

COMMUNITY SAFETY PIs - NI20

(Assault with injury crime rates)



BASSETLAW
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

January 2011

**Scrutiny is an Independent, Councillor-led
Function, Working with Local People to Improve
Services.**

Foreword

This review was important to all Members given that all of us have witnessed the effects of alcohol related violence either first hand or in the role of supporting victims in our Ward work.

Our cross party Panel was ably assisted by representatives from the Street Pastors, Bassetlaw PubWatch, Nottinghamshire Police, the Licensing Authority, Community Safety Partnership, Nottinghamshire Women's Aid and NHS Bassetlaw who provided invaluable information.

The Street Pastors initiative is a voluntary organisation who do sterling work defusing potential violent situations, providing support to potential victims, offering practical assistance to those in need (i.e. provision of flip flops and spikeys). It is especially pleasing to note that this splendid organisation has received an award from Nottinghamshire Police.

It was also reassuring to see the amount of good work done by our local licensees under the umbrella of the PubWatch Scheme. Again this is a voluntary, self regulating body, which contributes greatly to the well-being of the community by making pubs and the surrounding areas safer and thus more user friendly by wheedling out trouble makers. Their input to the review was greatly appreciated.

Our Police force, often criticised unfairly in some cases for not being there when needed, use intelligence provided by CCTV, PubWatch and other interested parties to target black spots and deal effectively often preventing minor incidents from becoming public disorder issues. Commendably a lot of this action is low key minimising alarm and distress to innocent bystanders.

Our Licensing Authority must also be thanked for taking where necessary firm action in dealing with errant licensed premises and using the ultimate sanction of revoking or withholding licences when necessary. This policy sends out the right message to licensees and would be licensees, so that Bassetlaw remains a safe and pleasant area in which to live and work. The Community Safety Partnership provided valuable statistics and information which helped the Panel formulate recommendations, which will be duly passed to Cabinet and other interested bodies.

Nottinghamshire Women's Aid provided valuable insight into the effects of domestic violence, which often goes unseen and unreported, as by its very nature such incidents take place behind closed doors. These incidents leave victims fearful, which can have a devastating effect on family life, as support is not available unless requested. In many cases underlying problems that lead to acts of violence are not tackled.

Finally many thanks to NHS Bassetlaw for providing useful information regarding the extent of alcohol related injuries tended to at the Accident & Emergency Department at Bassetlaw District General Hospital.

Many thanks to all who provided evidence for this review their information was invaluable to the completion of the report and the formulations of the recommendations which this cross party Panel hope will be implemented as soon as practically possible.

If the costs of alcohol related violence can be reduced and the money saved can in these austere times be put to better use in our Community then we will achieve the desired outcome.

Councillor James Holland
Chair of Review of Community Safety PIs – NI 20
(Assault with injury crime rate)



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1. Executive Summary

1.1 Summary of Findings

Bassetlaw District Council's Select Panel 1 was tasked to review Community Safety PIs – NI 20 (Assault with injury crime rate) as part of the Annual Programme of Work for 2010/11. The topic was approved by Overview and Scrutiny in July 2010. Since the change in Government Local Area Agreements has been abolished, this means that Council is no longer duty bound to report on those performance indicators. However NI 20 is still monitored at a local level. This topic was chosen because the performance indicator had been under performing some time, with targets not being met. However since the topic was approved there has been some significant changes in the performance of the indicator and the indicator is now meeting the targets. The Panel were keen to investigate what had caused the improvement.

The two main factors that contribute to NI 20 are the night-time

- Cheap Alcohol
- The change in drinking habits
- Underage drinking
- Migration of banned persons
- Policing
- Licensing

There were a number of factors that could be contributed to the improvement of the NI 20 performance indicator. These were a change in the way the Police were working and how the incidents were recorded. The Police now have 72 hours before they have to report an incidence; this allows time for evidence to be gathered. The Police are more visible in the town centres; the use of respond teams has proven successful. Also further training has taken place on the licensing laws and the powers available to the Police.

Licensing of premises has been key and the Licensing Officer has worked closely with licensees and partners to ensure the conditions of licences are adhered to and are appropriate. This has resulted in the closure of some notorious pubs and the recognition of best practice.

The licensing and training of door supervisors has also had an effect on reducing the number of incidents in the town centres. There is good communication with the Police and CCTV and other agencies that has improved performance.

The introduction of the Street Pastors Initiative, trained volunteers who are out in the town centres between 10pm – 3am on Friday & Saturday nights to provide spikeys to avoid drinks being spiked, flip flops to avoid injuries, clear glass from the street, first aid and diffuse potential conflicts. They work closely with the door staff, police and CCTV.

There has been more partnership working with a host of agencies to tackle the effects of the night-time economy and domestic violence. This includes organised operations during historic key dates. Operation Awarn was one such example of a partnership approach to tackle domestic violence during the World Cup. Other projects have been the introduction of Taxi Marshalls to avoid conflict at the end of the night.

There have also been a number of diversionary activities for young people to tackle alcohol related anti social behaviour across the district.

The Panel also looked at the sustainability of the improved performance and how the future cuts would affect this. The cut in funding will have a profound effect on services; this in turn could affect future performance. However, the Panel were pleased that there was a strong partnership approach that were willing to explore possible solutions. The Panel were mindful of this and have put forward a number of recommendations that are aimed at sustaining the performance of the indicator and ensure that people feel safe in the town centres at these peak times.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out for this review. This can be viewed at www.bassetlaw.gov.uk under the Equality Section or by contacting the Policy and Scrutiny Unit on 01909 533189.

1.2 Scope of the Review

The panel undertook a scoping exercise at the first meeting and the following Scope was agreed:

- To focus on specific areas that have high incidence of violence against the person – Worksop Town Centre & East Retford East.
- The impact of previous activity and how it compares with actions currently in place.
- What has caused the performance indicator to improve?
- How many of the activities are sustainable?
- Consider and compare best practice
- How will the economic downturn/ spending review affect performance?
- Future trends – How will we best target our resources?

1.3 Membership

The following Councillors were appointed to be members of Select Panel 1:

- Councillor Mrs. V. A. Bowles
- Councillor D. Challinor (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor G. Freeman
- Councillor F. Hart
- Councillor J. W. Holland (Chair)
- Councillor I. Jones
- Councillor P. Offer
- Councillor J. Potts
- Councillor J. Scott
- Councillor A. A. Tromans
- Councillor Mrs. V. Wanless

1.4 Summary of Recommendations

	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Financial Implications	Delivery Timescale	Risks to delivery/ Officer Comment
1.	That Nottinghamshire Police considers a uniform approach to take preventative and pre-emptive action for a positive effect on alcohol related violent incidents on the streets of the town centres. By using the good practices used by Northumbria Police.	Chief Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police)	No financial Impact for BDC. Requested information from Notts Police	April 2011	I am assuming that this relates to the Divisional Strategic / tactical licensing plan created and implemented by Sara Luke. If that is the case, then I can speak only for B-Division in terms of its roll. I have no authority over the rest of the force. Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police)
2.	That officers explore the introduction of a night-time economy levy on licensed premises. The purpose of the levy would be to ensure additional policing resources are available at key times.	Chief Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police) Stephen Wormald (Licensing BDC)	Officer Time	April 2012	This is the 1 st I have heard of this and therefore cannot comment. I will have to speak with Stephen Wormald and cannot commit to any timescales at this time. Chief Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police)

	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Financial Implications	Delivery Timescale	Risks to delivery/ Officer Comment
					The late night levy is a proposal contained in the Police Reform and Social responsibility Bill. Once introduced it will allow Licensing Authorities to introduce a charge for premises that have a late alcohol licence. The authority will liase with Police to consider the introduction of the levy. (BDC Licensing)
3.	That the existing Bassetlaw-wide PubWatch Scheme is expanded to incorporate additional divisions across the whole of the District. This should further be supported by additional meeting of the leads from each division to ensure a consistent approach.	Kenny Hunt Mark Churchill (PubWatch)	No financial Implications for BDC	April 2011	We are committed to closer working together. (Chair Bassetlaw PubWatch)

