

Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2011-2014



Safer Stronger Communities Partnership

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Foreword

Crime, disorder and substance and alcohol misuse have a direct impact on both individuals and communities in Shropshire. This three-year strategy has been created by the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership which is responsible for the development and co-ordination of community safety and crime prevention programmes in Shropshire. Achieving successful results should mean that people feel safer which, in turn, should ensure that the Partnership makes a real difference to the quality of life for Shropshire residents during the next three years.

Safer Stronger Communities Partnership

The Safer Stronger Communities Partnership is the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in Shropshire. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a statutory duty on a wide range of agencies to work together to tackle crime and improve community safety. Each Local Authority area was required to establish a CSP to promote the practice of partnership working to reduce crime and disorder. Each CSP was expected to develop and implement a three year strategy to tackle problems in its area. In doing so, the agencies represented on the CSP are required to work in partnership with a range of other local public, private, community and voluntary groups, and with the community itself. This approach recognises that both the causes of crime and disorder and the interventions required to deliver safe and secure communities' lies with a range of organisations, groups and individuals working in partnership. Crime reduction is not solely the responsibility of the police. Partners include:

Shropshire Council
Shropshire Primary Care Trust
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
West Mercia Police
West Mercia Police Authority
Probation Service

Introduction

Why develop a Strategy?

Every three years the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership is required to produce a strategy which is based on an annual Strategic Assessment which identifies which crime types have increased or decreased and 'vulnerable' localities. The Assessment forms the basis of this strategy which sets out the priorities that the Partnership will focus on for the next three years. The Strategy does not include the activities that will be undertaken to deal with local problems. This will be set out in separate plans which will identify priorities for local areas. This Strategy will:

- Highlight some of the partnership's key achievements from the previous year;
- Highlight areas of concern with regard to criminal or anti social behaviour in Shropshire.

Performance Management

The Partnership will meet any targets set for it by carefully monitoring its progress, and the effectiveness of projects and initiatives, by calculating changes in the crime rates before, during and after projects have been implemented. A performance management system will continue to operate, and trends, local issues and performance will also be assessed using data provided by partners. The partnership will also seek to learn from good practice established elsewhere by liaising closely with other Community Safety Partnerships.

The partnership recognises that during the lifetime of this Strategy issues could change and different community concerns could surface. The partnership will use data, information and community based reports to ensure it maintains a good understanding of the issues which need to be addressed within Shropshire. The Strategy will be reviewed annually and priorities will be revised to ensure the strategy remains flexible and adapts to local need.

Executive Summary

In order to reduce crime and improve community safety the 2011-2014 Strategy focuses on four key crime, disorder and community safety priorities. Under each priority the Strategy outlines how the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership will strive to meet its overall aim of working together to make Shropshire safer by achieving key objectives.

Issue	Aim	Our Objectives
1. Reducing Offending & Re-offending		
Integrated Offender Management	To provide support to individuals in order for them to reduce their re-offending; for agencies to intervene where necessary to ensure offenders comply with any requirements; and, where necessary support enforcement action for those who continue to offend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with approximately 100 offenders, identified as a local priority in terms of their re-offending or the harm they cause in local communities; • Provide multi-agency support from a co-located premise; • Work with Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) and those subject to Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRR), as a mandatory cohort, to support them in reducing their re-offending; • Extend the wrap around service provision for PPOs to those subject to DRR; • Expand the support available to a wider cohort of offenders, including non-statutory supervised offenders; • Work with criminal justice agencies and services under the seven pathways known to reduce re-offending to develop and enhance joint working arrangements and a multi-agency problem-solving approach.
2. Supporting Vulnerable People		
Domestic violence	To support victims of domestic abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build on the existing inter-agency response to dealing with domestic abuse; • To develop multi-agency training and awareness of domestic violence and abuse; • To respond swiftly and effectively to those at greatest risk from domestic violence.

