enable more drug users in Solihull to manage and eliminate their dependence on illegal drugs
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in the likelihood of young people experimenting with illegal drugs and becoming addicted to their use
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in supply, increase in the costs and increased risk of prosecution and punishment for all those involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

Outcome 2B:

Reduce alcohol related harm:

- We want to reduce the levels of alcohol related violent crime and disorder
- We want to reduce the percentage of the public who perceive drunk and rowdy behaviour to be a problem in their area
- We want to reduce chronic and acute ill health caused by alcohol resulting in fewer alcohol related accidents, incidents and hospital admissions

Outcome 3:

- We want to reduce incidents of violent crime, in particular serious violent crime occurring in the Borough, to make our communities feel safer and bring offenders to justice.

Outcome 4:

- We want all children and young people in Solihull to be safe, healthy enjoy life and achieve success and make a positive contribution to their communities.

Outcome 5:

- To reduce incidents of Vehicle Crime occurring in the Borough, to make our communities feel safer and bring offenders to justice.

Our approach:

Solihull SCSG to address our priorities will undertake activities to tackle and prevent these crimes and undertake both enforcement and prevention activity. The interventions will bring together partners from a number of areas and will include the Local Authority, Police, Fire, Primary Care Trust, Businesses and communities and will include:

- Intelligence gathering
- Enforcement
- Prevention and early intervention
- Educating and reassurance
- High profile contact policing
- Reducing offending and restorative justice
- Greater offender management

Anti Social Behaviour including criminal damage and arson

Outcome 1:

We want to achieve a better quality of life for our communities by reducing the incidents of Anti Social Behaviour experienced by the public.

Objectives/aim:

- To reduce the number of incidents of criminal damage and ASB being reported to the police
- To prioritise ASB and criminal damage
- To reassure our communities and make them less fearful of becoming a victim of crime

Communities	Education, Prevention & Communication	Enforcement and control	Structures
Develop further how we engage with our communities	Seek opportunities to design out crime through the planning processes	Use of ASB tools and enforcement powers such as ABCs, ASBOs, Injunctions, dispersal orders, Alcohol restricted zones to change behaviours	Publicise the existence of the SCH Anti Social Behaviour teams
Measure our success through engagement with our communities and surveys	Use parenting and Acceptable behaviour contracts with families and individual known offenders to change behaviour	Work with the police and youth offending team to increase opportunities for offenders to undertake restorative justice in our communities	Develop further the working relationship of the neighbourhood police teams and neighbourhood management to deal with localised community issues.
Measuring the volume of total recorded crime	Make more effective use of existing surveillance equipment and increase Evidence gathering capacity	Police led control strategy to be implemented	Review, evaluate and improve the community tasking meetings to deal with crime related emerging issues
Ensure that we are aware of what is happening in our communities to respond accordingly	Programme of diversionary activities in high crime areas to include Holiday activities outside term times		

Substance Misuse - Drugs

Outcome 2A:

- We want to enable more drug users in Solihull to manage and eliminate their dependence on illegal drugs
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in the likelihood of young people experimenting with illegal drugs and becoming addicted to their use
- We want to ensure that there is a reduction in supply, and increased risk of prosecution and punishment for all those involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

Objectives/aim:

- Treatment: That an ever increasing proportion of drug users in Solihull are enabled, through high quality treatment to manage and eliminate their dependence on illegal drugs in the interests of their own health and social functioning and the health and freedom from crime of the community at large.
- Young people: That there is a reduction in the likelihood of young people experimenting with illegal drugs and becoming addicted to their use
- That there is a reduction in supply, and an increasing risk of prosecution and punishment for all those involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

Improving health & Treatment Services	Education, Prevention & Communication	Enforcement and Control
<p>Treatment facilities as per Models of Care and National Guidelines</p> <p>Integrated services with easy, user friendly access for all</p> <p>Information, advice and support widely available throughout Solihull</p> <p>Targeted intervention for vulnerable groups – particularly offenders in the Criminal Justice System</p>	<p>Good quality, effective drug awareness education in Schools</p> <p>Additional, targeted screening, information and advice to vulnerable groups</p> <p>Support for families concerned about drug use in the family</p> <p>Treatment facilities for young people separate from adult services and meeting high standards of specialist care.</p>	<p>Police led control strategy to be implemented</p> <p>Robust enforcement of all laws against illegal drugs</p> <p>Significant theme addressed in neighbourhood management</p> <p>Full use of all intelligence to identify and target 'hot spots'</p>

Substance Misuse - Alcohol

Outcome 2B:

Reduce alcohol related harm.

