

The community safety and cohesion partnership plan 2016-2019



Oldham
Council

Keeping people safe and building communities that live well together

Chair and Vice Chair's Foreword

Welcome to our ambitious three year plan for keeping people in Oldham safe and building communities that live well together.

This plan falls out of the borough's Oldham Plan 2015-18 and contributes to the overall co-operative strategy for Oldham to be a 'place of ambition where everyone contributes and everyone benefits'. The plan also aligns to the strategic priorities set out by the Police and Crime Commissioner of Greater Manchester.

It is a plan that tackles difficult issues including domestic violence, drugs and alcohol abuse, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and much more. It has a bigger focus on community cohesion and building an Oldham where people live well together.

It is also a plan that looks at how we do things differently to deliver better results and therefore focuses on prevention as much as tackling crime and working with communities to build solutions. This is shown through the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the more recent all-age early help offer which are starting to deliver impressive results - with 86% of disclosed crime and anti-social behaviour cases in early help showing a positive improvement.

However, despite our achievements, we cannot ignore the fact that crime in Oldham has increased in some areas over the past three years. It is therefore essential that we also keep our eye on the core business of preventing and tackling crime and, above all keeping people safe.

The ambition and commitment of the Partnership is stronger than ever. The challenges we face mean that we have to forge closer partnerships between ourselves – as public services, voluntary services and with our communities. We need to be creative about how we use our resources, focus on reducing demand, and encourage a preventative approach leading to self-help – whilst still keeping our eyes on our core business. Only through joint effort and a new relationship with the people of Oldham will we be able to keep Oldham safe and help it thrive.

Chief Superintendent Caroline Ball, Greater Manchester Police (Oldham Division) and **Jill Beaumont**, Director of Community Services, Oldham Council, Chair and Vice Chairs of the Oldham Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership.

The Oldham Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership and the GM Police and Crime Commissioner

The Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership in Oldham are responsible for delivering this plan.

The Partnership has representatives from the police, council, fire and rescue services, probation, community rehabilitation services, positive steps and the voluntary, community and faith sector.

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester is elected by local people and is accountable for how crime and community safety is tackled in all of Greater Manchester. From 2017 the elected Mayor of Greater Manchester will also take on the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner along with other powers – including those of other blue light services. It is therefore essential that our plan is closely aligned to that of the Police and Crime Commissioner and that many of our priorities overlap. However, the point of difference for our plan is that it also reflects the particular challenges of Oldham and that of wider partners. services, voluntary services and with our communities.

The six objectives which lie at the heart of the police and crime plan.



The plan for the Police and Crime Commissioner can be downloaded from:
www.gmpcc.org.uk/down-to-business/police-and-crime-plan

How we work together

As a partnership we recognise that it is not just what we do as a Partnership but the way that we do it. Our new approach can therefore be defined as:

Reduce demand for public services through early intervention and a preventative approach

For example, we pledge to:

- Continue to build upon the all-age early help offer to stop issues before they reach crisis
- Reconsider our workforce approach to prevention
- For example, building on the preventative model of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service

Be more proactive and respond quickly to new threats

For example, we pledge to:

- Develop approaches to new threats including modern slavery, human trafficking and cyber-crime
- Proactively manage community relations and tension in partnership with the local community and networks

Ensure services are centred on people and communities – and reduce duplication

For example, we pledge to:

- Move towards a more local delivery model that connects our workforce back to communities.
- Further develop the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to create a seamless public system for vulnerable adults and children

Work with, not for, people and communities – building on their strengths and encourage self-help

For example, we pledge to:

- Develop better partnerships with the private sector in areas such as drugs and alcohol related crime and theft
- Work with the community and voluntary sector to get key messages out and build positive community relations and develop more peer to peer networks, for example, domestic violence champions.



Our priorities 2016-19

Priority 1: Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (relates to Police and Crime Commissioner Priority 1)

The challenge

Some crime has increased in Oldham in the past three years. The increase is in-line with Greater Manchester and national crime trends and is partly due to an increase in reporting as well as stricter and more ethical crime recording systems.

