

REPORT

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THE CRIME AND DRUG MISUSE REDUCTION STRATEGY 2005-2008 FOR THE FOUR COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS IN WILTSHIRE

1. Purpose of Report

To present for approval the final draft of the Crime and Drug Misuse Reduction Strategy 2005-2008 covering the Salisbury District Council area (see Appendix 1 – attached).

2. Background

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002, requires local community safety partnerships across England and Wales to undertake a full audit of crime and disorder in their area every three years, and then to publish a crime reduction and drug misuse strategy to tackle the problems identified in the audit.

3. Structure of the Strategy

The strategy has been drafted in line with the findings from the Audit conducted in 2004 and is a collaborative document covering the responsible authorities from the four community safety partnerships in Wiltshire and the members of the Safer Wiltshire Executive. It sets out a framework for prioritising those aspects of crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse, which are seen as demanding the most urgent attention from these organisations.

There are separate sections that look at each of the four community safety partnership areas in turn, describing the structure of the Partnership; summarising the relevant aims of the local strategic partnership/s; picking out the Crime and Drugs Audit findings specific to that Partnership area; setting out the specific crime reduction targets which will enable the Partnership to achieve the agreed public service agreement target for reducing crime; and identifying any district-specific priorities in addition to the ones which are common to all four community safety partnerships.

This document has to be submitted to the Government Office for the South West by 1st April 2005. In conjunction with this process, a district-based summary will be produced, which highlights the issues and priorities specific to Salisbury District, and will be included as a specific chapter on community safety within the Community Strategy.

Alongside the Strategy, action plans will be published to identify activities that will be developed in order to achieve the objectives and therefore the document itself does not seek to describe all of the activities, which will contribute to this, nor the organisations responsible for their achievement.

4. Wiltshire-Wide Strategic Priorities

The following broad priority areas form the basis of the strategy and were agreed by the community safety partners in the four community safety partnerships, built around the Wiltshire-wide theme of **'Staying Safe, Feeling Safe'**. (The Cabinet endorsed these on 24th October 2004). No single priority should be seen as having greater importance than any other. Instead, by being worked on together they will complement and reinforce each other and make the achievement of the objectives and targets set out in the Strategy more likely.

- Reducing Offending Behaviour
- Reducing Victimisation
- Prioritising Higher Crime Neighbourhoods
- Reducing Crimes of Violence, including domestic violence & alcohol related violence
- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Reducing Drug and Alcohol Related Harm
- Reducing Road Casualties
- Making People Feel Safer

5. Crime Reduction Targets

Measuring the performance of the South Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership is crucial during the course of this strategy period (2005-2008). There is a requirement for partnership activities to influence and support the delivery of the Home Office Public Service Agreement targets, in particular the target to reduce crime nationally by 15%. The South Wiltshire Partnership has set itself a target of reducing crime by 12.5% over the four-year period between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

However the need to achieve these reductions towards the national target will be complemented with a range of local indicators geared more towards tackling other priority behaviours and crime types identified through the audit, such as domestic violence and anti-social behaviour. These will be approved and adopted by the Local Strategic Partnership and included in the Community Strategy.

6. Recommendation: Members are asked to:

- (1) endorse the Crime and Drug Misuse Reduction Strategy for 2005 – 2008 for the Salisbury District Council area
- (2) consider the detailed priorities and targets for the Salisbury District Council area as part of the Community Strategy

Background papers: None

Implications:

- **Financial:** In 2005/06 the priorities will be met from within existing Home Office, Building Safer Communities funds and Salisbury District Council budgets which together total approximately £120K. However, Home Office funding streams and the way in which they are allocated and managed are currently being reviewed in an attempt to embed Community Safety in Local Strategic Partnerships. The impact of this is not yet known but is likely that any changes will be made in preparation for 2006/07
- **Legal** : None at this stage
- **Human Rights** : None at this stage
- **Personnel** : None at this stage
- **Community Safety** : Contained in the report
- **Environmental** : None at this stage
- **Council's Core Values** : Providing excellent service; supporting the disadvantaged; being fair and equitable; being a progressive employer
- **Wards Affected** : All wards are affected as the strategy covers the whole district.
- **Consultation undertaken:** Contained in the full audit report previously available in the Members room.

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“Staying Safe, Feeling Safe”

A STRATEGY FOR REDUCING CRIME, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DRUG MISUSE IN WILTSHIRE

April 2005 - March 2008



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THE CRIME AND DRUG MISUSE REDUCTION STRATEGY 2005-2008 FOR THE FOUR COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS IN WILTSHIRE

The following responsible and co-operating authorities, who are members of the four Wiltshire community safety partnerships and of the Safer Wiltshire Executive, pledge their support for this Strategy to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and drug & alcohol misuse in the county, and their commitment to the achievement of its objectives.

Chief Executive
Wiltshire County Council

Chairman
Wiltshire Police Authority

Chief Constable
Wiltshire Constabulary

Chairman
Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority

Chief Executive
North Wiltshire District Council

Chief Executive
**Kennet & North Wiltshire Primary Care
Trust, and West Wiltshire Primary Care
Trust**

Chief Executive
West Wiltshire District Council

Chief Executive
South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust

Chief Executive
Salisbury District Council

Chief Executive
Kennet District Council

Chief Probation Officer
National Probation Service

Statement by the Chair of the Wiltshire Strategic Board:

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INTRODUCTION

Wiltshire has one of the lowest rates of recorded crime in England – even so, concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour are widespread across Wiltshire as in other parts of the country. Public surveys in the county show that residents consistently rate ‘a low level of crime’ in first or second position when asked what makes somewhere a good place to live. The misuse of alcohol and drugs is also a cause of disquiet – local people recognise the harm that this can cause to individuals, families and communities.

Until the late 1990s, action taken against crime and drug misuse was often piecemeal and unco-ordinated, and the emphasis was placed on picking up the pieces *after* crimes had been committed. The Crime and Disorder Act, passed in 1998, changed all that: for the first time public bodies were given a legal responsibility to work together to *reduce* crime, a responsibility which was reinforced and extended by the Police Reform Act of 2002. As a result of these two pieces of legislation, the following Wiltshire bodies are now designated as the authorities which hold a legal responsibility for crime reduction:

- Wiltshire County Council
- North Wiltshire District Council
- West Wiltshire District Council
- Salisbury District Council
- Kennet District Council
- Wiltshire Police Authority
- Wiltshire Constabulary
- Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority
- Kennet & North Wiltshire Primary Care Trust
- West Wiltshire Primary Care Trust
- South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust

In addition to these organisations, other bodies are required by law to co-operate with the responsible authorities, including the Wiltshire Area of the National Probation Service, NHS hospital trusts, and Wiltshire’s parish and town councils.

The Crime and Disorder Act imposed specific duties on the ‘responsible authorities’, in particular to:

- carry out and publish an audit of crime and disorder every three years in each district council area
- publish a three-year crime reduction strategy, based on the findings of the audit and including specific objectives and long- & short-term performance targets
- implement the strategy, keeping its contents under review and making any changes to it that are ‘expedient or necessary’.

The first set of crime reduction strategies were published in 1999 and the second in 2002: this strategy, running from April 2005 until March 2008, is the third. Unlike the first two, however, the contents of this strategy reflect the requirement contained in the Police Reform Act 2002 to complement the crime reduction strategy with:

- ‘a strategy for combating the misuse of drugs in the area’.

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Alongside these specific duties, section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the county council, district councils, parish and town councils, the Police Authority and the Fire Authority to have regard to crime prevention in everything that they do, and to do 'all that they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder' in their area. This section imposes an all-embracing responsibility on these authorities to put crime reduction and community safety at the heart of their medium- and long-term planning and their day-to-day practice.

The shared responsibility for crime reduction imposed by the Crime and Disorder Act meant that organisations could no longer work in isolation – instead, partnerships were set up so that organisations could pool their ideas and resources and work together to tackle problems of crime and anti-social behaviour. Because audits and strategies have to be drawn up at *district* level, each of Wiltshire's four districts set up a community safety partnership whose membership includes the responsible authorities; the organisations which are required to co-operate; and many other representatives of the statutory, private, voluntary and community sectors which have responded to the invitation to participate in the work of the partnership. Alongside these district-based partnerships, the Safer Wiltshire Executive operates at a county-wide level, taking overall responsibility for the reduction of drug and alcohol misuse and for those aspects of crime reduction which are best co-ordinated on a Wiltshire-wide basis.

Information about the structure of each of the district partnerships can be found in the section of this Strategy which sets out the particular features of each district¹ – but all four community safety partnerships in Wiltshire seek to operate according to the same principles:

- *To work closely with their local strategic partnerships and to make sure that their community safety priorities reflect the overall priorities contained in the community strategies produced by these partnerships.*
- *To reflect the interests and experiences of local communities through regular consultation and two-way communication, and through participation in community area planning processes.*
- *To pool the ideas and the resources of all the participating agencies to achieve a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.*
- *To use an 'audit-to-action' approach to reducing crime and drug misuse, analysing problems before working out appropriate solutions, and ensuring that these solutions operate at a variety of levels and draw on the resources of many different organisations.*
- *To make clear who is responsible for seeing each planned activity through to a conclusion, for monitoring progress and for assessing whether the activity has had the desired results.*
- *To work with neighbouring partnerships and across the county where doing so makes a successful outcome more likely.*
- *To make sure that information on crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse in the area is kept up-to-date, so that changes in the level, location and nature of crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse are picked up and amendments made in strategic priorities in response to these changes.*
- *To work in an integrated way with the Wiltshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership to ensure that strategies and activities are co-ordinated and complementary.*

¹ See pages 28-43

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Wiltshire's community safety partnerships also accept the need to take account of the many other strategies and plans which overlap with the aims and priorities of this Strategy, especially the county-wide community strategy "A County Fit For Our Children"; the district-based community strategies & community area plans as they are published; the Wiltshire Policing Plan; the Adult Drug Treatment Plan; the Wiltshire Youth Justice Plan; the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board Local Action Plan; the Vulnerable Adults Plan; and the Area Child Protection Plan. Equally importantly, account needs to be taken of the relevant national & local performance indicators and targets which will need to be measured and met over the next three years. These indicators and targets will be referred to throughout this Strategy – but the most significant as far as crime reduction and tackling drug misuse are concerned are the national Public Service Agreement (or 'PSA') targets which include:

Home Office PSA 1

- To reduce crime nationally by 15%², and further in high crime areas, between 2003/4 and 2007-8

PSA 2

- To reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System without compromising fairness

PSA 4

- To reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs, including substantially increasing the number of drug-misusing offenders entering treatment through the Criminal Justice System.

THE LAYOUT OF THE STRATEGY

This Strategy sets out a framework for prioritising those aspects of crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse which are seen as demanding the most urgent attention from the organisations involved in the four Wiltshire community safety partnerships and the Safer Wiltshire Executive.

Pages 4-6 pick out the key findings of the Audit of Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Drug Misuse published in October 2004.

