Safer Plymouth - next steps in our development

DATE: 21 Jan 2016

Introduction

This paper seeks to highlight some issues and associated pointers for discussion, to help move Safer Plymouth's development forward.

Background

Following on-going discussions about the need for Safer Plymouth to change the way it goes about business, the Board's meeting on 23rd July considered a paper about development of the Partnership.

This noted…… "members' desire to move to a more dynamic and innovative way of working (and away from a "committee" style approach to meetings. Although the partnership has adopted principles of systems leadership, we have yet to fully realise the potential for this to change our approach. Members have indicated their desire to work more collaboratively with wider partnerships and agendas e.g. Safeguarding Boards around Child Sexual Exploitation".

The paper went on to identify new ways of working that could help improve things including, e.g: a focus on outcomes across a broad range of partners' priorities and on key issues rather than structures or geographies; a shared understanding of the culture we will promote; a systems leadership approach extended outside immediate membership; and reducing and simplifying reporting mechanisms and meetings. It also suggested Safer Plymouth may wish to consider requesting it becomes a sub-group of the Health & Well-Being Board.

The meeting agreed that, since the demise of Plymouth 2020, Safer Plymouth had lost some of its momentum and that it was important to regain this and focus on where it could make a greater difference. The Board felt this would require members being honest about what could and couldn't realistically be achieved.

A (rather poorly attended) "away session" on 14th Aug decided to adopt a more dynamic outcome-focused approach, dealing with key issues for the city, rather than sticking to a rigid committee style agenda.

Strategic Assessment

At the next Board meeting, held on 24th Sept, our Strategic Assessment was discussed and it indicated areas of focus that should be adopted by the Board as priorities; but with the proviso that they may be subject to change should circumstances change and there is a need to review the Partnership's areas of focus/priority. (See Appendix page 4.)

Since this, a further iteration of the Strategic Assessment has been circulated and feedback sought.

This follows a similar format to previous Strategic Assessments, and as ever, contains a lot of good analysis. However, it could be argued that some of the information and recommendations need to be reshaped to help us become more outcome focused across wider community safety e.g: the Fire Service's fire safety priorities; the issues of mental health being regularly dealt with by police officers; and the joint commissioning priories agreed by the council, health and others.

Recommendations in the assessment remain very process orientated, often without clear links to *outcomes* wanted – i.e. the "so what?" factor. Addressing this requires the Board (not the analysts) to be clear about our desired outcomes with better prioritisation and sharing of responsibilities. For example, regarding begging and vagrancy, what do we want here – enforcement, prevention, reputation, well-being?

Furthermore, the Partnership would benefit from better evidence of links between interventions and outputs / outcomes. Eg, did the ASB interventions listed, contribute to performance?

We should also be asking whether maintaining some priorities is the best use of diminishing resources. Eg, should ASB generally continue to be a priority as the Assessment recommends, or do we need to take a more victim focused approach to recommendations? This would require clear(er) agreement on our priorities.

Priorities

The partnership could consider adopting a sharper focus on threat risk and harm, reducing the harm to communities and protecting vulnerable people (along the lines the Police adopt but widened around community safety). This "overlaid" on the Strategic Assessment might help re-focus where our attention and resources should be directed and what outcomes we want.

Plymouth Plan

Around the time of our September meeting, the first part of the Plymouth Plan was being finalised. This makes reference to community safety in the context of policy 12 "Making great places across the city" which talks about supporting …… "strong and inclusive communities where people have a sense of belonging and ownership, feel safe and confident……delivering a partnership approach to tackle crime and disorder that causes the most harm and affects those most at risk….(and)…reducing opportunities for crime and the fear of crime by requiring all new development to incorporate good design principles".

Policy 29, "Better by design" also makes reference to: "ensuring that the layout and details of new development adequately contributes towards high standards of community safety". But it is questionable what connect there is between the full range of Safer Plymouth's priorities and the Plan. Some work is, however, taking place on the more detailed second stage of the Plymouth Plan to embed community safety issues – nb regarding the evening and night time economy.

