



Draft St Albans Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2011/2012

Introduction:

This strategy outlines our priorities for 2011/12. It is based on a strategic assessment of crime, disorder, anti social behaviour and drug and alcohol misuse throughout the District.

Accordingly, this aims to build a safer St Albans City and District through addressing the following five aims;

- Reduce, prevent and detect acquisitive crime offences including dwelling burglary, theft from person and theft of and from motor vehicle offences.
- Reduce, prevent and detect drugs related offences including drug dealing and possession.
- Prevent and reduce anti social behaviour incidents.
- Manage offenders more effectively by developing a local Integrated Offender Management programme.
- Provide reassurance and information about the work of the partnership and actively engage with local communities.

Together with these key priorities is the Community Safety Partnership's ability to respond to emerging issues quickly.

Members of the Community Safety Partnership are;

St Albans City & District Council	Hertfordshire County Council
Hertfordshire Constabulary	Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
Hertfordshire Police Authority	Primary Care Trust
Hertfordshire Probation Trust	Hertfordshire Youth Offending Team.

In addition the Partnership will occasionally work with other agencies such as British Transport Police, First Capital Connect, Central Herts Magistrates Bench, Crown Prosecution Service, Trading Standards, Housing Associations West Herts Partnership Trust and The Community Care Partnership.

The community safety strategy needs to feed into local and county strategies to have maximum effect. For this reason it not only contributes to but also reflects the priorities of the Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) Sustainable Community Strategy. The Community Safety Partnership works closely with the LSP to tackle crime and anti social behaviour including looking at ways to increase residents feeling of safety across the District. The Community Safety Plan also reflects the priorities of the wider Hertfordshire Community Strategy, the Police Authority Plan and all of the plans of the Partnership member agencies. Full details of these plans are available on request from the Community Safety Team **01727 819305** or on www.stalbans.gov.uk

Reduce, prevent and detect acquisitive crime offences including; dwelling burglary, theft from person and theft of and from motor vehicle offences.

The Partnership will prioritise the prevention, reduction and detection of the acquisitive crimes highlighted above. It will continue to deliver projects and related activity aimed at deterring criminals from entering the District. The Partnership will continue to focus on targeting a small minority of offenders who carry out a large proportion of all crime. It will also continue to target resources at providing information on how to reduce the chances of becoming a victim of crime. In addition to this we will continue to roll out SmartWater property marking technology and work with Neighbourhood Watch to increase information and intelligence.

Reduce, prevent and detect drugs related offences including drug dealing and possession

Drug misusers often turn to committing acquisitive crime like shoplifting and theft to fund their drug habit. Targeted police operations such as Operation Crystal will tackle and break the cycle of drugs and crime. The partnership will also work with local treatment providers such as Hertsreach Turning Point to ensure that support and help is available and easily accessible locally. Further work is also being developed as part of the Integrated Offender Management programme (IOM) as outlined below.

The Partnership will also continue to educate people about drugs and alcohol in line with national campaigns and the Hertfordshire Drugs Strategy. Through the local Substance Misuse Group, it will continue to engage the local media and undertake work in schools and colleges as well as delivering training for licensed premises. Projects such as Hazard Alley that aim to increase awareness amongst young people will also be maintained. The Partnership will share information and work towards eliminating the supply of drugs as well as ensuring that information about treatment services is available.

Prevent and reduce anti social behaviour incidents

St Albans City and District has some of the lowest levels of anti- social behaviour in the County and the country. The Partnership acknowledges that where this behaviour does occur it is very distressing for the victims. Actions to prevent ASB escalating include education, mediation and family based support. We have also introduced projects such as the Fire Services LIFE Project which works with young people most at risk of offending to provide intensive support. The Partnership will ensure that vulnerable victims including the elderly receive proper support and that rapid action is taken including legal action when appropriate.

Manage offenders more effectively by developing a local Integrated Offender Management Programme

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a system that provides all agencies engaged in local criminal justice work, with a single framework for the

management and rehabilitation of repeat offenders. It will ensure that work undertaken through multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA), domestic violence, drug and alcohol services, housing, probation and health all have a co-ordinated approach.

Through IOM the Partnership will continue to focus on offenders that carry out the large proportion of crime as well as chaotic offenders .

Provide reassurance and engage with local communities

Hertfordshire is one of the safest counties in England and St Albans is one of the safest districts in the County. The Partnership will continue to promote public awareness of the range of activities which are being carried out to tackle crime, anti social behaviour and drug and alcohol misuse. We will engage regularly with the public via the District Council website and publish regular press releases advising residents on how to get involved. Furthermore, we will undertake events such as market stalls to provide additional information.

The Partnership's Performance in 2010/11

The table below shows the performance of the Partnership against key crime types from April – Dec 2010 and compares it to the same period the previous year. It shows that all crime is down 13.1% which is 612 crimes ahead of the Partnership's target for the year to date.

	April 09 – Dec 09	April 10- Dec10	
All crime	6274	5453	821 fewer crimes (-13.1%)
Serious violent crime	24	27	3 more crimes (+12.5%)
Assault with less serious injury	342	285	57 fewer crimes (-16.7%)
Burglary dwelling	451	344	107 fewer crimes (-23.7%)
Theft FROM vehicle	655	525	130 fewer crimes (-19.8%)
Theft OF vehicle	141	112	29 fewer crimes (-20.6%)
Robbery	47	44	3 more crimes (+6.8%)

The Partnership is keen that any projects undertaken are sustainable and produce long term effects. In addition Equality Impact Assessments will be conducted on all proposed projects which will consider all six strands of the Equalities agenda.