

National Community Safety Plan 2006-2009 UPDATE November 2006





An update of the National Community Safety Plan (NCSP) first published in November 2005 and led by the Home Office.

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The Government Departments contributing to the National Community Safety Plan are:

Communities and Local Government

Department for Constitutional Affairs

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Department for Education and Skills

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Department of Health

Department of Trade and Industry

Department for Transport

Department for Work and Pensions

HM Treasury

Home Office

The NCSP complements the Government's Together We Can Action Plan for civil renewal.

The Plan mainly applies to England. It applies to Wales where it relates to non-devolved policing issues. The Plan does not extend to Scotland, since both policing and community safety have been devolved to the Scottish Executive. Nor does it apply to Northern Ireland where the Criminal Justice Directorate of the Northern Ireland Office is responsible for the implementation of Northern Ireland's Community Safety Strategy launched in 2003.

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Foreword by Tony McNulty



I am pleased to introduce this update to the National Community Safety Plan 2006-09 originally published in November last year, and which has been very well received by our key partners and stakeholders. They have valued the clarity the Plan has brought to the community safety agenda. To build on this, I have decided to issue a simple update.

As this update shows, the Government has done much to tackle issues and further improve community safety. We also have a greater focus on public protection which is one of the key Government priorities and is at the heart of the Home Office Reform Action Plan. We have introduced six new Home Office objectives guiding the work of public protection and added a sixth NCSP theme to emphasise the importance we are placing on preventing extremism and countering terrorism.

Good progress has been made in tackling crime and disorder, however more recently we have seen the rate of crime reduction slow down. There is no reason for complacency and we need to review regularly our progress and objectives. The challenge we now face is to take the successes and ensure they happen everywhere. We will be tackling this by ensuring that good practice is available everywhere and by delivering the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) reform programme to ensure that partnerships remain the key local vehicle for delivering community safety.

A key priority in the NCSP was the introduction of neighbourhood policing teams in every community by 2008. These teams patrol our streets, build links with local people and deter anti-social behaviour. We have found an additional £100 million to ensure that there

will be 16,000 community support officers and neighbourhood policing in every community of England and Wales by April 2007. This is a year earlier than would have been possible without the extra funding.

Government and key partners can do much to improve community safety, but it is communities themselves who are at the heart of the Plan. The recently issued Local Government White Paper aims to rebalance fundamentally the relationship between central and local government, local partners and citizens and local government. The proposals empower citizens and communities, create stronger and more visible leadership and put in place a new framework within which local authorities and communities can work together.

This update shows that we have achieved much in the first six months of the Plan to improve the quality and safety of people's lives. By working together we can achieve so much more.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony McNulty". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rt Hon Tony McNulty MP
Minister of State
Home Office
November 2006



Introduction

1. The National Community Safety Plan (NCSP) 2006-2009 was published on 16 November 2005. It incorporated the National Policing Plan 2006-9, which set out the Home Secretary's priorities for the Police Service.
2. The NCSP recognises that community safety cannot be successfully delivered by the police on their own and that effective broadly based partnerships at national and local level are vital. It describes a shared endeavour to deliver safer communities.
3. The NCSP sets out central government's community safety priorities for the three years 2006-9 as an aid to better planning of local delivery. The priorities are set out under six themes:
 - Making communities stronger and more effective.
 - Further reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and building a culture of Respect¹.
 - Preventing extremism and countering terrorism².
 - Creating safer environments.
 - Protecting the public and building confidence.
 - Improving people's lives so they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend.
4. The Plan defines our minimum expectations for each of the key partners involved and draws together the contributions that each can make.
5. This update, which should be read in conjunction with the NCSP 2006-9:
 - shows the progress made on 2006-7 key actions;
 - reviews key community safety priorities for 2006-9;
 - highlights specific key actions for 2007-8; and
 - sets out the roles of some additional key partners.



¹The theme of Further Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour has been amended to reflect the publication of the Respect Action Plan in January 2006.

²An additional theme, Preventing Extremism and Countering Terrorism, has been added to reflect the priority placed on this by the Government.



Progress on 2006-2007 Key Actions

6. At the time of publication of this update to the NCSP, we are just over halfway through the first year of delivery. We have reviewed the progress being made on central government's key actions for 2006-7 set out in the Plan. This shows very strong performance in delivering these commitments, with the majority on target to be achieved.
7. A summary of the progress on individual key actions can be found at Annex A.



Priorities

8. As a Government, our priorities for community safety are built around the five themes set out in the NCSP 2006-9. The Update adds to this a further key theme of preventing extremism and countering terrorism, highlighting the importance we are placing on this issue. Feedback following publication of the NCSP was that local partners greatly valued the clarity which it provided as a backdrop to more effective local planning. This clarity is one of the main functions of the NCSP and our aim in reviewing the key priorities has been to maintain it.

9. In the revised set of priorities which follow we have indicated where a priority is either new or has been significantly amended.

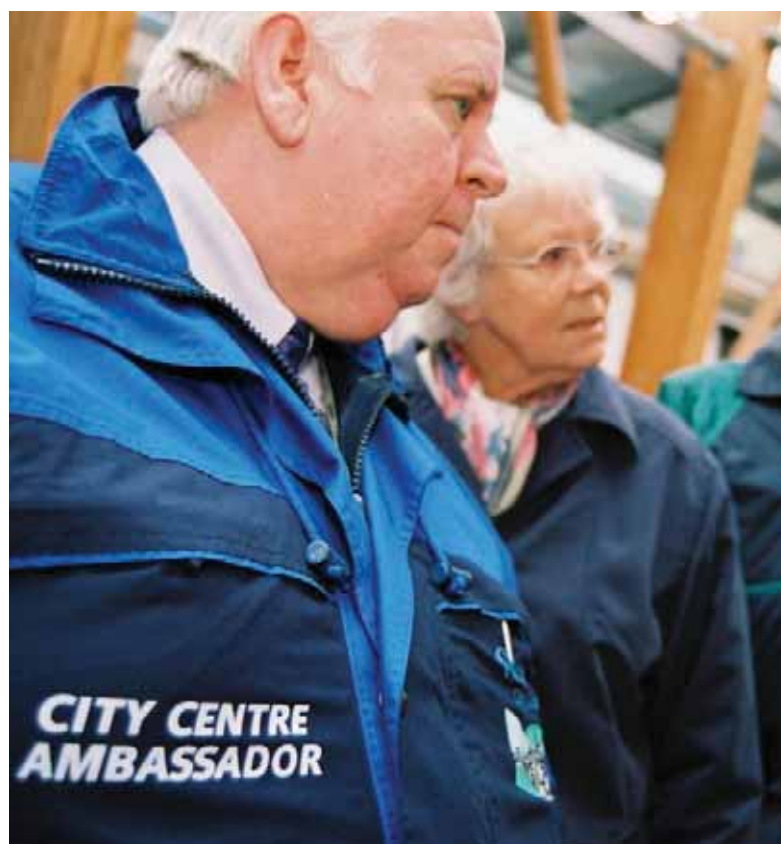
Making communities stronger and more effective

10. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- enable local people to ensure action from key service providers to tackle acute or persistent problems of crime and anti-social behaviour and other risks to community safety;
- give communities more of a say and influence by offering a range of new options from which they can choose. These could include neighbourhood charters, delegated budgets, community ownership, parish arrangements and neighbourhood management;
- provide more opportunities for communities to help shape their future through sustainable community strategies, local development frameworks and parish plans;
- strengthen partnership working between the Police Service, local authorities, and other local bodies through proposals outlined in the Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, published in October 2006 (new priority);
- strengthen voluntary and community sector organisations to act as a focus for collaborative action, and improve the long term capacity and

infrastructure of voluntary and community sector groups through programmes such as *ChangeUp* and *Futurebuilders*;

- increase the level of volunteering and community engagement by 5%, particularly amongst groups at risk of social exclusion, including implementing the Russell Commission's recommendations on youth action and engagement;
- reduce race inequalities and build community cohesion by working with local partners to deliver the objectives of the Government strategy, *Improving Opportunity, Strengthening Society*, including work with local communities³ on tackling extremism and maintaining interfaith dialogue; and
- implement a range of actions in the cross-government *Together We Can Action Plan* for community empowerment under the themes of safety and justice, regeneration and cohesion, citizens and democracy, and health and sustainability.