Joint delivery

Discussions have taken place over how Safer Plymouth can facilitate better joint delivery of community safety work locally. Potential examples include using the Fire service to "open doors" to reach vulnerable citizens, sharing information on ex-offenders between probation and the council, and closer work at neighbourhood level between the police and the council. However to date, there has been little progress, and focus remains on sub groups.

Way forward

The Board is invited to consider the following suggestions and agree on the way forward for each.

	Suggestion	Points for discussion
1.	Safer Plymouth adopts a tighter focus on threat risk and harm, reducing the harm to communities and protecting vulnerable people, across a broad community safety brief.	Is this the right priority to support becoming more outcome focused? (See appendix page 4.) What level of commitment exists to move this into reality e.g. taking responsibility beyond organisational boundaries and dropping areas of work that don't fall within this?
2.	The Strategic Assessment becomes a more focused document, reflecting wider community safety priorities, with better prioritisation, and with more emphasis on outcomes. (See appendix page 4.)	How can we move to this position and how quickly? How can we be clear about our priorities and outcomes to shape this and can partners' provide the necessary input?
3.	Safer Plymouth Board facilitates improved joint delivery by identifying leads amongst organisations and empowering them to work towards defined outcomes through systems leadership. Don't worry about what structures they adopt (or don't adopt).	Again, how can we be clear about the priorities and outcomes to guide these leads? Are we ready to "let go" in this way and focus on the "what", allowing others to sort out the "how"? How can we get to improved joint delivery at operational level? Does requesting to become a sub-group of the Health & Well-Being Board help? If so what's stopping us?
4.	Safer Plymouth develops stronger links with the Plymouth Plan.	How can we do this? How could the Plymouth Plan replace our Community Safety Plan?

Pete Aley

Appendix

STRATEGIC THREAT AND RISK ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITISING SAFER PLYMOUTH AREAS OF WORK

At the most recent Safer Plymouth held on the 24th September 2015 the board agreed to adopt the following areas of partnership work as identified in the 2015/16 Strategic Assessment:

Emerging areas of focus – these are new areas that have previously been mentioned briefly in previous strategic assessments but are now identified as being key emerging issues for the partnership. These tend to be areas where the primary objective should be to gain greater knowledge of the problem within the city in order to consider how best to tackle presently and in the future. The emerging areas of focus are:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Slavery
- Impact of Mental Health on Community Safety Issues
- Cybercrime and Fraud

Established areas of focus – these are areas previously referred to in strategic assessments as 'priority areas' and are established areas of crime and disorder that has been the subject of partnership action for a sustained period. The established areas of focus are;

- Supporting vulnerable victims of Anti-Social Behaviour
- Hate Crime
- Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Tackling Re-offending
- Violence and Alcohol related harm
- Tackling Violent Extremism

Prioritising areas of work – To assist the Safer Plymouth board in prioritising these areas of work a Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) tool has been used which makes a calculated assessment of risk and harm. This year there was more emphasis on risk of harm rather than volume of incidence, in calculating the level of threat and risk of particular issues. Crime and other community safety issues have been awarded a Threat and Risk Assessment rating of high, moderate or standard.

Within Plymouth -

- **Six areas fall into the high risk category (score of 30 or over), these areas are (ranked in order);**
  Equal highest score (33)   -   Domestic Abuse, Crimes under 18s.
  Equal 2nd (30)   -   Alcohol Related Hospital Admission, Rape and Serious Sexual Offences, Estimated Problem Alcohol Use and Historical Sexual Offences.
- **17 areas fall into moderate risk category (score of 16 or over);** included in this category are; Modern Slavery and Trafficking, Anti-Social Behaviour, Other sexual offences, Hate Crime and Incidents, Alcohol related violence.

- **24 areas fall into standard risk category (score of between 0 and 15);** included in this category are; Radicalisation, Road Traffic Collisions, Dwelling Burglary, Arson and Vehicle Offences.

We can use the results of the STRA (below) to assist in prioritising the work areas adopted by Safer Plymouth by reconciling both.

Using this approach it is recommended that emerging areas of focus are prioritised as follows:

1. Child Sexual Exploitation (Crimes against under 18s and sexual abuse both high risk in the STRA)
2. Modern Slavery (moderate risk in STRA)
3. Mental Health (Not scored in the STRA)
4. Cybercrime and Fraud (Not scored in the STRA).

