

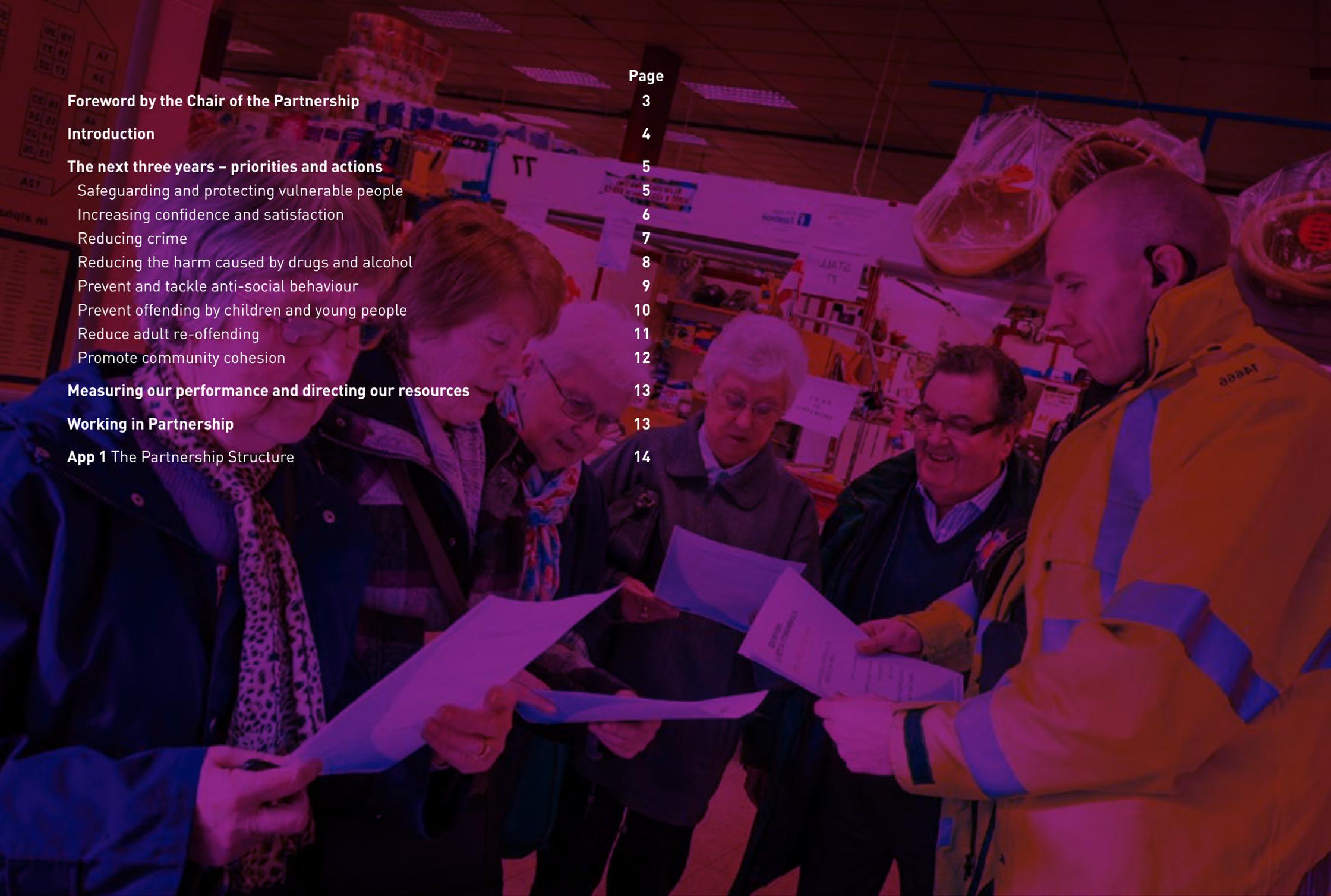
ROCHDALE SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

Safer Communities Plan 2015-2018

Safer Rochdale

Rochdale • Middleton • Heywood • Pennines





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Foreword

We are delighted to introduce Rochdale Borough's Community Safety Plan for the next three years. It sets out our bold vision for maintaining and improving community safety in the borough and identifies seven key priorities to help us achieve this:

- Increasing confidence and satisfaction
- Reducing crime
- Reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol
- Preventing and tackling anti-social behaviour
- Preventing offending by children and young people
- Reducing adult re-offending
- Promoting community cohesion

Rochdale prides itself on its spirit of co-operation and working in partnership, and for being home to strong, vibrant and cohesive communities. Indeed, Rochdale's diversity is one of its strengths, with our four townships being home to numerous and distinctive communities. The Borough is emerging from some difficult times and making significant progress on its economic and physical regeneration. Whilst as a Partnership we are positive about the future, we are not complacent and will continue to work hard together to help to make the Borough a safe, welcoming and attractive place to live, work and visit.