Violent crime, sexual offences and vehicle theft have increased over the past three years. A considerable percentage of the increase in violent crime included violent crimes committed by children that weren't previously recorded; chastisement and 3rd party referrals. The rise is also accountable due to 'positive action' taken for example the use of Child Abduction warning notices and harassment orders. In the case of sexual offences this is partly due to an increase in reporting and more investigations into historical offences.

The number of repeat victims of sexual offences has decreased.

Over the last 3 years Anti-Social Behaviour has decreased by 4.4%.

Drug offences have decreased the most as have offences involving a weapon

As the size of public services reduce across Oldham we must still keep our eye on the ball in reducing 'volume crime' and ensuring public confidence.

What will success look like by 2019?

- Overall crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) will not have risen in Oldham and we will have:
- Reduced violent crime in Oldham in line with Greater Manchester
- Continue to focus on the impact of crime and preventing crime that cause serious harm and protect the victim.
- Reduce the cost to the public purse by reducing levels of crime and ASB.

How will we get there?

We need to be smarter about tackling crime and ASB and how we do it by: Introducing better crime recording systems so that we can better focus resources –that are predictive, preventative and responsive.

Involve the communities and business in preventing crime. For example, by growing schemes such as Homewatch and Pubwatch.

Retain a focus on increasing reporting levels in crime areas where there is low reporting.

Identify and better support victims for safeguarding and support.

Review and best use our tools and powers to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour and think differently around the problem.

Better link the issues of ASB, socially excluded young people and community cohesion.

Reduce deliberate and secondary fires – usually linked to crime and ASB.

Continue to conduct seasonal and targeted campaigns to reach key audiences to tackle crime and install confidence. For example, Safe4Summer and campaign Treacle around bonfire night.

Develop approaches to emerging and evolving types of crime, for example, cybercrime. For example, continuing to work with safeguarding to educate children and parents about keeping children safe on the internet.

Who will help us deliver?

Violent Crime Working Group

Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership Tactical Group

The Vulnerability Group

Operations Challenger

Priority 2: Protecting people and communities from harm (relates to Police and Crime Commissioner Priorities 3, 4 and 5)

The challenge

As a Partnership we have to focus on areas that cause the greatest harm to people and communities and protect and safeguard the vulnerable. Priorities to tackle child sexual exploitation and domestic violence require a seamless public service, a people centred approach and an appetite to think and act differently. The development of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub has developed a system to better protect people from harm but we need to ensure this system can evolve. The number of repeat victims of sexual offences has decreased in the past few years due to a more proactive partnership approach and we have also seen an increase in the reporting of sexual offences - which shows increased confidence but also highlights the scale of the problem in Oldham.

There is a continuing need to address the harm caused by organised crime groups including those involved in the importation and supply of Class A drugs. This will include a new focus on preventing involvement in organised crime through Programme Challenger.

What will success look like by 2019?

- There will be no cases where vulnerable adults or children have 'fallen through the net' of public services
- There will be a seamless multi-agency approach to safeguarding that is person- not public service – focussed (via the MASH)
- There will be an increase in positive reporting around issues such as domestic violence and child sexual exploitation (CSE) and a reduction in the number of repeat incidents
- We will have become more developed in our approach to tackling human trafficking, modern slavery and so called honour based violence
- We will have reduced dependency on alcohol and substance misuse including legal highs.
- We will mitigate risks of young people becoming part of organised crime gangs
- More victims will come forward and seek help earlier
- Increase referrals from partners in Oldham into the MAPPA process



How we will get there

We will further develop the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to incorporate wider changes to adult social care, probation and mental health, the integration of health and social care as well as continually reviewing our multi-agency problem solving approaches.

We will use the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) as a partnership approach to manage the risk posed by offenders who cause the highest harm and ensure all partner agencies both understand and refer into the MAPPA process.

