

# **SAFER PLYMOUTH GOVERNANCE & THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD - 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016**



## **PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER**

Safer Plymouth is the Community Safety Partnership for Plymouth. Safer Plymouth sets the strategic direction for partnership work between agencies in Plymouth to protect the communities from crime and to help people feel safer.

Safer Plymouth has been reviewing the governance and working arrangements of the Safer Plymouth partnership over the last six months to ensure that they are fit for purpose given changing partnership arrangements for Plymouth.

At the September 2016 Safer Plymouth Board meeting changes were agreed that ensure that Safer Plymouth can fulfill its system leadership and quality assurance role in relation to community safety issues across the Integrated Health and Wellbeing system.

It is therefore proposed that **Safer Plymouth sits under the governance structure of the Health & Wellbeing Board with clear links to Integrated Commissioning**

## **SAFER PLYMOUTH AND THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is the key strategic board for the implementation of health and wellbeing actions in the Plymouth Plan. The creation of the integration fund in 2015 for Plymouth health and well-being offers a unique opportunity to align spending to the strategic plans of commissioners for the city working together to achieve common goals, and reduce duplication.

The Health and Wellbeing Board has already taken steps to better co-ordinate work being undertaken in relation to wellbeing by different partnership bodies. This work began with the formalisation of relationships between the Board and Integrated Commissioning governance. More recently the Children's Partnership became a sub-committee of the Board. Work is being undertaken to improve accountability with partnerships and other groups expected to report on progress in relation to planned activity and escalate issues where required to the Health and Wellbeing Board in future.

There is a body of evidence which shows that there are strong links between crime and health and wellbeing and so strengthening the links between the Health and Well Being Board and Safer Plymouth has the potential to ensure strategic links are more effectively made between the health and well-being agenda and the safer communities system agenda in order to improve outcomes for the city. For example we know that -

- Areas of high crime usually have significant levels of neighbourhood stress, fear of crime and mental ill-health;
- lower crime and reduced fear of crime is associated with better mental health;
- the design of the public realm can reduce or increase alcohol related violence and disorder and cost to the NHS;

- disabled and learning disabled people are at much higher risk of being victimised;
- victims of crime usually experience health problems as a result of being victimised, this is especially the case for victims of domestic violence;
- good health response in victims of crime, especially crimes against the person and especially sexual assault and violence within these, are associated with better long term outcomes for those victims and better recovery from experience of victimisation;
- good health interventions on drugs and / or alcohol dependency have been demonstrated to reduce significantly acquisitive crime;
- good public realm design and control of alcohol have been shown to reduce alcohol related injuries and violence;
- many offenders experience significant inequalities in health and have on-going drug and/or alcohol, mental health and/or physical health problems;
- most offenders in custody and in the community have significant mental and/or physical health problems which impact on their long term rehabilitation;
- good health in offenders is associated with stabilising their rate of offending;
- families who take up most criminal justice time typically have worst health and high health needs;
- the safeguarding agenda for children and adults is of crucial importance to preventing significant avoidable burdens of ill health.<sup>1</sup>
- speed offences are associated with avoidable injury and death in some populations, especially vulnerable children in streets;

The areas outlined above are clearly recognised within policy and are particularly evident in driving the way in which Community Safety Partnerships are required to operate and noted in national reviews such as [the Marmot Review of Health Inequalities 2010](#).

There is an expectation that plans developed by partnership groups and constituent agencies will align to the Plymouth Plan. The Health and Wellbeing Board, as a statutory hybrid committee of the council will be able to perform a co-ordinating role to ensure alignment, whilst demonstrating public, democratic accountability.

Given its place in the formal governance structure of the council and other partner agencies, the H&WB Board can also act as an effective escalation mechanism for issues other partnerships bodies may find difficult to resolve. The Board already undertakes a performance management role and this support and challenge will enable to Board to hold partnerships and other constituent organisation's to account. The proposal below for the Safer Plymouth to consider notes the benefits of linking Safer Plymouth formally to the H&WB Board.