³The first annual progress report for the *Improving Opportunity, Strengthening Society* strategy was published at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501928> on 31st July 2006. The report provides information on the work and activities undertaken over the last year to improve race equality and community cohesion.

11. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:

- support the further development of the Neighbourhood Watch and wider Watch movement together with the police and other partners, particularly in high crime areas and among black and minority ethnic communities and young people;
- work with local authorities to agree community safety targets in Local Area Agreements (LAAs);
- launch the 'Take Part' framework to support a major expansion in citizenship education for adults;
- resource regional *Together We Can* support networks to provide information on best practice and co-ordinate support for community capacity building;
- implement the findings of the Community Ownership and Management Review headed by Barry Quirk which will be making recommendations regarding the removal of barriers to communities owning and managing assets;
- set up a re-developed website www.togetherwecan.info to provide citizens with a one-stop shop for information and resources to support their ability to get involved and shape the provision of public services;
- continue to sponsor the Community Development Foundation with £1.5 million annually to support and promote the role of community development in creating safer and stronger communities;
- work with local partners to build community cohesion and develop local responses to extremism in their communities;
- support organisations who take a leadership role in tackling Islamist extremism and challenging extremist ideas; who are stating clearly that separatism and violent extremism are not the answer, and who are offering alternative ways of reaching out to young Muslims and wider communities; and

- promote the wider use of neighbourhood management and its links with neighbourhood policing by:
 - working with local authority participants in the neighbourhood management pathfinder programme to raise the profile of their achievements and promote their wider adoption across other areas; and
 - developing good practice guidance and model approaches to the integration of neighbourhood management and neighbourhood policing.

Further reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and building a culture of Respect

12. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- reduce crime by 15%, and further in high crime areas, by 2007-08. We continue to build on our successful strategies to prevent and reduce crime, and support improvements in local delivery by CDRPs and their partners. Although we remain focused on delivering this PSA target, alongside this we also have a greater focus on public protection. This is at the heart of the Home Office Reform Action Plan *From Improvement to Transformation* and a central theme in the proposals contained in *Rebalancing the Criminal Justice System in Favour of the Law-Abiding Majority*. (amended priority);
- establish neighbourhood policing teams in every community by April 2008;
- deal with violent crime through new measures to ensure that the Police Service and local authorities have the powers they need to tackle violence related to guns and knives;
- continue to tackle domestic violence and encourage a coordinated community response to this insidious crime through encouraging early identification and intervention; building the capacity of specialist support services; enhancing

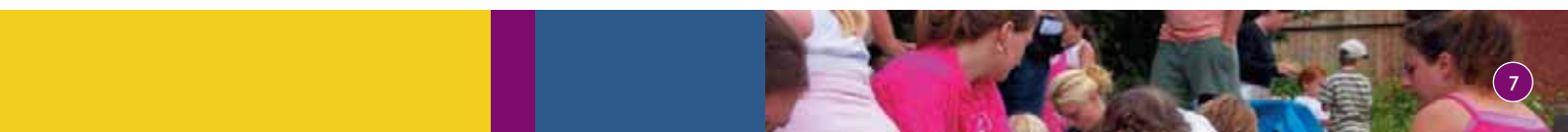


the effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in responding to domestic violence, including Specialist Domestic Violence Courts; and managing perpetrators to reduce risk;

- combat alcohol-related violence and disorder through the introduction of Alcohol Disorder Zones, Drinking Banning Orders, Fixed Penalty Notices, conditional cautions and tougher enforcement of licensing requirements;
- continue the drive to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) by working more closely with communities to build on the success already achieved across England and Wales and by encouraging all social landlords to meet the Respect Standard for Housing Management. By doing so they will be making a public commitment to effectively tackling anti-social behaviour (amended priority);
- work with Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) on the agenda for the prevention of youth crime and anti-social behaviour through the continuing joint funding of crime prevention schemes such as Youth Inclusion Programmes (new priority);
- direct around 1,000 drug-misusing offenders into treatment each week via the CJS by 2008; and
- continue to work in partnership with business to tackle business-related crime problems faced by small businesses and retailers.

13. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:

- implement the findings of the review of partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to strengthen the visibility, responsiveness, membership and role of CDRPs. The aim is to make them the most effective possible vehicle for tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse at a local level;
- encourage victims, families, friends and neighbours to report incidents of hate crime and extremist activity to the police and other agencies;
- support the Police Service in implementing the joint Roads Policing Strategy to help deny criminals the use of the roads;
- seek to reduce further the bureaucratic burden on the police and other partners by implementing simpler performance arrangements for crime, drugs and policing, streamlining existing performance frameworks into one and reducing the number of measures used across these frameworks by 50%;
- commence implementation of policies included in the Violent Crime Reduction Act. This will include new alcohol powers such as Alcohol Disorder Zones; Drinking Banning Orders; a new offence of persistently selling alcohol to children; and Directions to Leave;
- continue to support the Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) Programme throughout England and Wales, in particular by aligning the PPO Programme more closely with the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) to ensure that the highest crime causing drug-users are identified and targeted;
- continue to support the investment already made by CDRPs in joint work with Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) on youth crime prevention programmes;
- support, through joint Government Office and Home Office action, priority partnerships identified through both quantitative and qualitative assessments as needing to improve their performance;
- implement proposals in the Respect Action Plan, specifically:
 - all local areas delivering on the mandatory LAA outcome to build Respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour;
 - Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) for certain offences raised to £100;
 - 'Face the People' sessions up and running;
 - neighbourhood policing fully rolled-out and working effectively with other local services;



- complete the roll-out of secondary school truancy partnerships and improved provision for those who are not in school;
- expanded use of parenting orders and improved delivery of parenting provision by local authorities; and
- improve the recording and handling of racist incidents reported to the police and other agencies. Promote the reporting of racist incidents by raising community and stakeholder understanding and awareness, and raise the engagement of victims and witnesses by understanding their expectations and delivering their needs.

Preventing extremism and countering terrorism

14. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- continue to deliver the UK's counter-terrorism strategy (known as CONTEST) which involves stakeholders from across government departments, the emergency services, voluntary organisations, the business sector and partners from across the world⁴;
- **prevent** the radicalisation of individuals by deterring those who encourage and facilitate terrorism; engaging in the battle of ideas to challenge extremist ideologies; and tackling disadvantage and discrimination; such as through neighbourhood-based programmes including those for young people;
- **pursue** terrorists and their sponsors by the law enforcement and security agencies, communities and other parts of society working together to gather intelligence and disrupt terrorist networks and activity;
- **protect** the public by reducing vulnerability to a terrorist attack by controlling our borders, safeguarding the national infrastructure and managing risk in crowded places; and
- **prepare** for the consequences of a terrorist

attack by improving our resilience and planning for civil contingencies.

15. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:

- develop police capacity and capability to combat terrorism at local, regional and national levels, ensuring resources are built up and distributed so as to provide the most effective and efficient response to the threat;
- strengthen border security, maximise the safety of the transport infrastructure and enhance protective security across the UK and abroad;
- develop, maintain and evaluate the UK's resilience to terrorist attacks including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear;
- promote public awareness of the need to be alert to terrorist activity and to report anything suspicious or unusual to the anti-terrorist hotline – **0800 789 321**;
- encourage local authorities to play a leadership role in preventing extremism in partnership with the Police Service, organisations and leaders in the communities they serve;
- undertake work to consider how best CDRPs can contribute to the CONTEST counter terrorism strategy; and
- support the establishment of forums on extremism in parts of the country where it is necessary. These will be strategic groups attended by key local partners, such as police and third sector organisations, acting as a hub for local projects aimed at tackling extremist activities.