Objectives/aim:

- To measure progress in reducing drug and alcohol related harm
- To reduce the number of alcohol related admissions (included as LAA Indicator 2008/9)
- Reduction in the percentage of the public who perceive drunk and rowdy behaviour to be a problem in their area

Education, Prevention & Communication	Tackling alcohol related crime & disorder	Working with the alcohol industry	Delivering the Strategy/Partnership Responsibility and Governance	Improving health & treatment services
<p>Increase awareness of alcohol units and the sensible drinking message and raise awareness of the health risks caused by alcohol, target excessive drinking amongst 18 – 24 year olds.</p> <p>To provide information and education to young people and their parents (DCSF Guidance due Summer 2008)</p> <p>Target programmes of education and prevention for vulnerable young people, linked to the development of targeted youth support</p>	<p>To implement a violent crime database at Solihull and Heartlands Hospital A&E departments to support intelligence and intervention design</p> <p>To implementation of an alcohol arrest referral scheme</p> <p>To tackle crime and anti social behaviour linked to alcohol, and alcohol-fuelled disorder</p> <p>Develop intervention programmes for persistent offenders where alcohol is a factor in their offending behaviour</p> <p>To manage alcohol misuse within the night time economy through licensing</p>	<p>To work in partnership with the local licensed trade to manage alcohol use effectively within the night time economy</p> <p>To implement 'Best Bar None' accreditation scheme</p> <p>To continue to support Pub Watch Scheme</p> <p>To maintain responsible sales of alcohol campaign including responding to underage sales.</p> <p>Multi-agency visits to targeted problem premises</p> <p>Maintain taxi rank marshal scheme.</p>	<p>Integrate alcohol commissioning within the Drug Action Team (DAT) joint commissioning process (CDRP/DAT strategic Commissioning Group). To review commissioning capacity.</p> <p>Develop a 'pooled budget approach' to commissioning</p> <p>Develop an outcome-based approach for commissioning and monitoring in line with existing DAT processes and procedures, including performance management</p> <p>Ensure Alcohol is addressed in relevant strategies and plans across the partnership</p> <p>Increase community engagement in alcohol related issues</p> <p>Develop systems for user/carer involvement in the development and delivery of services</p>	<p>Identify hazardous and harmful drinkers and provide brief interventions and advice.</p> <p>Provide effective evidence based interventions for harmful and dependent drinkers (MOCAM)</p> <p>Provide effective and evidence based services for young people effected by their own or other peoples drinking</p>

Violent crime

Outcome 3:

We want to reduce incidents of violent crime, in particular serious violent crime occurring in the Borough, to make our communities feel safer and bring offenders to justice.

Objectives/aim:

- Reduce the levels and risk of serious violent crime linked to the night time economy
- Reduce weapon related violent crime
- Reduce the levels and risk of serious violent crime linked to incidents of Domestic Violence
- Reduce the levels of repeat victimisation for Domestic Violence
- Increase the number of domestic violence incidents reported

Education, Prevention & Communication	Enforcement and control	Working with the alcohol industry
<p>Sharing of information between partners to help inform the community tasking process to deal with emerging issues</p> <p>To implement a violent crime data base at Solihull and Heartlands Hospital A&E departments to support intelligence and intervention design.</p> <p>Increase awareness of alcohol units and the sensible drinking message and raise awareness of the health risks caused by alcohol, target excessive drinking amongst 18 – 24 year olds.</p> <p>To provide information and education to young people and their parents on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knife, gun crime and gangs • Domestic violence and relationships <p>Target programmes of support through a multi agency response (MARAC) for vulnerable people.</p> <p>Continued advertising of current and new services- men, women and children to signpost to support services</p> <p>Seek continued funding for the post of Independent Domestic Violence adviser</p>	<p>Extensive and rigorous use of the licensing Act 2003 aimed at reducing alcohol related violence</p> <p>The implementation of an alcohol arrest referral scheme</p> <p>To tackle crime and anti social behaviour linked to alcohol, and alcohol-fuelled disorder</p> <p>Target known prolific and priority offenders - developing intervention programmes for persistent offenders</p> <p>To manage alcohol misuse within the night time economy through licensing</p> <p>Opening of a legal aid drop in service for victims of crime but with specific targeted support to victims of Domestic Violence</p>	<p>To work in partnership with the local licensed trade to manage alcohol use effectively within the night time economy</p> <p>To implement 'Best Bar None' accreditation scheme</p> <p>To continue to support Pub Watch Scheme</p> <p>To maintain responsible sales of alcohol campaign including responding to underage sales.</p> <p>Multi-agency visits to targeted problem premises</p> <p>Maintain taxi rank marshal scheme.</p>

Youth offending, disorder and young people

Outcome 4:

We want all children and young people in Solihull to be safe, healthy enjoy life and achieve success and make a positive contribution to their communities.