**Agreed by Safer Plymouth and recommended for ratification by the Health and Wellbeing Board - Safer Plymouth will be a sub-committee of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

Safer Plymouth will be established as a sub-committee of the Health and Wellbeing Board to achieve -

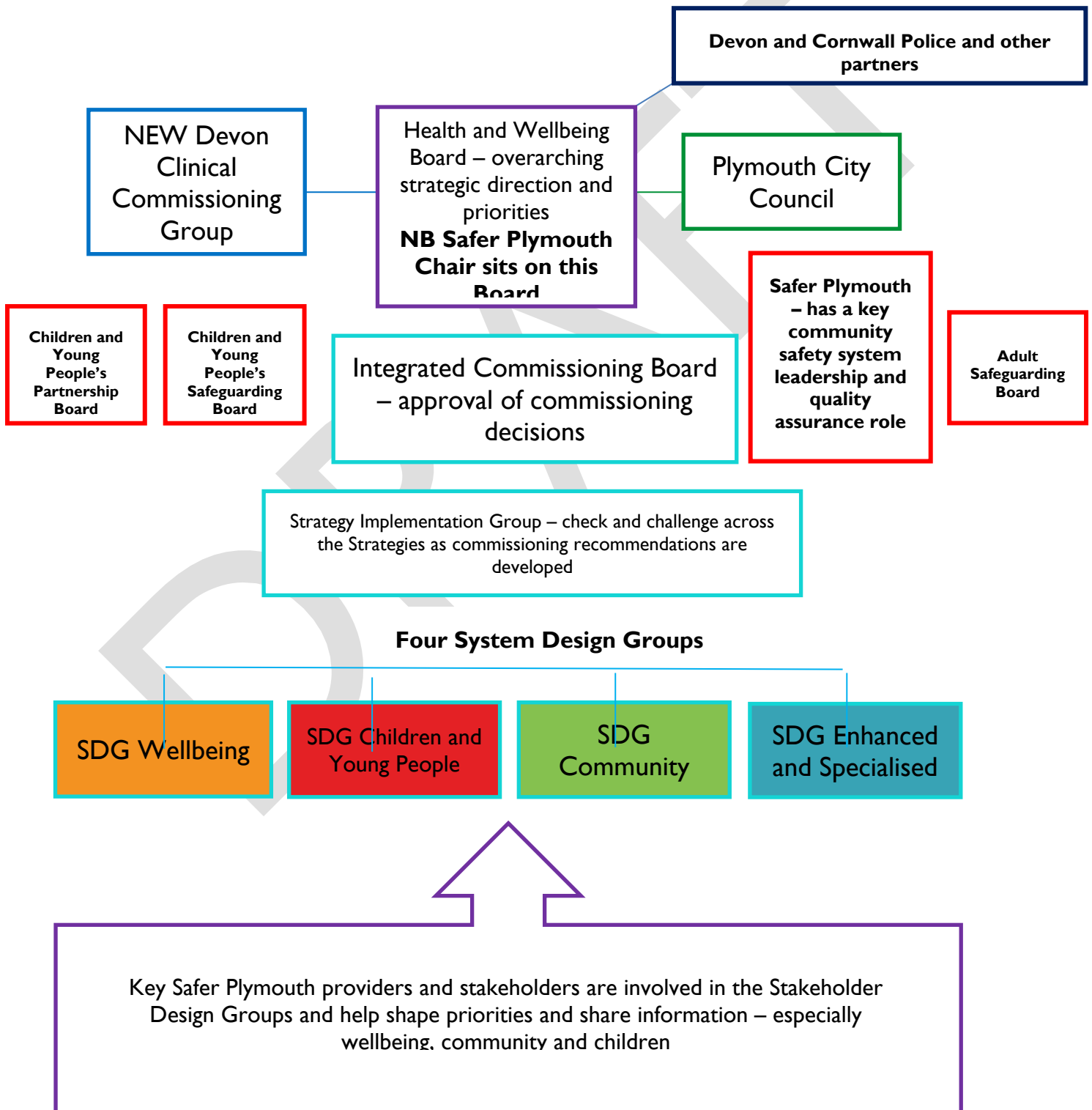
- **Greater prominence-** Ensuring that issues of community safety have strong representation at the H&WB Board and that these issues are better represented within the formal decision making process of this board.