	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Financial Implications	Delivery Timescale	Risks to delivery/ Officer Comment
4.	That the Bassetlaw PubWatch scheme should consider using an electronic photographic exchange between Police and all licensed premises in the Scheme to prevent people from moving between towns in the district when they are banned and that offenders should receive a Bassetlaw-wide ban.	Kenny Hunt Mark Churchill (PubWatch) Sara Luke (Licensing Officer Notts Police)	No financial Implications for BDC	April 2011	We are happy to explore options. Chair Bassetlaw PubWatch) The sharing of pub watch information electronically that has been supplied by Notts Police will be put before the Police data protection Officer. (Sara Luke Licensing Officer)
5.	That an investigation is carried out in the areas between Bridge Place and Victoria Square into reports of increased litter generated by food outlets. If the reports are substantiated then a robust approach should be taken to ensure that food outlets take responsibility for clearing up any rubbish generated from their business. Further promotion of the Food on the Go scheme is also recommended.	Julian Proudman (Principal Environment Health Officer BDC)	BDC Officer time	August 2011	Agreed

	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Financial Implications	Delivery Timescale	Risks to delivery/ Officer Comment
6.	That the possibility of a second Taxi Rank for Worksop on Eastgate adjacent to Matalan be explored to ease potential conflict points.	Highways Nottinghamshire County Council Stephen Wormald (Licensing BDC)	BDC Officer time only.	April 2012	The proposal (and extra taxi rank provision generally) will be explored with the Highways Authority and taxi operators.
7	That the Police consider a mandatory recording procedure for alcohol related incidents, similarly to the recording of Domestic Violence.	Chief Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police)	No financial Implications for BDC	April 2012	Again, this is the 1 st have heard about this possibility / recommendation and will have to explore this further. This will have implications at a Force level and a change in force-wide working practice. This will not be a simple process and a risk will be the 4 month deadline. Inspector Stapleford (Nottinghamshire Police)
8.	That BDC support the extension of the alcohol free zones, in particular to cover Victoria Square, Worksop.	Gerald Connor (Community Safety Coordinator BDC)	No financial Implications for BDC	Dec 2010	Agree

	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Financial Implications	Delivery Timescale	Risks to delivery/ Officer Comment
9.	That consideration be given to the Police Licensing Officer, locating one day per week with the Community Safety Team at Worksop, to forge stronger links with BDC Departments e.g. Licensing, Environmental Health & Community Safety.	Stephen Wormald (Licensing BDC) Sara Luke (Police Licensing)	No financial Implications for BDC	April 2011	The proposal will be considered, although the licensing department does already liase regularly with the Police Licensing Officers Chief Supt Wakelin and I are meeting with Caroline Forster BDC on 22 December with a view to locating at least 1 Council Licensing Enforcement Officer at the Police Station. We see this as the way forward. Sara Luke (Licensing Officer Notts Police)
10.	That the Community Safety Coordinator will liase with Notts Women's Aid Manager to identify funding sources and where appropriate submit applications to access monies to continue the early intervention schools programme.	Gerald Connor (Community Safety Coordinator BDC)	Officer Time.	April 2011	Agree
11.	That BDC adopt a Domestic Violence Policy for employees, which is considered good practice.	Gerald Connor (Community Safety Coordinator BDC)	BDC Officer Time	April 2011	Agree

2. Background

2.1 Geographical areas to be addressed by the review

Retford and Worksop have changed in the last ten years. The top of Bridge Street used to be busy now it is quiet because of a number of pubs that have closed. Similarly there have been changes in Retford with some notorious venues being closed after working through partners to get the goal achieved. There are now no nightclubs in Worksop or Retford.

The way people go out has changed as well with cheap alcohol; people come out later 9-10 pm, having already had quite a bit to drink so everything has moved on 2-3 hours. The main activity is in the town centre around Victoria Square in Worksop and the Market Square in Retford that is where the pubs are.

2.2 National Indicator 20

A definition of National Indicator 20 (Assault with Injury Crime) is it covers the Home Office Codes

- 8G – Actual bodily harm and other injury
- 8J – Racially or religiously aggravated actual bodily harm and other injury.

There is no legal definition of actual bodily harm but it is accepted as the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grazes;• Scratches;• Abrasions;• Minor bruising;• Swellings;• Reddening of the skin;• Superficial cuts;• A 'black eye'. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss or breaking of tooth or teeth;• Temporary loss of sensory functions, which may include loss of consciousness.• Extensive or multiple bruising;• Displaced broken nose;• Minor fractures;• Minor, but not merely superficial, cuts of a sort probably requiring medical treatment (e.g. stitches); |
|--|---|

According to the Home Office Counting rules these are the definitions for 8G & 8J

8G DEFINITION – LEGAL: WOUNDING

To constitute a “wound” there must be “the breaking of the continuity of the whole of the outer skin, or the inner skin within the cheek or lip. It does not include the rupturing of internal blood vessels.” (**Archbold**). A scratch is not sufficient.

RECORDING PRACTICE: MINOR INJURIES

Common assault (code 105/1) includes common assault with no injury.

Where battery results in injury, Actual Bodily Harm and Other Injury (class 8G) should be recorded even if the injury amounts to no more than grazes, scratches, abrasions, minor bruising, swellings, reddening of the skin, superficial cuts, or a ‘black eye’.

In determining if a battery has resulted in an injury, care should be taken where there is no visible injury.

Each case needs to be viewed on its own merits. Shock can be regarded as an injury when accompanied by expert psychological evidence. A joint could be struck with no visible injury but the victim has had to undergo a course of treatment to get better. This would indicate some form of internal injury. Examples like this should be recorded under Actual Bodily Harm and Other Injury (class 8G).

An application of force which generates a feeling of touch or a passing moment of pain should be recorded as an assault without injury (class 105A).

Crimes which result in injuries more serious than those listed above should be recorded under the appropriate wounding with intent/GBH classification (probably either class 5A or 8F).

RECORDING PRACTICE: WOUNDS

Wounds under Offences Against the Persons Act 1861 Sec 20 will be recorded under class 8G **unless** there is evidence of intent when class 5A should be recorded or serious bodily harm is caused in which case class 8F should be recorded.

Examples of what would usually amount to serious harm include:

- injury resulting in permanent disability or permanent loss of sensory function;
- injury which results in more than minor permanent, visible disfigurement; broken or displaced limbs or bones, including fractured skull;
- compound fractures, broken cheek bone, jaw, ribs, etc;
- injuries which cause substantial loss of blood, usually necessitating a transfusion;
- injuries resulting in lengthy treatment or incapacity;
- psychiatric injury. As with assault occasioning actual bodily harm, appropriate expert evidence is essential to prove the injury.

8J DEFINITION – LEGAL: RACIALLY OR RELIGIOUSLY AGGRAVATED WOUNDING OR ACTUAL BODILY HARM

CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SEC 29 (AS ADDED TO BY ANTI-TERRORISM, CRIME AND SECURITY ACT 2001 SEC 39)

“(1) A person is guilty of an offence under this Section if he commits-

- (a) an offence under Section 20 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 (malicious wounding or grievous bodily harm); or
- (b) an offence under Section 47 of that Act (actual bodily harm) which is racially or religiously aggravated for the purposes of this Section.”

This indicator also takes into account racial or religious abuse that leads to the above injuries. There are two main occurrences these are domestic violence and the night-time economy. Domestic violence is defined by the Home Office as any threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between adults who are or have been in a relationship, or between family members. It can affect anybody, regardless of his or her gender or sexuality. The violence can be psychological, physical, sexual or emotional. It can include honour-based violence, female genital mutilation, and forced marriage.

