



## **Representative Report to Network Members**

<b>Meeting attended: Safer Doncaster Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>

### **Key agenda items:**

- 1) Restorative Justice Presentation
- 2) Performance update
- 3) Policing Initiative
- 4) Drug Treatment Plan update
- 5) NI21 - Public Confidence (update)
- 6) Serious Case Review progress

### **Summary**

#### **1) Restorative Justice**

SY Police are moving to the use of restorative justice practices in those cases seen as appropriate. These are low level offences, where the offender has no previous convictions, there is an admission of guilt and both victim and offender consent to the process. It is seen as a more proportionate response that gives the victim more control and the ability to influence resolutions as well as avoiding criminalising young people when a restorative justice approach may be more effective in rehabilitation. Training is to be carried out for all front line officers with a strong involvement from Remedi.

#### **2) Performance Report**

Overall crime reduced in January, with a total of 2,187 reports of crime, representing a year-on-year drop in offences of 20.3%. This is the lowest ever monthly figure recorded; while acknowledging that bad weather had some part to play it was nonetheless a positive performance. Police-reported anti social behaviour has also reduced, with the second lowest monthly figure recorded, representing a year-on-year reduction of 10.3%.

Criminal damage shows an in-year reduction of 12.8%; particularly notable in this category is progress against primary and secondary arson, with over 25% fewer offences recorded in 2009/10 compared with the same period last year. Safer Neighbourhood teams continue to implement numerous tactical interventions to tackle both criminal damage and anti social behaviour. Assault with injury remains at a low level; the first ten months of this year shows a 16.6% reduction compared to last year. Reduction is borough-wide,

including the town centre where conditional cautioning and street bail are showing an effect. Repeat cases of domestic violence heard at MARACs are now 22%

Acquisitive crime offences are falling at a quickening rate; domestic burglary in particular shows a reduction 30% in the first ten months of this year compared to last; the Home Office have recognised this as the highest rate of improvement of all CDRPs in England this financial year. However, the numbers of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance remains high, and increased again in January to the highest figure since monitoring began in 2005 and the number of empty properties remains at over 4,500 which represents a potential risk to acquisitive crime figures. Actions are in place in checking second hand dealers for stolen goods and developing a Vulnerable Premises scheme; Safer Homes funding by Age Concern has led to 394 homes having security upgrades with a further 200 to be completed. Reduction in re-offending by offenders under supervision is 11.8% below the predicted level, recording a statistically significant reduction. It was noted that the mentoring scheme is contributing enormously to re-offending targets and funding will be sought to continue this scheme. Offenders in settled accommodation is also within target, but offenders in employment at end of supervision is well below target; given the current economic situation this is likely to remain so.

Substance misuse performance is mixed, with more drug users in treatment that targeted but planned treatment exit rate is poor. (See agenda item 4)

### **3) Police Initiative**

A joint exercise led by the police with partners including Health, Local Authority, SY Fire and Rescue and the voluntary sector is due to take place in March. A media briefing is to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March when more information will be available.

### **4) Drug Treatment Plan Update**

The Adult Drug Treatment Plan for 2010/11 has been completed with strong input from service users and in consultation with the National Treatment Agency (NTA). It is due to be signed off on 19 March with the NTA. Comment can still be made, to be received by Friday 5 March at the latest. Copies for anyone wishing to comment can be provided either by me or Chris Stephenson ([c.stephenson@doncastercvs.org.uk](mailto:c.stephenson@doncastercvs.org.uk)). There will be a strong focus on working with service users setting targets to become drug free whereas previous measured outcomes have been about getting and maintaining users in services. It is aimed to have much heavier involvement of service users including sitting on forums and commissioning groups.

### **5) NI21 Update**

This indicator is measured by the results of the Place survey, a national survey carried out every two years. The last was in October 2008, which

means that we are unable to affect our current status of red until this October. Although smaller-scale, locality-based surveys indicate that public confidence in the local authority and police is rising, these are not comprehensive enough to be certain that the results will be replicated in October. Discussions are to take place on how meaningful measures may be taken before October.

## **6) Serious Case Review Progress**

A number of cross-over themes have emerged from recent serious case reviews, including anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and substance misuse. Recommendations are made by these reviews and it has been agreed that there will be a quarterly report to Safer Doncaster Partnership to look at and monitor recommendations.

### **Areas for consultation or action for the sector**

Adult Drug Treatment Plan  
Response required by: Fri 5 March

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Date of next meeting: 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2010