Anti-social behaviour	To reduce anti-social behaviour within all of Shropshire's Communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together with partners, sharing information to enable joint working and identification of risk and interventions for victims, witnesses and perpetrators of ASB • Signpost and refer victims, witnesses and perpetrators to appropriate services, when appropriate/necessary • Provide multi-agency support from a co-located premise
Hate crime	To address hate crime in Shropshire through Partnership working.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased reporting of Hate Crime; • Increased support for victims of Hate Crime; • Greater awareness of what hate crime is.
3. Increasing Public Confidence		
Acquisitive Crime	To minimise serious acquisitive crime through prevention and enforcement activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise Bronze Level Tasking meetings in order to address any increases in acquisitive crime at a local level; • Raise public awareness of the steps that can be undertaken to reduce theft from vehicles and theft of metal; • Use data and information to identify victims, offenders and hotspot locations; • To utilise all the resources available to the Partnership

<p style="text-align: center;">Perception of Crime</p>	<p>To build community confidence and trust in community safety work in Shropshire and reduce people's fear of crime by developing targeted media campaigns to address emerging crime issue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote and publicise campaigns and relevant crime prevention advice year; • To ensure that Shropshire residents and tenants are aware of how to report anti-social behaviour • People feeling safer in their communities and neighbourhoods.
<p>4. Substance Misuse</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Drugs & Alcohol</p>	<p>Reduce illicit and other harmful drug use;</p> <p>Increase the numbers recovering from their dependence.</p> <p>Respond effectively to alcohol related harm through a range of interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve treatment effectiveness through increased successful completions. • To improve pathways into housing, employment, training and education to support a holistic recovery model. • To tackle underage drinking through a range of enforcement and community diversionary activities. • To increase the use of brief interventions in a number of settings to reduce harmful and hazardous drinking.

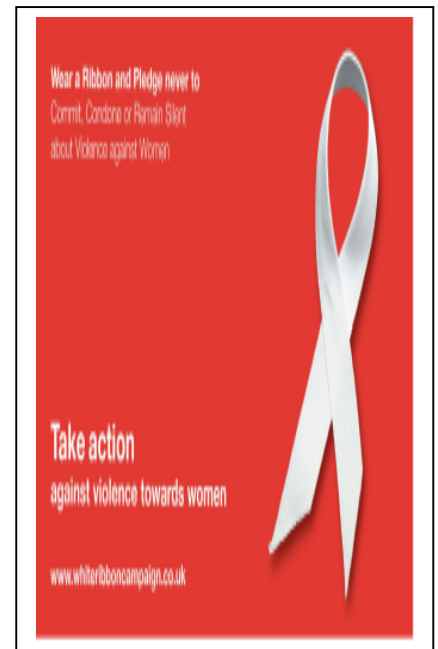
Key Activities 2010 - 2011

The Partnership has been working to deliver a range of projects and initiatives and examples of some of these are set out below.

White Ribbon Day

The White Ribbon campaign is an international campaign to end violence against women. The aim is to get men, women, girls and boys to stand together to end violence against women. Statistics show that:

- 2 women a week are killed in the UK by their partner or ex-partner;
- Every year, 1 million women experience at least one incident of domestic abuse – nearly 20,000 women a week;
- 40% of young people have experienced domestic violence in their relationships;
- 1 in 5 teenage girls has been raped by a teenage boyfriend;
- Nearly one million children witness domestic violence in their homes every year in the UK.



In 2010 the Domestic Violence Forum in Shropshire raised awareness of domestic abuse by handing out ribbons to supporters at Shrewsbury Towns' home game against Hereford on Tuesday 23rd November. On Thursday 25th November shoppers and workers in Shrewsbury were able not only to wear a white ribbon, but also to eat one! A stall was available in The Square where people were able to pick up a ribbon and a cake. The cakes were baked by the Women's Institute especially for the event and each cake had a white ribbon on top.

World Cup Campaign / How are you getting home? / Taxi marshalling

Over the last 12 months the Partnership has been promoting messages about drinking sensibly and getting home safely. The 2010 World Cup was an opportunity to raise awareness of the damage that some peoples behaviour can have on others and themselves. Evidence had shown that incidents of domestic abuse increased during the previous World Cup so a campaign ran throughout the World Cup and focused on domestic abuse and people's alcohol consumption. Unfortunately our campaign lasted longer than the England teams.

A radio and poster campaign over the Christmas period encouraged people not only to drink sensibly and responsibly but also to think how they were getting home and had made adequate arrangements before they set out for the evening.

Part of the campaign focused on not being near open water when a large amount of alcohol had been consumed. This was in response to a small number of deaths over a number of years, caused by accidental drowning in the River Severn which involved individuals making their way home from either a pub or club, having consumed a large amount of alcohol and



who had fallen into the river and been unable, due the consumption of alcohol, to get out of the water.