Our priorities continue to be informed through analysis of crime and community safety data, and by listening to the views of those living and working in the borough.

We know we are faced with significant budgetary challenges whilst customer expectations and demand for services is rising. We are fully committed to collaborative working both locally and at a Greater Manchester level with the Police and Crime Commissioner. We recognise that both fighting crime and tackling the underlying causes of it is key to our success, and in the spirit of the Borough, we'll do it together in partnership.

They reflect our most pressing community safety issues and are underpinned by an overarching commitment to safeguard and protect the most vulnerable people in society.

Whilst we will continue to make progress on all seven strategic priorities as outlined above, it is our intention to make improvements faster in the following areas:

- Domestic Abuse
- Organised Crime Groups
- Transforming Justice
- Community Cohesion



Chris Sykes
Chief Superintendent
Bury and Rochdale Territorial Commander
Greater Manchester Police
Joint Chair, Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership



Steve Rumbelow
Chief Executive
Rochdale Council
Joint Chair, Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership



Introduction

This is the sixth three-yearly Safer Communities Plan, the first having been published back in 1999, when the Safer Communities Partnership was first established.

Safer Communities Partnerships are statutory bodies, their formation arising from the implementation of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Partnerships are multi-agency bodies, comprising a core group of statutory partners, Elected Members and a range of other stakeholder bodies from the public and voluntary sectors. Their core aim and purpose is to protect local communities from crime and help people to feel safe. The full current membership and governance structure are detailed in **Appendix 1**.

It is a statutory requirement of all Community Safety Partnerships that they regularly prepare and publish a Plan. The aim of this Plan is to inform people about the work of the Partnership, its priorities for the next three years and how these will be achieved. In addition to analysing a wide range of data and intelligence, we have worked with local communities and service users to understand their issues and concerns.

The Plan will also describe how we will manage our resources, measure our effectiveness and continue to engage with our communities. As described in the Foreword, the Partnership has seven Strategic Priorities, which reflect the issues that cause most harm and matter the most to our communities. Running as a thread through all of our work over the next three years will be a commitment to safeguard and protect vulnerable people from harm, abuse and exploitation.

The Partnership's priorities take account of those set out by the Police and Crime Commissioner in his Policing and Crime Plan, and of his vision for 'partners to work together to build the safest communities in Britain'.

Our plans and actions for the next three years will also take account of the Public Service Reform programme that is being implemented both at Greater Manchester and borough levels. We will promote as far as possible a 'whole family, whole service' approach to addressing all of the issues we face. To do this, we will work collaboratively and flexibly to deliver integrated models of service delivery, in conjunction with other Boards and Partnerships such as the Safeguarding Children's Board, Safeguarding Adults Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Young People's Partnership.

The next three years – our priorities and actions

Safeguarding and protecting vulnerable people

As we have said in our introduction, a thread running through all our activity over the next three years is the need for us to work together as partners to ensure that the most vulnerable people in our communities are protected from harm, abuse or exploitation. Over the past three years we have taken some significant steps to help us to do this to the best of our collective ability, including:

- Tackling and bringing to justice those involved in human trafficking and modern slavery through the joint work of agencies in our Partnership Enforcement Team.
- Launching and implementing a Domestic Abuse Strategy for the Borough, and increasing available funds to support this work in the face of wider cuts to Council and partner agency budgets and grant funding streams.
- Continuing to prevent and tackle child sexual exploitation, through awareness-raising in our communities, front-line training for agencies, specialist support for victims and robust enforcement action against offenders.
- Integrated arrangements for drug and alcohol treatment services and increased funding of our Recovery and Re-integration Service, to support individuals in sustaining abstinence and developing their education, employment and social skills.
- Co-locating Police and Council colleagues who deal with neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour, to provide swifter and more joined-up support to vulnerable victims and communities.
- Overcoming barriers experienced by communities in reporting all forms of hate crime by identifying and training Third Party Reporting Centres and raising wider awareness of existing reporting mechanisms.