Pages 6-28 set out the strategic priorities common to all four of Wiltshire's community safety partnerships under the following headings:

- **Why** is this a priority?
- Which are the relevant **national & local targets and performance indicators**?
- What are the specific **objectives and targets**?
- What are some of the actions we will take to **achieve success**?³

² In Wiltshire, the crime reduction target is 12.5%.

³ The Strategy does not seek to describe *all* the activities which will contribute to the achievement of the objectives, or the organisations responsible for their achievement – these will be spelt out in the action plans which will be published alongside the Strategy. Nor does it refer in detail to the scope that might exist to improve the internal working of the partnerships: this is more appropriately dealt with through the partnerships' self assessment processes and the improvement plans arising from them. Nevertheless it is accepted that the strategic objectives will only be achieved if partnership structures are kept under constant review, and adapted and improved in the light of experience.

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Pages 29-43 look at each of Wiltshire's four community safety partnership areas in turn, describing the structure of the Partnership; summarising the relevant aims of the local strategic partnership/s; picking out the Crime and Drugs Audit findings specific to that Partnership area; setting out the agreed public service agreement target for reducing crime; and identifying any district-specific priorities in addition to the ones which are common to all four community safety partnerships.

Page 44 looks to the future, describing how the strategic priorities will be kept under review and amended in the light of experience, and encouraging partner agencies, residents and businesses to contribute to a reduction in crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse in Wiltshire over the period of the Strategy.

THE FINDINGS OF THE AUDIT OF CRIME, DRUGS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, AUTUMN 2004

The Audit of Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Drug Misuse in Wiltshire and Swindon was published in October 2004 and can be found on the Police Authority website at http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/pub_crmdrgaudit.asp. The full audit report is a detailed document – but it includes a summary and a list of suggested priorities in Part 1 of the report (pages 1-30). The main findings can be summarised as follows:

Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and the Fear of Crime in Wiltshire⁴

- In 2003/4, Wiltshire and Swindon was the police force area with the second lowest rate of recorded crime in England⁵.
- Total recorded crime in Wiltshire fell by 1.7% between 2002/3 and 2003/4.
- Recorded violent crime rose by 3.4% in contrast to a national increase of 14%.
- In 2003/4, South and West Wiltshire had significantly higher rates of total crime than North Wiltshire and Kennet.
- Theft & handling and criminal damage offences each accounted for almost a quarter of all recorded crime in Wiltshire in 2003/4.
- Offences of violence against the person in Wiltshire constituted 17.4% of all offences; but, because the overall costs to society of violent crime is much higher than that of other crimes, they accounted for over 80% of the costs.
- The peak times for offences of violence, in the evenings and at weekends, suggest a strong link with alcohol misuse.
- 3,300 incidents of domestic violence were reported to the police in Wiltshire in 2003/4, slightly fewer than the year before.

⁴ Throughout this Strategy report, references to 'Wiltshire' refer to the administrative county of Wiltshire, excluding the Borough of Swindon. References to 'South Wiltshire' refer to the Salisbury District Council area.

⁵ Figures published in December 2004 indicated that the Wiltshire Police Force area had become the lowest crime area in the country

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- For most crime types, the rates of crime per head of population were much lower than in similar areas in other parts of the country – distraction burglaries were one of the very few exceptions.
- 1,442 fires were reported to Wiltshire Fire Stations between October 2003 and September 2004 – almost half of them were assessed by the Fire Brigade as having been started deliberately.
- Despite annual fluctuations, deaths and serious injuries on the roads in Wiltshire have shown a declining trend since the mid-nineties.
- Reliable data on incidents of anti-social behaviour have only started to be produced since April 2004 – these show that weekend evenings are the peak times for anti-social behaviour; that nuisance and vehicle-related incidents top the list; and that West Wiltshire had the highest rate of reported incidents.
- There are wide geographical differences in the rate of crime between one electoral ward and another: the Wiltshire ward with the highest rate of total recorded crime in 2002/3 had a crime rate more than twenty times higher than the ward with the lowest rate.
- As is often suggested, high rates of crime and high levels of deprivation tend to go together. In West Wiltshire and Kennet, the neighbourhood with the highest rate of crime also scored highest on indices of deprivation, and in South Wiltshire the highest crime neighbourhood was ranked second in terms of overall deprivation.
- Wiltshire's regular public consultation survey, 'People's Voice', put burglary and supplying hard drugs as the two crimes that people saw as the top priorities to tackle, and vandalism & drink-related disorder as the most damaging types of anti-social behaviour. Young people put 'sexual attacks and rapes' as the top crime priority.
- 20% of adult People's Voice respondents felt unsafe or very unsafe in their home area after dark – but this went up to 38% for 11-18 year olds.
- In a large-scale survey in the autumn of 2003, three times as many Wiltshire respondents thought that the level of crime had got worse in their local area over the previous three years than thought that it had got better, despite the evidence of the British Crime Survey that crime nationally had gone down over that period.

Drug Misuse

- Although not formally part of the drug misuse audit, alcohol is seen as the drug which makes the biggest contribution to crime and anti-social behaviour in Wiltshire.
- 658 drug offences were recorded in Wiltshire in 2003/4. This was an increase of 13% over the year before – but it should be borne in mind that the level of recorded offences is as much a reflection of police activity as of the amount of drug use and dealing which is going on.

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- North Wiltshire, West Wiltshire and South Wiltshire had similar rates of drug offences in 2003/4, but Kennet's was lower. Rates of recorded drug offences differed widely from one ward to another.
- All illegal drugs were thought to be available throughout Wiltshire to those who want them, with Bristol the main source of supply.
- In 2004, heroin, amphetamines and cannabis were seen as the major drugs of misuse across the county, although ecstasy was the Class A drug with the highest number of seizures in 2003/4.
- While still not widespread, the use of crack cocaine was thought to be increasing.
- In a Wiltshire People's Voice survey in 2003, 43% of the sample said that illegal drug supply was a problem in almost every town and village in Wiltshire, and another 34% saw it as a big problem, but mainly in the towns.
- Home Office estimates suggest that there are between 1,400 and 2,800 problematic drug users in Wiltshire.
- 568 people had some kind of structured drug treatment in Wiltshire in 2003/4 but treatment waiting times, while falling, still exceeded targets and the regional average.

THE PRIORITIES FOR REDUCING CRIME, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & DRUG MISUSE COMMON TO THE FOUR COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS

Achieving the Government's Crime Reduction Targets

Taking account of the Government's Public Service Agreement target to reduce crime nationally by 15%, each of Wiltshire's four community safety partnerships has set itself the target of reducing those crimes which are included in the Government's calculation by a total of **12.5%** over the four-year period between 2003/4 and 2007/8. The crime types chosen by the Government are:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wounding• Common assault• Robbery• Criminal damage• Domestic burglary• Theft from the person | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theft of a vehicle• Theft from a vehicle• Vehicle interference & tampering• Theft & unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle |
|---|---|

These crime types are not necessarily priority crimes for the Wiltshire community safety partnerships to deal with: they have been selected because they relate most closely to the standard questions asked in the British Crime Survey – this survey will be used, at a national level, to measure the reduction of crime across the whole country between 2003/4 and 2007/8.

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Reductions in these crime types will be achieved not only through initiatives directly targeted at these kinds of behaviour, but also through prioritising the **places** in which crimes of all sorts are most likely to occur; the **people** who are most likely to commit offences or behave anti-socially, or who are most at risk of doing so; and the people or organisations who are most likely to be the **victims** of crime and anti-social behaviour, whether once or repeatedly.

The need to achieve reductions in the offences included in the national PSA target should not, however, be allowed to deflect the attention of the Wiltshire partnerships from the other kinds of behaviour identified in the Audit which are not fully reflected in the above categories: these include domestic violence, hate crime, sexual attacks, arson and anti-social behaviour.

The Wiltshire-Wide Strategic Priorities

Following the publication of the Wiltshire and Swindon Audit of Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Drug Misuse in October 2004 and the consultations which then took place on the audit's findings, the following priority areas were agreed by the community safety partners in the four community safety partnerships, built around the Wiltshire-wide theme of '**Staying Safe, Feeling Safe**'. The priorities are laid out in a circular formation to demonstrate that no single priority should be seen as having greater importance than any other. Instead, by being worked on together they will complement and reinforce each other and make the achievement of the objectives and targets set out in the Strategy more likely.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – REDUCING OFFENDING BEHAVIOUR

Why is this a priority?

All crimes and incidents of anti-social behaviour require a perpetrator. A crime reduction strategy which focuses on individual crime types while neglecting perpetrators may do little more than displace criminal activity, from one offence category to another or from one place to another. While self-report surveys suggest that many people, perhaps a majority of the population, commit one or two offences in the course of a lifetime (and many more if road traffic offences are included), a substantial proportion of crime and anti-social behaviour is committed by a quite small proportion of the population. National estimates suggest that about 100,000 people (or 0.2% of the population) commit 50% of all serious crime, and that just 5,000 people nationally account for about 9% of all offences. Applying the national figure of 5,000 prolific offenders to the four Wiltshire community safety partnership areas on a pro rata basis would indicate two such offenders in Kennet, four in North Wiltshire, five in West Wiltshire and five in South Wiltshire.

The Government has responded to this problem by requiring each community safety partnership to set up a Prolific and Priority Offenders (or 'PPO') Scheme targeted towards at least fifteen prolific offenders in each partnership area and based around the themes of 'Catch and Convict', and 'Rehabilitate and Resettle'. The requirement to target fifteen offenders in each district means that the Wiltshire partnerships will be targeting many more offenders than their share of the 'top 5,000' identified in the Government strategy – a multi-agency approach which succeeds in reducing the offending of Wiltshire's targeted group by one third might therefore be expected to cut overall crime by between 5% and 10%.

In addition, to ensure that the current generation of prolific offenders is not in due course replaced by another, the PPO Scheme includes a third theme – 'Prevent and Deter'. This is designed to identify those children and young people who are most at risk of becoming the prolific offenders of the future, and to provide youth justice and community-based interventions to tackle the underlying risk factors and so make future offending less likely.

Alongside the focus on prolific offenders, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (or 'MAPPA') are already in place in Wiltshire to manage the behaviour of those offenders whose crimes may not be prolific but who have shown themselves capable of committing dangerous sexual or violent offences in the past.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement targets:

- *Home Office PSA 3:* Improve the delivery of justice by increasing the number of crimes for which an offender is brought to justice to 1.25 million by 2007/08
- *Home Office PSA Standard:* Protect the public by ensuring that there is no deterioration in the levels of re-offending for young offenders, for adults sentenced to imprisonment and for adults sentenced to community sentences

National Best Value performance indicators:

- The rate of domestic burglaries, violent crimes, vehicle crimes and robberies per 1,000 population

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The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To continue to implement specific requirements in dealing with dangerous offenders
- To support and protect vulnerable persons, including...young people as [both victims and] perpetrators of crime
- To achieve a 33% reduction in rates of offending by looked after children
- To improve the provision of services to children and young people at risk

Wiltshire Youth Offending Services' performance measures:

- Reduce re-offending rates in subsequent cohorts at the pre-court stage, first tier penalties, reparation orders, community penalties and release from custodial sentences
- Ensure that all areas have in place youth inclusion and support panels or other effective arrangements that ensure that children and young people most at risk of offending are targeted by mainstream services

What are the specific objectives?