We will evolve our domestic violence strategy by applying learning from previous cases and ensuring a whole family approach (including children), provide early help and prevention support, wider relationship support and make connections with related issues including child sexual exploitation (Operation Phoenix), modern slavery and so called honour based crimes.

We will take a peer-led and asset based approach by recruiting and training domestic violence champions, developing preventative work to protect girls and boys safe from CSE and extending training and awareness raising into other emerging issues with both professionals and within communities.

We will continue to develop a cross partnership approach to drugs and alcohol in partnership with health and safeguarding boards. We will do this by developing a whole system approach that recognises the links between substance misuse and wider complex needs including mental health, offending behaviours, homelessness etc.

We will adopt a co-ordinated approach to tackling organised crime as part of the Greater Manchester programme 'Challenger'. This will include enforcement action against organised crime groups, safeguarding of individuals at risk of harm from organised crime gangs and preventative work to reduce the risk of people becoming involved in organised crime.

We will further develop our approaches to modern slavery and human trafficking as a new focus area.

We will deliver high quality services by delivering a people centred approach that focuses on the victims of crime and domestic violence including a focus on effective problem solving, and ensuring an effective transition of young people between services for children and adults, and through restorative approaches - directly linking into the Greater Manchester work areas.

Who will deliver?

MASH Strategic Group reporting to the Local Safeguarding Boards.

The Domestic Violence Partnership

Missing from Home and Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy Group: Operation Phoenix

Organised Crime: Operation Challenger Partnership Group

Drugs and Alcohol Strategic Forum

Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements the SSCP.

Priority 3: Reducing offending and re-offending

Why is it a priority?

It is widely accepted that a small percentage of offenders are responsible for a large proportion of crime. It is also estimated that individuals who have already been through the criminal justice system commit half of all crimes.

We have seen major changes in recent times in the delivery of probation services with the Greater Manchester Community Rehabilitation Company taking on responsibility for the offenders assessed as medium risk and below and the National Probation Service being responsible for high risk offenders. We also know that, under recent devolution announcements, Greater Manchester is likely to get greater control over the delivery of criminal justice. We already know that youth justice is likely to be significantly affected by these changes.

We need to do further work with priority offenders as well as develop our preventative approaches by reducing the number of young people entering the criminal justice system.

What will success look like by 2019?

- Offending/re-offending rates in adults, females and young people reduce in Oldham
- A more integrated and joined up model for offenders (using an Integrated Offender Management approach)
- An effective restorative justice model for youths and adults
- A more developed problem solving criminal justice system

How will we get there?

Establish local partnership monitoring and reporting of reoffending rates.

Utilise Greater Manchester data to understand comparative reoffending rates .

Develop a more integrated model for offenders by linking up the parts of the system including the National Probation Service (NPS), Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) into the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Drive improvements in the rehabilitation of offenders within CRC, NPS and YJS. This will require a strong focus on those services across the partnership that is in transition through new delivery models or Greater Manchester devolution.

Improve the quality and effectiveness of restorative justice with clear pathways and procedures.

Improve service transitions ensuring new models and ways of working are fit for purpose and meet the needs of victims, offenders, families and the wider community.

Improve employment, accommodation and housing options.

Develop a focus on female offenders and alternative models working closely with our 3rd sector and voluntary partners.

Better link in with health services – particularly mental health.

Recognise the linkages between reducing ‘established’ reoffending and emergent themes, particularly complex safeguarding.

Co-ordinate links and activities from the Justice and Rehabilitation Executive (JRE)

Ensure that the Oldham model aligns with the priorities of Greater Manchester Public Sector Reform, whilst maintaining the strengths of the Oldham offer.

Who will deliver?

Reducing re-offending group

Spotlight

Operation Challenger

Multi-Agency Public Protection

Redeeming our Communities charity.





Priority 4: Building confident and cohesive communities

Why is it a priority?

Oldham as a borough continues to change with many of Oldham's neighbourhoods becoming more ethnically, culturally and socially diverse.