Taxi Marshalling schemes were established in Shrewsbury and Oswestry with funding from the Partnership and proved popular with both customers and businesses. Taxi companies said that the scheme made it easier for drivers to pick up their pre-booked customers and the presence of the marshals resulted in fewer problems with queuing customers and helped with the dispersal of customers.

Bronze Level Tasking

The Bronze Level Tasking was established by the Partnership in 2010 as a vehicle for the delivery of local priorities. The aim of the meetings is to give local agencies, and organisations, the opportunity to raise matters of concern to their own agency or local citizens, and call upon partners' information and resources to resolve the problem. Bronze Level Tasking involves local staff working together who are able to progress the matters raised. Bronze Level Tasking has dealt with a wide range of issues from Anti Social Behaviour to Youth Diversionary Activities and housing issues. A report on all the activity taking place at Bronze Level Tasking is presented to the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership on a monthly basis.

Ludlow Community Alcohol Project (L-CAP)

Underage drinking and alcohol related harm to young people has long been a concern in Shropshire. The West Mercia Police Perceptions Survey showed that underage drinking has remained in the top 3 Public Concerns Priorities for the last 6 years, being the second highest concern (following speeding traffic) since 2007. It was proposed that the Community Alcohol Project Model could be an effective way in which to continue to address the issue of underage drinking and alcohol related harm to young people in Shropshire. The Community Alcohol project in Ludlow led to the confiscation of alcohol from young people whose parents were then notified of the position. Local shopkeepers and retailers have been very co-operative and supportive of the project.

The 2010 – 2011 Strategic Assessment

Our Priorities

Priorities

1. Reducing Offending & Re-offending

2. Supporting Vulnerable People

Domestic Violence
Anti-social behaviour
Hate crime

3. Increasing Public Confidence

Acquisitive Crime
Public Perception

4. Tackling Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Drugs
Alcohol

1. Reducing Offending and Re-offending

Integrated Offender Management

Reducing re-offending is a statutory priority placed on Community Safety Partnerships to reduce re-offending in their local authority area. Shropshire is a pilot area in West Mercia for an Integrated Offender Management Project called 'Route7'. The project aims to be:

“A co-located team which offers an integrated service and provides co-ordinated and seamless support for statutory and non-statutory supervised offenders.”

Local Re-offending Figures

As of March 2010 there was a reduction in re-offending of 22.7% against a target of 18%. 27% of the persons under probation supervision were assessed as being at Very High or High Risk of re-offending. Over 50% were assessed as having a Drug and /or Alcohol issue, and over 60% had Thinking and Behaviour, Attitude and Lifestyle issues that placed them at a higher risk of re-offending.

The focus on short-sentence ex-prisoners (those who received less than a 12 month sentence), is a priority for IOM given that the National Audit Office has estimated that the cost of looking after short-sentence prisoners in 2008-09 (excluding healthcare and education) in the region of £286m. This equates to a six week sentence, on average, costing £4,500. Compared to a highly intensive two year Community Order averaging £4,200 and a more standard one year Community Order costing averaging £1,400. Short-sentence ex-prisoners are also a highly recidivist group. On average they have 16 previous convictions and 60% are convicted of at least one offence in the year after their release and in 2007 each short-sentence ex-prisoner who re-offended after release was convicted of, on average, a further five offences in the year following release.

Another priority group is offenders aged between 18 and 24. The Transition to Adulthood Alliance (T2A) has identified this group of “young adult offenders” as having distinct needs

which should be considered separately from adult offenders. The T2A report “*A New Start: Young Adults in the Criminal Justice System*” (2009) highlights that this group of offenders is also a highly recidivist group with over 70% of imprisoned young adult offenders likely to re-offend within two years of release. Young adult offenders also have higher than average related needs which may have an impact on their re-offending rate. For example, over 50% of young adult offenders are unemployed on arrest. Unemployment within the 18 to 24 year old bracket generally is at 14.6%, compared to 5% of the whole workforce. A fifth of young male offenders, aged 15 to 21, do not know where they will live when they are released from prison. The 20 to 24 year old age bracket is the most prolific in terms of illicit drug use with approximately 54% of young adult offenders linking their alcohol use to their offending and 42% linking their drug use to their offending (T2A, 2009).