- To identify the fifteen offenders in each district who are responsible for the most crime and disorder, using the National Intelligence Model and locally agreed criteria
- To prevent the identified prolific and priority offenders ('PPOs') from offending, through their apprehension & conviction and through licence enforcement, with a swift return to the courts for those continuing to offend
- To rehabilitate PPOs who are in custody or serving sentences in the community, through closer working between all relevant agencies and through continued post-sentence support
- To prevent the most at risk offenders from becoming the prolific offenders of the future through appropriately targeted youth justice interventions, supported by community-based interventions to tackle the risk factors that may drive their offending or anti-social behaviour
- To prevent children and young people from becoming involved in criminality, by identifying and targeting those most at risk of offending with appropriate intervention programmes

What are the targets?

Key targets:

To reduce offending among the fifteen most prolific and other priority offenders in each of Wiltshire's four districts

To provide youth justice and community based interventions to those children and young people who are most at risk of becoming the prolific offenders of the future

In addition, the responsible authorities within the four community safety partnerships will monitor the following targets and performance indicators for which they are responsible:

- The Wiltshire Strategic Board and Youth Offending Services' targets, as above

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- Wiltshire County Council's targets for truancy and school exclusion, and for a reduction in re-offending by looked after children
- MAPPA targets
- PPO Scheme targets

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these objectives will include:

- the appointment of dedicated 'Prolific and Priority Offenders' officers who will co-ordinate work in this area
- early intervention with PPOs
- managing the behaviour of serious offenders
- the swift administration of justice
- the appointment of multi-agency panels who will co-ordinate their work with the PPO schemes
- the early identification of individuals whose anti-social behaviour is causing concern to local communities so that appropriate interventions can be put in place
- co-ordinating the development of youth strategies across partnership agencies
- developing a range of activities and projects which capture the imagination of children and young people and divert them from anti-social behaviour and crime.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – REDUCING VICTIMISATION

Why is this a priority?

There is persuasive evidence, locally and nationally, that certain individuals and groups of people are more susceptible to victimisation than others, whether because of the area they live in, their personal vulnerability or the targeted behaviour of perpetrators. Young people are especially vulnerable, being the age group which is most likely to experience crime and anti-social behaviour and to feel least safe in their home area. Gay, lesbian and transgender people; people with disabilities; and members of black, minority ethnic and travelling communities are more likely than others to be on the receiving end of abuse and harassment: young respondents to the Wiltshire Tomorrow's Voice survey rated 'beating up or shouting at someone because of their race or nationality' as the third most important crime for the police in Wiltshire to deal with, out of sixteen options.

Other groups, older people for example, may have an additional need for protection from victimisation, not because they are more likely to be victims – national figures show that they are the age group least likely to experience crime – but because of the physical and personal vulnerability of many older people and their susceptibility in particular to distraction burglaries and abuse and exploitation in the home.

In addition, those who have recently been the victims of crime are more likely than others to be a victim for a second or third time – this is known as 'repeat victimisation'.

There is a growing realisation that the criminal justice system has, in the past, paid insufficient attention to the needs and interests of victims – this Strategy needs to play its part in correcting this imbalance.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement target:

- *Home Office PSA 7: Reduce race inequalities and increase community cohesion*

National Best Value performance indicators:

- The number of racial incidents involving the local authority
- The number of racial incidents reported to the local authority resulting in further action
- Youth Service expenditure per head of population on the youth service target age range

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To support and protect vulnerable persons, including...victims of race and hate crime, young people...and witnesses
- To identify vulnerable children and young people and help them receive the social care, health, education and other services that will be most effective and efficient in meeting their needs

What are the specific objectives?

- To reduce the likelihood that children and young people will become the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour
- To protect children and young people from physical, sexual and emotional abuse within the home⁶, and from exposure to drug & alcohol misuse
- To increase the proportion of hate crimes and incidents that are reported to the police or other authorities, in particular those affecting members of minority ethnic, faith and travelling communities; gay, lesbian and transgender people; and people with physical, mental health and learning disabilities
- To reduce the number of hate crimes and incidents
- To ensure that all hate crimes are effectively investigated within a uniform and co-ordinated framework
- To reduce the incidence of crimes to which older people tend to be more vulnerable, in particular distraction burglaries
- To reduce the proportion of victims of crime who are repeat victims.

What are the targets?

Key Target:

To achieve a year-on-year increase in the number of hate incidents reported a) to the police; b) to other statutory agencies; and c) to organisations in the voluntary and community sectors

In addition, the responsible authorities within the four community safety partnerships will monitor the following performance indicator for which they are responsible:

- The racial incidents Best Value performance indicators (see above)

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these objectives will include:

- continuing to support Wiltshire & Swindon Victim Support in its work with victims
- supporting the principles of the Wiltshire Compact in partnership working with the voluntary sector
- developing a Victim/Witness Unit
- ensuring a robust multi-agency approach to child protection
- continuing to work in partnership to raise awareness of distraction burglaries through the Litotes Project Board
- continuing to work with the Wiltshire Racial Equality Council, groups representing travellers, Wiltshire & Swindon Gay Men's Health and disability groups to ensure that the views of minority groups are heard
- exploring the case for a county-wide Diversity Forum
- continuing to implement the 'True Vision' project
- supporting the Youth Development Service in its work with young people

⁶ Objectives relating to **domestic violence**, in particular to its impact on children, can be found under strategic priority 4 – "Reducing crimes of violence"

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – PRIORITISING HIGHER CRIME NEIGHBOURHOODS

Why is this a priority?

It has long been recognised that crime and drug misuse levels vary greatly from one neighbourhood to another, and that higher levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse tend to run alongside high levels of deprivation in respect of income, housing, jobs, training, education and so on. The Wiltshire Audit has confirmed this picture:

- In three of the four partnership areas in the county, the neighbourhood with the highest level of overall deprivation ranked first or second in the rate of recorded crime in 2002/3.
- The electoral ward with the highest rate of total crime in Wiltshire had a rate more than twenty times that of the lowest crime ward.
- The contrasts with regard to violent crime were even greater, with violent crime rates varying by a factor of more than a hundred from one ward to another.
- In each of the four districts, the ward with the highest number of crimes accounted for between 12% and 20% of that district's crime in 2002/3.

The crime mapping capacity now available to the Wiltshire community safety partnerships enables community safety activity to be targeted towards higher crime wards and hotspots, not just in terms of detection and enforcement but, as importantly, in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour occurring in the first place or intervening early to nip problems in the bud.

A multi-agency focus on one or two of the higher crime wards in each of the four districts, with a view to reducing crime rates there to a level closer to the district average, would make a disproportionately large contribution to reducing crime levels overall. Taking the 2002/3 figures as an example, reducing crime by a third in the one ward with the highest number of crimes in each of the four districts would, assuming no displacement of offending from those wards to others, have led to a reduction of total crime in Wiltshire of over 5%.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement targets⁷:

- *Office of the Deputy Prime Minister PSA 1:* Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with departments to help them meet their floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvement by 2010.
- *ODPM PSA 3:* By 2010, reduce the number of fire-related deaths in the home by 20% [based on 2001/02 figures]

⁷ While the Government is only applying the first target to those neighbourhoods with the highest levels of deprivation in England (none of which is located in Wiltshire), the spirit of the target – reducing the gap between the best and worst off neighbourhoods and wards in an area – is as of much relevance to Wiltshire as anywhere else.

What are the specific objectives?

- To reduce the crime rate in the higher crime wards & neighbourhoods in each of the four community safety partnership areas so that they are closer to the district average
- To reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder in higher crime areas and at specific times
- To tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in higher crime areas involving community planning processes, integrating measures designed to reduce crime with those intended to tackle other aspects of deprivation & to strengthen community cohesion
- To ensure that those living in isolated rural communities have adequate access to criminal justice and support services, including drug & alcohol treatment services

What are the targets?

Key target:

In each district, to bring the rate of crime per head of population in the higher crime wards closer to the district average, using the previous year as a baseline and with the selection of wards subject to annual review

In Kennet and South Wiltshire, through targeted partnership work, to ensure that no ward should have a crime rate that is higher than four times the district average

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these objectives will include:

- making use of the Partnerships' crime mapping capability to identify higher crime wards and to monitor ward-based crime trends year by year
- using multi-agency problem-solving teams, working in partnership with other agencies and the local community to tackle crime & anti-social behaviour in these higher crime wards, using the SARA problem solving model to identify sustainable solutions
- concentrating efforts and resources in these higher crime areas
- making appropriate and proportionate use of situational measures, e.g. CCTV, improved lighting, secured by design, to improve detection and prevent crime
- making use of People's Voice and Tomorrow's Voice surveys in monitoring success
- working with local communities in tackling drug supply
- ensuring that ward-based crime reduction initiatives take account of community strategies and involve community planning partnerships.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – REDUCING CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

Why is this a priority?

Violent crimes have a unique capacity to cause physical, emotional and financial harm to individuals, families and communities. Even though violent and sexual offences made up only 17% of Wiltshire's total recorded crime in 2003/4, they accounted for more than 80% of the total financial costs. Muggings & street robberies and sex crimes & assaults were rated third and fourth by Wiltshire People's Voice respondents when they were asked which crimes were the most important for the police to tackle, and drink related disorder was ranked second as far as anti-social behaviour was concerned. 11-18 year old respondents to the Tomorrow's Voice survey ranked sexual attacks & rape as the most important crime to be tackled, with mugging & street robbery and 'being beaten up' fifth and sixth respectively.

Concerns about violent and disruptive behaviour linked to the misuse of drugs and alcohol have increased rapidly in recent years, especially in relation to night-time drinking in town centres. The implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 in the course of 2005 provides an opportunity for local authorities, the police, licensees and others to co-ordinate preventive, educational and enforcement measures to tackle this problem. If this opportunity is not grasped, there is a risk that extended opening hours will make matters worse.

Violence and abuse in the home, directed towards partners, children, older people and other family members, remains a largely hidden crime and one which demands a partnership approach if victims are to be protected, perpetrators confronted, and the community as a whole helped to understand the extent of the problem and its damaging effects. Domestic violence triggered 5,500 calls to Wiltshire Police in 2003/4 – if the national estimate that only one in five incidents are reported to the police was to be applied to Wiltshire, this would suggest that there were more than 25,000 incidents in that twelve month period.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Best Value performance indicators:

- The rate of violent crimes per 1,000 population
- The rate of life threatening and gun crime offences per 1,000 population
- The quality of domestic violence services

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To support and protect vulnerable persons, including victims of domestic violence...
- To reduce the volume of street and drug & alcohol related crime, including repeat victims of crime

What are the specific objectives?

