

NATIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2008 – 2011**MAKE COMMUNITIES SAFER (PSA 23)****PRIORITY ACTION 1: REDUCE THE MOST SERIOUS VIOLENCE**

The most harmful crimes are undeniably those in which people are killed, seriously injured and/ or seriously psychologically harmed. Protecting the public begins with tackling these most serious offences. Given the nature of these crimes, although specific local challenges will vary, all local agencies in every area can be expected to prioritise efforts to tackle serious violence.

What does it mean for partnerships?

Specific local targets will not be mandated by the Government as part of this PSA. However, all local areas should take into account the relative level and nature of serious crime experienced within their locality when considering local priorities. The performance of partnerships and the police against this objective will be measured through indicators in the Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) related to violent crime (see section 4 for further detail on performance management).

In line with local priorities and strategic assessments, partnerships should consider:

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| 2. building on this, developing mechanisms for identifying and intervening early with those at risk of involvement in violence, either as a perpetrator or a victim (informed by work to be taken forward nationally under the Tackling Violence Action Plan) | Violent Crime Co-ordinator proactively identifying repeat perpetrators and proposing CRASBO packages. Some issues with quality of data for identifying repeat victimisation.
Violent Offender Orders being introduced for post-custodial phase. |
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PRIORITY ACTION 4: REDUCE REOFFENDING

The Government's vision is to transform the offender into the law-abiding citizen, providing support for those who do want to change and managing effectively those who do not. At the heart of the Government's vision to bring about this change is a package of reform, using end-to-end case management for offenders, commissioning the most effective interventions to best support the management and rehabilitation of offenders, and encouraging providers to innovate to improve the effectiveness of these interventions.

What does it mean for partnerships?

The new target for reducing reoffending focuses on the volume of proven reoffending and the severity of the offence. This will assist partners in prioritising the most serious and prolific offenders. The national level of ambition for reducing the volume of re-offending will be set following consultation with local and regional partners. Local reducing reoffending targets will be set where reducing reoffending is chosen as an outcome in the LAA, and this will inform the national ambition and enable monitoring of reoffending at a local level for the first time. The performance of partnerships and the police against this objective will be measured through indicators in APACS related to priority offender reoffending, adult reoffending and youth reoffending (see section 4).

Probation trusts will have a critical role to play, promoting the reducing reoffending agenda through working with local partnerships. Both LCJBs and CDRPs will be vital to the delivery of this objective, which is perhaps their key area of common interest. The Reducing Reoffending Strategic Plan (to be published in spring 2008) will contain further detail about how the PSA will be delivered and will outline how partners can work most effectively together to deliver further reductions in reoffending. In line with local priorities and strategic assessments, CDRPs should consider:

19. working closely with probation trusts and LSPs to assess the need for reducing reoffending priorities to be included in local plans, including LAAs

[Home Office has recently issued lengthy Guidance on target setting. This needs to be addressed before further local discussion.](#)

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS (PSA 14)

Most young people are already on the path to success and make a successful transition to adult life. But not all young people are on this path and many experience problems in their teenage years, such as falling behind at school or getting involved in drugs, crime and other unacceptable behaviour. In addition, young people can be exposed to extremist messages, and protecting them from these is important. The Government has already worked with its partners to introduce wide-ranging reforms to help improve outcomes for teenagers and there has been significant progress on some issues, but this PSA reflects the Government's objective to work more closely with its key partners to accelerate progress.

The approach to delivering the overall PSA recognizes that young people who experience one problem often experience several others at the same time. However, of particular relevance to community safety, there is a specific indicator to reduce the number of first-time entrants into the CJS aged 10–17, and an indicator to reduce the proportion of young people frequently using illicit drugs, alcohol or volatile substances.

What does it mean for partnerships?

Children's trusts bring together social services, health, education and other services for children and young people in a local authority area, and have the lead role in local delivery of this PSA. Similarly, YOTs bring together key partners to tackle youth crime and reoffending, and have a lead role in the delivery of the indicator to reduce first-time entrants into the CJS aged 10–17. Given the role of early intervention in preventing future crime and tackling youth crime, and the contribution that this makes to the Make Communities Safer PSA, CDRPs have a particular interest in working closely with both children's trusts and YOTs.

In line with local priorities and strategic assessments, CDRPs should consider:

<p>30. working closely with children’s trusts and primary care trusts (particularly those that do not pool budgets with their local partners) to ensure that there is sufficient availability of appropriate mental health services for 16 and 17 year olds (many of those involved in crime have substance misuse and/or mental health issues)</p>	<p>There had been long-standing issues with CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) capacity, but the position seems to have improved over the last 12 months, with significant reductions in waiting times.</p>
<p>DELIVER A MORE EFFECTIVE, TRANSPARENT AND RESPONSIVE CJS FOR VICTIMS AND THE PUBLIC (PSA 24)</p>	
<p>The Government’s vision is for a CJS that puts victims at its heart and in which the public are confident and engaged. It will be effective in bringing offences to justice through simple and efficient processes. The CJS has a key role to play supporting the Crime Strategy. Catching and convicting criminals helps to deter crime and reoffending, and reduces the overall incidence of crime, making communities safer places in which to live and work. This PSA represents the high-level measures of success for the CJS strategy.</p>	
<p><i>What does it mean for partnerships?</i></p>	
<p>Although LCJBs lead in delivering this PSA, it will continue to require close working between LCJBs and CDRPs to ensure that local delivery plans are co-ordinated. In line with local priorities and strategic assessments, CDRPs should consider:</p>	
<p>40. sharing information gained by LCJBs (through use of diagnostic tools and a core framework/action plan, to be developed in 2008) and identifying problems and determining priorities locally in relation to race disproportionality at key stages in the CJS, and using it to inform CDRPs’ strategic assessments and partnership planning</p>	<p>All the evidence from youth offending shows that BME communities are under-represented in the CJS locally with the result that white people, who make up 96 – 97% of the population, are marginally over-represented. Further information from Cleveland CJB will be made available at the meeting if possible.</p>
<p>REDUCE THE HARM CAUSED BY ALCOHOL AND DRUGS (PSA 25)</p>	
<p>The Government’s vision is to produce a long-term and sustainable reduction in the harm associated with alcohol and drugs. Between a third and half of acquisitive crime is believed to be committed to fund a drug addiction, and alcohol is a factor in around half of all violent crimes. Problem drug use and harmful alcohol consumption destroy families and contribute to a cycle of deprivation and lost opportunity.</p>	
<p><i>What does it mean for partnerships?</i></p>	
<p>CDRPs and Drug Action Teams (DATs) (or Drug and Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs)) lead on delivering the community safety aspects of this PSA and, where they are not merged into a single partnership, close working between the two is crucial. The performance of partnerships and the police against this objective will be measured through indicators in APACS (see section 4). In line with local priorities and strategic assessments, CDRPs should consider:</p>	

<p>43. working closely with partners in health and the CJS to identify and target alcohol-related offenders, with a combination of penalties, health and education interventions to drive home messages about risks associated with alcohol and promote behavioural change to prevent reoffending</p>	<p>We are working with Pubwatch and using Directions to Leave to address violence associated with the night-time economy. We need to ensure local availability of programmes to support 'alcohol DRRs'. – this is being pursued with the Addictive Behaviours Service. The Violent Crime Co-ordinator in the ASB Team links closely with Pubwatch to address the behaviour of individuals who cause problems in licensed premises.</p>
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