The term “Night Time Economy” essentially refers to the bars, pubs and clubs, as well as take-aways and any other associated businesses that profit from visitors to a particular area at night. Because alcohol is the chief commodity that is consumed in the night-time economy, a large amount of crime – in particular violence and disorder – is inevitably generated from it.

Performance Monitoring

NI 20 is monitored at a County and a District level and is under the fourth priority of the Local Area Agreement (LAA). However Local Area Agreements were abolished in October 2010, following the Election and the new coalition government coming into power. The current Agreement will run until March 2011 and will not be replaced.

The previous Home Office believed that "Assault with injury" was the best available proxy for alcohol-related violent crime. British Crime Survey (BCS) data shows that nearly 50% of all violent incidents are attributed to the offender being under the influence of alcohol. 5 June 2008. Furthermore, the BCS data focuses on violent offences that are more likely to be alcohol-related. This indicator fits with priorities identified by all Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships/Community Safety Partnerships.

The target for this indicator is below.

Indicators with Descriptions	Baseline	2008-09 Targets	2009-10 Targets	2010 -11 Targets	Lead Partners
NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate per 1000 population	County: rate of 7.7 per 1000 population	n/a	10.5% reduction on 08/09 baseline	5% reduction on 08/09 baseline (i.e. 15.5% total reduction on baseline)	CDRPs

District Level

The table below shows the district's performance. This performance indicator has been operational since 1 April 2008 and its monthly cumulative outturns and actual monthly rates per 1000 population are as follows:.

Cumulative values for each month of the year				Actual monthly rates of assault with injury per 1000 population		
Month	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
April	0.73	0.76	0.46	0.73	0.76	0.46
May	1.47	1.80	1.06	0.74	1.04	0.60
June	2.20	2.71	1.47	0.73	0.91	0.41
July	3.08	3.59	2.02	0.88	0.88	0.55
August	3.96	4.44	2.53	0.88	0.85	0.51
September	4.79	5.07	3.02	0.83	0.63	0.49
October	5.75	5.87	3.41	0.96	0.80	0.39
November	6.60	6.62	3.76	0.85	0.75	0.35
December	7.46	7.23		0.86	0.61	
January	8.21	8.23		0.75	1.00	
February	9.00	8.87		0.79	0.64	
March	9.93	9.67		0.93	0.80	

Annual Target	N/A	9.34	7.37			
2008/09 Quartile position	Bottom Quartile	Median	Top quartile			
	9.20	7.10	5.50			

2.3 Bassetlaw, Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership (BNSCSP)

The Partnership reflects the police boundaries and enables partners to combine resources, which allows more effective problem solving across the two districts.

The Bassetlaw, Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership is a merged Partnership and is looking to set minimum standards in both districts. The Government requires certain statutory bodies to work together to improve Community Safety in a local area. Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership is concerned primarily with reducing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and consists of more than 20 partnership agencies from across the District and County.

The partner agencies involved within the Community Safety Partnership are:

- Bassetlaw District Council,
- Newark and Sherwood District Council,
- Nottinghamshire PCT NHS Trust,
- Bassetlaw PCT,
- Nottinghamshire Police Authority,
- Nottinghamshire County Council,
- Nottinghamshire Police,
- Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service,
- National Probation Service,
- Criminal Justice Board
- Youth Offending Service,
- Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team,
- Community Sector,
- Voluntary Sector,
- Business Community,
- Neighbourhood Partner

There are five themes that emerged from analysing a range of data from a Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment. One of the themes is Violence Against the Person.

The targets for 2010/11 take account of iQuanta Most Similar Group (MSG) data and aim to improve the positioning of the Partnership when compared to its MSG average. They are more challenging than the targets set in the Partnership Plan 2008 – 2011 and therefore replace them in its final year. The crime categories are based on the 2009/10 rate baselines as provided by iQuanta. The incident categories are based on the 2009/10 volume baselines, with the exception of Deliberate Secondary Fires, which is based on the 2007/08 volume baseline.

Category	Target 2010/11
All Crime	-14%
Violence Against the Person (with and without Injury)	-12%
Most Serious Violence	-16%
Assault with less Serious Injury	-24%

The Partnership is also measured using the Public Service Agreements (PSAs) set out the Government delivery priorities and how it will measure success. There are two key PSAs for 2008-2011:

- **PSA 23** – Make Communities Safer.

This is broken down into four priority actions, these are

- (i) Reduce the most serious violence, including tackling serious sexual offences and domestic violence,
- (ii) (Continue to make progress on serious acquisitive crime through a focus on the issues of greatest priority in each locality and the most harmful offenders – particularly drug-misusing offenders,

- (iii) Tackle the crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality, increasing public confidence in the local agencies involved in dealing with these issues
- (iv) Reduce re-offending through the improved management of offenders.

- **PSA 25** – Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs.

This is looking at the long term and sustainable reduction in the harms associated with alcohol and drugs and provides a real focus for tackling some of the key drivers of crime.

Performance of 2005 – 2008 Strategies

Each District in Community Safety Partnership produced a strategy for 2005 – 2008; therefore two sets of targets were set. These 3-year targets were stretching and were set to ensure that Partners focused activity on key operational targets. As you can see there was an increase rather than a reduction.

Priority	Bassetlaw		Newark and Sherwood	
	Reduction Target	Actual Achievement	Reduction Target	Actual Achievement
To reduce levels of ASB	14% (in Criminal Damage)	+12%	14% (in Criminal Damage)	+43%
To reduce the rate of Violent Crime	11%	+78.2%	N/A	+56.5%

Therefore the action plan below was put in place to tackle the reduction of violent crime associated with Domestic Abuse and Night-Time Economy.

Priority 3

3-Year Targets:

- Reduce Assault with Injury by 18%.
- Reduce Repeat Victims case managed by local Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) by 30%.

Objective:

- (a) Reduce impact of alcohol and drug related Night Time Economy incidents.
- (b) Reduce the number of repeat victims of Domestic Abuse.
- (c) Reduce violence with young females as victims / perpetrators
- (d) Additional measures for Partnership Plus areas,

2010/2011 Action Plan for each objective:

- (a) Project plans set up and delivered for:
 - 1. World Cup
 - 2. August Bank Holiday
 - 3 Christmas and New YearTo include patrols, street wardens, licensing, education and diversionary tactics. Each plan to included targeted alcohol and drugs campaigns
- (b) Support the delivery of the Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Domestic Violence Plan.
- (c) (i) Problem profile raised to highlight likely offenders and risks
 - (ii) Targeted educational and diversionary project developed for young female offenders.
- (d) Tougher use of licensing powers in 'Partnership Plus area'. Assessments of Pub watch and drinking orders.

This Act introduces on-the-spot fixed penalties for a range of minor offences, including being drunk and disorderly. It also grants local authorities the power to restrict anti-social public drinking in designated public places and empowers the police to confiscate alcohol in these zones.

Licensing Act 2003

The Licensing Act 2003, which came into force at the end of November 2005, abolished set licensing hours in England and Wales. Opening hours of premises are now set locally through the conditions of individual licences. The aim was to liberalise a rigid system whilst reducing the problems of drinking and disorder associated with a standard closing time. The Act gave licensing authorities' new powers over licensed premises, whilst giving local people more of a say in individual licensing decisions. It was hoped that in the longer term its provisions – coupled with other government initiatives – would help to bring about a more benign drinking culture.

