



Dorset Crime & Drugs Reduction Strategy 2005-2008



WORKING
TOGETHER
for a safer community

PART ONE – THE DORSET PERSPECTIVE

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Priority 1

Reducing the fear of crime

Priority 2

Tackling anti-social behaviour and criminal damage

Priority 3

Tackling violent crime including alcohol related crime and domestic violence

Priority 4

Tackling discrimination

Priority 5

Reducing the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol

Priority 6

Tackling domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) and Drug Action Team (DAT)

1.1.1 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) were established as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act in 1998. Under the Act local Borough, County and District Councils and the Police became 'responsible authorities' for each CDRP. In 2003 Fire Authorities and Police Authorities became additional responsible authorities and in April 2004 the Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) were also added. CDRPs also include in their membership the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and the Probation Committee. Other partners can include the Prison Service, Parish Councils, hospital trusts, schools and further education governing bodies, social landlords, the Drug Action Team (DAT), local and voluntary organisations and the Crown Prosecution Service.

1.1.2 Drug Action Teams (DATs) were set up in 1995 following the publication of the White Paper 'Tackling Drugs Together'. The DAT role was further strengthened following the publication of 'Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain' which outlined the Government's ten year National Drugs Strategy, setting targets in four key areas; young people, communities, treatment and availability. This national plan strongly emphasised the role of the DATs in delivering the national targets at a local level.

1.1.3 Working together the responsible authorities that form these partnerships are required to carry out an audit to identify crime and disorder and misuse of drugs problems in their area and develop strategies to address them. Partner organisations are required to work in conjunction with local education and probation committees and seek further input from a range of local private, voluntary, other public and community groups including the community itself.

1.1.4 The purpose of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships is to:-

- Strategically plan, direct and performance manage the local delivery of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and current national initiatives based on local information and evidence based practice.
- Commission projects/services/initiatives across its strategic area to contribute towards meeting the objectives of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- Work with strategic partners and other partnerships to reduce crime and disorder reduction within the area and surroundings.

1.1.5 The purpose of Drug Action Teams is to:-

- Strategically plan, direct and performance manage the local delivery of the National Drug Strategy based on local information and evidence based practice.
- Commission projects/services/initiatives across its strategic area to contribute towards meeting the objectives of the National Drug Strategy.

1.1.6 Jointly, all partnerships will achieve these aims by:-

- Setting both county-wide and local aims and objectives, with targets and performance measures to gauge progress.
- Publicising these within a three year Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy based on and directed by the findings of Crime and Drugs Audits also carried out every three years.
- Carrying out local consultation processes and public relations activities to inform strategic direction.
- Establish task groups as necessary to tackle specific objectives or hot spots.

1.2 Commitment of Key Partners

1.2.1 Dorset Borough and District Councils, Dorset County Council, Dorset Police, Dorset Fire and Rescue Service, The Police Authority, Primary Care Trusts, the National Probation Service – Dorset, the National Health Service and the Prison Service are committed to working in partnership with other key agencies and the community to develop and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder, with the aim of increasing public reassurance and improving the quality of life for everyone. To help achieve this, the County and Borough/District Councils will consider crime and disorder implications when planning services and in their corporate thinking.

1.3 Statement of Intent

1.3.1 To work in partnership with communities to improve local quality of life by reducing levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and fear of crime in a cost effective way.



Chairman
Drug Action Team



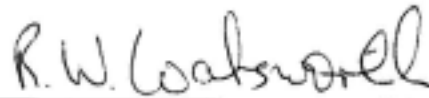
Chairman
Christchurch and East Dorset CDRP



Chairman
North Dorset CDRP



Chairman
Purbeck CDRP



Chairman
Western Dorset CDRP

2. ROLES RESPONSIBILITIES AND STRUCTURES

2.1 Legislation Affecting Crime and Disorder Reduction

2.1.1 The Government's Crime Reduction Strategy sets out the framework to ensure that every local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the Police are performing to their maximum potential. This means focusing on the causes of crime and providing the resources to facilitate the strengthening of our communities.