Creating safer environments

16. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- improve public spaces and the quality of people's homes and communities through the *Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities* initiative and then to support and sustain good practice and innovation in keeping them clean, safe and attractive;

⁴<http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism-strategy/counter-terrorism-strategy/>

- reduce the supply of illegal drugs, particularly Class A drugs, in local communities in order to protect them against drug dealing and its consequences in their neighbourhoods;
- by 2010 reduce deaths and serious injuries on Britain's roads by 40% (50% for children) compared with the average for 1994-98, tackling the significantly higher incidence in disadvantaged communities;
- reduce the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system by 5% by 2008 compared with the March 2006 baseline (new priority); and
- reduce by 31 March 2010, the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% and achieve a 10% reduction in deliberate fires. From 2010, no local fire and rescue authority should have a fatality rate, from accidental fires in the home, more than 1.25 times the national average by 2010 (new priority).

17. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:

- embed action against environmental crime into CDRPs' plans in line with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Review findings;
- continue to embed actions to make *cleaner, safer, greener communities* in the approach of Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), building on the current support to 50 LSPs in developing their strategies;
- provide local authorities with ongoing support to make the most effective use of the powers contained in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and other relevant legislation, to enforce against environmental crime;
- continue to support leaders and practitioners across disciplines in sharing good practice and innovation on 'How to' manage town centres, improve residential areas and create quality parks and open spaces;
- continue to spread the learning from the 32 areas participating in the Tackling Violent Crime Programme nationally, with a particular emphasis



on those parts of the country which face particular alcohol-fuelled or domestic violence problems;

- continue to work with 20 town centres to engage local businesses, enhancing local area partnerships and supporting the development of Business Improvement Districts, with over 30 already in operation;
- continue championing through Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) space and the Parkforce campaign encouraging a greater official presence in parks and open spaces; and
- launch a Beacon Council theme on better public places to identify centres of excellence in local government from which others can learn on liveability and cleaner, safer, greener communities.



Protecting the public and building confidence

18. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- bring 1.25 million offences to justice by 2007-08 through improved performance on sanction detections, especially in relation to more serious crime;
- ensure that the public has confidence that the CJS is effective and that it serves all communities fairly;
- increase victims' and witnesses' satisfaction with the CJS;
- deliver the Government strategies to counter terrorism and illegal intimidation by animal rights and other extremists;
- reduce the harm caused by organised crime;



- increase the number of rapes that are reported to the police and the proportion of those that result in a conviction, as a contributory step to achieving the overall priority of reducing the total number of rapes committed;
- make children and vulnerable adults safer through improved information sharing, employment vetting, protection strategies and responses to abuse;
- ensure the effective implementation of section 11 of the Children Act 2004 which requires a wide range of agencies including the police, local authorities, health services, and prison and offender management services to carry out their functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote children's welfare; and
- enforce rigorously sentences and orders of the court.

19. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:

- implement the cross-government Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Abuse, including maximising prevention, increasing access to support and health services for victims;
- publish a UK Action Plan on tackling human trafficking. The Plan will include a range of actions from prevention of trafficking, through to investigating and prosecuting the perpetrators and the protection and support of victims;
- introduce new powers to strengthen and improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to further tackle serious organised crime, thereby reducing the harm it does to society;
- implement the Witness Charter in time for national roll out and embed the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime, ensuring that victims and witnesses receive a high standard of treatment from Criminal Justice agencies;
- continue to use every lawful means to target animal rights extremists to achieve a sustained removal of the extremist threat they pose; and



- develop specific community engagement strategies with a particular focus on building trust and confidence, encouraging an open and honest exchange of information, and developing local plans to tackle all forms of extremism and build community cohesion.

Improving people's lives so they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend.

20. Our key priorities for 2006-09 are to:

- tackle re-offending by implementing end-to-end offender management in the National Offender Management Service and the Reducing Re-offending Strategy, with the aim of reducing re-offending by 5% by 2008 and 10% by the end of the decade;
 - reduce the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training;
 - implement actions arising from the Green Paper on youth to increase activities for young people and their take-up;
 - reduce drug use by young people, particularly the most vulnerable, and reduce the harms caused by alcohol misuse;
 - double the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment by 2008 and increase the year-on-year proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes;
 - reduce absence from school by 8% by 2008 compared to the 2003 level of 6.83% as part of the work to drive up attainment in schools and improve children's and young people's life chances - the equivalent of 36,000 pupils back in school every day;
 - encourage local authority information services to work towards the duty to provide information in the Childcare Act. The duty comes into effect in April 2008. Information services will broaden and strengthen information, advice and signposting available to all parents of children and young people from birth to their 20th birthday. This will enable parents to access good quality, integrated services when they need them (new priority);
- provide safe, healthy, stimulating and enriching environments for children and families at the heart of their communities by increasing the number of Sure Start Children's Centres to 3,500 by 2010. Ensuring that, by that date, all children and young people have access to a range of well organised, extended services and opportunities, including activities (before and after schools, at weekends and during the holidays) offered through schools (amended priority);
 - enhance the resources available to staff in all early years providers to provide effective early intervention programmes promoting the social and emotional development of young children (amended priority); and
 - halve the number of people living in temporary accommodation by 2010.
21. Specifically in 2007-08, the Government will:
- continue to support the PPO programme throughout England and Wales, in particular by aligning the PPO programme more closely with the DIP to ensure that the highest crime causing drug-users are identified and targeted;
 - publish a strategy for working with children and young people for the Fire and Rescue Services. This aims to help the Fire and Rescue Services deliver a better service to children and young people, which is focused on effective risk reduction while building on the strengths which the Fire and Rescue Services already has in working with children and young people. There is also potential to make a stronger contribution to tackling disadvantage, reducing health inequalities and preventing crime, by targeting children and young people at risk of offending or in deprived neighbourhoods through interventions such as Youth Inclusion Programmes and Parenting Programmes;
 - continue to drive delivery of the *Every Child*

Matters: Change for Children Young People and Drugs strategic guidance;

- improve the response to identification and deportation of foreign national prisoners;
- increase the proportion of people who are very or fairly confident that the CJS is effective at bringing people who commit crimes to justice;
- increase the confidence of black and ethnic minority communities that the CJS is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice;
- speed up the recall to prison of offenders who break their licence, including a tough new target for serious offenders;
- support resettlement in the community of prisoners who have been subject to extremist influences while in custody to help them overcome these influences;
- work with Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs) to ensure and enable a focus on bringing more serious offences to justice;
- continue to implement the drug treatment effectiveness strategy, launched in June 2005 by the Department of Health and the National Treatment

Agency, to improve the quality and effectiveness of drug treatment programmes;

- continue to increase the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment in line with the 2008 drug treatment target;
- build a higher quality, integrated learning and skills service and consolidate progress in creating a new focus on supporting more offenders into jobs;
- engage employers to help more offenders into sustainable employment; and
- pursue our strategy to improve standards of pupil behaviour including implementing a range of measures recommended by the Practitioners' Group on School Behaviour and Discipline in its report published on 21 October 2005. The Government response to some key Group recommendations was set out in *Higher Standards, Better Schools For All* published on 25 October 2005 and in subsequent legislation. We are working with the teacher professional associations and other stakeholders in taking forward a range of other recommendations from the report, and to ensure that good practice advice is widely disseminated to schools.



The Role of Key Partners

22. Although the NCSP is a national plan, it is not confined to action by central government. Close collaboration between central and local government and our other partners at local level is vital and, while the Police Service clearly has a key role to play in delivering community safety, this is a task they share with many others. Partnership working between local authorities and other key agencies with responsibility for policing, offender management, health, education and other services is especially important. The Government Offices for the Regions have an increasingly important role to play as the key brokers between central government policy and delivery on the ground.

23. When it was published in 2005, the NCSP set out the respective roles of a range of key partners. Where these included specific priorities for 2006-7, these are refreshed for 2007-8 below. We also identify some partners who were not included in the Plan at publication.

The Police Service

24. The Police Service's role in community safety is of primary importance at all levels. The overarching priorities for community safety are set out at the beginning of the Plan. The Home Secretary is also empowered to determine strategic priorities that are specific to policing. The strategic priorities for 2007-08 have been agreed with the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the Association of Police Authorities (APA) through the National Policing Board. The police funding settlement for 2007-08, announced on 28 November, will support the delivery of the priorities outlined in this section. This year's National Community Safety Plan Update should be read alongside the Vision for the Police Service, to be published shortly. The vision will set out the values and the priorities for reform and continuous improvement in the Police Service over the next few years.