Rebalancing the Licensing Act

This six week consultation which ended on 8th September sought views on empowering individuals, families and local communities to shape and determine local licensing. In it the Government has committed to setting a framework where licensing authorities are properly able to address the pressures caused by excessive late-night drinking and the 24hour licensing culture. One of the measures expected to be introduced in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill is the empowering of licensing authorities and enforcement agencies to be able to address local problems in the night time economy with local solution

The Government will use the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill to introduce powers to allow licensing authorities to charge a late-night levy to pay for policing the night-time economy

Victim Support

Victim Support is a national charity and adheres to the national rules set by the Home Office. It is accepted that Victim Support only deals with core crimes these include; Actual bodily harm, arson, burglary, criminal damage, fraud, murder manslaughter, rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, theft and anti social behaviour. All of the crimes that have taken place in the previous twenty-four hours are downloaded onto the Victim Care Unit database. The victims of crime are contacted and a needs assessment is carried out to see what the victim needs, this can be emotional support, contact with the police, criminal injuries, the Bassetlaw SAFE Scheme or the Witness Service. The service is confidential and free. Victims can self refer themselves if the crime is not covered by the core crimes we never turn anyone away. If a victim wants a volunteer to visit, the Branch Manager and Deputy arrange this. The Bassetlaw SAFE Scheme replaces or provides additional locks on victim's homes to ensure they are secure in their homes.

This year financial year (April – Nov 2010) there have been 7,148 offences involving violence in Nottinghamshire of which 1,028 were in Bassetlaw. There were 2,347 Domestic Violence offences in Nottinghamshire of which 447 were in Bassetlaw. The North Nottinghamshire Victim Support unit has had 391 referrals so far this year, 63 of these were domestic violence.

They work with partners like Notts Women's Aid (NWA), Anti Social Behaviour Team and the Police in a range of situations including intimidation and criminal damage cases. Victim Support is there to help victims to learn to live with their experiences.

Nottinghamshire Women's Aid (NWA)

Nottinghamshire Women's Aid was established in 1984 and aims to help and empower women, children and young people who have experienced any form of physical, sexual, emotional or economic abuse to make informed choices and decisions to determine their own futures. There are many barriers that prevent people leaving such a situation. They work with people till they get to a place to move on. NWA help women; children and young people understand they are not alone and it is not their fault. Male victims of DV are signposted to Victim Support.

Domestic Abuse sits in NI32 as well as NI 20. DV is an abuse of power and control, alcohol, drugs, mental health and unemployment make incidents more severe. Women are more likely to report an incident if alcohol is involved. This is because the incident is more intense. There are clear links with alcohol that it accelerates influence and frequency. DV is 25% of reported crime and that does not take into account for the under reporting of incidents

Floating support, sanctuary and outreach services can offer women a range of interventions that include safety planning, one to one support, telephone support and a domestic violence drop in service that can offer a quick response, we provide short term / crisis interventions, access to refuge, ongoing support, information, signposting and referring to other appropriate services. These are currently funded by supporting people and grant aid

DAISY (Domestic Abuse Information Service for You) project works in partnership with children's centres across Bassetlaw. They provide drop in session in each of the centres, various workshops including confidence building, group work, activities and sign posting.

The domestic abuse link workers are based within the Reception and Assessment team covering Bassetlaw Newark & Sherwood, making contact with victims of abuse who are referred to Children and Young People's Department. The worker provides a vital link to women enabling at an early stage intervention, offering information on support services, practical help and assistance. They work with social workers to offer expertise around issues relating to domestic abuse and attempts to engage family members around issues of safeguarding. This is funded by County Council

Children and young peoples services provide one to one support, group work, family support, parenting sessions and a range of therapeutic play for children of all ages to have the opportunity to explore, understand and express their feelings of there family situation and the abuse that has occurred. NHS Bassetlaw, grant aid and the Children's Fund, funds this service.

Bassetlaw, Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership has provided the funding to deliver the SAFE program in all secondary schools across Bassetlaw. The number of children taking part in the programme and the number of disclosures made are measured but it is difficult to measure the impact. This is vital in the prevention programme. The statistics say that one in five teenage girls is hit by their partner. Young girls think it is ok. This programme lets them know it is not ok and educates teenage boys as well.

Women Safety Workers provide specialist support to the partners of domestic violence offenders who are subject to Probation Service supervision, convicted of offences of violence against partners; who disclose violence / abuse of their partner(s) during the course of their supervision; who have been referred to take part in the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP).

The Farr Centre opened in 2005 as a safe women and children's centre that is Ofsted registered and provides free crèche provision. It also provides courses on a range of topics including confidence building, assertiveness, IT, parenting, basic literacy and numeracy and much more (This is service user led). The crèche supervisor facilitates a weekly mother toddler group. A women's group has been established called On Cloud 9 and local women's community groups in the district are supported by NWA by providing rooms and facilities free of charge.

A new service is the women's counselling service. All our female counsellors are trained to or are working towards the Higher Diploma in Counselling Practice level 5. This service is available to any woman who may be finding it difficult to cope with their emotions and can be a way of helping them begin to make changes in their life or reduce confusion around the way they feel. This service is free of charge.

The Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) are delivering the role of the IDVA by supporting high risk victims of domestic abuse or referrals to the Multi agency risk assessment process (MARAC) covering Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood districts. This role responds to and provides practical and emotional support, safety planning, early intervention and ongoing support through the court process or where child contact issues have been identified. The IDVA's are based within the Public Protection Unit at Ollerton (co-locating with the police) and respond to women that have been the victim of domestic abuse and are identified as high risk and where early intervention and support can be offered. They have had 360 cases over a rolling year period.

Child Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (CIDVA) work with children and young people who are identified as high risk through the MARAC process or through the police public protection unit again safety planning, support and appropriate intervention this is funded by NWA.

Children and young people who experience domestic violence are one of the most vulnerable groups in society. They are often silent victims. 750,000 children and young people in the UK witness domestic violence/abuse every year; NWA felt in Bassetlaw positive action was needed. The SAFE program was developed and is delivered to secondary schools as a preventative approach. This is a start and the impact of this program may not be measured for many years. It may be a young girl may take this information and use it in her adult life where she may find herself in an abusive relationship

Notts Women's Aid is in the process of the development of a new build refuge that will consist of 8 two bed-roomed self-contained flats. This has been funded by supporting people and housing benefit.

Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust

Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust was initially formed in March 1995 as Worksop Town Centre Partnership Trust, to address the vandalism, graffiti and violence that were adversely affecting town centre businesses. The business community formed one of the first public/private sector partnerships in the country. They visited Kings Lynn, which started CCTV. It was already established when it bid for funding from the Single Regeneration Budget. Nearly £1/2 million was secured, sufficient to contract a Town Centre Manager for three years and install a 14-camera system and control centre, which went live in November 2007.

Five years later and a bid submitted by the Bassetlaw Crime and Disorder Partnership to fund a scheme for Retford was successful. The Partnership was one of the first in the country to have voice enunciation installed in Retford and linked back to the Worksop Control Centre, picking up four dome cameras in Manton on route. The Control Centre was relocated to its present facility in April 2003 following a grant for over £140k from the Home Office. The Partnership changed its name to Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust.

In Bassetlaw, each camera was introduced and specifically sited in order to deliver an 'operational requirement', i.e. the need for the camera based upon a thorough and systematic assessment of the problem to be solved and the hoped for solutions.

The aims of the scheme are, primarily, the: -

- prevention and detection of crime and provision of court/tribunal evidence
- maintenance of public order
- reduction of nuisance and vandalism
- enhancement of a sense of safety by the public
- identification of traffic problems
- provision of appropriate information for town centre management.
- training of CCTV staff and Police Officers
- provision of evidence for proceedings

These aims will be aided through the provision of the CCTV system being:-

- a deterrent to criminal and anti-social behaviour
- under 24 hours recorded surveillance
- a visual guide allowing an assessment of the Police response to incidents
- a provider of evidence for court proceedings
- able to assist in the training of Public Space CCTV Operators and Police staff.

There is no evidence that it displaces crime. There are around 600 arrests per year using CCTV.