2.1.2 The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) requires Local Authorities, the Police, the Police Authority, Primary Care Trusts, Fire and Rescue Service, other key agencies and the community to work together to develop and implement plans for reducing crime and disorder. Section 17 of the Act also requires Local Authorities and the Police Authority to integrate consideration of crime and disorder reduction into all their functions and corporate thinking.

2.1.3 The Police Reform Act 2002 introduced a number of important changes to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships including:

- enhanced Police powers to deal with the anti-social use of motor vehicles on public road or off-road;
- improving the effectiveness of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Sex Offender Orders, including interim orders;
- enabling chief officers to designate Police Authority support staff as Community Support Officers, Investigating Officers, Detention Officers or Escort Officers in order to support Police Officers in tackling low level crime and anti-social behaviour and to free up officers for front-line duties;
- introduction of arrangements for the accreditation of members of the 'extended police family' (e.g. neighbourhood and street wardens);
- providing the power to merge Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships on the basis of effectiveness and efficiency.

2.1.4 The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 underlines the importance for communities to set the standards of behaviour by which they expect people to live. If these standards are to be credible and respected, the Police, Local Authorities and other agencies should work with local people to take swift and effective action to uphold them if they are breached. The key aims of any intervention are to:

- enable the individual to recognise the consequences of their behaviour;
- ensure that they change their behaviour;
- protect victims, witnesses and the community.

2.1.5 The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 provides and reinforces the powers available to practitioners. It builds on the measures already available, including Anti-Social Behaviour Orders in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Fixed Penalty Notices for anti-social behaviour in the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, and injunctions in the Housing Act 1996. The range of remedies are designed to be as flexible as possible and different combinations of tools may be appropriate for different individuals and families. There are a number of stages at which different levels of intervention and enforcement are appropriate, which vary according to the persistent nature of offending. At each stage it is vital that the individual concerned is made fully aware of the consequences should they refuse to change their behaviour.

2.1.6 Local Authorities also have a power under the Local Government Act 2000 to consider the social, economic and environmental well-being of their community. Many already have plans covering economic development/regeneration, sustainability and social issues. These will develop within the overall framework of community planning, leading to the preparation of Community Strategies and Plans. The Community Strategy for Dorset was published in May 2004 (see paragraph 2.5).

2.2 Dorset Local Councils

2.2.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

2.2.2 Section 17 of the Act recognises that there are key stakeholder groups who have responsibility for the provision of a wide and varied range of services to and within the community. Section 17 requires all Local Authorities and Police Authorities to “exercise [their] various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on and the need to do all that [they] reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in [their] area”. In layman’s terms this means that in our everyday decision-making, in our service planning and delivery of services, we will consider the impact that carrying out these functions might have upon crime and disorder in local communities. The main purpose of this is to identify ways of reducing and preventing crime and disorder as part of our mainstream service delivery.

2.2.3 The purpose of Section 17 is simple: the level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken in the day-to-day activities of local bodies and organisations. The responsible authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community including policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area. Section 17 is aimed at giving the vital work of crime and disorder reduction a focus across the wide range of local services and placing it at the heart of local decision-making.

2.3.4 All Local Authorities in the Dorset Partnership will undertake Section 17 training to ensure that all councillors and staff are aware of this duty and that they apply the principles to their everyday work.

2.3 Drug Action Team (DAT)

2.3.1 DATs should be viewed as the main strategic planning mechanism for local activity in combating drug misuse. It is important that DATs do not lose this overarching strategic role in the day-to-day operational issues that they face in relation to treatment. Although DATs are not at present statutory bodies, most enjoy high level membership and have moved beyond their initial awareness-raising phase. They now directly influence local activity in all four areas of the National Drugs Strategy. The Dorset DAT is considering its position on becoming a Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

2.3.2 From April 2002, DATs have been required to produce a Young People’s Substance Misuse Plan (YPSMP) indicating actions and targets to ensure that all young people receive drug education and that vulnerable and at risk young people receive appropriate interventions and treatment where there is an identified need. Since April 2004, although DATs are not required to submit an annual YPSMP they are still required to provide a framework for delivery.