Domestic violence:

- To reduce the incidence of domestic violence and abuse
- To increase the reporting of domestic violence incidents to the police
- To reduce the harm to children caused by domestic violence and abuse
- To reduce re-offending by perpetrators of domestic violence

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- To increase the number of interventions for victims, offenders and children who experience domestic violence
- To raise awareness among adults and young people of the criminal nature of domestic violence and of its damaging effects

Alcohol-related violence and disorder

- To reduce the volume of alcohol-related violent crime and disorder linked to the night-time economy
- To ensure safer pubs, clubs and city & town centres

Sexual attacks

- To explore the experience of young people in the four districts in relation to sexual attacks and non-consensual sexual behaviour, and take follow-up action in light of the findings

What are the targets?

Key targets:

To increase the number of incidents of domestic violence reported to the police

[Other draft performance targets relating to domestic violence have been included in the draft DV Strategy – once they have been agreed, one or more of them can be added to this Strategy before it is finalised in March – and/or the LPSA target, once this has been agreed]

To reduce the number of violent offences associated with the night-time economy

In Kennet and South Wiltshire, to reduce alcohol related re-offending amongst those referred for treatment under the ARPOV programme from 40% to 20%

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these targets will include:

Domestic Violence

- Providing appropriate support and advocacy services for victims
- Awareness raising training for key staff in front-line agencies
- Raising awareness in schools through the PSHE curriculum
- Providing specialist support services for children who have experienced or witnessed domestic violence
- Providing proactive outreach services, particularly in rural areas and hotspot locations
- Improving inter-agency communication and multi-agency working so that the full range of victims' needs can be met
- Supporting and empowering locally based domestic violence forums
- Ensuring that those reporting incidents of domestic violence receive a positive and sympathetic response
- Providing support to victims throughout the criminal justice process
- Increasing the availability of accredited perpetrator programmes

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- Developing a culturally sensitive education programme targeted at schools and youth organisations
- Running a high profile zero tolerance campaign.

Alcohol-related violence & disorder

- Implementing the Licensing Act in a co-ordinated way
- Negotiating effective multi-agency licensing protocols
- Strengthening the extended police family
- Supporting social responsibility by businesses in the drinks and entertainment industry
- Educating children, young people and adults about responsible drinking
- Reducing under-age sales
- Creating alternative provision for young people
- Creating safer and supportive environments
- Involving communities and increasing public reassurance.

Sexual attacks

- Through focus groups, discussion forums and surveys, building up an accurate picture of the experiences, perceptions and fears of young people in relation to sexual attacks and other non-consensual sexual behaviour
- Drawing on the findings of this research, designing and implementing a strategy for reducing the incidence of sexual attacks and/or the anxieties of young people about this kind of behaviour.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5 – REDUCING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Why is this a priority?

National and local surveys, as well as the content of police community consultative meetings and other consultation events, show clearly that incidents of anti-social behaviour cause at least as much public concern in Wiltshire as apparently more serious crime types. The capacity of anti-social behaviour to wear down community spirit as a result of its persistence and its public display means that it can seriously damage the way in which people perceive the neighbourhood they live in. An increase in anti-social behaviour can also be a signal that social norms are under threat and that perpetrators may move on to more serious crimes.

Nationally there has been an increasing political focus on anti-social behaviour, reflected in the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and other legislation. In Wiltshire, a great deal of energy has already been devoted to responding to public concerns, not least in the publication of an anti-social behaviour toolkit and the appointment of anti-social behaviour specialists at district and county level.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement targets:

- *Office of the Deputy Prime Minister PSA 3:* By 2010, reduce the number of deliberate fires by 10% [based on 2001/2002 figures]
- *ODPM PSA 8:* Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008

National Best Value performance indicators:

- The percentage of abandoned vehicles which are removed within 24 hours of the expiry of the relevant notice period
- The proportion of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus across four categories of cleanliness

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To reduce anti-social and nuisance behaviour
- To champion a project to improve Wiltshire's street and lane scene
- To agree a co-ordinated approach to the management of abandoned vehicles
- To establish a baseline of the incidence of anti-social behaviour and street crime in the county
- To commission work to reduce duplication and harmonise standards with respect to grounds maintenance and cleansing, including...litter, flyposting and detritus

What are the specific objectives?

- To reduce the number of criminal damage offences recorded by the police in each of the four districts
- To achieve the rapid removal of graffiti, prioritising racist, homophobic or other offensive graffiti, and graffiti in the higher crime wards
- To ensure that demanding targets for the removal of litter and other detritus are met, especially in higher crime wards
- To reduce incidents of vehicle-related nuisance, including abandoned cars, speeding vehicles and the inconsiderate parking and repairing of vehicles

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- To reduce incidents of fire-related anti-social behaviour, which can be the precursor to life-threatening arson and other highly damaging offences
- To reduce the number of complaints about young people hanging around through preventive approaches, including inter-generational initiatives and the promotion of positive images of young people
- To improve the availability of data by implementing the Police's National Standard for Incident Recording and linking it to local authority recording systems including the Anti-Social Behaviour Team's 'Hub' database

What are the targets?

Key targets:

In 2005/6, to set a baseline for anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the police, taking account of the National Standard for Incident Recording in place from April 2005; and in 2006/7 and 2007/8, to work towards a reduction in the number of reported incidents

In 2005/6, to set a baseline for anti-social behaviour incidents reported to local authorities; and in 2006/7 and 2007/8, to work towards a reduction in the number of reported incidents

In addition, the responsible authorities within the four community safety partnerships will monitor the following targets and performance indicators for which they are responsible:

- Any targets for the removal of abandoned vehicles set by district councils, reflecting the contents of the Best Value performance indicator above
- Any targets set by local authorities relating to deposits of litter and detritus, reflecting the contents of the Best Value performance indicator above
- The fire-related Public Service Agreement targets as above
- The 'street scene' related LPSA targets

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these targets will include:

- Agreeing a definition of anti-social behaviour and an anti-social behaviour protocol which are common to all four partnership areas
- Increasing the levels of knowledge and understanding about anti-social behaviour and the best ways to prevent and respond to it, through a programme of multi-agency training and effective communication
- Fully involving housing providers in the management of anti-social behaviour
- Promoting a multi-agency PIER (prevention, intervention, enforcement, resettlement) approach to tackling anti-social behaviour
- Undertaking effective monitoring and evaluation of the impact of anti-social behaviour orders and acceptable behaviour contracts, and the number and outcome of breach proceedings
- Improving the recording of cases at the pre-enforcement stage
- Working more closely with magistrates on a joint approach to tackling anti-social behaviour
- Promoting positive images of young people, and establishing & monitoring the effectiveness of inter-generational projects designed to increase mutual tolerance and understanding between young and older people
- Raising the awareness of young people of the impact of anti-social behaviour on others through educational programmes.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6 – REDUCING DRUG AND ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM

Why is this a priority?

The links between drug & alcohol misuse and crime & anti-social behaviour are well established, in Wiltshire as elsewhere. The misuse of alcohol is particularly associated with crimes of violence and criminal damage, and with the disorder associated with the late night economy. The implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 in the course of 2005 has the potential to enable public drinking to be managed in a more co-ordinated way than before; but, if this potential is not harnessed, the increase in opening hours could make current problems even worse.

Dependence on drugs, in particular on Class A drugs, drives a great deal of acquisitive crime, especially burglaries, robberies, and thefts from shops & vehicles. Available evidence suggests that problematic drug misuse is less widespread in Wiltshire than in many other parts of the country but that, despite this, it accounts for a significant proportion of crime, serious ill-health and, at its extreme, a number of deaths in the county. The costs of drug misuse to the general public, the health service and criminal justice agencies are considerable, not least as a result of the prolific offending of a small number of people whose drug use and criminal activities are intertwined.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement targets:

- *Home Office PSA 4:* Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs, including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system
- *Dept of Health PSA 6:* Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes by 100% by 2008, and increase year on year the proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To increase access to treatment for drug users

Wiltshire Youth Offending Services' performance measures:

- Ensure all young people are screened for substance misuse, and that those with identified needs receive appropriate specialist assessment within 5 working days and, following the assessment, access the early intervention and treatment services they require within 10 working days

What are the specific aims and objectives?

Reducing alcohol-related harm to individuals, especially to risk groups⁸, by:

- Providing treatment
- Providing education and information
- Providing earlier intervention and identification
- Providing rehabilitation and resettlement
- Providing support for families

⁸ See also other alcohol-related targets under 'Reducing Crimes of Violence' and 'Reducing Crime in Higher Crime Neighbourhoods'.

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- Addressing other risk factors.

Improving the experience and outcomes for drug users and their carers by:

- Increasing appropriate retention in treatment from 57% to 62%
- Reducing waiting times from an average of:
 - 17 weeks to 2 weeks for inpatient treatment
 - 9 weeks to 3 weeks for residential rehabilitation
 - 5.7 weeks to 3 weeks for specialist prescribing
 - 2.1 weeks to 2 weeks for prescribing through a GP
 - 5.5 weeks to 3 weeks for structured day care
 - 5 weeks to 2 weeks for counselling as part of a care plan
- Achieving flexibility in when and where services are provided to fit in with people's personal commitments and lifestyles
- Reducing re-offending by drug misusing offenders
- Increasing the numbers treated in under-served groups, especially women
- Monitoring outcomes by checking with people, six and twelve months after they have finished treatment, whether they have improved or sustained improvements in health and/or offending
- Developing equality of access to family support services across Wiltshire.

Creating capacity to meet identified service needs by:

- Increasing numbers in treatment by 9% per year – target numbers to be treated over the three-year period of the Strategy are:
 - 619 in 2005/6
 - 670 in 2006/7
 - 730 in 2007/8
- Increasing numbers treated and maintained through shared care, with an increase in GPs participating in shared care from 78 to 95 with more people being treated by appropriately skilled GPs
- Increasing the capacity for inpatient detox from 5 people per year to 15
- Establishing a wet house providing placements to enable improvements in alcohol consumption to be sustained or further improved
- Increasing numbers in structured day care programmes – especially in the Ridgeway Downs area – from 50 to 65
- Providing co-ordinated competent tier 2 services for young people with the aim of increasing the numbers of young people who are able to access early intervention programmes
- Ensuring that supported accommodation is available when and where required, e.g. direct access hostels, prison resettlement, under 19s accommodation, provision in North Wiltshire – this links with the homelessness section of the Supporting People Strategy,
- Developing services to meet the needs of under-served groups
- Exploring how the Expert Patient scheme could be made available to people with a drug or alcohol misuse problem
- Planning for the recovery of drug related assets to be invested in more treatment.