Where neighbourhoods experience significant population change tensions can sometimes arise. These are sometimes a result of genuine issues – such as criminal and anti-social behaviour – but sometimes reflect a mutual lack of understanding and stereotyping of people from new communities. In 2013, 29% of people in Oldham did not feel that people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together in their neighbourhood.

During 2015/16 there were 485 hate crimes and 107 non-criminal hate incidents reported in Oldham. The number of reported hate crimes has increased in recent years, which is believed to reflect work to improve reporting of hate crime, though it is believed that there continues to be under-reporting of such offences. Most are reported to be motivated by prejudice on the basis of race (85%), with smaller proportions motivated by homophobia (8%), religion (5%) and disability (5%) (these total more than 100% because hate crimes may be motivated by more than one factor).

Nationally, the threat from international terrorism is assessed to be “severe”, which means that a terrorist attack is highly likely – but not imminent. There is a need to work with communities to minimise the risk of individuals from Oldham being drawn into terrorism, or extremism leading to terrorism.

What will success look like by 2019?

- More people will feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their neighbourhood
- More people will feel a strong sense of belonging to the Borough and their neighbourhood
- There will be increased confidence in reporting all forms of hate crime, including those with lower rates of reporting such as in relation to disability, homophobia, religion and alternative identities
- Positive race and community relations and low levels of involvement in all forms of extremist activity.

How are we going to get there?

Support the integration of new communities, to prevent problems arising as a result of migration into the Borough and build positive relationships between new and existing communities.

Further increase awareness of all forms of hate crime, and how to report it as well as improving the support to victims.

Challenge the ideology of extremism, and provide support for individuals who are vulnerable to radicalisation into extremism leading to terrorism.

Work in close partnership with community, voluntary and faith groups in Oldham to positively engage local people in building good community relations and preventing alienation and mistrust.

Manage risks that pose a threat to good community and race relations.

Who will help us deliver?

Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Partnership

Oldham Community Tension Group

Prevent Steering Group

Hate Crime Working Group

Adult and Children's Safeguarding Board.

Priority 5: Building and strengthening partnerships
(relates to Police and Crime Commissioner Priority 5 and 6)

Why is it a priority?

We know that the only way to overcome a reducing public, community and voluntary sector resource it to forge even closer partnership relations and pool and align our resources wherever possible.