Pathways Known to Reduce Re-offending

In 2002 the Social Exclusion Unit identified nine factors which influence re-offending. Some of these factors have subsequently been grouped and are now known as the seven pathways known to reduce re-offending:

- Accommodation;
- Health;
- Drugs and alcohol;
- Education, employment and training;
- Finance, benefits and debt;
- Children and families; and
- Attitudes, thinking and behaviour.

Aim:

To provide support to individuals in order for them to reduce their re-offending; for agencies to intervene where necessary to ensure offenders comply with any requirements; and, where necessary support enforcement action for those who continue to offend.

Objectives:

- Work with approximately 100 offenders, identified as a local priority in terms of their re-offending or the harm they cause in local communities;
- Provide multi-agency support from a co-located premise;
- Work with Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) and those subject to Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRR), as a mandatory cohort, to support them in reducing their re-offending;
- Extend the wrap around service provision for PPOs to those subject to DRR;
- Expand the support available to a wider cohort of offenders, including non-statutory supervised offenders;
- Work with criminal justice agencies and services under the seven pathways known to reduce re-offending to develop and enhance joint working arrangements and a multi-agency problem-solving approach;

2. Supporting Vulnerable People

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a hidden issue. It is a problem that occurs within the home, often without witnesses. Yet it is a crime that has tremendous costs to family and community life and to national and local services. National statistics estimate that 1 in 4 women experience abuse or violence from a partner at some time within their adult lives.

Partnership Working

Shropshire Council employs a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator. The Co-ordinator works to develop partnership structures within the county. Shropshire has a County Domestic Violence Forum and three area based domestic violence forums. The County-wide Domestic Violence Forum consists of a wide range of agencies and organisations that are in a position to influence decision making and/or have access to local resources. Members include Shropshire Council, West Mercia Police, West Mercia Women's Aid, Housing Providers and the Primary Care Trust, together with local service providers. All are central to the process of developing a holistic multi agency response to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence in Shropshire.

The three Domestic Violence Forums based in the North, Central and South Shropshire areas share good practice and information, address training needs and use funding to support local needs.

MARAC

In Shropshire, Police figures indicate 2,352 cases of domestic abuse were reported in 2008–2009 and of these 616 were treated as crimes by the Police which resulted in the arrest of 361 perpetrators of which 172 were reviewed by the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). MARAC is a response to the highest risk cases of domestic violence and works on the assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim. This is because domestic abuse takes place behind closed doors and only becomes known through calls to the police, visits to A&E, calls to domestic violence help lines, poor child attendance at school, and through friends.

Specialist Domestic Violence Courts

The Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) operates once a week in Shrewsbury, and is seen as an important part of the criminal justice response to victims of domestic violence. The SDVC is able to put special measures in place to ensure the safety of victims coming to court to give evidence against a perpetrator. In addition to these safety measures, training is given to magistrates and staff, and in Shropshire it is estimated that all legal advisors and between 80-90% of all magistrates have had domestic violence awareness training.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisors

Working closely with the MARAC and the SDVC, the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service (IDVA's) (which comprises of 2 full-time IDVAs employed by West Mercia Women's Aid) works with high and very high risk domestic violence cases. IDVAs can only work with victims who want to explore legal options, and due to pressures on the service will only support the victim until the case comes to court.

In 2008–2009, according to information provided by the IDVA service:

- 313 victims were referred into the service, of these 299 were referred by the Police and 14 were referred from the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). 51 cases were re-referrals;
- Of these referrals, 290 were successfully contacted by the IDVAs and 171 people decided to engage with the service;
- IDVAs supported 69 people to take their cases to the SDVC, of which 66 cases went to court resulting in 62 prosecutions.

Sanctuary Scheme

It has been estimated that some 13% of applicants accepted as homeless by local authorities became homeless because of domestic violence. Research by Crisis found that domestic violence was the main cause of homelessness amongst women.

The effects of homelessness on women and children are numerous and well documented, for example:

- It affects children's emotional and physical wellbeing and development, it can cause development delays, and homeless children on the whole tend to be less well than their non-homeless peers and more susceptible to illness.
- It affects their education, which in turn has long term impacts on employment and life changes.
- Homeless children are more likely to be placed in care.

(Source: Homelessness and its effects on children Family Housing)

A scheme has been in operation since November 2010 and has utilised a small amount of money from the Safer Stronger Communities Budget and has worked in partnership with West Mercia Polices Crime Prevention Officer and an organisation called Safe Partnership who have undertaken the work required on properties. While the cost of implementing security measures can be expensive, between £180 and £450, the cost associated with moving families into emergency or temporary accommodation, and then onto permanent accommodation, costs much more.