Radio control is used to contact premises and the Police community Support Officers if intervention is needed. The operators are trained to identify behaviour and traits that might lead to an incident. In thirteen years all the evidence been provided by the Partnership has been accepted in court. Public space surveillance is different from CCTV on buildings. It can pick up and identify people at 100yds and can also overlap

Designation Orders

The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 give local authorities the power to implement a designation order. This follows an assessment about the level of antisocial drinking and disorder in a particular area. There is then consultation with the police, parish or community councils, licensees and occupiers where they are also informed about the effect the order will have on their premises. Every street has to be named and evidenced once the order has been granted a copy goes the Home office and is monitored through the Community Safety Partnership

Designation orders do not provide a blanket restriction on alcohol or create an alcohol free zone. The offence is not the consumption of alcohol in a designated public place, but drinking after being required by an officer not to do so. The additional powers in a designated area are basically the same as they powers they already have when dealing with alcohol consumption by those under 18.

The Police and Community Police Support Officers have the power to enforce the order by confiscating and disposing of alcohol and persons can be arrested if they fail to co-operate. The ban does not affect drinking in any licensed premises.

Each of the town centres has a designated alcohol free zone, where alcohol cannot be drunk on the streets. These have proven to be successful in keeping people who are drinking inside the pubs and not on the streets. It has also reduced the amount of glass on the streets, which has been a hazard.

There had been concerns about Victoria Square, where there had been incidents of anti social drinking have been taking place during the day with drinkers sitting in the Square and abusing shoppers. There had also problems along the canal and at the Railway station. Discussions took place with the Town Centre Manager to extend the current alcohol free zone as it is subject to abuse. There has been a period of consultation and it is hoped that the extension of the zone will be passed in time for the Christmas celebrations.

3. Method of Review

3.1 Summary of Review Meetings and External visits

Meeting	Witnesses	Evidence Gathered
23/09/10	D Wilkinson, Street Pastor Coordinator	Street Pastors Initiative
6/10/10	Stephen Wormald, Solicitor, BDC	Licensing process New Licensing Act
18/10/10	Kenny Hunt, PubWatch, Retford Mark Churchill, PubWatch, Worksop Gerald Connor, Community Safety Co-ordinator Eleanor Brockel, Partnership Analyst	PubWatch Information about the hot spots for Alcohol related incidents
27/10/10	Sara Luke, Nottinghamshire Police Chief Inspector R. Stapleford, B Division, Notts Police	Licensing and policing
02/11/10	Shirley Hoyland, Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust	Public Open Spaces CCTV
08/11/10	Sally Potter, Victim Support Mandy Green, Notts Women's Ai	Victim Support Domestic Violence programmes & information
22/11/10	Draft recommendations	

4. Addressing the Scope: Evidence Gathered for Recommendations

4.1 To focus on specific areas that have high incidence of violence against the person – Worksop Town Centre & East Retford East.

This review decided to focus its attention on the two main town centres in Bassetlaw. This was because there are two hotspots in the district, Worksop and Retford town centre, between 10pm – 3am on Friday and Saturday. This is the same experience within the Hot Spots in Newark and Sherwood.

Evidence showed that a significant number of incidents took place in 20% of licensed premises in the two town centres. This does not necessarily mean that those premises are not run well and entry could have been refused and subsequently an incident occurs outside of the premises

From the information gathered there is a clear relationship between the increased density of crimes and ASB incidents and the Public Houses within the hotspot area. The information below shows this as the wards identified cover the town centre areas.

East Bassetlaw

The following Wards accounted for a total of 65% of all alcohol related crime and ASB in East Bassetlaw:

- East Retford West Ward (26%)
- East Retford East Ward (25%)
- Harworth Ward (14%)

West Bassetlaw

The following Wards accounted for a total of 62% of all alcohol related crime and ASB in West Bassetlaw:

- Worksop South East Ward (22%)
- Worksop South Ward (20%)
- Worksop North West Ward (20%)

This information was further corroborated by the information provided by the Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust who provides the closed circuit television coverage in the town centres. They were able to confirm that the number of incidents recorded in Bassetlaw is significantly higher than those that are recorded in Newark and Sherwood. The figures showed an increase in arrests where the cameras have played a significant part Bassetlaw from 2008 to date.

Nottinghamshire Police

Chief Inspector Stapleford was able to provide the Panel with information about the current situation in the district. As of 25/10/10 Violent Crime has reduced 41% month on month and 26% reduction year on year. There had been 47% reduction this year to date

A breakdown across the district is seen below.

East Bassetlaw - Retford	West Bassetlaw – Worksop
63% reduction month on month 24% year on year NI 20 has reduced 31.5% against a target of 26%	36% reduction month on month 30% reduction year on year NI 20 47% against a target of 27.6%
Detection rates	
66% detected	68% detected

There is a 56% reduction in offences relating to NI 20 across the District. There are 15 Basic Command Units (BCU) in the area B Division which covers Bassetlaw is currently in second position with 1.42 crimes per 1000 population.

Under age drinking

Another problem has been under age drinking in the town centres; it is difficult to tell the age of young people with today's fashion. The pubs only accept a valid driving licence or passport as proof of age; this is because there is so much fake ID around. The pubs have a no tolerance policy; Trading Standards and the police carry out test purchasing on a regular basis. This is when they send in a young person to try and buy alcohol without ID and who appear to be under 18. If caught the member of staff is given issued with a £80 Fixed Penalty notice. Two failed test purchase will result in either the police closing the premises for 48 hrs on a time and date chosen by the police and/or the prosecution of the designated Premises Licence Holder or Premises Licence Holder for persistently selling alcohol to a person under 18. Some Pubs have given their staff an incentive to ensure they check ID, the landlord will repay the £80 fine if a full description and name of the under age drinker can be provided good staff training is vital.

The Police have tried a new tactic in Retford by focussing on the young people who misuse ID to buy alcohol. Four young people were arrested and prosecuted. Once a young person had been arrested their parents were called and advised of their child's arrest and asked to attend the Police station. This has had a ripple effect, the message was spread to their peers through the social networks and under age drinking in the town has dropped significantly.

Cheap Alcohol

Cheap alcohol and Pre loading alcohol (alcohol consumed beforehand at home or other premises) is another factor that contributes to the incidents of violence against the person. Supermarkets sell alcohol at a reduced price to entice customers into the stores. This means that four cans of lager can be bought for the same price as a pint of lager in pub. This has led to a change in how people drink with many people drinking at home before they come into town. It could be said that the large chain pubs, which sell cheap alcohol could be playing a part in the problems of drunkenness and disorder that other pubs have to deal with later on in the night.

Bassetlaw is reported to be in the top fifty areas with alcohol problems (North West Observatory). There is no doubt that incidents are connected to the number of injuries presented at A&E. Young people are more likely to be a victim rather than a perpetrator.

The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) is currently consulting people in the Merseyside on a by-law to make it illegal to sell alcohol for less than 50p per unit. The by law would make it illegal to sell cheap alcohol and would ban pub loyalty cards.

The Government is currently considering how it might introduce a tougher licensing regime to stop supermarkets from selling cheap alcohol.

PubWatch

Retford PubWatch started in 1992 but failed soon after. Pub watch was re launched in 2001 with a constitution, Equality/Diversity Statement, and Membership Policy written and produced by the Licensing Officer in conjunction with the National Pub watch and is still running. Pub watch runs as Bassetlaw Pub watch with branches in Retford and Worksop and Executive Committee exist as Bassetlaw Pub Watch and each branch has a sub committee. There are eleven pubs in the Retford branch of PubWatch who fund it and run it in the interest of Retford. The eleven pubs in Retford PubWatch are the core pubs in the town centre pubs outside of this area are not included as it would become unmanageable, so the focus is on the town centre. The Worksop branch also has eleven pubs that are in Worksop town centre.