Focusing on quality as well as quantity by:

- Developing meaningful user and carer involvement to ensure that services can be improved with the benefit of feedback
- Assessing performance against the models of care action plan to identify how services can be improved, to ensure that users do not fall between services and that relevant services are there when people need them

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- Developing a common assessment process (to include housing and employment issues) to ensure consistency
- Implementing the Blood Borne Virus action plan to ensure that vulnerable people have information and immunisation to protect them from harm
- Implementing the Drug Related Deaths action plan to make sure that lessons are learned when things go wrong for individual people
- Integrating with Primary Care Trust Clinical Governance to make sure that the quality of professional practice in Primary Care and other specialist services is checked and is based on best practice
- Reducing drug and alcohol related nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

Reaching more people by making links through improved partnership working, by:

- Linking with the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board in working to build public confidence in the way in which drug and alcohol related crime is being tackled
- Linking with domestic violence services to make sure that, where drug or alcohol misuse is found to be a contributory factor, treatment options are available
- Linking the Drugs Intervention Programme with the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Scheme where drugs and alcohol are a potential reason for offending behaviour
- Linking with the Children & Young People's Partnership Board to ensure that vulnerable young people are protected from substance misuse through education or early intervention
- Increasing the numbers moving into meaningful daytime occupation through Progress2Work
- Developing a PR strategy to inform the public of the positive actions being taken to tackle drugs in Wiltshire and to let people know how they can help
- Linking to the Wiltshire Strategic Board's main theme area of making Wiltshire the healthiest county
- Linking with the Child Protection Board to ensure that links are made with substance misusing parents
- Joint work between the police and schools to develop and deliver drug and alcohol education in line with the national curriculum.

Creating a robust and professional infrastructure to make things happen, by:

- Making sure that the skills and time are available to set up and monitor contracts with organisations that provide services, ensuring that standards are met and the services that are paid for are delivered
- Having contracts in place for all services that are paid for
- Improving information for the public, users and their carers, professionals and commissioners to improve health and understanding
- Updating the website www.drugsinwiltshire.gov.uk to improve the information that is available and to provide information in different languages and formats
- Ensuring transparency in who is commissioned to do what and how it all fits together.

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these objectives include:

- Investing an extra £1.62 million over the next three years (£905,000 per year recurring from 2008/9) in services to treat more people

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- Achieving better co-ordination of criminal justice services with treatment services to support offenders in kicking their drug and alcohol habits
- Supporting schools, youth services and alcohol related businesses to promote better understanding and responsible behaviour
- Providing support and information to local communities to help them tackle problems in a positive and constructive way.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 7 – REDUCING ROAD CASUALTIES

Why is this a priority?

Not all community safety partnerships across the country have seen the reduction of road casualties as part of their brief. In Wiltshire however, all the community safety partnerships included a reduction in road casualties as one of their 2002-2005 strategic priorities. While road traffic legislation is often regarded as distinct and different from the criminal law, many deaths and serious injuries on the roads are the result of illegal behaviour which renders the perpetrator liable to criminal sanctions, including imprisonment in the more serious cases. Dangerous, reckless and careless driving is the cause of many more fatalities in Wiltshire than criminal violence, and the financial costs of road casualties in Wiltshire and Swindon, at £139 million, are equivalent to the costs of all violent crime.

Respondents to the People's Voice survey ranked drink driving as the fifth most important crime for the police in Wiltshire to tackle out of fifteen options, and inconsiderate driving as the fourth most important type of anti-social behaviour.

The scope for the district-based community safety partnerships to take a proactive role in reducing road casualties will always be limited: the key agencies – the County Council, Wiltshire Constabulary, the Fire Brigade and the Highways Agency – operate at a county or regional level. Nevertheless, the inclusion of road casualties amongst the partnerships' priorities not only reflects public concerns but also enables the partnerships to react to requests from these agencies or from the Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership to participate in educational campaigns, or respond to the road safety concerns of local people.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement target:

- *Dept for Transport PSA 5:* Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents by 40% and the number of children killed or seriously injured by 50%, by 2010 compared with the average for 1994-98, tackling the significantly higher incidence in disadvantaged communities

National Best Value performance indicators:

- Road traffic collisions resulting in death or personal injury

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To reduce death and injury on the road
- To improve safety for all travellers and to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Wiltshire's roads by 40% by 2010
- To reduce the real and perceived threats of road traffic speed in towns and villages

What are the specific objectives?

- To reduce deaths and injuries on Wiltshire's roads
- To maintain targeted education campaigns directed towards school pupils and adults most at risk of involvement in road collisions
- To achieve greater conformity with speed limits
- To make collision hotspots safer through consultation and re-design

What are the targets?

Key Targets:

To reduce deaths & serious injuries on Wiltshire's county roads from 287 in 2003 to 231 in 2007

To reduce deaths and serious injuries to children from 22 in 2003 to 18 in 2007

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these targets will include:

- Maintaining communication between the four community safety partnerships, the Wiltshire & Swindon Road Safety Partnership and the Safer Wiltshire Executive
- Responding to requests for information from the Road Safety Partnership and participating in local road safety initiatives and campaigns in collaboration with the WSRS Partnership
- Supporting local & national initiatives and campaigns, e.g. the "Think!" campaign
- Using Home Zones and other traffic calming measures
- Supporting schools-based projects designed to raise awareness of road safety and the devastating effects of deaths & injuries on the roads.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 8 – MAKING PEOPLE FEEL SAFER

Why is this a priority?

Public worries about the damage that crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse can do to the communities they live in and about the risk that they will themselves become the victims of crime are entirely understandable: serious crime, substance misuse and sustained levels of anti-social behaviour can do severe and long-term harm to personal and community well-being. The British Crime Survey shows that the extent of people's concerns are related to the level of crime locally and to the likelihood of being a victim – for example, concerns about crime are less intense in rural than in urban areas, but greater when an individual or a member of the immediate family has recently been a victim. For this reason, the most effective way of making people feel safer in Wiltshire is to achieve a sustained reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour across the county.

Nevertheless there is evidence that many Wiltshire people's worries about crime and substance misuse are greater than is justified by events, and also that people tend to be over-pessimistic about recent crime trends:

- 20% of People's Voice respondents and 38% of young respondents to the Tomorrow's Voice survey feel unsafe or very unsafe outside in their local area after dark.
- In 2003, eight times as many people in West Wiltshire thought that crime had got worse over the previous three years than thought it had got better, seven times as many in North Wiltshire, and six times as many in South Wiltshire – this is in spite of evidence, nationally and locally, that crime levels over this period have fallen.

Wiltshire's community safety partnerships, in parallel with the Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board have a responsibility to provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and substance misuse; on the risks of victimisation and the steps that individuals and businesses can take to minimise these risks; and on the success or otherwise of crime prevention and substance misuse initiatives. Insofar as this information is likely to be more positive than many people assume, this process is likely to provide considerable reassurance.

Which are the relevant national & local targets and performance indicators?

National Public Service Agreement targets:

- *Home Office PSA 2:* Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System without compromising fairness
- *Home Office PSA 6:* Increase voluntary and community engagement, especially amongst those at risk of social exclusion

The Wiltshire Strategic Board's key targets & objectives:

- To engage with communities to promote cohesion and reassurance, and to reduce fear of crime
- To increase local people's involvement in shaping the future of their communities

What are the specific objectives?

- To increase the proportion of people in Wiltshire who feel safe on the streets in their local area, during the day and after dark
- To focus particular attention on feelings of safety among young people and older people
- To provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and on the impact of crime prevention initiatives
- To advise individuals and businesses on the risks of victimisation and the steps that they can take to minimise these risks

What are the targets?

Key targets:

To increase the proportion of respondents to the People's Voice survey who say that they feel safe on the streets in their local area after dark, comparing 2006/7 with 2003/4

To reduce the proportion of respondents to the ODPM's General Household survey who say that the level of crime locally has gone up over the previous three years, comparing the survey in 2006 with the survey in 2003

How will we achieve success?

Actions to be taken to achieve these targets will include:

- Developing a media and communications strategy
- Involving communities, including their young people, in finding solutions to crime and anti-social behaviour
- Reacting quickly to the expressed concerns of communities about crime and anti-social behaviour
- Contributing to area planning groups, Neighbourhood Watch meetings etc with up-to-date information about Wiltshire's crime levels
- Increasing understanding, tolerance and sensitivity between different groups, e.g. young and older people, ethnic and faith groups
- Developing a web based resource for schools on issues to do with crime, anti-social behaviour and drug & alcohol misuse, providing access to information, advice and good practice guidance.

WILTSHIRE'S FOUR COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP AREAS – STRUCTURES, PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES

THE NORTH WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

North Wiltshire shares with the three other community safety partnership areas in the county the eight strategic priorities and related objectives, targets and action points which are set out on pages 7-27 of this strategy report and which are also summarised on pages 29-30. Additional objectives and action points which are specific to North Wiltshire are set out on pages 30-31.

The Structure of the Partnership

A closer working arrangement was agreed between the North and West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnerships in late 2004, to achieve greater efficiency, share best practice and cut down on bureaucracy. A shared Lead Officer Group and Executive Group for North and West Wiltshire was set up at that time: the eight person Lead Officers' Group steers the work of the Partnership day to day, while overall direction & accountability is located within the Executive, whose membership includes representatives of all the responsible authorities and of the Government Office of the South West.

In January 2005, the North Wiltshire Local Strategic Partnership (or 'LSP') was established. It operates through a Core Group made up of nominated representatives of the community. The Community Safety Partnership has become the Community Safety Group of the LSP and reports directly to the Core Group.

Thematic task groups which support the work of the Partnership include the North and West Drug and Alcohol Working Group – a joint group working to the two Partnerships – a Domestic Violence Forum and a Diversity Group. These last two groups were not very productive in the latter stages of the 2002-2005 Strategy, and it is proposed to re-establish joint North & West groups for both Domestic Violence and Diversity.

Area-based community safety or crime prevention groups are in place in Malmesbury and Calne.

The Council's Community Planning Team is working in each of the five community areas of North Wiltshire to produce Community Plans by 31 March 2005. One of the themes in each plan is Community Safety and groups are consulting the public regarding concerns and problems over this issue. In places where community safety issues are of high priority, consideration will be given to setting up groups like those already established in Calne and Malmesbury.

Audit findings specific to North Wiltshire

- In 2002/3, one of North Wiltshire's wards had the highest rate of violent crime per 1,000 resident population of any ward in Wiltshire
- Rates of *recorded* domestic violence offences and of vehicle crime tended to be lower than in the rest of the county
- The estimated costs of crime in North Wiltshire totalled £23.6 million in 2003/4

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- In North Wiltshire's General Opinion Survey 2003, respondents rated 'a low level of crime' as the most important thing in making somewhere a good place to live but ranked it seventh out of twenty options in the list of things that most needed improving. Seven times as many people thought that crime levels had increased over the previous three years than thought that they had fallen
- Comparing North Wiltshire with fourteen similar areas in other parts of the country showed that it had the second lowest overall crime rate of the fifteen areas in the quarter January-March 2004

North Wiltshire's crime reduction target

North Wiltshire's overall crime reduction target for the ten crime types included in the Government's public service agreement target is **12.5%** over the four year period from 2003/4 to 2007/8: the relevant crime types are set out on page 6 of the Strategy. These crime types have been chosen by the Government. They are not necessarily priority crimes for the North Wiltshire Partnership to deal with, but have been selected because they relate most closely to the standard questions asked in the British Crime Survey – this survey will be used, at a national level, to measure the reduction of crime across the whole country between 2003/4 and 2007/8.