Aim:

To support victims of domestic abuse

Objectives:

- To build on the existing inter-agency response to dealing with domestic abuse;
- To develop multi-agency training and awareness of domestic violence and abuse;
- To respond swiftly and effectively to those at greatest risk from domestic violence.

Anti Social Behaviour

The Safer Stronger Communities Partnership aims to reduce crime and disorder and substance misuse. It also aims to address the issues of most concern to local people such as anti social behaviour. The Partnership recognises that anti-social behaviour can blight the lives of communities and effect perceptions of safety and security within individual's own homes as well as on the street.

The problem

The image of any area can have a significant impact on crime. If an area is allowed to deteriorate community respect and care can be lost and result in an increase in crime and disorder. The term 'anti-social behaviour' acts as an umbrella description of a variety of disruptive and unacceptable behaviour that can have a detrimental impact on the quality of life within communities. Anti-social behaviour is sometimes referred to as 'nuisance', 'neighbour disputes' or 'disorder'. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 definition is:

“Acting in a manner that caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as himself”

Between 2009 – 2010 Shropshire saw a substantial drop in the number of recorded Anti Social Behaviour events, from 18,855 to 16,001 (a decrease of 15.14%) There is no single explanation for the decrease in recorded ASB. It might be due to the adverse weather in

January and February 2010 or the rains experienced in the summer months particularly in August and September.

Partnership work

In order to address anti-social behaviour and make the reporting of ASB easier, the Partnership has established a single reporting number so that members of the public only have to report problems once. To support the reporting number a small, Co-located Team has been established which consists of officers from the Council, Police and a Registered Housing provider, that will co-ordinate multi agency responses to ASB, deal with perpetrators and support victims.

Aim

To reduce anti-social behaviour within all of Shropshire's Communities.

Objectives

- Work together with partners, sharing information to enable joint working and identification of risk and interventions for victims, witnesses and perpetrators of ASB;
- Signpost and refer victims, witnesses and perpetrators to appropriate services, when appropriate/necessary;
- Provide multi-agency support from a co-located premise.

Hate crime

Hate crime is commonly associated with prejudice against particular individuals such as those from minority ethnic groups or hatred based on homophobia. A more accurate definition of hate crime is any crime where prejudice against an identifiable group is a factor in determining who is victimised.

There are a number of mechanisms that have been established to engage with the diverse communities in Shropshire. This includes the Equalities Forum which meets quarterly and invites representatives from the diverse communities in Shropshire. The main purpose of the Equalities Forum is to represent the views of Shropshire's Black and Minority Ethnic and other Diversity & Equality communities.

Aim:

To tackle hate crime in Shropshire through Partnership working.

Objectives:

- Increased reporting of Hate Crime;
- Increased support for victims of Hate Crime;
- Greater awareness of what hate crime is.

3. Increasing Public Confidence

Serious Acquisitive Crime

Serious Acquisitive Crime encompasses domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery. These crimes can be disruptive and potentially very distressing and are often the result of opportunist criminal behaviour. Between October 2009 and September 2010 total crime in Shropshire was down by 9.49% compared with the same period in 2008 – 09. Domestic burglary was down by 5.45%; theft of vehicle which was down 21.64%; and robbery was

down 41.46%. Only theft from motor vehicle was up in the period 2009 -2010 by 12.17%. In the same period criminal damage was down by 17.89% on the previous year's figures; assault less serious Injury was down 13.81%; non domestic burglary was down 19.5% and shoplifting was down 8.91%. Making off without payment was up by 68.45% and theft other which was up by 12.16%.

Despite predictions from the Home Office that it was likely that there would be an increase in crime due to the recession, there does not appear to have been the increase predicted. However, not all areas have been immune with theft from motor vehicles and making off without payment showing increases. Theft from a motor vehicle can usually be explained by people leaving valuable items such as Satellite Navigation Equipment, which are left visibly attached to the windscreen when the owner leaves the vehicle, being stolen. Entry to the vehicle is gained either by smashing the driver's door window, or where the owner leaves the vehicle unlocked either by choice, or by thinking that they have operated the vehicle's remote locking device. Fuel theft is due to people refuelling their vehicles at filling stations and then driving off without paying. Fuel thefts are another area where the higher the price of the commodity leads to an increase in fuel being stolen. They can be classified into, Drive Outs, Agricultural Diesel, Heating oil and siphoning from vehicle. Five service stations situated on the main arterial routes in Shropshire report the greatest number of drive outs.