25. The Home Secretary's strategic priorities have been informed by ACPO's National Strategic Assessment and are tied to the Government Public Service Agreements (PSA). This section sets out the

strategic priorities which police forces and authorities should reflect in their local policing plans.

26. The Home Secretary's key strategic priorities for the Police Service for 2007- 08 are to:

- reduce overall crime in line with the national PSA target⁵, including by focusing on more serious violent crime, drug related crime and alcohol-related crime and disorder;
- enable people to feel safer in their communities by embedding a dedicated, visible, responsive and accountable neighbourhood policing team in every area by April 2008; working in close collaboration with local government and other community safety partners; and reducing the public perception of anti-social behaviour;
- continue to bring offences to justice, in partnership with other Criminal Justice agencies in line with the Government PSA target⁶ through improved performance on sanction detections, especially in relation to more serious crime;
- strengthen public protection by increasing capacity and capability for dealing with widespread threats, and in particular by tackling serious and organised crime; and
- protect the country from both terrorism and extremism.

Delivering the key priorities

Reduce overall crime in line with the national PSA target, including by focusing on more serious violent crime, drug related crime and alcohol-related crime and disorder

27. A wide range of offences are currently classified as 'violent crime'. Only about half of these involve any physical injury to the victim. All crimes are important, and physical injury cannot be the only measure of a particular crime's impact on an individual victim. However, the Government is focusing an increasing proportion of our efforts and resources on those acts of more serious violence which cause the greatest harm. Even though crimes such as murder, rape and serious wounding are very rare, they

⁵The PSA target is to 'reduce crime by 15%, and further in high crime areas by 2007-08'.

⁶The PSA target is to 'improve the delivery of justice by increasing the number of crimes for which an offender is brought to justice to 1.25 million by 2007-08'.



nevertheless can have a devastating effect on whole communities as well as the immediate victims, and they can contribute significantly to the public's fear of crime. It is for these reasons that we are placing these and other serious offences at the heart of our evolving strategy for tackling violence.

28. Domestic violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime nationally and accounts for 31% of all violence against women. The Government has produced a National Delivery Plan for Domestic Violence which sets out a strategic framework, providing direction to local partnerships, agencies and communities on how to protect adult and child victims and bring perpetrators to justice.

29. During 2006, the Police Standards Unit conducted two Domestic Violence Enforcement Campaigns. Police forces should utilise the lessons learned from these campaigns into mainstream policing and partnership activity.

Alcohol related crime

30. Alcohol related crime and disorder largely refers to crime and disorder which occurs as part of the night-time economy in public places. Police forces and local authorities should take on board the tactics used in national enforcement campaigns and participate in multi-agency local partnerships to tackle the problem. Further measures are being rolled out in the Violent Crime Reduction Act, including Alcohol Disorder Zones; Drinking Banning Orders; a new offence of persistently selling alcohol to children and Directions to Leave.

Drugs

31. Getting drug misusing offenders out of crime and into treatment, and reducing the availability of drugs by putting dealers out of business, are key priorities in order to reduce the harm and damage caused to communities through drug related crime.

32. The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) diverts drug misusing offenders away from crime and into treatment. Some elements of the Programme are in operation in all areas of England and Wales⁷. Where

operated effectively, the drug related acquisitive crime reduction impact can be significant. There was an average 23% reduction in drug related acquisitive crime in the 12 months to April 2006 compared to the average for the year from April 2002 to March 2003 (the year before DIP commenced). The police are key partners in the delivery of this programme.

33. Police authorities should ensure that a force-wide drug strategy and relevant associated strategies, such as for volume crime, are in place. They should also ensure that a corporate performance framework identifies relevant and linked performance targets. In addition, they should ensure that there are strong links, including at an operational level, with key partners in order to deliver the DIP at all levels and that the National Intelligence Model (NIM) is used to identify and target those drug misusing offenders causing the most crime. The best results are achieved when Basic Command Units work in partnership with their local Criminal Justice Integrated Teams implementing DIP and Prolific and Priority Offender Teams to deliver significant reductions in the level of drug related acquisitive crime.

34. The Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) programme tackles the offending behaviour of the small hard core of offenders who commit disproportionate amounts of crime and harm to local communities. Priorities for supporting the PPO Strategy throughout England and Wales include:

- aligning the PPO Strategy more closely with the DIP to ensure that the highest crime causing drug-users are identified and targeted;
- PPO schemes will work closely with Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs) on the PPO 'Criminal Justice System Premium Service'. This will ensure that the Police Service, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Courts Service, Probation, Prisons and Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) continue to take swift action where PPOs continue to offend or breach licence conditions; and
- driving improvements in the strategy in response to the national evaluation of the PPO Programme.

⁷Since its first year, 2003-4, the Programme has had a particular focus on and rolled out all of its various components to certain Drug Action Teams (DAT) areas in England. These are mainly areas with high levels of acquisitive crime, normally property crime such as burglary, shoplifting and robbery. These areas where the whole range of DIP elements operates fully, are known as 'intensive' areas.



Key actions for the Police Service in 2007-08:

- to deliver the relevant modules of the National Centre for Policing Excellence (NCPE) training package 'Responses to Domestic Violence' by April 2008 in order to meet the target set within the National Domestic Violence Delivery Plan;
- together with statutory partners, and other agencies, work to deliver the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) within their local communities in order to protect high risk victims of domestic violence from further abuse and injury;
- to reduce the harm caused by drug dealing to communities, such as the nuisance caused by street markets associated with level one dealing, as measured by the British Crime Survey;
- to deal with the impact on communities by criminals engaged in drug supply and associated turf wars;
- to develop the capacity to deal with cross-border regional drug dealers;
- to ensure that drugs and relevant associated strategies are in place;
- together with statutory partners undertake more intensive action against those selling alcohol to children and drunks, with regularly published results of 'test purchase' operations and robust follow-up actions, wherever appropriate leading to a licence review;
- together with statutory partners, and other agencies, work to manage the night-time economy and as part of mainstream activities deploy the proactive approaches and early interventions used during the successful national Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaigns; and
- to consider further interventions to reduce the consumption of alcohol by young people in public spaces.

Enable people to feel safer in their communities by embedding a dedicated, visible, responsive and accountable neighbourhood policing team in every area by April 2008; working in close collaboration with local government and other community safety partners; and reducing the public perception of anti-social behaviour

35. The Government remains committed to ensuring that there is a neighbourhood policing team in every area in England and Wales by 2008. Progress towards the rollout of neighbourhood policing is on track and significant progress has been made, including a rise, across the board, in public confidence. The recruitment of additional Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), intended to be in place by April 2007, will provide an additional boost for those forces yet to extend neighbourhood policing to all areas.

36. However, for 2007-08 the focus must move towards **embedding** the principles of neighbourhood policing in all areas. This will mean that all communities will have: **access** to policing services through a named point of contact; **influence** over policing priorities in their neighbourhood; **interventions** through joint actions with partners and communities; and, **answers** through sustainable solutions and feedback. Central to this will be forces' ability to develop and maintain effective partnerships with their community safety partners. Some forces already do this very well, for others it is more of a challenge. The implementation of the findings of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Review will take place in 2007. It will provide a significant tool for police forces in moving this crucial element of neighbourhood policing forward.



37. The Government is providing significant funding for neighbourhood policing. In 2007-08, forces will continue to receive 50% funding for the PCSOs they recruited before the Neighbourhood Policing Fund was launched. They will also receive 75% funding for those already recruited under the Neighbourhood Policing Fund. A degree of matched funding is important. Neighbourhood policing is a mainstream activity and community safety is an outcome shared with other partners. The more matched funding forces acquire, the better placed they will be to invest further in policing their local communities.

38. During 2006 all forces completed implementation of the changes necessary to ensure compliance with the core national standards set out in the Quality of Service Commitment. Delivery of, and improvement against, these standards underpins the delivery of responsive and accessible services at the neighbourhood level. Increasing the levels of reported satisfaction therefore remains a key indicator of the provision of a citizen-focused police service.