- 2.3.3 Since April 2002, DATs have been required to produce a Treatment Plan (through the direction of the National Treatment Agency (NTA)). This plan is closely monitored by Government Office Crime and Drugs Team and the National Treatment Agency in regard to spending and targets.
- 2.3.4 In 2003 DATs were asked to complete a Communities Plan, which is focused on how the DAT would deliver accessible and appropriate services to the most deprived wards within the DAT area. Again, since April 2004 there is no longer a requirement to submit a formal Communities Plan, but DATs must demonstrate that they have a framework for delivery to meet the community's needs. It is anticipated that with the improvement of community planning mechanisms under the Dorset Strategic Partnership that this aim will be strengthened and made more effective in identifying and meeting local needs.
- 2.3.5 In 2003 DATs were asked to complete an Availability Plan, to show what each DAT via its partners, including the Police, intend to do to tackle drug supply markets in their areas. Again there is no specific requirement to submit a plan but there is a need for a framework to deliver outcomes.

2.4 Structures

- 2.4.1 In Dorset there are currently four Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships covering the areas of Western Dorset (comprising West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland), Christchurch and East Dorset, North Dorset and Purbeck. Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the local Borough, County and District Councils and the Police became 'responsible authorities' for each CDRP. This was amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and now also includes Police Authorities, Fire Authorities and Primary Care Trusts. Paragraph 1.1.1 outlines the current membership of the CDRPs.
- 2.4.2 Work is ongoing to improve the way that the crime and disorder reduction agenda links together with the community planning process enabling the crime and disorder and drugs agendas to be better fulfilled in the future. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by the end of 2005.

2.5 Dorset Strategic Partnership (DSP)

- 2.5.1 The Dorset Strategic Partnership (DSP) consists of a wide range of organisations, agencies and other partnerships, which share a commitment to improving the quality of life for people in Dorset.
- 2.5.2 The DSP is a single over-arching strategic partnership (an umbrella body) for Dorset, that brings together the public, private, business, voluntary and community sectors so that different services and initiatives support each other and work together for the benefit of local people. It takes a broad overview of the area and assists with strategic planning and decision-making, but is close enough to day to day activities undertaken across Dorset to allow actions to be guided by local priorities. Ultimately the DSP aims to improve quality of life and well-being for communities and citizens across Dorset.
- 2.5.3 There is a great deal of flexibility surrounding the composition, ways of working and work programme for the DSP. The partnership has an independent Chairman, a Partnership Board and Partnership Manager. A bridging group and further theme groups, such as the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership, Affordable Housing Task Group also feed directly into the DSP and are increasingly becoming part of the mechanism needed to drive delivery of the key issues identified in the Community Strategy. CDRPs have been invited to form a thematic group as part of the DSP to deliver the Safer Communities element of the Community Strategy.

2.5.4 The Dorset Community Strategy is a long-term plan for people and communities in Dorset. It sets out a shared vision for the future of local people in relation to improving economic, social and environmental well being over the next 10-20 years. The Community Strategy deals with the big issues that are significant for a large number of people and communities in Dorset that cannot be tackled locally through Local Community Plans. A wide range of statutory organisations, community groups and individuals, have contributed to the production of the Strategy, which was launched in May 2004.

2.6 Local Community Partnerships (LCPs)

2.6.1 Local Community Partnerships have been developed throughout Dorset. In some areas, communities most strongly identify with towns or clusters of parishes. In other areas a district-wide or combined approach has been taken. The development of Local Community Plans is essential in directing the Dorset Strategic Partnership, in identifying the strategic and common concerns of all communities in Dorset.