It is recommended that established areas of focus are prioritised as follows:

1. Domestic Abuse (STRA score 33 – High risk)
2. Alcohol related harm (Alcohol related admissions and problematic use both high risk)
3. Sexual Abuse (Rape and Serious Sexual Offences and Historical Sexual Offences both high risk)
4. Hate Crime (STRA score 20 – Moderate risk)
5. Anti-Social Behaviour STRA score 20 – Moderate risk)
6. Tackling Violent Extremism (Radicalisation STRA score 9 – standard risk)
7. Tackling re-offending (Not scored in the STRA).

Plymouth Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment Results

FORCE Crime, Disorder or Incident Type	Category	No. Recorded Occurances Apr 14 - Mar 15	No. Recorded Occurances Apr 13 - Mar 14	Estimated Offences per 1000 population	Likelihood Score (1-3)	Adjusted Likelihood Score	% Change	Physical and/or Psychological Harm (0-3)	Financial harm to victim(s) (0-3)	Damage to Reputation/Public Confidence/Media Interest (0-3)	Financial/Resourcing cost to police and others (0-3)	Impact Score /12	Impact * Likelihood /36	Decreasing/Increasing Trend (0-2)	Public/Community Concern (0-2)	Vulnerability (0-2)	Benchmarking (0-2)	TOTAL SCORE /44
Domestic Abuse (Crimes + Non Crimes)	Domestic Abuse & Sexual Offences	6512	7026	31.35	3	3	-7.3	3	2	2	3	10	30	0	1	1	1	33
Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (current within 2 years)	Domestic Abuse & Sexual Offences	299	279	1.15	1	2	7.2	3	3	3	3	12	24	2	1	2	1	30
Other Sexual Offences (current within 2 years)	Domestic Abuse & Sexual Offences	76	65	0.29	1	2	16.9	2	2	2	2	8	16	2	1	1	2	22
Historic Sexual Offences (older than 2 years)	Domestic Abuse & Sexual Offences	147	120	0.57	1	2	22.5	3	2	3	3	11	22	2	2	2	2	30
Alcohol Related Disorder	Alcohol	534	505	2.50	1	1	5.7	1	0	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	8
Alcohol Related Crime	Alcohol	3536	3475	16.54	3	3	1.8	1	2	1	2	6	18	1	1	1	1	22
Estimated Problematic Alcohol Use	Alcohol	13423	13423	62.78	3	3	0.0	3	2	1	3	9	27	0	1	1	1	30
Alcohol Related Hospital Admissions	Alcohol	5451	5616	25.50	3	3	-2.9	3	2	1	3	9	27	0	1	1	1	30
Public Order	Public Order	1215	1567	4.69	2	2	-22.5	1	0	2	1	4	8	0	1	0	2	11
ASB Immediate/Prompt	Anti-Social Behaviour	6085	6405	23.49	3	3	-5.0	2	0	1	3	6	18	0	2	1	1	22
ASB Routine/Non Attendance	Anti-Social Behaviour	3980	3895	15.36	3	3	2.2	1	0	1	3	5	15	1	2	1	1	20
Class A Drug Supply	Drugs	65	71	0.30	1	2	-8.5	3	3	1	2	9	18	0	1	2	1	22
Class A Possession	Drugs	229	138	1.07	1	2	65.9	3	3	1	2	9	18	2	1	2	2	25
Other Drugs Supply	Drugs	120	130	0.56	1	2	-7.7	3	2	1	2	8	16	0	1	2	1	20
Other Drugs Possession	Drugs	782	736	3.66	2	2	6.3	2	2	1	2	7	14	2	1	1	2	20
Estimated Problematic Drugs Use	Drugs	2084	2372	9.75	2	2	-12.1	3	3	2	3	11	22	0	1	2	1	26
Shoplifting	Business related	1776	1817	6.85	2	3	-2.3	0	3	0	3	6	18	0	1	0	0	19