The Police and the Council work with PubWatch. We have regular meetings to discuss incidents where the police may have been called. We see any alcohol related incident as our problem. If any staff member witnesses any violent behaviour taking place in the pubs the person is issued with a ban for 18 months to any of the town centre pubs. There is no second chance and is not dependant on whether the police charge individuals. The problem is that those that are banned drift to other Towns in the district. Pubs in the towns are unaware of those banned from pubs in the other town, so it is difficult to know those who could pose a potential problem.

The Panel discussed ways that such photographic information could be shared. Police can only release pub watch photos where the individual being banned has a previous conviction for alcohol related violence or violence under the data protection act.

In Mansfield banned individuals details are published in the local press by PubWatch. In Croydon there is a scheme whereby members can access a password protected website to access photos of those banned. Some PubWatch Schemes offer a reduced ban to those willing to provide a photo to be shared with those in the scheme.

Recommendation:

- That the existing Bassetlaw- wide PubWatch Scheme is expanded to incorporate additional divisions across the whole of the District. This should further be supported by additional meeting of the leads from each division to ensure a consistent approach.
- That the Bassetlaw PubWatch scheme should consider using an electronic photographic exchange between Police and all licensed premises in the Scheme to prevent people from moving between towns in the district when they are banned and that offenders should receive a Bassetlaw-wide ban.

Note the following two points of the scope (4.2 & 4.3) are addressed by the same pieces of evidence and as such will be discussed together.

4.2 The impact of previous activity and how it compares with actions currently in place.

There have been a number of key introductions into the way activity takes place in tackling the problems of the night-time economy. These include a partnership approach, which includes the local community. There is a combination of prevention and diversion activities across the district. There has been a change in policing and licensing methods as well as changes in how incidents are recorded. The introduction of the Street Pastors initiative has also contributed to the improved performance. However it is difficult to evidence this as they often diffuse potential conflicts.

Changes in Policing

The Policing Pledge was launched by the previous Government in March 2008. It is an agreement between the police and the public on the minimum level of service that should be expected. The Pledge stipulates that if you call 999, we will aim to answer within 10 seconds and deploy to emergencies immediately, giving an estimated time of arrival, getting to you safely, and as quickly as possible. In urban areas, we will aim to reach you within 15 minutes and in rural areas within 20 minutes.

There have been some changes to the way the Police record incidents, following the best practice shared in Northumberland. However the use of locality policing and response teams has proven successful. This means there is more police visible in the towns. Duties are put together on key dates like Christmas, New Year or World Cup, where there has been a historic increased demand. A risk assessment is carried out. Leave is cancelled on New Years Eve and New Years Day to ensure there is enough officers to respond and process prisoners. Officers are drafted in from other areas in the district.

The Police hold a daily management meeting with Department Heads. They look at the incidents that have happened over the last 24 hours and target areas with resources to limit any risk. This holds individuals to account if performance is falling.

Every prisoner is reviewed that goes through the custody suite. There is a focus on individuals that have been bailed or have had no further action taken. The question is asked why no charges have followed or why bail has been given. The longer an investigation takes the less likely there is will be a conviction. It is all about focussing the attention of all sergeants, officers and inspectors and the partnership with the Crown Prosecution Service, to ensure that cases proceed. We also look at bailees or those coming back to the police. Department Heads are then focussed on how to manage bailees to get a successful prosecution. Known suspects, who have not been arrested, have their details passed to the Police National Computer.

Licensing

Licensing is a key tool in ensuring the public's safety. Bassetlaw District Council's role comes under the Licensing Act 2003 this means the licensing of the following:

- of premises involved in the sale or supply of alcohol, provision of regulated entertainment and provision of late night refreshments such as take-aways that are open after the pubs close
- hackney carriages /private hire vehicles and drivers

When an application is made for a license the process involves BDC informing 'responsible authorities' such as Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, Trading Standards Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC), Child Protection (NCC), Environmental Health (BDC) and Planning Services (BDC).

Notice of the application is publicised so that interested parties can make representations. These include

- responsible authorities
- interested parties which includes persons living in the vicinity or involved in a business of the premises
- Members of Parliament and Ward Councillors

If the Licensing Authority receives representations it must hold a hearing to consider them before it determines the application. If none are received it must grant the application subject to conditions, so the outcome depends on relevant representations. If there are problems at a premise, responsible authorities or interested parties may apply for a license review. The Licensing Authority must hold a hearing and may revoke the license. This happened locally in 2008 when Nottinghamshire Police applied for a review of a nightclub and it was subsequently closed.

BDC must carry out its duties under the Act to promote the licensing objectives as follows:

- Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

A licence can have Mandatory Conditions which are laid down in the 2003 Act which relate to

- Supply of alcohol
- Door supervision - door staff must be licensed
- No irresponsible drinks promotion
- Provision of free tap water on request to customers
- Age verification policy
- Alcohol available in small measures - introduced October 2010 - 125ml measures and beer and cider available in ½ pints.

The night-time economy plays a large part of violent crime and the police recognize the importance of licensing premises is key. Nottinghamshire Police B Division has a Licensing Manager who is not a policeman and works as support staff.

The Police Licensing Manager has produced the Divisional Strategic and Tactical Licensing Plan which have been recognised as best practice. The Manager is concerned with the day to day running of each premise and the incidents that

occur at premises. The manager is also provides a tactical response to Calendar events such as the World Cup, Christmas and New Year. The licensing manager acts as the primary evidence gatherer with regard to the Police seeking a review of a Premise Licence and produces the file, which is put before the Local Authority.

In May there was a Home Office inspection three pubs were closed as a result. The approach taken was hailed as best practice and has subsequently been rolled out in other areas.

Proposed Changes to Licensing Act 2003

The new government has consulted on changes to the Act to rebalance responsibilities on the granting of licenses. The current Act is the responsibility of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and one of the proposals is for it to be with the Home Office. The proposals want to rebalance licensing in favour of local communities. The current legislation gives a presumption of granting all new license applications but the proposals give flexibility to local communities and local authorities and the Police to express local concerns. The Police will have greater powers in the licensing process. There is also a proposal for local authorities to be able to charge a fee to premises that open into the early hours to cover the costs of additional policing.

The consultation also addresses businesses that sell alcohol at a loss for wider trading gain. The proposal is to ban the sale of alcohol below cost price as this can result in binge drinking and crime and disorder.

Bassetlaw District Council responded to the consultation jointly with the Nottinghamshire Officers Licensing Group.

Door Staff

Many of the Pubs have door supervision and this can be a condition of the licence. Door Supervisors now have to be trained and attain recognised qualifications before they can get a licence. A doorman can not work unless he has his licence on display. The Security Industry Authority (SIA) is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry. An SIA licence is required for anyone undertaking the licensable activities of a door supervisor. It is a criminal offence to undertake the licensable activities of a door supervisor without an SIA licence.

The role of a Door Supervisor is to monitor who is let into a venue. Judgement is required when dealing with people who are under the influence of alcohol. The need to be vigilant and able to spot trouble before it happens so they can prevent an incident. Some Door staff actively spot incidents on the street and report them to the Police. They assist by observing or intervening. This is still recorded against the pub even if they have spotted it and reported it. The Door staff work in partnership with the Police, CCTV and the Street Pastors

Street Pastors

Retford & Worksop Street Pastors is a locally managed branch of a national charity operating under licence. There are now over 200 projects in the UK and Bassetlaw was the 48th to join. Street Pastors along with other partners are working to make a positive contribution to the safety and well-being of night-time economy users in Retford and Worksop Town Centres.

The project is still developing, the first eighteen months have been a very steep learning curve for all involved and the Management Team is constantly reviewing and adapting protocols and procedures to meet changing needs.

