

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	Page	2
COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2008 -2009	Page	4
HALLMARKS OF SUCCESS	Page	6
KEY ACTIONS FOR YEAR 1 DELIVERY	page	10

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

1. INTRODUCTION

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a commitment on community safety partnerships across the country to deliver a comprehensive Community Safety Strategy.

The North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership has produced its fourth Community Safety Strategy 2008-2011, building on our previous commitments and strategies.

Our aim is to develop a plan that ensures Bedford remains one of the safest towns in the country. In order to achieve this and work towards the wider strategic agenda for a “cleaner, greener safer Bedford”, the plan needs to be reviewed and refreshed annually to assess it is making an impact and making the necessary changes to ensure Bedford remains a safe and secure town.

In order to achieve this, Bedford are committed to developing an annual action plan that will provide the delivery detail for priority areas set out within the strategic plan. An annual strategic assessment will be undertaken to help shape and inform the action plan and the priorities defined within it. The plan will be complemented by the County Council’s overarching Community Safety Agreement that will span the 3 CDRP areas.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

The aim is to provide a balanced range of delivery mechanisms and resources for

- reducing crime;
- reducing anti-social behaviour;
- reducing drug and alcohol misuse including Law enforcement;
- environmental improvements;
- education and community action.

It has been 10 years since the partnership first embarked on providing a more focused agenda with the development of the first Community Safety Strategy in 1998.

2008 provides Bedford with the opportunity to continue its good work and remain as one of the country's safest towns. In order to achieve this, partners will need to rise to the challenges set out within the Strategic Assessment, responding and developing more innovative ways of working with north Bedfordshire communities to address these issues for Bedford.

By 2011 we want to be able to demonstrate that, through local partnership working, we have improved the quality of life for the communities of Bedford.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2008 -2009

A key aim of both the Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan is the strengthening of resources at a local level, through a Neighbourhood Action Plan, bringing together key stakeholders to deliver a more joined-up approach to tackling local issues. These issues will be informed through local neighbourhood forums, providing a local voice for communities across 18 distinct areas of Bedford.

This Community Safety Plan will focus on two main areas:

- Tackling the misuse and harm that drugs and alcohol cause to individuals and in our communities.
- Strengthening our communities through the development of Safer Neighbourhood Area Plans covering the whole of the Borough of Bedford.

Engagement of Bedford LSP and North Beds Partnership ODG

Bedford LSP and NBPODG play a fundamental role, by endorsing and working with us on delivering the strategy and implementing the annual action plan. Through the action plan we need to demonstrate the necessary links with partners' existing strategies which are already underway and to complement the Community Plan and LAA targets for Bedford.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

The Operational Delivery Group will oversee the implementation of a Performance Management Framework that will record progress as a result of action plan delivery across the Safer Neighbourhood Areas and how this relates to achieving other indicators such as Local Area Agreements.

Priorities and scene setting

The Strategic Assessment highlighted six priority areas for action over the next 3 years:

- reducing violent crime
- reducing property crime
- reducing Environmental crime
- reducing Anti-social behaviour
- reducing the number of disengaged young people
- reducing drug and alcohol misuse,

all of which will be delivered across 18 distinct areas across Bedford. This provides a unique model for Bedford, bringing together a range of partners with a commitment to sharing information, valuing diversity, providing equal opportunities and working towards community cohesion, social inclusion and the wider community development agenda.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – “HALLMARKS OF SUCCESS”

Due to the changes to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, a review of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships was undertaken. The outcome was the development of the “Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships”. The aim is to consolidate effective practice and encourage all partnerships to deliver to a more consistent common standard.

Hallmarks will relate to Partnerships which are informed and influenced by stakeholders, representing the key aspects of partnership working that underpin effective service delivery. The 6 hallmarks are listed below:

1. Empowered and effective leadership
2. Intelligence-led business processes
3. Effective and responsive delivery structures
4. Community engagement
5. Visible and constructive accountability
6. Appropriate skills and knowledge

Guidance to effective partnership working

The guidance, split into four distinct sections provides partnerships with both statutory requirements and suggested practice that will ensure that a partnership meets all the hallmarks with:

- an acceptable level of performance;
- an intelligence-led way of doing partnership business;
- communities that can see the difference in their area;
- communities that are involved in shaping local priorities;
- an environment where skills and knowledge of partners develops; and

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

- increased partnership accountability in addressing crime and disorder matters.