We are committed to continuing this work over the next three years and some examples of how we intend to do this, drawn from the following sections of the Plan include:

- Continue to work in partnership to tackle the issue of domestic abuse, developing a joined-up process for funding and commissioning of services, focusing on early intervention and comprehensive support to victims, and working with colleagues across Greater Manchester to implement robust approaches to dealing with perpetrators.
- Continue the work of our Partnership Enforcement Team, to disrupt and dismantle organised crime groups and gangs, and to reduce the corrosive impact of their activities on our communities.
- Build on our work to date in tackling emerging issues such as human trafficking and modern slavery, by proactively investigating reported instances and taking robust enforcement action, and by raising awareness of the issue and how to report it amongst partner agencies and services.
- In line with the Early Help Strategy continue to deliver education and awareness training to young people and others to reduce the numbers of young people who begin to experiment with substances.
- Provide support to the most vulnerable victims and witnesses of anti social behaviour through the ASBRAC process.
- Implement targeted interventions in relation to Hate Crime including raising awareness of reporting, tackling causes of hate crime & prevention.

Increasing confidence and satisfaction

People need to feel that the area they live in, and the Borough they work, study or spend their leisure time in, is safe and crime free. Where our residents, businesses and organisations have issues, we want to be able to understand them and to tell them how we are responding. This involves giving our residents accurate and up to date information about crime, disorder and other local problems, as well varied and appropriate opportunities for them to talk to us and for us to listen.

Over the next three years we will:

- Develop a Community Engagement Plan to provide a more strategic approach to engaging the community.
- Re invigorate community newsletters to make them relevant to the specific areas and to encourage greater readership.
- Continue to promote success stories to make the public aware of our achievements based on their priorities.
- Continue to promote and deliver national and regional PR and marketing campaigns for example EndtheFear, Safe4Summer, Treacle.
- Implement Quality of Life surveys for local data
- Continue to develop and support our active citizens through further recruitments, regular two- way communications and participation in various events / activities.
- Increase the use of restorative justice both direct and through Neighbourhood Resolution Panels for appropriate crimes and anti-social behaviour as a way of improving victim satisfaction
- Continue to promote and encourage local communities to report crime through the various different mechanisms emphasising the help and support available to victims.
- Implement and publicise the ASB case review and Community Remedy Document (in line with the Anti-social Behaviour Crime & Policing Act 2014) giving victims a great say in how crime and anti-social behaviour are dealt with.
- Ensure that customer satisfaction is at the heart of all service providers' work in order to improve public confidence in agencies and the criminal justice system overall.
- Promote that the Partnership is listening and reacting to community concerns on crime and disorder through different communication channels.
- Continue to focus on delivering targeted, research based and cost effective communications at a local level.
- Continue to hold ward based forums where residents can raise community safety issues directly with Police, the Council and partners.



Reducing crime

Preventing and reducing all forms of crime is a fundamental objective of any Community Safety Partnership. Tackling crime, including serious organised crime, is a key priority of the Police and Crime Commissioner's refreshed Policing and Crime Plan.

Over the next three years, we will:

- Continue the work of our Partnership Enforcement Team, to disrupt and dismantle organised crime groups and gangs, and to reduce the impact of their activities on our communities.
- Further develop our pathways for sharing of data and information between partner agencies, to exploit opportunities to intervene and take effective action early.
- Work in partnership to prevent and tackle key volume crimes such as burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime that cause greatest concern in our communities.
- Continue to provide physical preventative measures such as our Burglary Reduction Initiative, Alleygating Scheme and CCTV, and provide crime prevention advice to residents, communities and businesses.
- Continue to work in partnership to tackle the issue of domestic abuse, developing a joined-up process for funding and commissioning of services, focusing on early intervention and comprehensive support to victims, and working with colleagues across Greater Manchester to implement robust approaches to dealing with perpetrators.
- Carry out further joint work to promote a safer and more vibrant night-time economy through effective licensing and regulatory functions and robust action against offenders.
- Build on our work to date in tackling emerging issues such as human trafficking and modern slavery, by proactively investigating reported instances and taking robust enforcement action, and by raising awareness of the issue and how to report it amongst partner agencies and services.



Reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol

Substance misuse can cause harm to individuals, families and communities, with the most vulnerable and deprived often being the hardest hit. It impacts on every aspect of life including health, social issues, the economy and crime. The Partnership, like the Government, is continuing to work towards seeing fewer people experimenting with illicit drugs and misusing alcohol. It is achieving this through education and early intervention initiatives, whilst at the same time helping more of those that do misuse substances, enter treatment services for help.



Over the next three years we will:

- Reduce the numbers of people who have been receiving treatment for more than 6 years.
- Continue to evidence a visible and growing recovery community in Rochdale by supporting the development of the 'HUB' at Champness Hall as a social enterprise model, staffed by volunteers from the recovery service which inspires others to attain abstinence
- Increase the numbers of service users in Rochdale who are engaged in meaningful use of time, through education, training, volunteering or employment
- Improve employability within our recovery community by offering NVQ training and qualifications within the Recovery and Re-integration Service.
- Offer a full range of services in all four Rochdale Townships to reduce barriers to accessing treatment in the borough
- Continue to improve engagement of Black Asian Minority Ethnic groups(BAME) into treatment services
- Participate in multi-agency family focused initiatives to support and safeguard parental substance users and their children by delivering the award winning 'Holding Families' programme'
- In line with the Early Help Strategy continue to deliver education and awareness training to young people and others to reduce the numbers of young people who begin to experiment with substances.
- Work in partnership with Clinical Commissioning Groups to reduce the numbers of presentations related to drugs and alcohol at our Urgent Care and A & E Departments across the Sector.
- Increase the engagement of substance misusing offenders, through enforcement, community orders and proactive engagement activity
- Work with Children Social Care and Looked After Children Services to improve screening for drugs and alcohol to allow earlier intervention
- Continue to upscale the provision of screening and brief interventions across the Borough in a variety of settings including primary care, secondary care, community settings, lifestyle services and other front line services.
- Implement an e-learning package within the council to both train staff to use the screening tool on customers and make it available for staff to use themselves.
- Continue to promote an ethos of responsible retailing through licensing measures and successful schemes including researching and promoting new schemes
- Reduce the number of anti-social behaviour incidents and serious violent crimes recorded with alcohol markers

Prevent and tackle anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour is a complex issue that causes considerable and lasting harm to many individuals, families and communities. As a Partnership, we have taken significant steps to tackle the issue, and the volume of reported incidents has continued to fall steadily over the past three years. However, agencies are committed to ensuring that our well established joint working arrangements drive ASB down further over the next three years.

Over the next three years, we will:

- Implement the new anti social behaviour legislation into our policies and procedures
- Put victims at the centre of our response to anti social behaviour in line with the anti social behaviour reforms
- Utilise the full range of new and existing enforcement powers available to the Partnership to tackle individuals and groups whose anti social behaviour has a negative impact on local communities
- Implement an anti social behaviour case review procedure for victims of anti social behaviour
- Balance enforcement with effective multi-agency prevention packages, diversionary activities, early intervention and support.
- Provide support to the most vulnerable victims and witnesses of anti social behaviour through the ASBRAC process.
- Implement and develop restorative approaches to tackling anti social behaviour, in particular involving the community.
- Promote greater more meaningful engagement with our communities in relation to defining problems, directing resources and helping us to manage expectations and outcomes.
- Focus on promoting greater ownership and care for the local environment amongst the Borough's residents, tackling criminal damage and those other crimes that have a detrimental effect on the environment.



Prevent offending by children and young people

Prevention of offending by children and young people remains a key priority for the Partnership, and for local authorities working collaboratively across Greater Manchester. We are working with our neighbours in Bury, with whom we share Youth Court and custody facilities, to develop integrated youth justice services that will include consistent provision for PACE provision, Triage and caution processes. The Youth Offending Team will link closely with the Borough's Early Help Strategy to improve prevention services, reduce the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system and support work on the Stronger Families agenda.

Over the next three years we will:

- Deal with emerging trends in crime committed by young people particularly violent crimes including Domestic Violence and anti- social behaviour.
- Reduce the risk of re-offending by persistent young offenders by maintaining the Youth Justice Board's 'scaled approach', to target resources at those young people most at risk of offending and by continuing close working relationships between key partner agencies such as the YOT and Integrated Offender Management.
- Reduce the use of custody for young people by providing the courts with credible alternatives to custody programmes attached to the youth rehabilitation orders and Unpaid Work
- Provide Early Help to identify young people at risk and work to improve opportunities and outcomes for them.
- Maintain the progress made in reducing the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system by providing YOT triage and early interventions is part of the youth cautionary strategy.
- Work with colleagues across other Partnerships to support schemes to promote positive images of young people and to encourage greater understanding and cohesion between generations and backgrounds
- Take timely and appropriate enforcement action to ensure that problem behaviour is dealt with at an early stage to prevent escalation through the anti-social behaviour strategy.