The training for a Pastor is to Home Office Standards and lasts for 12 months. The Pastor has equipment such as 'spikeys' to stop drinks being spiked with drugs; lollipops to calm violent and aggressive people and 'flip flops' for women who often lose shoes when they go out. Figures from Bassetlaw A&E indicate that there has been a reduction in foot lacerations when Street Pastors are on duty and the NHS is now keeping statistics for future reference in line with national protocols. Street Pastors remove bottles when they are on duty to reduce possible damage.

The following information provided by the Street Pastors shows the actions taken May- October 2010:

Trained Street Pastors on our register	28	
New volunteers currently beginning Training	15	
Worksop Friday/Saturday Patrols Patrols are targeted at Retford and Worksop Town Centres between the hours of 10pm and 3am	43 (Max possible 54) (79%)	
Serious criminal/anti social behaviour incidents attended	Retford: 69	Worksop:61
Routine anti social behaviour incidents attended	Retford: 170	Worksop: 149
Spikekeys	approximately 200	
Flip flops	170	
First aid administered as first on scene	Retford: 22	Worksop: 19
Bottles/glass/Umbrella shafts and other potential weapons cleared from street*	Retford: 355	Worksop: 322

*This makes a total of approx 670 between the two centres – each bottle represents a potential weapon or injury/health risk. There are only a very few glasses coming into the Town Centres from licensed premises where door security staff operate at weekends. Glasses are frequently brought into the town centres from private parties in venues where there are no door staff. Bottles and cans generally are brought into town by people at the beginning of the evening. Very few bottles appear after midnight. Our research shows that bottles are likely to originate in Supermarkets and off licences rather than pubs and clubs. NB This is believed to be much less than other Street Pastor projects are recovering in similar towns

The project is proving to be effective in bringing a measure of calm and peace to the streets and has recently received Nottinghamshire Police Divisional Commanders commendation for its work.

The Retford & Worksop Management Team is also assisting the Newark Street Pastor project to get established.

Diversionsary Activities

There have been a number of partnership successes in the district. This shows the importance of delivery projects at a local level. There have been a number of community based activities in Langold to tackle alcohol related anti social behaviour these include alcohol free dances, community fun nights and BBQs.

In Manton there has been the development and support of a six a side football league which play local teams. Team members are not allowed to play if they have been involved in an incident with the Police in the previous week.

The 'Beat the Hoodie' initiative is aimed at 16-25 year olds in Carlton-in-Lindrick and runs throughout the year, activities include beatbox workshop, DVD night, boxing, gym, wii night, film making, volunteering and themed information evenings.

A1 Housing is currently funding the Friday Night Skate, which targets 15 young people every fortnight for three months to go to Sheffield Ice Rink. This allows the Youth Service and Connexions to carry out educational work alongside the ice skating activity. They also support building relationships with the police and the ASB Team who take an active part in the sessions.

Young Potential Residential is a six-month intensive programme for referrals. The projects look at the young person as a whole and include areas such as conflict resolution, anger management, alcohol and drugs and sexual health.

Domestic Violence

Initiatives aimed at reducing domestic violence included Operation AWARN. This involved an outreach worker from Notts Women's aid and the police visit known offenders during known times and events such as Bank Holidays, World Cup and Christmas.

4.3 What has caused the performance indicator to improve?

There are a number of possible reasons why performance has improved in this area. These have been discussed above

Changes in the way the figures are recorded has to be considered as a main cause for the improvement in the indicator as the new approach means that not every incident is recorded as before at the time of the arrest, because the Police now have 72 hours to gather evidence. As many of the incidents involve alcohol, individuals may see things differently the next day when they are sober and a charge may be dropped by the victim following reflection.

The closure of the nightclubs in Worksop and Retford has made a difference in the towns and has changed the clientele for some of the pubs that stay open later. Some pubs have changed the style of the pub to dissuade come of the more rowdy customers. Other pubs have asked for changes in their licensing conditions.

Since summer 2009, there has been a difference in the way the town centres are being policed with high visibility police teams and the new handling changes discussed above.

CCTV and open spaces surveillance has improved the information gathered by the Bassetlaw Town Centre Partnership Trust. Public space surveillance is different from CCTV on buildings. The new cameras can identify people at 100yds and can also overlap. They have provided evidence for over 600 arrests. A feasibility study has been carried out to consider additional cameras across the district. The Panel identified that there were blind spots that should be considered in Worksop. It is hoped these will be picked up by the feasibility study. The Panel however raised concerns about the potential relocation of the CCTV control centre. The concerns were about the possible detrimental effects to the system and the ability to provide real time reports so that incidents can be spotted.

There is good communication and partnership working between the different services working in the towns, this partnership approach has to have contributed to the improvement in the indicator. Police, CCTV, Door Supervisors and Street Pastors are in radio contact with each other and assist each other in making the town centres safe.

Recommendation:

- That Nottinghamshire Police considers a uniform approach to take preventative and pre-emptive action for a positive effect on alcohol related violent incidents on the streets of the town centres. By using the good practices used by Northumbria Police.
- That the Police consider a mandatory recording procedure for alcohol related incidents, similarly to the recording of Domestic Violence.

4.4 How many of the activities are sustainable?

Many of the activities rely on funding from the County Council, District Council and Community Safety Partnership. In light of the spending review and the significant cuts to funding it would be fool hardy to believe that this would not affect activities. Some key services will of course continue but with reduce resources. Nottinghamshire Police Authority will deliver a report on how to make tens of millions of pounds in savings, with some cuts in officers and support staff inevitable. The report, including three options to deliver the cuts ordered by the Government, will be delivered to Nottinghamshire Police Authority in mid December.

Street Pastors

The project has sufficient funds to continue operation until the end of 2011. Grants have been applied for and the Management Team are considering fundraising and financial support on an ongoing basis to ensure continuity. The project benefits by considerable investment from key churches to underwrite the majority of the running costs leaving a deficit of about £40 per team per night to be raised through fundraising grants and gifts.

The project costs around £7,000 per year and without additional funding only a limited project could run. However, the Management Team is looking at ways to raise funds to pay for additional training and development.

Domestic Violence Projects

The Safer Nottinghamshire Board is planning a Service Review of voluntary sector provision of specialist domestic violence and abuse services. This review aims to ensure that the public are receiving a quality service that is value for money. It will also look at where efficiencies can be made and capacity for future joint working. These voluntary organisations are funded by a range of partners. In Bassetlaw these include:

- Nottinghamshire County Council
- NHS Bassetlaw
- Nottinghamshire Police
- Community Safety Partnership
- Nottinghamshire Probation Area

The review will be completed in April 2011. There has already been some reduction in funding and in the context of shrinking budgets and fewer funds available it is vital to identify best practice and safeguard vital services.

The BNSCSP Domestic Violence Team are awaiting information on several bids that have been made for the supporting people budget, this has since been un-ringfenced. If these bids are unsuccessful this could have an impact on the domestic violence agenda.

This review and the pending cuts will have some consequences for Nottinghamshire Women's Aid who is funded by several partners. However NWA provides some vital services, which will be safeguarded.

The Community Safety Partnership has had its funding cut by Nottinghamshire County Council cuts and this will affect many of projects in place. However it is committed in identifying future opportunities for funding with its partners.

Recommendation:

- That the Community Safety Coordinator will liase with Notts Women's Aid Manager to identify funding sources and where appropriate submit applications to access monies to continue the early intervention schools programme.

4.5 Consider and compare best practice

Northumbria Police Force is the top authority for Community Safety in Bassetlaw's family of comparative authorities. This force had utilised the 72-hour rule. Prior to January 2010 all crimes were reported without evidence. Now police can wait up to 72 hours before recording a crime this allows time for those involved to sober up and for supporting evidence to be gathered. If no evidence is found a crime is not reported. Also Northumbria Police Force intervenes earlier by making arrests for drunk and disorderly or for a public order offence, rather than waiting for assaults to happen. There was a lot of support and intervention in place. Officers from Nottinghamshire Police B Division visited the Northumbrian Force, to gather information on how they work.