2.6.2 Within each Local Authority crime and drugs has been identified as an issue through consultation as part of the community planning process. The work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, therefore, supports the Local Community Plans in helping communities identify issues and where possible to address these issues for themselves at a local level.

2.7 Dorset Drug Action Team (DAT)

2.7.1 Drug Action Teams or Drug and Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs) (refer to 2.3.1) are made up of chief officers or other senior officers from the principal agencies listed below and the DAT Administration Team supported by Government Office Advisors.

2.7.2 The DAT Strategic Board commissioned a review of its infrastructure during 2004 and together with CDRPs, who are carrying out a similar review to rationalise functions and, where possible, to avoid duplication – is in the process of implementing recommendations to assist in a more efficient alignment of key aims of the crime and drugs agendas across Dorset.

2.7.3 For the DAT this has resulted in the formation of four principal groups to lead on specific functions on behalf of the DAT Strategic Board. Each group will be chaired and led by a chief or senior officer of the Strategic Board (who will also serve as Deputy Chairs to the Chair of the Board). These four principal groups will be responsible for the setting up and tasking of permanent or time limited sub-groups to support their remits. The groups relating to the Crime and Disorder agenda are:-

Joint Commissioning Group (Adult Drug Treatment) –

- Geographical area – Dorset County Council boundary.
- To commission and agree the design of drug treatment services and interventions based on needs assessment of the area in consultation with services, service users and their carers.
- Implementation of an integrated drug treatment system defined within the National Treatment Agency's framework *Models of Care*.
- Increase the numbers of people who use drugs in treatment.
- Ensure that accessibility and capacity is adequate to meet demand within the available resources.
- Ensure access to drug treatment services within acceptable national waiting times.
- Ensure workforce development to ensure that an appropriate and skilled workforce is in place in Dorset.

- Reduce the number of drug related deaths.
- Ensure that *harm reduction* interventions are in place to protect those at risk.
- Develop access and support to drug treatment programmes from the Criminal Justice System.
- Support the development of information systems.

Some of the functions of this group are undertaken in collaboration with Bournemouth, Poole and Somerset DAATs.

Joint Commissioning Group (for the prevention and treatment of substance misuse in young people)

- Geographical area – Dorset County Council boundary.
- To commission and agree the design of preventative education and drug treatment services and interventions based on needs assessment of the area in consultation with services, young people, parents, service users and their carers.
- Implementation of an integrated four tiered system of service delivery defined within the Health Advisory Service's *Substance of Young Need 2001*. The principal aims being:
 - universal substance misuse education for all young people appropriate to age which includes tobacco, alcohol, solvents and all other drugs available within all schools and other venues such as youth clubs or where young people meet;
 - specialist preventative education for other vulnerable young people;
 - drug awareness education for professionals and other adults who work with young people to ensure that they are equipped with appropriate knowledge and skills to be able to recognise the potential warning signs of substance use and to communicate with young people to be able to appropriately respond and support them;
 - development of specialist young people treatment services;
 - ensure ready access to drug treatment services within acceptable national waiting times;
 - ensure workforce development to ensure that an appropriate and skilled workforce is in place in Dorset;
 - reduce the number of drug related deaths;
 - ensure that harm reduction interventions are in place to protect those at risk;
 - develop access and support to drug treatment programmes from the Criminal Justice System;
 - support the development of information systems.

Some of the functions of this group are undertaken in collaboration with Bournemouth, Poole and Somerset DAATs and in particular with the developing Children's and Young People's Strategic Partnership to ensure that all activities are in line with the broader framework of developing holistic and joined-up services for children, young people and their families.

Further work is ongoing to identify local delivery models that link to existing CDRP local areas and Drug Reference Action Groups (DRAGs).