39. Police forces and authorities will want to take the opportunity to improve upon the standards of service already being achieved into account in drawing up their local policing plans, particularly in respect of improving the levels of satisfaction with being kept informed and of raising the satisfaction levels of service users from minority ethnic communities.

Anti-social behaviour

40. Building and enforcing a modern culture of respect and tackling anti-social behaviour is a priority for this Government. Tackling such behaviour is fundamental to creating safe, sustainable and prosperous communities. The Government wants to ensure that no matter where you live or who you are, you are confident that local agencies will respond appropriately and communities do not have to suffer long-term anti-social behaviour problems.

Key actions for the Police Service in 2007-08:

- to complete rollout of neighbourhood policing teams in every area by April 2008;
- to continue to improve on service delivery and customer satisfaction, building on the core standards set out in the Quality of Service Commitment;
- to make sure that the tools and powers to tackle anti-social behaviour are used widely and wisely in response to the communities' needs; and
- through dedicated, visible, responsive and accountable neighbourhood policing teams, working in partnership with other local agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour and contribute to building a culture of respect.

Continue to bring offences to justice in partnership with other Criminal Justice agencies in line with the Government's PSA target through improved performance on sanction detections, especially in relation to more serious crime

41. Bringing offences to justice is an important part of reducing crime through deterrence, removing offenders from the streets and drugs treatment. The PSA aims to ensure that 1.25 million offences are brought to justice in 2007-8.

42. The Government vision for the Criminal Justice

System is set out in its Strategic Plan⁸. In July 2006, the Home Secretary published *Rebalancing the criminal justice system in favour of the law-abiding majority*, setting out a wide-ranging series of proposals to further reform the Criminal Justice System and deliver a better service to victims.

43. The police as members of LCJBs⁹ are important contributors to the delivery of this PSA goal. The Government estimates that to meet the target a national sanction detection rate of at least 25% will be required in 2007-8.

⁸Cutting Crime, Delivering Justice: A Strategic Plan for Criminal Justice 2004-08, Cm 6288, July 2004

⁹Local Criminal Justice Boards are Criminal Justice System partnerships which include police, CPS, courts, youth offending teams, prisons and probation.



Key actions for the Police Service in 2007-08:

- to work in partnership with other Criminal Justice agencies, through LCJBs, to deliver the locally agreed offences brought to justice targets for 2007-08 and the implied sanction detection rates which underpin them;
- to work with the CPS to increase the proportion of offences (specifically serious offences) which result in a sanction detection and successful prosecution;
- to make effective use of pre-court sanction detection disposals (such as cautions, conditional cautions, Fixed Penalty Notices and formal warnings) to provide simple speedy responses to business and community concerns;
- to work with probation, prisons and other local agencies under the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPAs) to exchange information about dangerous offenders and manage the risk they pose and to progress the implementation of local MAPPAs business plans; and
- to work with the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) to introduce Professionalising the Investigative Programme (PIP) level 3. NPIA to review with forces levels 1 and 2 to ensure delivery alongside Performance Development Reviews.

Strengthen public protection by increasing capacity and capability for dealing with widespread threats, and in particular by tackling serious and organised crime

Protective Services

44. The Government is engaging closely with all forces and police authorities in England and Wales and with ACPO, the APA and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) to explore alternative ways to narrow the gap in "protective services"¹⁰ (identified by HMIC's 2005 report *Closing the Gap*) in the absence of force mergers. The Government plans to work with policing partners to develop a shared vision for improvement for publication shortly.

Organised crime

45. Police authorities need to ensure forces have NIM compliant control strategies reflecting the Home Secretary's priorities against organised crime, set out in his letter of 9 June 2005 to chief officers of police and police authorities. The Government expects police forces to develop their analytical capability, producing the full range of NIM products to contribute to improving the overall intelligence picture on organised crime. This will involve in particular working with the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) on the National Intelligence Requirement and helping build ACPO's National Strategic Assessment on crime threats. Forces will need to deliver their individual targets on proceeds of crime, contributing to the national target.

¹⁰The protective services are grouped under the following headings: counter-terrorism and extremism; serious organised and cross-border crime, civil contingencies and emergency planning; critical incident management; major crime (homicide); public order and strategic roads policing.



Key actions for the Police Service in 2007-08:

- to have in place, and start to implement, a robust programme for strengthening their capability and capacity in the provision of protective services;
- to establish clear plans, showing how they achieve by 2010 full compliance with the statutory Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information (MoPI) and to make the necessary preparations to facilitate locally held data to be effectively uploaded to the IMPACT Cross Regional Information Sharing (IMPACT CRISP) data warehouse ahead of its introduction in mid-2007;
- to implement the Roads Policing Strategy;
- to fully utilise the National Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Data Centre to enhance the prevention and detection of serious and organised crime and terrorism offences;
- to play a key role in the work going on to establish the detailed business and other requirements for the Police National Database;
- to embed links with SOCA; and
- to ensure asset recovery powers are used to the full and to have strategies against all the major threats set out in the UK Threat Assessment, primarily drug and people trafficking, but also other threats including fraud and intellectual property crime.

Protect the country from both terrorism and extremism

46. International terrorism remains a real and serious threat to the UK. The scale of the threat is not likely to diminish, and may well increase, over the next five to ten years. The Police Service must have both the capacity and capability to deal with it effectively.

47. Since early 2003, the UK has had a long-term strategy for countering international terrorism which involves a range of agencies. The Police Service in partnership with other departments and agencies, will play a key role in delivering this strategy in the UK. The strategy is divided into four principal strands: **Prevent** – tackling the radicalisation of individuals; **Pursue** – disrupting terrorists and terrorist networks; **Protect** – reducing the vulnerability of the UK to a terrorist attack; and **Prepare** - ensuring that the UK is as ready as it can be for the consequences of a terrorist attack.

48. PREVENT. The Police Service has a vital role to play in helping to deter those who facilitate

terrorism and those who encourage others to become terrorists by changing the environment in which the extremists and those radicalising others can operate. In order to achieve this, the police need to work closely with local communities, particularly minority communities, to take positive action against extremists and preachers of hate by improving the flow of information to and from communities, developing community intelligence, and developing flexible responses to radicalisation.

49. PURSUE. Police forces and authorities need to improve the ability to identify and understand the terrorist threat and take action to frustrate terrorist attacks and bring offenders to justice. This will involve enhancing intelligence gathering capability across the country as well as strengthening investigative capacity and capability.

50. PROTECT. Police forces and authorities need to strengthen border security to ensure terrorists and those who inspire them can be prevented from entering the UK and to develop better intelligence about suspects who travel. We should police transport infrastructure, reducing the risk and impact



of attacks through security and technological advances, and enhance protective security advice in relation to crowded places.

51. PREPARE. Police forces and authorities need to identify the potential risks the UK faces from terrorism and assess their impact, building the necessary capabilities to respond to them. This preparedness must be continually evaluated, tested, and supplemented by lessons learnt from both exercises and real life events.

Animal Rights Extremism

52. The Government remains committed to removing the threat from animal rights extremists to

law abiding citizens and businesses. There has been good progress over the last 12 months with a number of successes against leading extremists. But the Government recognises that there is still more to do, and once the threat is removed efforts need to continue to ensure there is a sustained eradication of extremism. There has been excellent co-operation between police forces and the National Co-ordinator for Domestic Extremism and his central team over operations and investigations nationally. This needs to continue: police forces should co-operate fully both with the National Co-ordinator and with each other in the action that is needed to bring a sustained end to the extremist threat.

Key actions for the Police Service in 2007-08:

- to develop specific community engagement strategies to be developed with a particular focus on building trust and confidence, encouraging an open and honest exchange of information and developing local plans to manage community cohesion;
- to increase capacity and capability in all forces, but particularly in high priority areas, to enable engagement in the full range of counter-terrorism policing activities from intelligence and investigation through to intervention by disruption and prosecution;
- to strengthen border security, policing the transport infrastructure to maximise safety for passengers and staff, and enhance protective security advice in relation to crowded places, iconic sites and vulnerable sites and sectors in the UK and abroad;
- to develop, maintain and evaluate resilience through effective counter-terrorism training and exercising at local, regional and national levels including fulfilling UK Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) requirements; and
- to target the illegal activities of extremists who intimidate those involved in legitimate animal research and testing.