The Partnership will seek to achieve this 12.5% reduction by concentrating its resources on the priorities identified on pages 7-27 and summarised below.

North Wiltshire's priorities

The key priorities for the North Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership are those set out on pages 7-27:

- **To reduce offending behaviour**, and in particular to target the fifteen most prolific offenders in the district with a view to reducing their re-offending; to ensure that the behaviour of the most dangerous offenders in the district is properly monitored and managed; and to intervene effectively with those children and young people who are thought to be most at risk of offending in the future. **See pages 8-10**
- **To reduce victimisation**, and in particular to reduce the likelihood that children and young people will become the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour; to protect children from physical, sexual and emotional abuse within the home; to increase the proportion of hate crimes and incidents that are reported to the police or other authorities, in particular those affecting members of minority ethnic, faith and travelling communities, gay, lesbian and transgender people, and people with physical, mental health and learning disabilities; to reduce the number of hate crimes and incidents; to reduce the incidence of crimes to which older people tend to be more vulnerable, in particular distraction burglaries; and to reduce the proportion of victims of crime who are repeat victims. **See pages 11-12**
- **To prioritise higher crime neighbourhoods**, and in particular to reduce the crime rate in the higher crime wards & neighbourhoods in the district so that they are closer to the district average; to reduce alcohol-related crime in these areas; to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in these places as part of the community planning process; and to ensure that those living in isolated rural communities have adequate access to criminal justice and support services. **See pages 13-14**

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- **To reduce crimes of violence**, and in particular domestic violence, alcohol-related violence & disorder, and sexual attacks. **See pages 15-17**
- **To reduce anti-social behaviour**, focusing in particular on criminal damage; the rapid removal of graffiti, litter and rubbish; nuisance vehicles; incidents of fire-related anti-social behaviour; and complaints about young people hanging around. **See pages 18-19**
- **To reduce drug and alcohol-related harm**, and in particular to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals; to improve the experience and outcomes for drug users and their carers; to create capacity to meet identified service needs; to focus on quality as well as quantity; to reach more people by making links through improved partnership working; and to create a robust and professional infrastructure to make things happen. **See pages 20-23**
- **To reduce road casualties**, and in particular to reduce deaths and injuries on Wiltshire's roads; to maintain targeted education campaigns directed towards school pupils and those adults who are most at risk of involvement in road collisions; to achieve greater conformity with speed limits; and to make collision hotspots safer through consultation and re-design. **See pages 24-25**
- **To make people feel safer**, and in particular to increase the proportion of people in North Wiltshire who feel safe in their home area during the day and after dark, especially young people and older people; to provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and on the impact of crime prevention initiatives; and to advise individuals and businesses on the risks of victimisation and on the steps that they can take to minimise these risks. **See pages 26-27**

The North Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership will commission projects to tackle these priorities – the following areas have been highlighted as areas to concentrate on:

- To work in partnership with Town Centre Managers, Pub Watch, Police, and the Licensing Department of NWDC to reduce the number of incidents of violent offences occurring in town centre beats between 9pm and 3am on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
- To work in partnership with the Domestic Violence Intervention Project and the Police to reduce repeat victimisation in respect of domestic violence, and increase support to victims. To use a publicity campaign to reduce the stigma attached to domestic violence and increase the confidence of individuals to come forward and report attacks earlier.
- To re-establish the North and West Wiltshire Diversity Forum to ensure that people feel confident that hate related complaints will be taken seriously and allow avenues other than the Police to be available to report hate crimes and access support.
- To work in partnership to reduce the fear of crime and the incidence of distraction burglaries amongst older people.
- To increase the work of the North Wiltshire Anti Social Behaviour Panel, to bring together all partnership agencies, to carry out the four step plan (letter/visit/acceptable behaviour contract/enforcement) and share information to reduce anti social behaviour in the District, and to put into place initiatives to prevent further incidents of anti-social behaviour. To support the victim and offer the perpetrator opportunities to change behaviour.

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- In partnership with neighbourhood policing teams, to bring together the Police, Community Support Officers, Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Officers and the general community to tackle the wards with the highest crime in the District to bring their crime levels closer to the District average.
- By working with partnership agencies, to increase provision for young people: this will provide facilities and resources to help reduce incidents of offending in the first place. To provide support and counselling to victims and to work on a campaign to reduce the fear of crime, both by working with young people to realise how intimidating certain behaviour can be both for their peer group and the wider community, and to run a media campaign to reinforce how safe the District is and report some positive stories.
- To work towards reducing the supply of illegal drugs and give support and advice to people wishing to become less dependent on drugs and alcohol.

THE WEST WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

West Wiltshire shares with the three other community safety partnership areas in the county the eight policy themes and related objectives, targets and action points which are set out on pages 7-27 of this strategy report and which are also summarised on pages 33-34. Additional objectives and action points which are particular to West Wiltshire are set out on pages 34-35

The Structure of the West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership

A closer working arrangement was agreed between the North and West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnerships in late 2004, to achieve greater efficiency, share best practice and cut down on bureaucracy. A shared Lead Officer Group and Executive Group for North and West Wiltshire was set up at that time. The eight person Lead Officers' Group steers the work of the Partnership day to day, while overall direction & accountability is located within the Executive. Executive membership includes representatives of all the responsible authorities and of the Government Office of the South West.

The West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership links into the West Wiltshire Local Strategic Partnership (or 'LSP'), which operates through a Board made up of high level representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors. In addition, strong links to the local level are maintained through the Strategic Area Partnerships, which are all represented on the Board. The Board is supported by a multi-agency co-ordination group.

Thematic task groups which support the work of the Partnership include the North & West Drug and Alcohol Working Group – a joint group working to the two Partnerships – the Domestic Violence Forum, a Diversity Group, and an Anti Social Behaviour Panel representative of West Wiltshire. A number of geographical groups with a community safety focus have recently developed through local community planning structures. These exist in Melksham, Bradford on Avon and Trowbridge, and a crime prevention group with links to the Partnership meets in Warminster.

Links with the 2004-2014 Community Strategy of the West Wiltshire Local Strategic Partnership

Under its principal objective of making West Wiltshire 'a place to be proud of', the LSP's aims include:

- making its town centres vibrant, safe and clean
- reducing alcohol and drug abuse
- improving opportunities for young people...thus integrating them more effectively into our communities

Community safety was ranked eighth in order of importance at an LSP conference in March 2004, but came first in a People's Voice survey undertaken at the same time.

Under the heading of 'crime and community protection', the Partnership committed itself to:

- reduce violent crime and anti-social behaviour, with a particular focus on market towns
- increase police presence on the streets
- provide appropriate, additional outlets for young people

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- improve road safety, particularly in danger spots and villages.

Audit findings specific to West Wiltshire

- Using 2002/3 crime figures, Trowbridge Community Area had the highest rate of vehicle crime of any community area in Wiltshire
- Warminster Community Area had the second highest rate of criminal damage offences of any community area in Wiltshire
- The estimated costs of crime in West Wiltshire totalled £28.5 million in 2003/4
- In West Wiltshire's General Opinion Survey 2003, respondents rated 'a low level of crime' as the most important thing in making somewhere a good place to live but ranked it fifth out of twenty options in the list of things that most needed improving. Eight times as many people thought that crime levels had increased over the previous three years than thought that they had fallen
- Comparing West Wiltshire with fourteen similar areas in other parts of the country showed that it had the lowest overall crime rate of the fifteen areas in the quarter January-March 2004

West Wiltshire's crime reduction target

West Wiltshire's overall crime reduction target for the ten crime types included in the Government's public service agreement target is **12.5%** over the four year period from 2003/4 to 2007/8: the relevant crime types are set out on page 6 of the Strategy. These crime types have been chosen by the Government. They are not necessarily priority crimes for the West Wiltshire Partnership to deal with, but have been selected because they relate most closely to the standard questions asked in the British Crime Survey – this survey will be used, at a national level, to measure the reduction of crime across the whole country between 2003/4 and 2007/8.

The Partnership will seek to achieve this reduction by concentrating its resources on the priorities identified on pages 7-27 and summarised below.

West Wiltshire's Policy Themes

The key policy themes for the West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership are those set out on pages 7-27:

- **To reduce offending behaviour**, and in particular to target the fifteen most prolific offenders in the district with a view to reducing their re-offending; to ensure that the behaviour of the most dangerous offenders in the district is properly monitored and managed; and to intervene effectively with those children and young people who are thought to be most at risk of offending in the future.
See pages 8-10
- **To reduce victimisation**, and in particular:
 1. to reduce the likelihood that children and young people will become the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour;
 2. to protect children from physical, sexual and emotional abuse within the home;
 3. to increase the proportion of hate crimes and incidents that are reported to the police or other authorities, in particular those affecting members of minority ethnic, faith and travelling communities, gay, lesbian and transgender people, and people with physical, mental health and learning disabilities,
 4. to reduce the number of hate crimes and incidents;

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5. to reduce the incidence of crimes to which older people tend to be more vulnerable, in particular distraction burglaries;
6. to reduce the proportion of victims of crime who are repeat victims.

See pages 11-12

- **To prioritise higher crime neighbourhoods**, and in particular to reduce the crime rate in the higher crime wards & neighbourhoods in the district so that they are closer to the district average; to reduce alcohol-related crime in these areas; to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in these places as part of the community planning process; and to ensure that those living in isolated rural communities have adequate access to criminal justice and support services. **See pages 13-14**
- **To reduce crimes of violence**, and in particular domestic violence, alcohol-related violence and disorder, and sexual attacks. **See pages 15-17**
- **To reduce anti-social behaviour**, focusing in particular on criminal damage; the rapid removal of graffiti, litter and rubbish; nuisance vehicles; incidents of fire-related anti-social behaviour; and complaints about young people hanging around. **See pages 18-19**
- **To reduce drug and alcohol-related harm**, and in particular to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals; to improve the experience and outcomes for drug users and their carers; to create capacity to meet identified service needs; to focus on quality as well as quantity; to reach more people by making links through improved partnership working; and to create a robust and professional infrastructure to make things happen. **See pages 20-23**
- **To reduce road casualties**, and in particular to reduce deaths and injuries on Wiltshire's roads; to maintain targeted education campaigns directed towards school pupils and those adults who are most at risk of involvement in road collisions; to achieve greater conformity with speed limits; and to make collision hotspots safer through consultation and re-design. **See pages 24-25**
- **To make people feel safer**, and in particular to increase the proportion of people in West Wiltshire who feel safe in their home area during the day and after dark, especially young people and older people; to provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and on the impact of crime prevention initiatives; and to advise individuals and businesses on the risks of victimisation and on the steps that they can take to minimise these risks. **See pages 26-27**

In addition to these priorities, which are shared with the three other community safety partnerships in Wiltshire, the West Wiltshire Partnership will focus on the following areas:

- To work in partnership with Town Centre Managers, Community Area Partnerships, Pub Watch, Police, and the Licensing Department of West Wiltshire District Council to reduce the number of incidents of violent offences occurring in town centre beats between 9pm and 3am on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
- To work in partnership with the Domestic Violence Intervention Project and the Police to reduce repeat victimisation in respect of domestic violence, and increase support to victims. To use a publicity campaign to reduce the stigma attached to domestic violence and increase the confidence of individuals to come forward and report attacks earlier.