Reduce adult re-offending

The national and local arrangements for tackling re-offending are changing but the commitment remains to reduce the impact it has on our communities. The Partnership is committed to effectively implementing and supporting the Government's Transforming Justice reform programme, which aims to change the way offenders are managed in the community, bringing down re-offending rates while continuing to protect the public.

Over the next three years we will:

- Determine a delivery model which continues to provide effective intervention to the offenders we supervise, making a difference to the everyday lives of individuals, families and communities.
- Effectively liaise with the National Probation Service regarding further offences committed by any offenders supervised by the Community Rehabilitation Company.
- Develop and maintain effective partnership relationships to ensure that the right services are accessible to offenders at the right time.
- Ensure that provisions are in place to ensure the effective inclusion of the Through the Gate cohort of offenders, who will be subject to licence supervision following the enactment of the Offender Rehabilitation Act.
- Develop new Service User Groups locally to ensure that the voice of offenders is heard at a time of ongoing change.



Promote community cohesion

The Equality & Community Cohesion team works in partnership with a range of organisations to promote cohesion in our communities. Their aim and philosophy is based on the premise that engagement with communities is vital to building and strengthening cohesion and resilience. Officers work closely with services to strengthen governance and service delivery around equalities in order to fulfil the Public Sector Equality Duty. The team monitors community tensions and responds to them with partners and communities by developing innovative methods of consulting and engaging with the public, active citizens and community and faith groups. The key to success in this work is open discussion and the challenge of narratives that have the potential to raise community tension and inhibit community confidence and satisfaction.

Over the next three years we will:

- Work towards the merging of Cohesion and Equality activities where relevant priorities overlap, through joint activities and sharing of resources. For example: Community Dialogue and Listening events as well as community cohesion projects which require equality considerations to ensure fair delivery and participation.
- Launch a new framework for cohesion and equality based on an evaluation of the work of the Cohesion Hub
- Build on the role and work to date of Active Citizens and roll out the initiative across the borough
- Implement targeted interventions in relation to Hate Crime including raising awareness of reporting, tackling causes of hate crime & prevention
- Implement targeted intervention in areas that have lower levels of cohesion or where fewer people from different backgrounds feel people get on well in their local area
- Undertake a research / mapping exercise to identify unmet needs of our minority communities and inform our approach to addressing them
- Develop and launch an effective communications strategy to support our work, promoting the notion and 'brand' of Connecting Communities
- Work with colleagues in our Adult Care Service to develop and implement a Disability Hate Crime awareness campaign
- Develop and deliver a series of events and activities around LGBT History month and IDAHO day, and promote access to LGBT support services to partner organisations and communities
- Continue ongoing engagement with communities on issues that have the potential to raise tensions or cause misunderstanding
- Support the Armed Forces lead in encouraging engagement and participation of communities and schools in commemorative events – For example: commissioning the development of a digital resource on WW1 "Remembering why we Remember"
- Continue to promote awareness of the issue and risks of child sexual exploitation in primary and secondary schools and with parents and carers, through development of specific primary school resources and further roll-out of initiatives such as the 'Somebody's Sister Somebody's Daughter' production across secondary schools.

Measuring our performance and directing our resources

Monitoring and overseeing the Partnership's performance is the responsibility of the Performance, Commissioning and Improvement Board.

The Board provides challenge to shortfalls in performance, agrees measures to rectify such shortfalls and monitors the subsequent impact of those measures.

The Board takes responsibility for oversight of activities previously under the purview of the Improvement Board, most importantly the implementation of the Partnership Improvement Plan, which has the purpose of ensuring that the Partnership's governance arrangements, structures and processes comply with statutory requirements.

The Board also takes responsibility for oversight of commissioning in relation to crime, confidence anti-social behaviour, offending and cohesion. In this way the board oversees and directs mainstream resources and allocates and monitors the use of external funds specifically for these activities. For drugs and alcohol this responsibility lies with the Drug and Alcohol Commissioning group and it operates in the same way.

