



Safe Newcastle Partnership Priorities Consultation

The proposed priorities & objectives for Safe Newcastle in 2020-21 are:

- **Reduce the impact of Anti-Social Behaviour**

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) can be the scourge of many communities and left unchecked blights the lives of young and old alike. Behaviour which denies others from living a normal life free of fear, intimidation and stress is unacceptable in every form. Safe Newcastle recognises that ASB is a cross cutting issue which can have a significant impact on many resident's quality of life and can also be an early indicator of more serious criminality or exploitation.

- **Reduce the harm and impact of Drug and Alcohol Misuse**

Drugs and alcohol can pose issues for individuals, families and communities leading to a range of harms. Changes in drug supply are having a considerable impact, linked with increasing drug deaths in the north east which have risen to a higher rate than other regions, exploitation and violence, as well as rising levels of cocaine use in young people / young adults. Our vision is to reduce the health, social and economic inequalities and harms caused by drugs and alcohol and the threat they pose through a range of partnership activities. Particular focus is to address the impacts of availability of alcohol and drugs, intervening earlier and ensuring people receive the right support at the right time, including working to support family approaches.

- **Reduce Violence Against Women and Girls**

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is any form of violence and abuse that affects women and girls disproportionately such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, stalking, honour-based abuse and forced marriage. VAWG causes physical, sexual and psychological harm and suffering to women and girls affected by it. It also constitutes a serious violation of the human rights of women and girls and is a major obstacle to the achievement of equality between men and women. It is also a root cause of many other social problems including poverty, debt, homelessness, substance misuse, sexual exploitation and future involvement in criminal behaviour. We recognise that violence and abuse can take place in many other contexts, e.g. men and boys, gay and transgender people can also be victims of these crimes and women can sometimes be the perpetrators, however, overwhelmingly these are gendered crimes, perpetrated against women by men. For this reason, the Safe Newcastle Partnership will take a gendered approach to effectively tackle all forms of VAWG affecting the women and girls in our city.

- **Tackle Serious and Organised Crime**

Serious and organised crime affects more UK citizens, more often, than any other national security threat and leads to more deaths in the UK each year than all other national security threats combined. It costs the UK at least £37 billion annually and it has a corrosive impact on our public services, communities, reputation and way of life. A large amount of serious and organised crime remains hidden or underreported, meaning the true scale is likely to be greater than we currently know. Although the impact may often be difficult to see, the threat from crimes such as Modern-Day Slavery, Sexual and Criminal Exploitation and County Lines drug dealing is real and is present every day in the communities around us. Serious and organised criminals' prey on the most vulnerable in society, including young children, and their abuse can have a devastating, life-long effect on their victims.

- **PREVENT Radicalisation**

PREVENT is one element of the four strands of the governments counter terrorism strategy CONTEST. It is about safeguarding and supporting those individuals most vulnerable to radicalisation, with the aim of stopping people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In this context vulnerability means individuals who because of their circumstance, experiences or state of mind can be led towards a terrorist ideology.

- **Hate Crime and Community Tensions**

The term 'hate crime' can be used to describe a range of criminal behaviour which is motivated by hostility towards a person's disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity. Hate crime is an issue that pervades many sections of our society creating barriers between communities, causing mistrust and fear. Hate crime not only has a harmful effect on its victims by attacking who they are as individuals but also on their families and communities. Community tensions may build up within or between communities, or against institutions, based on real or perceived incidents, information, fears, prejudices, circumstances or specific actions over a long period of time. These tensions can reach a crisis point leading to disorder and criminal activity.