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- To re-establish the North and West Wiltshire Diversity Forum to ensure that people feel confident that hate-related complaints will be taken seriously and allow avenues other than the Police to be available to report hate crimes and access support.
- To work in partnership to reduce the fear of crime and distraction burglaries for older people.
- To increase the work of the West Wiltshire Anti Social Behaviour Panel, to bring together all partnership agencies, to carry out the four step plan (letter/visit/acceptable behaviour contract/enforcement) and share information to reduce anti social behaviour in the District, and to put into place initiatives to prevent further incidents of anti-social behaviour. To support the victim and offer the perpetrator opportunities to change behaviour.
- In partnership with neighbourhood policing teams, to bring together the Police, Community Support Officers, Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Officers and the general community to tackle the wards with the highest crime in the District to bring their crime levels closer to the District average.
- By working with partnership agencies, to increase provision for young people: this will provide facilities and resources to help reduce incidents of offending in the first place. To provide support and counselling to victims and to work on a campaign to reduce the fear of crime, both by working with young people to realise how intimidating certain behaviour can be both for their peer group and the wider community, and to run a media campaign to reinforce how safe the District is and report some positive stories.
- To work towards reducing the supply of illegal drugs and give support and advice to people wishing to become less dependent on drugs and alcohol.

THE SOUTH WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – SALISBURY DISTRICT

South Wiltshire shares with the three other community safety partnership areas in the county the eight strategic priorities and related objectives, targets and action points which are set out on pages 7-27 of this strategy report and which are also summarised on pages 37-38. Additional objectives and action points which are particular to South Wiltshire are set out on pages 38-39

The Structure of the South Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership

The operational responsibility for the work of the South Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership is held by the Partnership Implementation Team whose membership is made up of representatives of the responsible authorities. The Implementation Team is supported by eight task groups which focus on two geographic areas – the neighbourhoods of Friary and Bemerton Heath in Salisbury City – and on five themes: drugs & alcohol, domestic violence, diversity, youth issues and anti-social behaviour.

Links with the six community plans of the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance

- All six community plans include 'crime and community safety' as one of their overall priorities.
- The targets of the **Salisbury Community Plan** include reducing anti-social behaviour and littering in public places; reducing noise and disturbance in the city centre, particularly at closing time; providing community centres in specified wards as a focus for all age groups, particularly young people; the appointment of neighbourhood wardens; higher profile policing; additional CCTV and street lighting; reducing street drinking and begging.
- The targets of the **Mere Area Community Plan** include working with partners to identify areas of nuisance and anti-social behaviour to ensure that these offences are tackled using combined resources to best effect; ensuring that the Community Beat Officer is clearly identified and known to the local community; ensuring police resources are targeted and focused maximising visibility and reassurance; and encouraging greater participation in the Mere and District Community Safety Partnership by all parishes.
- The targets of the **Nadder Valley Community Plan** include encouraging involvement in Community Safety and Watch schemes; ensuring regular communication with the police; and supporting & developing youth activities.
- The targets of the **Northern Area Community Plan** include installing more doorstep cameras in the homes of elderly and vulnerable people; joint work between the civilian and MoD Police to reduce anti-social behaviour by soldiers; supporting families through volunteers and parenting groups; and supporting the appointment of more community support officers.
- The targets of the **Southern Area Community Plan** include building greater community links by and with Police to counter crime and the fear of crime; reducing vandalism and anti-social behaviour, including noisy neighbours, bonfires and alcohol-related disturbances; and improving domestic safety,

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meeting the need for personal help and reassurance especially for the vulnerable, isolated and infirm.

- The targets of the **Wilton Area Community Plan** include reducing offences of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage; providing more bobbies on the beat; strengthening the policing of local villages; and reducing fear of crime in the market place.

Audit findings specific to South Wiltshire

- In 2002/3, one of South Wiltshire's wards had the highest rate of total crime per 1,000 resident population of any ward in Wiltshire
- Salisbury Community Area accounted for 60% of the violent crime in the District and had the highest rate of criminal damage offences of any community area in Wiltshire
- The estimated costs of crime in South Wiltshire totalled £24.4 million in 2003/4
- In South Wiltshire's General Opinion Survey 2003, respondents rated 'a low level of crime' as the most important thing in making somewhere a good place to live but ranked it seventh out of twenty options in the list of things that most needed improving. Six times as many people thought that crime levels had increased over the previous three years than thought that they had fallen
- Comparing South Wiltshire with fourteen similar areas in other parts of the country showed that it had the fifth lowest overall crime rate of the fifteen areas in the quarter January-March 2004
- Recent data show that South Wiltshire has experienced relatively high volumes of credit card fraud, other fraud & forgery offences and thefts from shops.

South Wiltshire's crime reduction target

South Wiltshire's overall crime reduction target for the ten crime types included in the Government's public service agreement target is **12.5%** over the four year period from 2003/4 to 2007/8: the relevant crime types are set out on page 6 of the Strategy. These crime types have been chosen by the Government. They are not necessarily priority crimes for the South Wiltshire Partnership to deal with, but have been selected because they relate most closely to the standard questions asked in the British Crime Survey – this survey will be used, at a national level, to measure the reduction of crime across the whole country between 2003/4 and 2007/8.

The Partnership will seek to achieve this 12.5% reduction by concentrating its resources on the priorities identified on pages 7-27 and summarised below.

South Wiltshire's priorities

The key priorities for the South Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership are those set out on pages 7-27:

- **To reduce offending behaviour**, and in particular to target the fifteen most prolific offenders in the district with a view to reducing their re-offending; to ensure that the behaviour of the most dangerous offenders in the district is properly monitored and managed; and to intervene effectively with those children and young people who are thought to be most at risk of offending in the future.
See pages 8-10

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- **To reduce victimisation**, and in particular to reduce the likelihood that children and young people will become the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour; to protect children from physical, sexual and emotional abuse within the home; to increase the proportion of hate crimes and incidents that are reported to the police or other authorities, in particular those affecting members of minority ethnic, faith and travelling communities, gay, lesbian and transgender people, and people with physical, mental health and learning disabilities; to reduce the number of hate crimes and incidents; to reduce the incidence of crimes to which older people tend to be more vulnerable, in particular distraction burglaries; and to reduce the proportion of victims of crime who are repeat victims. **See pages 11-12**
- **To prioritise higher crime neighbourhoods**, and in particular to reduce the crime rate in the higher crime wards & neighbourhoods in the district so that they are closer to the district average; to reduce alcohol-related crime in these areas; to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in these places as part of the community planning process; and to ensure that those living in isolated rural communities have adequate access to criminal justice and support services. **See pages 13-14**
- **To reduce crimes of violence**, and in particular domestic violence, alcohol-related violence and disorder, and sexual attacks. **See pages 15-17**
- **To reduce anti-social behaviour**, focusing in particular on criminal damage; the rapid removal of graffiti, litter and rubbish; nuisance vehicles; incidents of fire-related anti-social behaviour; and complaints about young people hanging around. **See pages 18-19**
- **To reduce drug and alcohol-related harm**, and in particular to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals; to improve the experience and outcomes for drug users and their carers; to create capacity to meet identified service needs; to focus on quality as well as quantity; to reach more people by making links through improved partnership working; and to create a robust and professional infrastructure to make things happen. **See pages 20-23**
- **To reduce road casualties**, and in particular to reduce deaths and injuries on Wiltshire's roads; to maintain targeted education campaigns directed towards school pupils and those adults who are most at risk of involvement in road collisions; to achieve greater conformity with speed limits; and to make collision hotspots safer through consultation and re-design. **See pages 24-25**
- **To make people feel safer**, and in particular to increase the proportion of people in South Wiltshire who feel safe in their home area during the day and after dark, especially young people and older people; to provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and on the impact of crime prevention initiatives; and to advise individuals and businesses on the risks of victimisation and on the steps that they can take to minimise these risks. **See pages 26-27**

In addition to these priorities, which are shared with the three other community safety partnerships in Wiltshire, the South Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership will focus on the following areas:

- To tackle business related crime - by working with the local business community to establish a Retail Crime Reduction Partnership.

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- To continue to support and develop the multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour Panel by encouraging greater agency involvement to tackle offending behaviour and ensuring that adequate incident reporting and recording mechanisms exist.
- To facilitate and develop partnership work between the Licensing Authority, City Centre Management, Schools, Licensees, Town and Parish Councils, the Police and other relevant agencies to tackle alcohol related anti-social behaviour, under-age drinking and violent offences by promoting Pubwatch, the Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme for Offenders and Victims (ARPOV) and ensuring a suitable response to the implementation and enforcement of the new Licensing Act 2003.
- To tackle alcohol-related violence and disorder by attempting to reduce the volume of alcohol-related violent crime & disorder, by ensuring safer pubs, clubs and city & town centres and by attempting to reduce the numbers of crime and disorder incidents in city and town centres during the evening.
- To continue to tackle domestic violence by reducing incidents of domestic violence, whilst encouraging victims to report all incidents to the police and other agencies, by increasing the percentage of victims and offenders who receive interventions, by attempting to reduce the harm caused to children by domestic violence & abuse and by reducing re-offending by perpetrators of domestic violence.
- To make progress in reducing drug and alcohol related harm by increasing the number of drug users in treatment, reducing waiting times, and reducing re-offending, by improving the quality of drug services, by seeking feedback from users & carers and to make sure that suitable drug services are available to all. In addition to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals through treatment, rehabilitation & resettlement; education & information; provide support for families; and reduce re-offending of alcohol related offences from 40% to 20%.
- To concentrate resources on the neighbourhoods which experience the most crime & anti-social behaviour, and to work with local people and community groups to cut crime and improve the quality of life in those neighbourhoods.

THE KENNET COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Kennet shares with the three other community safety partnership areas in the county the eight strategic priorities and related objectives, targets and action points which are set out on pages 7-27 of this strategy report and which are also summarised on pages 41-42. Additional objectives and action points which are particular to Kennet are set out on page 43.

The Structure of the Partnership

Strategic responsibility for community safety in Kennet has been absorbed into the work of the Kennet Local Strategic Partnership. The Community Safety Partnership's management role is undertaken by the Executive and Monitoring Team, and they are supported by five Task Groups and a Focus Group who provide the operational role in the successful implementation and delivery of the identified strategic aims, i.e. anti-social & criminal behaviour; domestic violence and abuse; diversity; youth issues; and drug and alcohol issues. Each Task Group works to a structured action plan, which is drawn up detailing the implementation process, the funding required, the agencies involved and the desired outcomes. These action plans are available on request from Kennet District Council.