For more information about the Partnership's performance arrangements contact Ian Halliday, Principal Community Safety Officer, on **01706 924694** or by email at: **ian.halliday@rochdale.gov.uk**



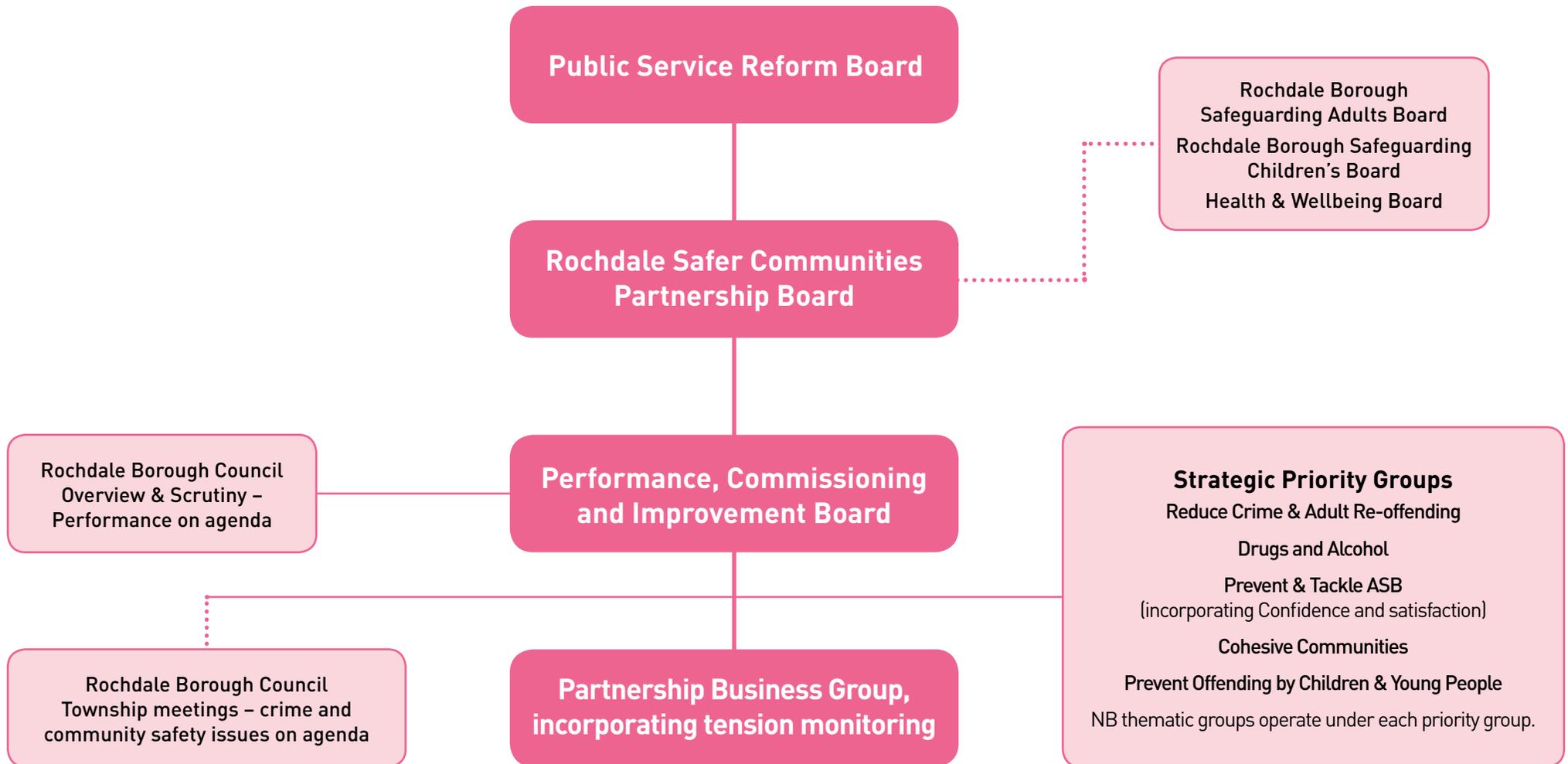
Working in Partnership

Due to the nature of safer communities work it is important that we not only work across services and agencies but also across Partnerships.

We will work closely with the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board, the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Childrens Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board on issues of shared responsibility or interest. The following are current areas of shared responsibility or interest

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Domestic Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Hate Crime
- Children & Young People's Offending
- Adults re - offending

Appendix 1 The Partnership Structure





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