

# BRIEFING PAPER

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**SUBJECT:** SAFE CITY AND YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIES 2014-2017  
**DATE:** 13 NOVEMBER 2014  
**RECIPIENT:** OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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## THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

### SUMMARY:

Southampton Safe City Partnership is responsible for reducing crime and disorder and has a statutory duty under the Police and Justice Act 2006 to meet established national minimum standards which includes producing an annual Strategic Assessment to inform the Safe City Strategy. This Strategy is included in the council's Policy Framework and will seek Full Council approval on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

The Strategy provides, at a high level, the performance in 2013/14 and feedback from residents on community safety issues as well as top priorities and outcomes for the next 3 years. The Safe City Partnership will work on detailed actions to ensure the delivery of the outcomes and links with the City Strategy 2014-25 and the Council Strategy 2014 - 2017. The council is a key member of the Safe City Partnership and has a pivotal role in working with partners to make Southampton a safer city.

The priorities of the Southampton Safe City Partnership are:

- Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
- Reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Reducing youth offending

The Youth Justice Strategic Plan is a requirement made upon Youth Offending Teams by the Ministry of Justice and will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board after approval by Council on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The full document is attached to this paper.

The YOS is a multi-disciplinary service hosted by the council but consisting of staff and resources from SCC Children and Families, National Probation Service, Hampshire Constabulary, Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group and supported by volunteers.

The Plan contains:

- The service priorities, agreed by partner agencies, for 2014-17
- Performance data, including comparisons with our statistical neighbours
- Information regarding service governance and resourcing
- Future challenges for the coming year
- Contributions to wider partnership strategies

# BRIEFING PAPER

## BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

1. The statutory Strategic Assessment, attached as Appendix 7, provides the evidence base for the Safe City Partnership to identify priorities, objectives and targets for crime, anti-social behaviour, substance and alcohol misuse and offending behaviour to inform the Community Safety Strategy for 2014 – 2017.

The main headlines are:

- Southampton remains a safe city where 93% of people safe in their area during the day and 63% feel safe in their area after dark
- 62% of people agree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with crime in their areas
- Reduction in some crime types of including:
  - 1.8% reduction in all crimes
  - 17.7% reduction in ASB incidents
  - 9.9% reduction in criminal damage incidents
  - 22% reduction in alcohol related and public place violence
  - 26.8% reduction in Drug Related Violence
  - 18.85% reduction in the actual rate of re-offending (cohort size – 3,537)
  - 7% reduction in the number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System.
- Increase in people who completed drug and alcohol treatments:
  - 10.7% increase in the number of alcohol users successfully completing treatment
  - 17.5% increase in successful completion of treatment for opiate users.
- However, there were significant increases in the following:
  - Reports of crimes relating to sexual violence (up 33%), domestic violence (up 5%), non-dwelling burglary (2.8%) and missing persons reports (21%) have increased
  - Thefts from, and of, motor vehicles have increased 13%
  - Increase in the total number of assaults presented to the Emergency Department by 12%.

2. It is also important to note that Southampton's comparative position in relation to the 15 most similar cities as defined by the ONS has either worsened or not improved for the major categories of crimes, with the exception of ASB. The British Crime Survey published in mid-October 2014 shows that:

- All crime rates in Southampton went down by 1.8% compared to a national reduction of 16%
- Serious sexual offences in Southampton went up by 33% compared to a national increase of 21%
- Criminal damage in Southampton fell by 9.9% compared to a national reduction of 20%
- Thefts from motor vehicles in Southampton went up by 13% compared to a national decrease of 6%

# BRIEFING PAPER

- Thefts of motor vehicles in Southampton went up by 12% compared to a national decrease of 3%.
  - ASB incidents in Southampton fell by 17.7% compared to a national reduction of 6%.
3. The 2013/14 priorities were included in the 2014 Community Safety Survey where opinions were sought on whether the residents of Southampton, and those that visit or work in the city, consider these to be the most appropriate areas of work for the partnership to focus on. The full results are included in the Strategic Assessment and the draft Safe City Strategy 2014-2017, attached as Appendix 8, takes the survey results into account. The main feedback was that crime and anti-social behaviour should be addressed in all areas of the city and not just key locations. This has been taken into account when revising the priorities.
4. The Youth Offending Board have developed the Southampton Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2014 -2017 (Plan on a Page attached at Appendix 9) and the action plan (detailed plan attached at Appendix 10). The Youth Justice Strategic Plan identifies the following priorities in addition to implementing an action plan to deliver improvements within the service:
- Improvement against national performance indicators
  - The delivery of high quality offending behaviour work
  - Embedding restorative justice across Youth Offending Service interventions with young people
  - Service user involvement
  - Developing a robust partnership approach and governance.
5. Challenges the Youth Offending Service need to overcome through the implementation of the strategy include:
- Custody rates remain higher than the national average, despite improvements in 2013/14
  - The re-offending rate is 13% higher than the national average, despite improvement in the Priority Young People group
  - First Time Entrants remain higher than the national average, despite improvement in 2013/14
  - 40% of young people involved with the Youth Offending Service are not engaged in full time education, training or employment.

## Resource and Policy Implications

6. There are no additional resource requirements as council led actions to deliver targets detailed in these plans will be met within existing budgets.
7. The Safe City Plan is included in the Council's Policy Framework. These plans link with a range of other strategies and plans including the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Integrated Offender Management Plan.

# BRIEFING PAPER

## **Appendices/Supporting Information:**

7. Draft Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment
8. Draft Southampton Safe City Partnership Strategy 2014-17
9. Southampton Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2014-17 – Plan on a page
10. Southampton Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2014-17 – Background

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