The members of the Kennet Community Safety Partnership recognise that by working together and sharing resources as well as information, they can be more effective in reducing crime and disorder and building a safe and supportive community.

Links with Kennet's four Community Area Plans

All four local community areas have included 'crime and community safety' as one of their overall priorities, and Area Safety Committees have been set up to act as local problem solving groups and to monitor progress towards achieving their objectives. Community safety issues which are raised locally can be referred to the relevant Task Group in order for the appropriate response/action to be initiated.

- The **Devizes Community Area Plan** identifies 'crime and community protection' as one of its top three themes and picks out 'making Devizes a safe and well-policed town' as one of its key objectives. Other priorities include tackling anti-social behaviour, burglary, persistent offenders, and those who feel vulnerable, and have identified the need to reduce crime through community action.
- The **Marlborough Community Area Plan** identifies the need for more visible and effective policing. Concerns and priorities include tackling: household burglary and criminal damage; an increase in drug use, especially by young people; elderly people's fear of crime; theft from vehicles, with a focus on beauty spots; 'warm spots' of anti-social behaviour; domestic violence; damage to business from criminal activity; under-age drinking; and risk of fire in the town centre.
- The **Pewsey Community Area Plan** identifies the main concerns of the community being fear of crime, vandalism, litter and youth issues. The concerns highlight reducing the fear of crime; maintaining an adequate level of local policing; preventing domestic violence and supporting victims; exploring the possibility of providing village-based community rangers; providing outreach

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youth workers to reduce anti-social behaviour; organising litter collection in problem areas; and encouraging young people to take an active role in the local community.

- The **Tidworth Community Area Plan** states that one of the key objectives is to work towards the Community Area being a safe place in which to live and work, and lists as crime reduction priorities to implement: action to tackle vehicle crime, burglary, anti-social behaviour and hate-crime, and reckless behaviour by road users; preventative measures against drug and alcohol problems; measures to support victims of domestic violence, and to tackle problems in 'warm' spots and isolated communities.

Audit findings specific to Kennet

- Out of the 376 community safety partnership areas in the country, only thirteen had a lower rate of recorded crime in 2003/4 than Kennet
- Kennet had the lowest rate of crime of the four Wiltshire districts in both 2002/3 and 2003/4
- In 2002/3, one of Kennet's wards had the highest rate of recorded drug offences and non-domestic burglaries of any ward in Wiltshire
- The estimated costs of crime in Kennet totalled £11.1 million in 2003/4
- In Kennet's General Opinion Survey 2003, respondents rated 'a low level of crime' as the second most important thing in making somewhere a good place to live but ranked it eighth out of twenty options in the list of things that most needed improving
- Comparing Kennet with fourteen similar areas in other parts of the country showed that it had the second lowest overall crime rate of the fifteen areas in the quarter January-March 2004. Recent figures suggest that the rate of domestic burglaries is, however, above the average of this group of fifteen partnership areas.

Kennet's crime reduction target

Kennet's overall crime reduction target for the ten crime types included in the Government's public service agreement target is **12.5%** over the four year period from 2003/4 to 2007/8: the relevant crime types are set out on page 6 of the Strategy. These crime types have been chosen by the Government. They are not necessarily priority crimes for the Kennet Partnership to deal with, but have been selected because they relate most closely to the standard questions asked in the British Crime Survey – this survey will be used, at a national level, to measure the reduction of crime across the whole country between 2003/4 and 2007/8.

The Partnership will seek to achieve this reduction by concentrating its resources on the priorities identified on pages 7-27 and summarised below.

Kennet's priorities

The key priorities for the Kennet Community Safety Partnership are those set out on pages 7-27:

- **To reduce offending behaviour**, and in particular to target the fifteen most prolific offenders in the district with a view to reducing their re-offending; to ensure that the behaviour of the most dangerous offenders in the district is properly monitored and managed; and to intervene effectively with those children

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and young people who are thought to be most at risk of offending in the future. **See pages 8-10**

- **To reduce victimisation**, and in particular to reduce the likelihood that children and young people will become the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour; to protect children from physical, sexual and emotional abuse within the home; to increase the proportion of hate crimes and incidents that are reported to the police or other authorities, in particular those affecting members of minority ethnic, faith and travelling communities, gay, lesbian and transgender people, and people with physical, mental health and learning disabilities; to reduce the number of hate crimes and incidents; to reduce the incidence of crimes to which older people tend to be more vulnerable, in particular distraction burglaries; and to reduce the proportion of victims of crime who are repeat victims. **See pages 11-12**
- **To prioritise higher crime neighbourhoods**, and in particular to reduce the crime rate in the higher crime wards & neighbourhoods in the district so that they are closer to the district average; to reduce alcohol-related crime in these areas; to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in these places as part of the community planning process; and to ensure that those living in isolated rural communities have adequate access to criminal justice and support services. **See pages 13-14**
- **To reduce crimes of violence**, and in particular domestic violence, alcohol-related violence and disorder, and sexual attacks. **See pages 15-17**
- **To reduce anti-social behaviour**, focusing in particular on criminal damage; the rapid removal of graffiti, litter and rubbish; nuisance vehicles; incidents of fire-related anti-social behaviour; and complaints about young people hanging around. **See pages 18-19**
- **To reduce drug and alcohol-related harm**, and in particular to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals; to improve the experience and outcomes for drug users and their carers; to create capacity to meet identified service needs; to focus on quality as well as quantity; to reach more people by making links through improved partnership working; and to create a robust and professional infrastructure to make things happen. **See pages 20-23**
- **To reduce road casualties**, and in particular to reduce deaths and injuries on Wiltshire's roads; to maintain targeted education campaigns directed towards school pupils and those adults who are most at risk of involvement in road collisions; to achieve greater conformity with speed limits; and to make collision hotspots safer through consultation and re-design. **See pages 24-25**
- **To make people feel safer**, and in particular to increase the proportion of people in Kennet who feel safe in their home area during the day and after dark, especially young people and older people; to provide accurate information to local people on the scale, trends and characteristics of local crime and on the impact of crime prevention initiatives; and to advise individuals and businesses on the risks of victimisation and on the steps that they can take to minimise these risks. **See pages 26-27**

In addition to these priorities, which are shared with the three other community safety partnerships in Wiltshire, the Kennet Partnership Task Groups action plans will focus on the following areas:

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- To facilitate and develop partnership work between the Kennet District Council Licensing Department, Town Centre Managers, Schools, Licensees, Town Councils and the Police to tackle alcohol related anti-social behaviour, under-age drinking and violent offences by promoting Pubwatch, Validate Proof-of Age cards, the Alcohol Arrest Referral for Offenders and Victims scheme ('ARPOV'), and the implementation and enforcement of the new Licensing Act 2003.
- To set a base-line for the number of alcohol related violent offences, and make progress against the key objectives of the National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy
- To continue to strengthen partnership working of all the agencies involved in supporting the victims of domestic violence and their families, so that the proportion of incidents which are repeat incidents are reduced, and to increase the accessibility and availability of perpetrator schemes, focusing particularly on the key areas identified in the audit.
- To raise awareness and educate partners about diversity using a theatre/workshop, and to increase the number of hate crimes and incidents which are brought to the attention of partner agencies.
- To develop and facilitate partnership work between the police, voluntary organisations, Kennet District Council, registered social landlords and the local community to reduce the number of distraction burglaries by education, awareness raising, target hardening, and support for victims to prevent re-victimisation.
- To build on the success of the Anti-Social Behaviour Focus Group, providing effective, flexible multi-agency teamwork to respond to and monitor reports from the police, partner agencies, local communities & members of the public; using a methodical problem solving approach to identify the victims, perpetrators and locations; and working in partnership to provide the most appropriate range of actions to address the problems identified.
- To make progress against the key objectives of the National Drug Strategy: to help young people in Kennet to resist drug misuse, to protect Kennet communities from drug related criminal and anti-social behaviour, to enable people in Kennet with drug problems to overcome them, and to reduce the availability of illegal and sold-on prescription drugs.
- To set up Problem Solving Teams to monitor reports and data obtained from the Police National Intelligence Model and initiate appropriate responses by relevant partners.

THE NEXT THREE YEARS – April 2005 - March 2008

The strategic priorities and objectives set out on the previous pages, as well as taking account of national expectations, reflect the findings of an audit undertaken in 2004 and based in part on information that was, even at that stage, up to two years old. Problems of crime and drug misuse can change rapidly – in respect of the factors underlying offending and drug use; the places where crime and anti-social behaviour are most likely to occur; and especially the most prevalent types of criminal behaviour. A strategy to tackle crime and drug misuse which makes sense in April 2005 may well become outdated a year or two later. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 recognises that the requirement to produce a three year strategy does not mean that the strategy remains frozen in time for that period – the Act requires the responsible authorities to make any changes to the contents of the strategy that “appear necessary or expedient”.

The capacity of the partnerships to keep the audit information up to date has increased greatly in the last year or two – the data that they have access to includes:

- the six monthly strategic assessments and fortnightly ‘tasking and co-ordinating meetings’ organised as part of the police’s National Intelligence Model
- the geographically mapped data produced by Wiltshire County Council and Wiltshire Constabulary
- the detailed data on recorded crime published on a monthly basis on the Home Office’s ‘iQuanta’ website
- the quarterly reports produced under the Drug and Alcohol Action Team’s Performance Management Framework
- the day-to-day experience of partner agencies and community-based organisations involved in task groups, community area forums and so on.

The experience and views of the general public also play a vital role in ensuring that the work of the community safety partnerships reflects current concerns and harnesses community resources. Whether you are a local resident or business person, or work for a Wiltshire organisation in the statutory, voluntary or community sector, your contribution to reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse will be welcomed. Contact details for key officers are as follows:

- **Wiltshire County Council:** Community Safety Manager – Tel: 01225-776890
- **Safer Wiltshire Executive:** Treatment & Young People Commissioning Co-ordinator – Tel: 01225-776890
- **Wiltshire Constabulary:** Chief Inspector - Community Safety & Criminal Justice – Tel: 01380-734001 ext.3621
- **Wiltshire Police Authority:** Clerk to the Police Authority – Tel: 01380-734022
- **North Wiltshire District Council:** Community Safety Officer – Tel: 01249-706416
- **West Wiltshire District Council:** Community Safety Officer – Tel: 01225-770338
- **Salisbury District Council:** Community Safety Project Manager – Tel: 01722-434680
- **Kennet District Council:** Community Safety Officer – Tel: 01380-724911
- **Kennet & North Wiltshire Primary Care Trust:** Partnership Manager – Tel: 01380-733707
- **West Wiltshire Primary Care Trust:** Partnership Manager – Tel: 01380-733707
- **South Wiltshire Primary Care Trust:** Head of Primary Care – Tel: 01722-329404