The four areas where partnerships can use the guidance to review their processes and structures are: lead and guide, assess, plan for action and deliver. The guidance consists of two elements, new statutory requirements and suggested practice to improve effectiveness of partnership working; an outline of the criteria included is given in this section.

Lead and Guide

- a. The role of the partnership and new statutory requirements relating to governance, the membership and functions of a 'strategy' group that has responsibility for preparing and implementing a strategic assessment and action plan.
- b. Development of local information sharing protocols.
- c. Local performance management.
- d. Reporting back to communities on performance.

Assess

- a. Preparation of a strategic assessment that identifies key priorities.
- b. Information sharing and collection and analysis of information from communities.
- c. Being able to demonstrate intelligence-led business processes.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Plan for Action

- a. Development of an annual action plan, setting out local objectives and strategies that will address the priorities identified through the strategic assessment.
- b. Identification of resources available and how best to use them.
- c. Having a performance framework that supports delivery.
- d. Ensuring that local communities have access to and an understanding of their role in assisting delivery of the Action Plan.

Deliver

- a. A local structure for delivery.
- b. Local approach to problem solving and tasking and co-ordination to implement agreed priorities.
- c. Performance management to challenge and monitor progress.
- d. Evaluation of the effectiveness of delivery work and learning from emerging good practice.
- e. Identification of resources available and how best to use them.

The partnership and wider stakeholders involved in delivering the action plan and Community Safety Strategy are already undertaking a lot of activity that will meet the Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships. However, there is still much to learn from this new process and it must be ensured that all stakeholders have an understanding of how the hallmarks need to be cross-cutting to ensure the Action Plan delivers on the six hallmarks. I would recommend that this is a year of transition providing the partnership and wider stakeholder groups the opportunity to agree on how North

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Bedfordshire measures its performance and meets the requirements set out above.

4. YEAR 1 – 2008/09 ACTIONS

In order to build upon the good work well underway in Bedford and to agree how the action plan could complement a number of strategies already in place, an event was organised in March 2008. The event was an opportunity for partners to come together, assess how existing plans and strategies could integrate with the six priority areas to devise an all-embracing Community Safety Agenda, delivered at the heart of our communities.

The key actions identified for year 1 provide a more focused local level of delivery, working towards tangible outputs that can be monitored and measured, enabling Bedford to deliver on the Government's "Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships".

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 1: Violent Crime

Key Action 1	Raising awareness of difference between real and perceived violent crime
Key Action 2	Assisting in developing people's confidence in reporting
Key Action 3	Promotion of the Domestic Violence (DV) Action Plan
Key Action 4	Development and delivery of an Alcohol Action Plan
Lead Agency	Domestic Violence Partnership, Police, Bed:Safe
Partner Agencies	Police Tasking Group, BBC, PCT, Alcohol Concern, B:DAT
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assistance in the delivery of the DV Action Plan ➤ Numbers of schools involved in the programme ➤ Domestic Violence training ➤ Delivery of the Community Cohesion Action Plan for Queens Park ➤ Implement Alcohol Action Plan
Outcome Targets	<p>Agree Key lessons learned from Community Cohesion project to be rolled out in years 2 and 3.</p> <p>To have provided advice to 250 students and 2 college Fresher Fayres</p>
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>To work towards the LAA Target from April 1st 2009 - 2011 (NI 32): To reduce repeat victimisation for those domestic violence cases being managed by a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). (2008 - 09 will be a baseline year)</p> <p>To have 6 schools involved in the programme</p> <p>To have delivered 6 training programmes</p> <p>5% increase in reporting of Domestic Violence</p> <p>Target (¹NI 15 ²APACS): To reduce the number of most serious violent crimes per 1,000 population (e.g. town centre planning to reduce alcohol-related violence)</p> <p>NI 15 contains the following elements: homicide, attempted murder, wounding, GBH, causing death by dangerous or careless driving.</p>

¹ NI (National Performance Indicator)

² APACS (Assessment of Policing and Community Safety)