- **Key role of Chair -** Through the addition of the Chair of Safer Plymouth to the H&WB Board clear lines of accountability to a committee of the council and other partner agency governance structures are established. The current Chair of Safer Plymouth already sits on the H&WB Board. This should be required and the Health and Well Being Board ToR should be updated to reflect these changes.
- **Strategic profile -** Safer Plymouth will have a clear route to raise issues to a strategic level Partnership Board consisting of key city leaders.
- **Systems approach -** By establishing Safer Plymouth as sub-committee of the H&WB Board the H&WB would be able to take a system wide view and align agendas of the Integrated Commissioning, Safeguarding Boards, Children and Young People's Partnership and Safer Plymouth.
- **Systems leadership - on community safety issues** By being part of the an Integrated Commissioning approach for population health and wellbeing the Safer Plymouth Board will be in a stronger position to take on the leadership role in the system around community safety issues, potentially leading to more influence by the Safer Plymouth Board on the wider H&WB system.
- **Statutory duties -** By establishing Safer Plymouth as a sub-committee of the H&WB Board will protect its status as the statutory "strategy group" and keep the focus on key community safety issues fulfilling a quality assurance role.

# SAFER PLYMOUTH AND LINKS TO THE INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The following diagram describes the integrated commissioning governance structure and the proposed relationship between Safer Plymouth and the Health and Well Being governance structure once Safer Plymouth is a sub-committee of the Health and Well Being Board.

## The Plymouth Partnership Boards and proposed relationships with the Health and Well-Being Board



## **SAFER PLYMOUTH PLAN ON A PAGE**

In line with the Plymouth Plan approach Safer Plymouth has developed a Plan on a Page format approach to its annual plan as an accessible way to communicate its activities to the broader community. (See Appendix Two.)

There are many areas of work that all partners work on every year, and they will continue to do so, with some areas more prominent in some years than in others. However Safer Plymouth recognised a need to focus the spotlight of partnership work and Safer Plymouth Partnership Board effort on a couple of areas each year, so that new emerging issues can be addressed, or so that existing areas can be examined in detail on occasions.

Focusing on two or three areas each year for targeted partnership working does not mean that other partnership work that is on-going will cease. Other areas of work will still continue however this approach will allow for detailed focused effort together to make significant improvements or steps forward in a few areas each year.

It has already been agreed that the focus will be areas of threat, risk and harm and the most vulnerable. Devon and Cornwall Police have moved to a system of producing Organised Crime Local Profiles with detailed information about key areas of threat risk and harm. These will be invaluable in informing Safer Plymouth discussions in future and will help shape discussions about which areas should be chosen for focused work by Safer Plymouth each year.

This year 2016/7 Safer Plymouth has agreed these areas of focused effort will be –

- Domestic abuse including sexual violence - because sexual violence in particular is a growing area of crime when other areas of crime are falling and many (but not all) crimes of sexual violence are linked to domestic abuse. Domestic abuse crimes are also increasing.
- Hate Crime - because this is a growing issue and the diversity of Plymouth's communities is increasing which could lead to increased crime if preventative action is not taken. There is a link between hate crime and high rates of violent crime without injury.
- And emerging areas of threat, risk and harm, such as modern slavery, cyber-crime and the Prevent agenda.

The Plan on a Page format - see Appendix Two summarises this focused approach for 2016/7.

## **SAFER PLYMOUTH PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK**

The attached proposed Performance Framework (Appendix Three) is linked to outcomes in the Plymouth Plan - the single strategic plan for the city - and areas identified as needing regular monitoring by Safer Plymouth. Where possible this new framework will use national performance indicators wherever these are available and also benchmark against our most similar family group, as identified by the Home Office.

## Safer Plymouth Partnership: our plan 2016/7

Delivering a partnership approach to tackle crime and disorder that causes the most harm and affects those most at risk.



### OUR VISION

**We want to protect our local community from crime and to help people feel safer.**

To achieve this, we will prioritise community safety issues that evidence shows pose the greatest threat, risk and harm, taking account of things which are most important in making our communities feel safe and secure.

### WHO WE ARE

The 'responsible authorities', are the:

- police
  - Plymouth City Council
  - fire and rescue authorities
  - the probation service
  - health authorities
- ...working together and with others such as the Universities  
And community partners

### DOING THE WORK

We work out how to deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. We annually assess local crime and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with current issues.

People working for our organisations will work with communities to decide the best way to get things done. Community safety leaders from across the city will ensure progress towards outcomes and provide support to solve problems.

### WHAT WE WANT TO SEE

Our aims, the things we hope to achieve and the way we measure success, are shown below. We will review progress and the things we should be working on, regularly.