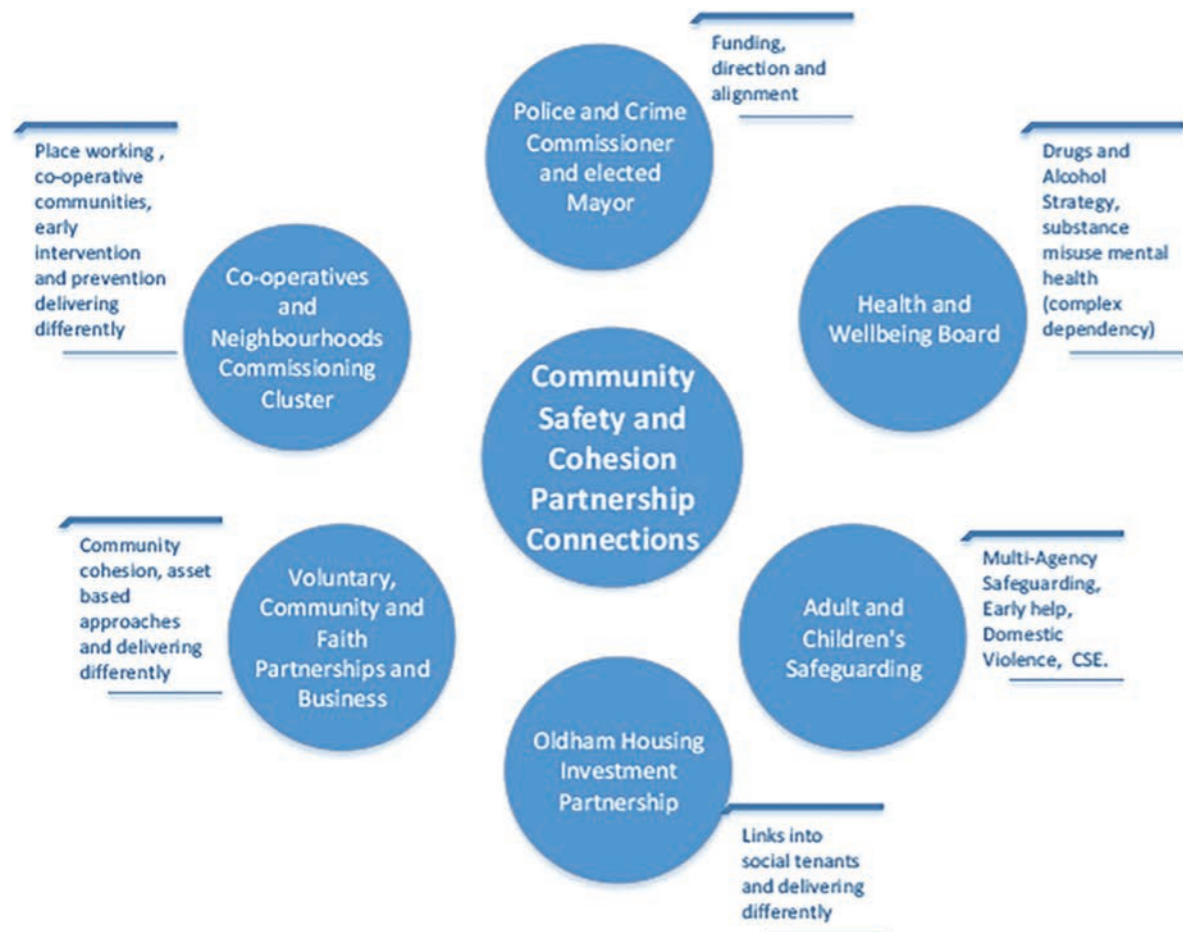
Partnership working is also changing with devolved powers coming through from Greater Manchester. In 2017 we will see the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner being taken on by a directly elected Mayor. In short, devolution means more control over our own destiny and more flexibility in how we work together - we need to make the most of this opportunity and make it work for Oldham.

As a partnership we want to work with local people so that we can continue to build trust in the service we provide by being visible and accessible. We want the community to be able to express their views and make an active contribution. We will instil trust and confidence in our services by treating people fairly and with respect, and we will continue to build upon this by demonstrating accountability through the complaints process. In order to deliver this it is important that we continue to support our staff and care for their well-being so that they can continue to be effective.

What will success look like by 2019?

- A more responsive and integrated public sector workforce – operating at the neighbourhood level
- A strengthened role for the private, community, voluntary and faith sector in the delivery of community safety and cohesion issues
- Maintaining good public perceptions and confidence within the public sector.
- More integrated working with other sectors including health, social care, housing and children’s services

Building and strengthening partnerships



How are we going to get there?

Develop an integrated neighbourhood delivery model.

Further develop and extend our integrated service models including the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and the all-age early help offer.

Develop better data sharing practices and remove barriers to data sharing.

Develop a good relationship with key stakeholders at Greater Manchester.

Work in closer partnership with the private, community, voluntary and faith sectors to find co-operative solutions to crime and cohesion issues wherever possible and to build confidence and trust.

Develop our approaches with key boards (as shown below_ - where there are clear links and opportunities to integrate.

Who will help us deliver?

The Greater Manchester Police and Crime Commissioner

Oldham Voluntary, Community and Faith sector Partnership

The Co-operatives and Neighbourhoods Commissioning Cluster

The Health and Wellbeing Board

The Oldham Housing Investment Partnership

The Adult and Children’s Safeguarding Boards



Contact information

If you have any questions about the Plan please contact
Policy@oldham.gov.uk

More information on the Oldham Partnership and the Community Safety
and Cohesion Partnership can also be found at
www.oldhampartnership.org.uk



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