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 2: Reducing Property Crime

	Property Crime includes domestic burglary, theft from motor vehicles and criminal damage to property and vehicles.
Key Action 1	Reduction in domestic burglary through Safer Neighbourhood Areas
Key Action 2	PPO and communications about where offenders are released to – “Rapid Response” information and delivery network needed
Key Action 3	To further build upon Fenlake to include the Safer Homes initiative; SmartWater plan in Fenlake and Goldington area
Key Action 4	Young offenders with history of burglary offences and at high risk of re-offending to be supported through Prevent and Deter activities
Lead Agency	Police supported by the Safer Neighbourhood Officer, Serious Acquisitive Crime Group, Anti-Social Behaviour Group and YOS
Partner Agencies	Reported through ODG and Safer Neighbourhood Chairs
Outputs	Shared facilities Communication tools such as Neighbourhood Watch Good practice sharing between local areas Key Safer Neighbourhood events
Outcome Targets	SARA – through evidence-led intelligence Reduction in burglary
Outcome Performance Indicators	Empowered and Effective Leadership To reach family average LAA Target (NI16 APACS): To reduce the number of serious acquisitive crimes per 1,000 population LAA Target (NI 30 APACS): To reduce re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders NI16 contains the following elements: burglary dwelling, robbery of business/personal property, theft of motor vehicle, theft from vehicle.

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 3: Reducing Environmental Crime

Key Action 1	Better communication/promote success stories
Key Action 2	Development of "Passport for Life" programme
Key Action 3	Increased empowerment and enforcement by Bedford Rangers
Key Action 4	Training of Rangers to deliver above targets
Lead Agency	BBC Environment Rangers/ County Council Road Safety Unit and PCSOs through the Police
Partner Agencies	All Partners involved in delivery of Community Safety Strategy – ODG and all those who fall outside of this group. Passport for Life partnership.
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Work with Lower and Middle schools, follow pupil through school years. Involve and include parents ➤ Use of Learning Mentors ➤ Range of publicity material produced to communicate key messages surrounding the environment ➤ Encourage public reporting of fly tipping and other environmental issues
Outcome Targets	<p>Development of the "Passport for life" Programme to be rolled out in Year 2.</p> <p>Training of Environment Rangers to go into schools and deliver Passport for Life activity. 4 Rangers trained 2 Play Rangers recruited</p> <p>To increase the reporting of environmental incidents such as vandalism and fly tipping by 5%</p>
Outcome Performance Indicators	Target (NI 47 APACS): People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents reduced

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 4: Reducing Anti-social Behaviour

Key Action 1	Work with Safer Neighbourhood Teams to develop a range of services and products to deter and reduce ASB. To actively target young people who are at risk or have been referred through to partner agencies.
Key Action 2	ASB and Alcohol team to provide support and advice to hotspot areas on the tools and mechanisms in place to address ASB issues and issues relating to ASB.
Key Action 3	To work with Alcohol team on development and implementation of alcohol action plan (see Priority 1)
Lead Agency	Police/ASB Working and Enforcement Group; Bed:Safe and Pub:Safe
Partner Agencies	ODG, Youth Services, Youth Offending Service, ACC, Housing associations
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) to have identified 6 services/products relevant to their locality to deter ASB ➤ ASB and Alcohol Team to produce a record of hotspot areas supported and actions agreed. To develop how support and delivery across 18 Safer Neighbourhood Teams can be tracked and monitored using Sparks ➤ To develop and launch alcohol action plan that will complement a wider strategy. <p>To have a referral mechanism in place across the borough, meeting the priorities for each area that can be tracked and monitored.</p>
Outcome Targets	To reduce rowdy/nuisance behaviour by 5% Enhanced capacity and empowerment of each SNT
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>Target (NI 17 APACS): A reduction in the percentage population that perceive ASB to be a problem. A Place Survey is proposed to collect the information.</p> <p>Target (NI 21 APACS): How well do the local council and police work together to deal with local concerns about ASB and crime? A Place Survey is proposed to collect the information.</p> <p>Target (NI 41 APACS): Reducing perceptions of drunken or rowdy behaviour as a problem. Collection of the information is proposed through a new Place Survey.</p>

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 5: Reducing the number of disengaged young people