### WHAT WE'RE FACING

Using data, information and communities' views, we have identified the things below as the most important to work on for Plymouth.

#### INDIVIDUALS

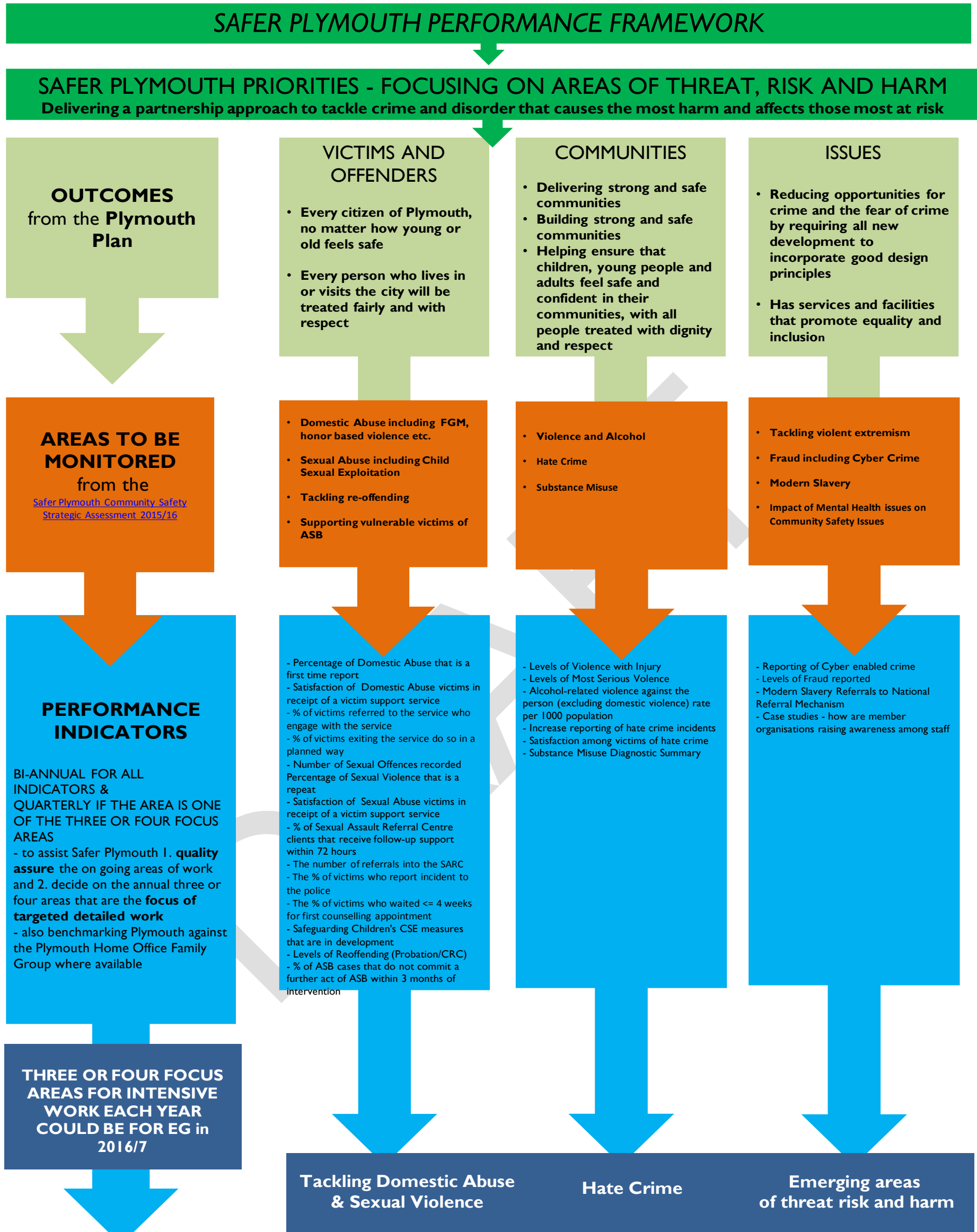
Tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence

#### COMMUNITIES

Hate Crime

#### ISSUES

Emerging areas of Threat Risk and Harm



<sup>1</sup> Crime, Health and Wellbeing: developing a framework for action across agencies Jim McManus, Director of Public Health, Hertfordshire County Council