Objectives/aim:

- Reduce the number of young people who are victims of crime
- Reduce the misuse of drugs and alcohol among children and young people
- Work to safeguard children and young people from the effects of electronic abuse and bullying
- Increase the number of children and young people surveyed (HRBQ) who feel safe and who have been affected by bullying
- Reduce youth re-offending rates
- Provide opportunities for children and young people to participate in positive activities

Services	Education, Prevention & Communication	Enforcement and control
<p>Information, advice and support widely available throughout Solihull for children and young people</p> <p>Improve the access for children young people and their families to services that they need, when and where they need it</p> <p>Treatment facilities for young people separate from adult services and meeting high standards of specialist care.</p> <p>Develop and Commission inclusive, affordable and accessible play and leisure activities for children and young people</p> <p>Engage with children and young people to obtain their views on their needs</p>	<p>Provide information to children and young people on the consequences and impact of bullying, electronic and personal safety.</p> <p>Use Parenting and Acceptable behaviour contracts with families and individual known offenders to change behaviour</p> <p>Good quality, effective drug and alcohol awareness education in Schools</p> <p>Programme of diversionary activities in high crime areas to include Holiday activities outside term times</p> <p>Solihull Council Summer programme</p>	<p>Use of ASB tools and enforcement powers such as ABCs, ASBOs, Injunctions, dispersal orders, Alcohol restricted zones to change behaviours</p> <p>Targeted intervention for vulnerable groups – particularly offenders in the Criminal Justice System</p> <p>Work with the police and youth offending team to increase opportunities for offenders to undertake restorative justice in our communities</p> <p>Measuring the amount of children and young people involved in crime</p>

Vehicle crime

Outcome 5:

To reduce incidents of Vehicle Crime occurring in the Borough, to make our communities feel safer and bring offenders to justice.

Objectives/aim:

- To reduce the number of incidents of vehicle crime – taking of and theft from the vehicles
- To provide safer environments for vehicles to be parked more safely
- Reduce re-offending rates of persistent and priority offenders for vehicle crime

Prevention	Enforcement and control	Education and Communication	Communities
<p>Designing out crime - links to the neighbourhood and strategic planning process for the Regeneration programme to design out vehicle crime opportunities</p> <p>Programme of diversionary activities in high crime areas to include Holiday activities outside term times</p> <p>Sharing of information between partners to help inform the community tasking process to deal with emerging issues</p> <p>DVLA owner awareness scheme</p> <p>Promote safer parking schemes we engage with our communities</p>	<p>Target known prolific and priority offenders through shared priorities group and enforcement of bail conditions</p> <p>Dip officers working with police to identify drug and alcohol related referral opportunities linked to vehicle crime arrests</p> <p>Make more effective use of existing surveillance equipment and increase evidence gathering capacity</p> <p>Increase patrols and surveillance opportunities in car parks</p> <p>Best use of Asset recovery legislation Catch, convict and confiscate</p> <p>Extension to the number of personnel and areas patrolled and times covered by the traffic "civil enforcement officers" in our streets and car parks to gather intelligence and improve surveillance</p>	<p>Marketing and publicity opportunities to raise awareness of crime prevention measures</p> <p>Publicity directed at offenders which publicise operations before and after they happen</p> <p>Crime prevention road shows in high crime areas</p> <p>Messages to young people about cause and effect of vehicle crime to them and communities</p>	<p>Engage with communities to get involved in community run vehicle crime reduction campaigns and increase mutual guardianship of vehicles</p> <p>Better use of our community forums and networks e.g. neighbourhood watch to gather intelligence and share crime prevention messages</p> <p>Community environmental clean up events</p>

Number	Risk	Mitigating Action
1	Change of government policy in respect of funding or Police priorities (unlikely as these priority areas feature top of the national and local agendas frequently)	Close regular liaison with Government office
2	Resources, lacking and availability – financial, manpower, assets	Strategic reviews of priorities linked to commissioning processes that reflect those priorities
3	Commitment from partners	Drive by the LSP Sustainable Communities strategy and its thematic groups with multi agency commitment and support to fortnightly Community Tasking process and various delivery groups.
4	Trends, spikes	Robust analytical data and effective information and intelligence sharing protocols
5	Timeliness of delivery	Performance management reporting from lead officers and board champions to demonstrate direction of travel and corrective actions