Key Action 1	Consultation with YP and parents starting with “most vulnerable” e.g. NEET, young people looked after, hostels, Young people at risk of offending. Consult on aspirations, needs, interests. The Partnership will work with bpha to deliver its Family Intervention Project in key areas of the Borough
Key Action 2	Development and implementation of “Firebreak” scheme delivered in partnership with Bedfordshire and Luton Fire and Rescue Service
Key Action 3	To provide a guide/information access point providing better information and support and advice from main contact/access point.
Lead Agency	YOS, MAAG (not an agency), Youth Service, Youth Practitioners Group
Partner Agencies	Police, Fire Service, Youth Service
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase in numbers of young people supported ➤ Targeted young people and their parents identified through the Safer Neighbourhood Forums and supported ➤ Reduce first time entrants to the criminal justice system ➤ Production of Youth Information Guide
Outcome Targets	<p>Prevent and Deter Officer: Working with youth offenders to curb patterns of criminal behaviour thus keeping levels of youth offending across the Borough to a low level.</p> <p>Anti-social Behaviour Officer: Working with young people who display patterns of anti-social behaviour, providing alternative positive activities and working with parents to address concerns.</p>
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>Target (NI 19 APACS): To reduce the rate of proven re-offending by young offenders in the youth justice system aged between 10 – 17 years</p> <p>Target (NI 111 APACS): To reduce number of first time entrants as above</p>

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Priority 6: Reducing Drug and Alcohol misuse

Key Action 1	Positive publicity: providing drugs information to people and parents of young people, raising awareness of services available, such as FRANK
Key Action 2	To educate and raise awareness amongst parents and young people on the dangers of binge drinking and cheap alcohol
Key Action 3	To encourage the reporting of drug dealing/use, by providing information confidentially/anonymously through Crimestoppers to assist with intelligence gathering to address the illegal supply of drugs.
Key Action 4	To gather data from the PCT A&E injury and admissions study underway.
Lead Agency	Police, B:DAT, Communities and Availabilities Group, Bed:Safe, Pub:Safe, Addaction Centre and PCT
Partner Agencies	ODG
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Targeted dissemination of information into hotspot areas on where to receive advice/support ➤ To analyse data from the hospital admissions project and identify year 2 actions ➤ To undertake 18 outreach sessions in each forum area to raise awareness of binge drinking and sale of cheap alcohol
Outcome Targets	Assessment of resources based on analysis from admissions pilot. Increase in reporting of drug/alcohol related crime/ASB/dealing
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>Target (PI 40): To reduce the harm caused to health and well-being by frequent use of illegal drugs. This indicator measures the number of drug users in effective treatment.</p> <p>Target (NI 39): To reduce the number of alcohol harm-related hospital admission rates</p>

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Developing Links

Key Action 1	Promote and support local action on community safety through implementation of 18 Neighbourhood Forums
Lead Agency	Community Safety Partnership Steering Group (ODG) supported by Safer Neighbourhood Officer
Partner Agencies	All partners/Safer Neighbourhood Forums/Hate Crime
Outputs	<p>Encourage communities to participate in local community safety initiatives to promote community pride leading to lower levels of crime and a safer neighbourhood. Safer Neighbourhood Officer to provide support to the 18 local neighbourhood forums responsible for tackling local issues.</p> <p>Support young people to develop the necessary skills to enable them to make positive contributions in the community.</p> <p>To positively contribute and complement existing strategies and projects well underway to tackle local community safety issues</p>
Outcome Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Greater community involvement in community safety ➤ Courses for young people leading to participation in community issues via Passport for Life ➤ To generate participation in community consultation of development issues ➤ Hold annual community safety seminar and regular neighbourhood forum meetings organised by SNO
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>Number of partners attending local forum meetings</p> <p>Number of youths participating in training to build capacity to actively contribute to local forums</p> <p>Local Community actions adopted/implemented</p>

Safer Communities

The aim of the North Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership

Performance Management

Key Action 1	Monitoring and Evaluation
Lead Agency	Community Safety Partnership Steering Group (ODG)
Partner Agencies	All partners
Outputs	<p>Evaluation framework linked to ASB Action Plan</p> <p>Bedford Community Safety Manager to coordinate annual strategic assessment to provide statistical evidence to determine future actions. To implement a pilot project investigating the added value "Sparks" could bring to the partnership.</p> <p>A regular review of the partnership, its members and relevant steering groups and sub-groups will be carried out to evaluate our effectiveness to include Neighbourhood Forums.</p>
Outcome Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New procedures in place to evaluate the effectiveness of action plan ➤ Safer Neighbourhood Officer in post ➤ Strategic Assessment carried out ➤ Steering group membership and sub groups to be active and relevant to partnership strategy ➤ Review Sparks pilot project
Outcome Performance Indicators	<p>Hallmarks of success cross-cutting each priority and action area</p> <p>Safer Neighbourhood Officer employed</p> <p>Strategic Assessment published and available on website</p> <p>Regular review reports to steering group</p>