Local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs)

53. The Government specific priorities for local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) for 2007-08, in respect of their community safety responsibilities, are to:

- play an overall leadership role in their communities in line with the Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, published in October 2006;
- ensure that community safety continues to be reflected in LAAs through both the LSPs' overview and CDRPs' more specific focus;
- support business engagement and partnership working and extend the success of town centre management to cover both the day and evening economy;
- play their part in supporting CDRPs to keep crime reduction trajectories on track and supporting all elements of the PPO programme;
- provide a framework whereby the local authority, the police authority and other local bodies can

agree common community safety targets, for example through the LAA process;

- take the lead role in negotiating LAAs across England, ensuring that community safety is reflected across all four LAA blocks;
- manage performance of the community safety element of the LAAs which have already been negotiated;
- manage the night-time economy effectively in town and city centres to reduce alcohol-related violence; and
- contribute to the CONTEST counter-terrorism strategy through cooperation with agencies, businesses and communities.

54. *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, the Local Government White Paper, sets out the vital role that local authorities have to play in promoting community cohesion and tackling extremism. This role requires effective working with partner agencies and communities themselves to address the underlying drivers of tensions within communities where they arise and to prevent extremism.



Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs)

55. The Government specific priorities for CDRPs for 2007-08 are to:

- manage their performance against crime reduction targets, ensuring that delivery remains in line with trajectory;
- continue to lead the PPO programme;
- work in partnership with other key agencies nationally, regionally and locally to identify, generate and share good practice in tackling volume violent crime, in particular alcohol-related and domestic violence; and
- implement the findings of the review of partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which were published in January 2006. Guidance and National Standards will be published in 2007.

Drug Action Teams (DATs)

56. The Government specific priorities for DATs for 2007-08 are to:

- ensure that the objectives of the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), which aims to direct drug misusing offenders out of crime and into treatment, are delivered as agreed in local compacts in the DIP intensive areas and in line with the expectations of both intensive and non-intensive areas which form part of the funding terms and conditions;
- implement the measures contained within the Young People and Drugs Delivery Plan which links the response to children, young people and drugs with the Every Child Matters: Change for Children programme locally. Ensure that provision is built around the needs of vulnerable children and young people, as set out in 'Every Child Matters: Change for Children, Young People and Drugs';
- develop a local treatment plan to ensure that effective and prompt treatment is available and meets the needs of the local drug-misusing

population including young people and offenders referred from the police, courts and prisons;

- in unitary local authority areas, complete DAT integration with CDRPs. In two-tier areas, agree arrangements for collaborative working; and
- ensure that provision is made for the drug treatment, harm reduction and support measures set out in the PPO programme.

Primary Care Trusts (PCTs)

57. Following the Police Reform Act 2002, PCTs have had a statutory responsibility to work in partnership with other responsible authorities to tackle crime, disorder and the misuse of drugs. PCTs have a duty to contribute to the development and implementation of local community safety strategies that effectively deal with the issues which are identified through intelligence-led business processes.

58. PCTs' contribution to the delivery of local strategies will be determined through local negotiation and will depend on the extent to which action on drugs, alcohol or crime and disorder makes a significant contribution to the PCTs' own national or local priorities. Local NHS organisations can play a role in developing LAAs as part of LSPs.

59. There are no national targets for NHS action to reduce crime and disorder but in line with the devolved planning and performance system for health and social care as set out in *National Standards, Local Action: Health and Social Care Standards and Planning framework 2005/06-2007/08*, PCTs can commit to the delivery of local targets and LAAs in consultation with local partnerships.

60. Areas for joint delivery can include:

- reducing pressures on emergency services as a result of violence or alcohol-related injury;
- reducing the demand on NHS services from crime, alcohol or drug-related ill health;
- improving the working lives and conditions for NHS staff by reducing the risks of violent or alcohol-related attacks and abuse;



- improving the health and life chances of children and young people;
- commissioning services for the identification, referral and treatment of individuals with drug problems;
- identifying individuals with alcohol misuse disorders and the provision of brief health interventions to encourage them to address their behaviour;
- developing integrated services to support victims of crime, particularly victims of domestic violence, young offenders or offenders with mental health problems and those experiencing drug and alcohol dependence;
- developing more effective prison health care and links with community provision for primary care and the treatment of mental health problems, drug and alcohol dependence, and other chronic ill health problems prevalent among prisoners; and
- working to reduce the health inequalities that prevent people from developing economically independent and socially engaged lives.

61. Effective partnership delivery also depends upon robust information exchange between all the agencies involved. PCTs have the power to disclose data subject to the usual restrictions on patient confidentiality. Local information sharing protocols are the best way of ensuring that disclosure of data is properly handled and used to greatest effect in supporting partnership delivery.

Children's trusts

62. Children's trusts bring together social services, health, education and other services for children and young people in a local authority area – underpinned by section 10 of the Children Act 2004 (duty to co-operate). The overall aim is to improve the outcomes for children and young people by encouraging partnership arrangements (Children's trusts) which puts the child at the centre of planning and delivery of services. Children's trusts support integrated planning, commissioning and delivery of services,

multi-disciplinary working and clear lines of accountability. This means that children and young people should experience more integrated and responsive services and specialist support resulting in earlier and more effective support for children and families.

63. Children's trusts should focus on preventative work through a multi-agency approach, encouraging closer joint working between police, YOTs, youth services, drug and alcohol services, health, social service and educational professionals with the overall aim of intervening at an early stage, before young people turn to crime and develop drug misuse problems. Children's trusts will also be part of developing LAAs and LSPs.

64. In areas where Children's trust arrangements have become well established, there is emerging anecdotal evidence that the preventative focus has led to:

- fewer young people engaging in criminal activity, and anti-social behaviour; and
- reduced need for parenting orders.

65. In addition we have seen positive developments in a more integrated approach to reducing drug misuse. Joint priorities on young people and drugs have been agreed by DATs and Directors of Children's Services in 80% of areas, reflected in the Children and Young People Plans.

66. There is also an array of wider preventative work, for example 'alcohol patrols', life skills courses, sports initiatives (including urban sports activities), and work experience or student placements.

67. Children's trust priorities are to improve across all five of the *Every Child Matters* (ECM) outcomes:

- being healthy;
- staying safe;
- enjoying and achieving;
- making a positive contribution; and
- achieving economic well-being.



68. The five ECM outcomes are supported by 25 sub-outcomes for all children which include:

- engaging in decision making and supporting the community and environment;
- being safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school;
- choosing not to bully and discriminate;
- choosing not to take illegal drugs;
- attending and enjoying school;
- being safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation; and

- being safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school.

69. Specific priorities in each local area will be influenced by:

- the ECM outcomes;
- outcomes negotiated with Government Offices for the Regions to support LAAs; and
- local priorities agreed as part of the Children's and Young People's Plan, drawn up after rigorous needs assessment based on existing data from all partners, national priorities and the views of children, young people, their families and communities and front-line professionals.



Jobcentre Plus

70. Jobcentre Plus has specific programmes and initiatives aimed at helping some of the most disadvantaged back into work or move closer to the labour market. Jobcentre Plus Employment and Benefit Surgery advisors see prisoners on a one to one basis at both induction and pre-release stages of their custodial sentence to signpost them to appropriate services and benefits. For prisoners who wish to claim Jobseekers Allowance, the Freshstart initiative provides the prisoner with an appointment for a New Jobseeker Interview (NJI) as soon as possible after release.

71. Following release, customers can access progress2work (p2w) or progress2work-LinkUP. P2w provides support for customers who are drug free or stabilised, but their history of drug misuse is likely to be a significant factor in preventing them from taking up or sustaining work. Progress2work-LinkUP pilots build on the p2w model and are available in almost half of the Jobcentre Plus districts, targeting specific disadvantaged groups who face significant barriers in the labour market. These include offenders, the homeless and alcohol misusers.

72. In addition to the above, Jobcentre Plus supports offenders via a network of regional and district partnerships. Jobcentre Plus also plays a key role in developing LAAs as part of LSPs.

Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs)

73. The Government specific priorities for LCJBs for 2007-08 are to:

- meet their specific targets for the year, as set out in the CJS Business Plan 2007-8 (to be published in January 2007);
- implement and embed the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime and the Witness Charter ensuring that victims and witnesses receive a high standard of service from criminal justice agencies;
- lead a range of activities designed to open up the CJS to the public during the annual Inside Justice week (November);

- in partnership with the police authority and force for that area, roll-out conditional cautions to at least one Basic Command Unit in each area by June 2007 and nationally by March 2008;
- roll-out the streamlining and other measures to improve efficiency in the magistrate and crown courts as set out in *Delivering Simple, Speedy, Summary Justice*;
- implement measures to improve management of custody cases;
- improve the response to identification and deportation of foreign national prisoners; and
- roll-out IT nationally to support court improvements.

The Fire and Rescue Service

74. Until recently, the Fire and Rescue Service in the UK has chiefly been concerned with firefighting, but it is now developing in other directions to fulfil its significant potential to promote community safety. The Police Reform Act 2002 made Fire and Rescue Authorities full partners of the CDRPs established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

75. Over the last few years, the Fire and Rescue Service has developed a much greater focus on prevention under the generic term Community Fire Safety. This:

- embodies a wide range of activities including the *Home Fire Risk Check* initiative funded by Communities and Local Government; work in schools; work with those most at risk from fire; forming multi-agency partnerships to reduce fire risk, and a range of publicity and campaign efforts; and
- has been particularly focused on dangers in the home where 75% of fire deaths take place – but also now encompasses efforts to prevent juvenile firesetting and hoax calls work with disaffected youths.



76. In the past ten years, the Fire and Rescue Service, although traditionally a reactive service, has also become far more involved in proactive, community-based work, in two main strands:

- first, programmes to reduce the incidence of accidental fires and casualties through education and publicity work in the community, for example in schools and old people's homes; and
- second, wider community and youth work, specifically targeting youths at risk from social exclusion and those from deprived areas.

77. Communities and Local Government and the Fire and Rescue Service have made important strides towards meeting the PSA target (to reduce the number of accidental fire related deaths in the home by 20% and the number of deliberate fires by 10% by 2010). In the 12 months to September 2005, there were 216 deaths in accidental fires in the home compared with 269 a year earlier, a fall of 20%. Over the same period, there were 67,900 deliberate primary fires, down 17% on the previous year.

78. The National Framework for the Fire and Rescue Service sets out the strategy for meeting these objectives and delivering an improved service that achieves better value for money for the communities it serves. In essence the Framework is a contract with the Fire and Rescue Service - a contract for a new relationship where we are clear on what we expect the Service to achieve, and fire authorities are clear what support we will give them.

The Private Security Industry

79. The Private Security Industry Act 2001 (PSIA) provides protection for the public by driving out criminal elements from the private security industry and raising standards in the industry. Under the PSIA the Security Industry Authority (SIA) regulates the industry through a scheme of mandatory licensing for a range of security activities: manned guarding, door supervisors, vehicle immobilisers and key holders and persons working in close protection, cash and valuables in transit, and CCTV operatives. (The requirement applies to operatives supplied under contract, except in the case of door supervisors and vehicle immobilisers, where it also includes in-house staff). The SIA licence requires Criminal Records Bureau and identity checks, independent training and the attainment of a qualification before issuing a licence.

80. The SIA also runs the Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) for security companies. Companies which have been approved are entitled to promote themselves as ACS accredited and appear in an SIA public register of approved companies. ACS firms are also able to deploy up to 15% of their staff who have completed their training and whose licence applications are being processed.

More details of the PSIA and the work of the SIA can be found in the SIA's website at <http://www.the-sia.org.uk/home>.



81. The Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) provides a further option for the Private Security Industry. Community Safety Accreditation was established under the Police Reform Act 2002 and allows Chief Constables to approve an organisation and accredit individuals working in a community safety role. Chief Constables can also designate a limited range of police powers and most accredited persons do have some powers.

82. Accreditation can be an important way of harnessing the energy and commitment of private sector employees, such as those who patrol shopping malls and town centres, employees who supervise crowds in sports stadia or private sector wardens working under contract to a local authority.

The Business Community

83. Businesses and service providers form the backbone of any successful community and allowing them to trade, and their employees to work, free from the fear of crime is essential to making communities stronger and more effective. The recent pilot survey carried out by South Wales and Greater Manchester Police on the recording of crimes against business showed that crimes against business constitute up to 19% of all recorded crime in those areas.

84. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 obliges CDRPs to invite representatives of local businesses to become involved in the development and implementation of community safety strategies. Businesses should therefore be playing a key role in shaping the direction of CDRPs and ensuring that tackling crimes against business plays an important role in their wider crime reduction strategy. As invited participants, businesses also have an important role to play in being the 'eyes and ears' of their local community by reporting crime and activities that could lead to terrorism so that clear strategies are devised and police resources are targeted to tackle local issues.

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs)

85. Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) were created by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. They are local authority youth justice services that bring together the staff and wider resources of education, health and social services, the police, the Probation Service and the voluntary sector.

86. YOTs are overseen nationally by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), which monitors the effectiveness of the youth justice system, sets national standards, shares effective practice and independently advises the Government on the operation of the youth justice system. The focus for the YJB and YOTs is to achieve an integrated, end-to-end youth justice system that is effectively structured and equipped to achieve long-term reductions in youth crime.

87. In 2005 the YJB invested £45 million in YOTs for targeted, evidence-based early intervention programmes such as Youth Inclusion Programmes (YIPs), Youth Inclusion and Support Panels (YISPs) and parenting programmes. This investment is aimed at early prevention of youth crime, anti-social behaviour and extremism, and preventing young people entering the Criminal Justice System. The programmes identify young people subject to risk and protective factors associated with the onset of offending. They then engage them and deliver appropriate interventions.

88. The prevention and reduction of youth crime can only be achieved through a co-ordinated and coherent partnership approach. Examples of YOTs' engagement with other key agencies to help improve levels of community safety include:

- **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships:** such as the anti-social behaviour strategies, and also the delivery of Prevent and Deter, Catch & Convict, and Rehabilitate and Resettle work strands of the Government's PPO Programme.



- **Local Criminal Justice Boards:** particularly the delivery of the 71 days from arrest to sentence target for Persistent Young Offenders and the delivery of the end-to-end measure for enforcement.
 - **Children's Services:** initiatives around looked after children and improving participation for those not in education, employment or training.
 - **Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA):** for instance there is a statutory framework for inter-agency cooperation in assessing and managing violent and sex offenders. Also MAPPA supports the delivery of the YJB target to improve assessment of risk and to improve young people's access to specialist and mainstream services that will address the factors identified.
 - **Other local priorities** including Local PSAs and LAAs.
89. The key YOT priorities for 2006-09 are to:
- protect victims and communities by reducing reoffending by young offenders by 5% by March 2008 compared with the 2002/03 baseline working towards a 10% reduction by the end of the decade;
 - between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2008, reduce the size of the under-18 custodial population by 10% through the implementation of the minimising the use of custody work programme;
 - improve the assessment of risk and need for young people who have offended, and improve their access to specialist and mainstream services that will address the factors identified; and
 - ensure they have action plans in place to achieve equal treatment at local level for comparable offences by different ethnic groups, and to deliver targeted prevention activity that substantially reduces local differences by ethnicity in recorded conviction rates, by March 2008.
- reduce the number of first-time entrants to the youth justice system by 5% by March 2008 compared to the March 2005 baseline;



Annex A: Table of Progress on 2006-7 Key Actions

1. The NCSP set out specific key actions for central government in 2006-7. The table below shows progress on these actions at the time of publication of this Update.

2. Central government delivery of NCSP key actions is managed through individual departments' Public Service Agreement performance management systems. Local partnership performance is managed by the Government Offices for the Regions.

Key

- GREEN - Achieved or on target.
- AMBER - Action may not be completed in 2006-7.
- RED - Unlikely to be achieved by 31st March 2007.