Metal Theft	Business related	26	93	0.10	1	1	-72.0	0	2	1	1	4	4	0	0	0	1	5
Fuel Theft (all types)	Business related	63	60	0.24	1	1	5.0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	4
Theft from Farm	Business related	2	3	0.01	1	1	-33.3	1	2	1	1	5	5	0	1	2	1	9
Other crimes with organisation as victim	Business related	1371	1351	5.29	2	3	1.5	1	2	1	1	5	15	1	0	0	1	17
Robbery	Acquisitive Crime	133	113	0.51	1	1	17.7	3	1	1	3	8	8	2	0	2	0	12
Dwelling Burglary	Acquisitive Crime	695	744	6.36	2	2	-6.6	1	2	0	3	6	12	0	0	1	0	13
Other Burglary	Acquisitive Crime	585	632	2.26	1	1	-7.4	0	1	0	3	4	4	0	0	1	0	5
Vehicle Offences	Acquisitive Crime	1273	1177	4.91	2	2	8.2	1	1	0	3	5	10	2	1	0	0	13
Handling Stolen Goods	Acquisitive Crime	34	44	0.13	1	1	-22.7	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Theft	Acquisitive Crime	2436	2903	9.40	2	2	-16.1	0	1	0	3	4	8	0	0	0	0	8
Crimes against Under 18s (Violence without injury 29%; Violence with injury 29%; Other sexual offences 13%; Other theft 9%; Non notifiable 7%; Rape 4%)	Protecting the Vulnerable	1543	1413	30.02	3	3	9.2	3	1	2	3	9	27	2	1	2	1	33
Crimes against Over 65s (Criminal damage 29%; Other theft 21%; Violence without injury 10%; Burglary dwelling 9%; Vehicle offences 8%; Non notifiable 7%)	Protecting the Vulnerable	791	872	17.78	3	3	-9.3	2	2	1	2	7	21	0	1	1	1	24
Hate Crime & Incidents	Protecting the Vulnerable	387	355	1.49	1	2	9.0	2	0	2	3	7	14	2	1	2	1	20
Missing Persons - Adults	Protecting the Vulnerable	583	561	2.81	1	1	3.9	2	1	1	3	7	7	1	0	1	1	10
Missing Persons - Children	Protecting the Vulnerable	356	403	6.93	2	2	-11.7	2	1	3	2	8	16	0	1	1	1	19
Modern Slavery & Trafficking (no of victims)	Protecting the Vulnerable	12	1	0.05	1	2	1100.0	3	3	2	3	11	22	2	1	2	1	28
Radicalisation (Channel referrals)	Protecting the Vulnerable	1	1	0.00	1	1	0.0	2	0	3		5	5	0	1	2	1	9
Safeguarding Adults Alerts	Protecting the Vulnerable	1	1	0.00	1	1	0.0					0	0	0			1	1
RTC - Fatal	Roads Policing & Safety	3	1	0.01	1	1	200.0	3	2	1	3	9	9	2	1	1	2	15
RTC - Serious Injury	Roads Policing & Safety	79	69	0.30	1	1	14.5	3	2	0	3	8	8	2	1	1	2	14
RTC - Slight Casualties	Roads Policing & Safety	522	593	2.01	1	1	-12.0	2	1	0	3	6	6	0	1	1	1	9
Homicide	Violence & Weapon Possession	1	3	0.00	1	1	-66.7	3	3	3	3	12	12	0	1	1	0	14
Violence - ENTE (excluding DA)	Violence & Weapon Possession	1001	954	3.86	2	1	4.9	2	0	1	3	6	6	1	0	1	1	9
Violence with Injury (excluding ENTE & DA)	Violence & Weapon Possession	1193	1039	4.60	2	1	14.8	2	1	1	3	7	7	2	0	0	2	11
Violence without Injury (excluding ENTE &DA)	Violence & Weapon Possession	1384	1115	5.34	2	2	24.1	1	0	0	3	4	8	2	0	0	2	12
Possession of Weapons	Violence & Weapon Possession	152	115	0.59	1	1	32.2	1	0	3	1	5	5	2	0	0	2	9
Criminal Damage	Criminal Damage	2913	2999	11.24	3	3	-2.9	1	2	0	3	6	18	0	1	0	2	21
Arson	Criminal Damage	172	152	0.66	1	1	13.2	2	2	2	3	9	9	2	0	0	2	13