The police do not have a mandate to record or test for alcohol for incidents relating to NI 20. Anecdotally alcohol related incidents are much higher than recorded, but it is difficult to get the information. This is a national problem; The Home Office produced guidance in 2003 because it recognised this was a problem.

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and Leicestershire Police Hinckley Local Policing Unit (LPU) gained Beacon status for their outstanding work in Managing the Night-time Economy. This included their work on tackling alcohol related crime, such as violence against the person. A visit was made to Hinckley and Bosworth on a Friday night by members of the Bassetlaw, Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership. Many of the activities were the same as currently provided in Bassetlaw. Young Potential and the Youth Service have been working with young people around alcohol and aggression.

The scheme was introduced as a result of a nationally reported incident. The Street Pastors in Hinckley have eight uniformed PC's from 11pm to 4am and additional officers do arrests. This scheme has the largest number of visible police per head of population. It is now being reduced to four PC's due to the fall off in trade on a Friday night. This fall off in trade seems to be a general pattern and it applies to Bassetlaw. The Police apply Section 30 (Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003) Dispersal Orders strictly and if people do not leave they are detained for 36 hours. There is also support from the local magistrates in Hinckley as the average fine is £400 and this reflects public concern. If it is a 2nd or 3rd offence the offender will have a town centre ban.

In Newark & Sherwood District Council at Domestic Violence policy has been implemented for employees. The Policy includes training for managers around spotting the signs of abuse and how to signpost staff to services. The adoption of a DV policy for employees is good practice and was supported by Nottinghamshire Women's Aid. They said: "In view of the number of female employees local authorities employ, it would be wise to have clear strategy. Victims and perpetrators can be employees".

Recommendation:

- That Nottinghamshire Police considers a uniform approach to take preventative and pre-emptive action for a positive effect on alcohol related violent incidents on the streets of the town centres. By using the good practices used by Northumbria Police.
- That consideration be given to the Police Licensing Officer, locating one day per week with the Community Safety Team at Worksop, to forge stronger links with BDC Departments e.g. Licensing, Environmental Health & Community Safety.
- That BDC adopt a Domestic Violence Policy for employees, which is considered good practice.

4.6 How will the economic downturn/ spending review affect performance?

The cuts to funding will have an effect on the funding of some services and projects. The funding to the Community Safety Partnership has been cut drastically for the forthcoming year. This means that some of the projects will not receive further funding. The Community Safety Coordinator said; “The impact of the proposed cuts in the community could clearly mean that there is a potential for increase violence with less money, more unemployment and more time at home. If there are cuts in services the question is will there be the ability to respond”.

The challenge is to become more creative in how reduced resources are used. However the performance indicator would most probably rise if there are reduced services and with more contributory factors, such as unemployment, shortage of money and stress factors.

The Domestic Violence Team are awaiting information on several bids that have been made for the supporting people budget, this has since not been ring fenced. If these bids are unsuccessful this could have an impact on the domestic violence agenda.

There is a strong possibility that the cuts to Notts Women’s Aid will mean reduced domestic violence services in the community. The Sanctuary Scheme run by Notts Women’s Aid has a limited budget and it is expensive compared with the SAFE Scheme, which provides new locks on doors and windows.

The current funding for the early intervention schools programme will end due to the cuts. This programme is a vital part of preventing Domestic Violence and so the Panel are keen to support this programme.

Recommendation:

- That the Community Safety Coordinator will liase with Notts Women’s Aid Manager to identify funding sources and where appropriate submit applications to access monies to continue the early intervention schools programme.

4.7 Future trends – How will we best target our resources?

The Panel noted that cheap alcohol contributed to the incidents in the town centres. Supermarkets are able to sell alcohol below cost price and do so to entice customers into their stores. These prices are well below those that are charged in pubs in the town. This means that people drink less in the pubs and more at home before they come out. Also the cost of alcohol can be less than the price of a magazine. Pubs have to check bags to ensure people are not bringing into the pubs

The future trends means that there will be less funding and reduced services. The challenge will be targeting the resources we have in the most effective way. The Government is proposing to give local communities more powers to deal with licensing issues at a local level. There is a suggestion of a minimum price for a unit of alcohol and powers to implement a levy (an extra charge) for those staying open late at night.

The introduction of night-time economy levy would be a way of ensuring additional policing resources. It would also cover the costs of clearing the town up with rubbish of food and packaging from takeaways. Businesses could pass the cost of the levy onto those that are using the services.

One of the areas of conflict is taxis at the end of the night and with more activity at the bottom of Bridge Place an additional Taxi rank on Eastgate would assist the dispersion of late night crowds and avoid potential clashes.

A feasibility study has been carried out on the viability of increasing CCTV across the district. This will include the use of mobile cameras, which are used by the Community Safety Team. The Panel discussed the possibility of having multi purpose lighting columns that could take CCTV, however there would be a considerable cost in redesigning the columns. Also separate energy supplies would be necessary for each item for costing purposes.

The proposed extension of the designated order will provide police with powers to remove alcohol both day and night throughout the town.

Recommendation:

- That officers explore the introduction of a night-time economy levy on licensed premises. The purpose of the levy would be to ensure additional policing resources are available at key times.
- That the possibility of a second Taxi Rank for Worksop on Eastgate adjacent to Matalan be explored to ease potential conflict points
- That BDC support the extension of the alcohol free zones, in particular to cover Victoria Square, Worksop
- That an investigation is carried out in the areas between Bridge Place and Victoria Square into reports of increased litter generated by food outlets. If the reports are substantiated then a robust approach should be taken to ensure that food outlets take responsibility for clearing up any rubbish generated from their business. Further promotion of the Food on the Go scheme is also recommended.

5. Conclusion

This Select Panel was tasked to review the Community Safety Performance Indicator NI 20 (Assault with injury crime rate). The Panel looked at the two main contributors for this indicator the night-time economy and domestic violence. For some time the indicator had showed poor performance, this sparked concern and the subsequent review. However there has been a considerable improvement in the performance of NI 20 indicator. Therefore the Panel wanted to find out what had made the difference in lowering the number of incidents and how this could be sustained.

The Panel found that there were a number of possible causes for the improvement in performance. These were identified as changes in police recording process, changes to policing in the town, innovative licensing, the introduction of Street Pastors initiative, partnership activities and the closure of the nightclubs in the towns. Also there has been a partnership approach to tackling domestic violence and planned operation for historic key dates.

The Panel were aware that the Government Spending Review would provide immense challenges in sustaining the improvement made, as there is likely to be reduced resources and funding. The Panel applauded the work of volunteers in the various community initiatives currently available. Further opportunities for partnership working would need to be explored and good practice identified.

The night-time economy levy would be one way of ensuring additional resources and to pay for keeping the town clean. The Panel suggested a follow on topic for a future review should be around the refuse left by those using takeaways.

The Panel have made a number of recommendations following the evidence gathered from examples of best practice and other identified areas for improvement. The Panel were pleased with the progress made even though the extent of the success could be due to the change in recording. It recognised that there was some very good work happening that was difficult to evidence because of the prevention of incidents and nevertheless benefited the town centres.

This review highlighted some other issues for consideration; these included the litter caused by late night takeaways and a future possible review. It was also brought to the Panel's attention that some necessary building work on the Canal Bridge at Bridge Place had meant that the pavement had been raised. During the review the Panel were told that this was a cause for concern because pedestrians were not aware of the height changes and it was a potential hazard. The Panel approached Nottinghamshire County Council to see if the raised kerb could be highlighted in some way. They have since decided to paint the kerb with white paint to make it more visible to pedestrians.

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