Making Communities Stronger and More Effective

Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
Propose a new power to enable local people to secure a response from the police and their partners to a community safety issue that they believe has not been adequately addressed.	GREEN	
Support the further development of the Neighbourhood Watch movement together with the police and other partners.	GREEN	
Support residents in community-led estate regeneration through the Guide Neighbourhoods programme.	GREEN	
Provide a Together We Can support package for citizens strengthening their communities to help them acquire skills and confidence, and to expand their capacity to organise, to secure change and develop sustainable resources beyond grant aid.	GREEN	



Further Reducing Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
Take the Violent Crime Reduction Bill through its remaining Parliamentary stages and introduce the powers relating to guns, knives and alcohol related violence.	Green	
Work with our stakeholders to continue to design out crime by making products more difficult to steal and reducing the markets for dealing in stolen goods.	AMBER	Work on designing crime out of products was re-scheduled and will now be driven forwards in 2007-08. Work on disrupting the markets for stolen goods has progressed and a consultation paper has been prepared to identify the best ways of working with second hand dealers to disrupt markets for stolen goods.
As part of our new Respect agenda, ensure that communities are supported and encouraged to stand up for acceptable standards of behaviour, challenge bad behaviour and know what they can expect from local services.	GREEN	
Launch a new service to deal with non-emergency police and anti-social behaviour issues in a "first wave" of areas in 2006. The service will be accessed by the public via a triple digit number, subject to consultation, and delivered by police forces and local authorities working in partnership.	GREEN	
Further develop and implement the National Delivery Plan for domestic violence, which currently accounts for 15 - 25% of all violent crime, and ensure there is inter-departmental co-operation at all levels of the delivery chain. Expand the specialist domestic violence court programme to many more areas across the country.	GREEN	

<p>Develop a regional racist incident helpline to inform the potential for running a national helpline.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	
<p>Support the Police Service in implementing the joint Roads Policing Strategy to help deny criminals the use of the roads.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	
<p>Continue to develop, evaluate and disseminate good practice on reducing crime and the fear of crime wherever it occurs in the transport system through such initiatives as the Secure Stations Scheme and the Safer Travel on Buses and Coaches Panel.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	
<p>Encourage police forces to adopt a model for improving the quality and accuracy of statistics around business crime and ensure businesses have access to key crime prevention advice in order to better protect themselves and their staff from crime.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	
<p>Continue to seize more assets from those engaged in criminal conduct. Assets can be recovered from those involved in benefit fraud, counterfeiting, sales of illicit items (such as cigarettes, alcohol etc) as well as mainstream and organised criminality.</p>	<p>AMBER</p>	<p>A total of £96.8 million of criminal assets recovered by all agencies in 2005-6 compared with £84.4 million in 2004-5. Good progress is being made on delivery of 2006-7 targets.</p>
<p>Develop the Community Justice model to encourage the adoption of problem-solving approaches and stronger community engagement within the Criminal Justice System to tackle anti-social behaviour and other crime affecting quality of life.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>	

Creating Safer Environments

Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
Ensure that appropriate policy and guidance is in place to help local authorities to make places safer by designing out crime in all new residential, industrial, retail and commercial development as well as in parks, open spaces and car parks.	GREEN	
Work together in promoting Cleaner Safer Greener Communities, demonstrating, documenting and disseminating learning from good practice in town centre management, residential areas, parks and open spaces.	GREEN	
Promote the take up of new enforcement powers to create safer environments, such as gating off alleyways affected by crime and anti-social behaviour, and review the enforcement of environmental regulations.	GREEN	
Give local authorities improved powers to clean up graffiti and fly posting, tackle litter and enforce environmental crime reduction through the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 and the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.	GREEN	
Spread the learning from the 32 (formerly 19) areas participating in the Tackling Violent Crime Programme (TVCP) to other parts of the country with particular alcohol-fuelled or domestic violence problems.	AMBER /GREEN	Best practice from the programme is currently being collected, and will be available on a website from November 2006. Activity to publicise the website nationally, and to spread the learning to those areas which are not involved in the TVCP but face particular challenges with regard to alcohol-related or domestic violence, will begin shortly thereafter and continue into 2007-8.
Apply an intelligence-led model of action to take out entire drug supply networks and seize the assets that are the lifeblood of drug dealers.	GREEN	



Protecting the Public and Building Confidence

Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
Implement new measures to improve protective security arrangements for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> crowded places and soft targets; the transport system; border security; and UK interests overseas. 	AMBER	Work is ongoing in all areas
Introduce legislation to Parliament in the spring of 2006. The Terrorism Bill is designed to ensure that the police, intelligence agencies and courts have all the tools they require to tackle terrorism and bring perpetrators to justice.	GREEN	
Relentlessly target animal rights extremists using every lawful means, both nationally and internationally, to bring them to justice and to protect their intended victims.	GREEN	
Formally establish the Serious Organised Crime Agency, and increase the effort directed against organised immigration crime. Powerful new tools for them to do their job will be provided by powers in the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act, providing new Financial Reporting Orders, extending Serious Fraud Office –style questioning powers in organised crime cases, and putting Queen’s Evidence on a statutory footing.	GREEN	
Drive up performance on the enforcement of sentences and penalties by meeting Local Criminal Justice Board targets to improve the enforcement of fines, community penalties, defendant attendance and asset recovery.	GREEN	



Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
As an interim step to bringing more sexual offenders to justice, increase the number of rapes and other sexual offences (but excluding exposure) reported to the police so that fewer victims suffer in silence.	AMBER	The latest figures are for 2005-06. The number of sexual offences recorded by the police remained roughly stable between 2004-05 and 2005-06, although the number of rapes reported to the police increased slightly. The British Crime Survey Interpersonal Violence Module 2006-07 will tell us the proportion of respondents who reported the sexual offence to the police.
From 1 April 2006, give victims a statutory right to high standards of treatment from criminal justice agencies, spelt out in the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime. Criminal justice agencies will be held to account for delivering these obligations.	GREEN	
Improve the confidence of people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds that they will be treated fairly by the Criminal Justice System, in particular by identifying and tackling inequalities of treatment.	GREEN	
Implement a national framework setting out guaranteed levels of service the public can expect from police forces and police authorities.	GREEN	
Establish Local Safeguarding Children Boards to co-ordinate and monitor the effectiveness of the work of their member agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, including the implementation by agencies of their duties under section 11 of the Children Act 2004.	GREEN	
Increase sanction detection rates to at least 25% by 2007-08.	GREEN	
Improve public understanding of the work of community safety and criminal justice agencies.	GREEN	
Increase confidence in the Criminal Justice System by ensuring that local agencies work effectively together in engaging with communities and responding to their concerns and priorities.	GREEN.	



Improving People's Lives So They Are Less Likely to Commit Offences or Re-offend

Key Action 2006-07	Status	Note where status is amber or red
Continue to implement the drug treatment effectiveness strategy, launched in June 2005 by the Department of Health and the National Treatment Agency, to improve the quality and effectiveness of drug treatment programmes.	GREEN	
Continue the Department for Education and Skills, Home Office and Department of Health joint approach to the development of universal, targeted and specialist services to prevent drug harm and to ensure that all children and young people are able to reach their full potential.	AMBER	Levels of drug use amongst young people remain stable with evidence of decrease in frequent use.
Continue to increase the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment in line with the 2008 drug treatment target.	GREEN	
<p>Introduce the new measures contained within the Drugs Act 2005 to make it even more difficult for dealers to evade conviction and to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - give police powers to test for drugs on arrest rather than charge, so that more people who commit crime to finance their drug habit can be directed into treatment earlier; and - require those testing positive for specified Class A drugs to undergo an assessment followed up, as appropriate, with a sanction for those who fail to comply. 	GREEN	
<p>Continue to support the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy throughout England and Wales by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - evaluating the programme to assess the impact on offending rates; - embedding the Performance Management Framework into key agencies' performance management arrangements. 	GREEN	
Implement regional, cross-agency, plans to reduce re-offending.	GREEN	



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The National Community Safety Plan 2006-2009 and the NCSP Update
are available on the Web at:

www.crimereduction.gov.uk/ncsp

Printed copies of the NCSP are available from:

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2, Marsham Street

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Alternative formats are available on request.