The increase in theft other has been attributed to the rising global demand for metals such as copper and lead which has resulted in an increase in this type of theft both locally and nationally. It accounts for 25% (431 out of 1660 recorded crimes) of the Home Office crime category 'Theft Other' in Shropshire. A further 104 metal theft offences have been classified as Non Residential Burglaries together these 535 crimes have a declared property loss value in excess of £500,000. Churches, Farm buildings and Farms, new builds, property renovations, industrial metal processors (including scrap yards), schools, village halls, Local Authority Recycling Sites and utility companies are among specific premises that are vulnerable.

Aim

To minimise serious acquisitive crime through prevention and enforcement activity.

Objectives

- Maximise Bronze Level Tasking meetings in order to address any increases in acquisitive crime at a local level;
- Raise public awareness of the steps that can be undertaken to reduce theft from vehicles and theft of metal;
- Use data and information to identify victims, offenders and hotspot locations;
- To utilise all the resources available to the Partnership

Perception of Crime

In the national and regional context, Shropshire is one of the safest places to live, work and visit. Crime has been falling in all areas of Shropshire since 2004. The largest decline was between June 2004 and September 2006, and levels have remained relatively static, averaging 1,390 per month across the whole of the county, compared with a previous average of 1,558 per month.

A key challenge for the Partnership is to ensure that the reductions seen in crime and disorder are translated into feelings of safety and confidence in towns, villages and communities across the County. The Safer Stronger Communities Partnership recognises

that there is a need to tell local communities what is being done and why. Local residents will develop views based on national news stories and the occasional local news story so they need to be given the full picture so that they understand what local partnerships are aiming to do, and that the actions put in place to reduce crime and disorder are part of a long-term solution to long-term complex problems.

Aim

To build community confidence and trust in community safety work in Shropshire and reduce people's fear of crime by developing targeted media campaigns to address emerging crime issue.

Objectives

- To promote and publicise campaigns and relevant crime prevention advice year;
- To ensure that Shropshire residents and tenants are aware of how to report anti-social behaviour, hate crime and domestic abuse;
- People feeling safer in their communities and neighbourhoods.

4. Tackling Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Drug and alcohol misuse is a serious issue not only to the health and well being of the individual that is affected by it, but that of their families and the wider community. Tackling drug and alcohol misuse requires a co-ordinated approach involving a whole range of services including Education, Health, Social Care, Youth Offending Service, Probation and the Police. It is not just the responsibility of organisations however, individuals and the wider community all have a role to play in reducing drug and alcohol related issues.

The relationship between substance misuse and crime and disorder is well documented. A number of town centres in the county are affected by violent crime, rowdy and anti-social behaviour related to the night-time economy. Underage drinking is also prevalent in some areas of the county creating not only nuisance and anti-social behaviour but also leaving young people under the influence of alcohol very vulnerable and at risk of been the victim of crime. In the last twelve months the Partnership have introduced a number of alcohol initiatives including a dedicated Information and Brief Advice (IBA) project in six GP surgeries with additional support to the remaining surgeries and an Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme in police custody to support the reduction of alcohol related harm.

Drug misuse is associated with acquisitive crime as well as the negative impact drug use and drug dealing can have on individuals, families and the wider community. Providing effective and efficient treatment is fundamental to the recovery agenda and to the prevention of crime. The 2010 national drug strategy published in December places a new ambition on the Partnership to reduce drug and alcohol use and improve recovery outcomes. The Partnership has performed very well in meeting effective treatment targets and has exceeded the projected numbers for engaging and retaining service users in treatment 2010-2011. For 2011 -2012 attention will need to be focused on improving the successful completion rate.

Aims

- Reduce illicit and other harmful drug use; and
- Increase the numbers recovering from their dependence;
- Respond effectively to alcohol related harm through a range of interventions

Objectives

- To improve treatment effectiveness through increased successful completions.
- To improve pathways into housing, employment, training and education to support a holistic recovery model.
- To tackle underage drinking through a range of enforcement and community diversionary activities.
- To increase the use of brief interventions in a number of settings to reduce harmful and hazardous drinking.