2.8 Youth Offending Team (YOT)

- 2.8.1 The Youth Offending Team is a county-wide team funded by local partners with additional Central Government funding. It was established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

2.8.2 Membership of the YOT includes senior officers from Dorset County Council - Social Care and Health and Education; Dorset Police; Dorset PCTs; National Probation Service – Dorset.

2.8.3 The over-riding aim of the Youth Offending Team is to reduce re-offending by children and young people (10 to 17 years). The YOT contributes to this by tackling six key objectives:

- swift administration of justice so that every young person accused has the matter resolved without delay;
- confronting young offenders with the consequences of their offending, for themselves, their family, their victims and the community;
- devising interventions which tackle the particular factors which put a young person at risk of offending;
- punishment proportionate to the seriousness and persistence of offending;
- encouraging reparation of victims by young offenders;
- reinforcing the responsibilities of parents.

2.9 Criminal Justice

2.9.1 All forty-two Criminal Justice System (CJS) areas have a local Criminal Justice Board. They are directly accountable to the national Criminal Justice Board and they bring together, at a local level, the main criminal justice organisations.

2.9.2 Membership includes: the Chief Constable; Chief Crown Prosecutor; Area Director Designate, Her Majesty's Courts Service (this unifies the administration of the Magistrates' Courts and Crown Courts); Chief Probation Officer; Director of Bournemouth Social Services (representing the two Youth Offending Teams in Dorset – one covering Dorset and one covering Bournemouth and Poole); Governor, Dorchester Prison; and the LCGB Performance Officer.

2.9.3 Their purpose is to deliver CJS Public Service Agreement Targets. These are currently narrowing the justice gap and reducing ineffective trials and increasing public confidence in the CJS and the satisfaction of victims and witnesses.

3. ORGANISATIONS' FUNCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

3.1 Borough and District Council Functions

3.1.1 Borough and District Council functions that have an impact on crime and disorder reduction include:-

- **Community Development** – Many Local Authorities in Dorset have established Community Development Teams working with their local communities on a wide range of issues through the local strategic planning process. They are able to offer support through the provision of sport, arts and leisure activities aimed at all ages in the community that they serve and, in particular, to support the needs of young people.
- **Community Safety** – Each District/Borough Council now has staff dedicated to working on crime reduction and addressing anti-social behaviour. Additional Government funding has enabled Anti-Social Behaviour Officers or similar posts to be appointed and this has increased the number of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and other remedies that each Local Authority has implemented. In addition these posts are working with communities to make them more resistant to crime and to put in place initiatives that are aimed at preventing criminality.
- **Environmental Health** - Provides services for health and safety, environmental monitoring and enforcement of noise, litter and dog nuisance legislation. These services often work in conjunction with the partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Team as many issues can be mitigated using a joined up approach to problem-solving.
- **Housing** – Borough and District Councils have responsibilities for meeting local housing need, homelessness, private housing stock and gypsies and travellers. In most boroughs and districts this is an enabling role – identifying needs and supporting the provision of affordable housing through a range of policies. Councils work with other organisations to help to meet the needs that are identified. Councils have a legal duty towards housing needs of homeless people.

Councils also work to improve private housing choices and maintain the quality of housing stock by:

- enforcing standards laid down in law and policy;
- providing financial assistance, following the links for more information about rent bond, rent in advance, landlords' assistance and housing grants schemes;
- providing housing advice;
- finding suitable accommodation for those in need.

Many Borough and District Councils manage the gypsy and traveller sites on behalf of Dorset County Council and to aid this they have developed a joint protocol for responding to unauthorised traveller encampments. These protocols are intended to be used by Police and Local Authorities as a guidance document for action to ensure a corporate and agreed response. The Councils will deal with each case of unauthorised encampment according to the situation that arises and the needs of all concerned including residents in the settled community, tourists, business partners and travellers. Some councils will accept an encampment which is small and inconspicuous if it follows a good practice code for travellers.

- **Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit** – National welfare benefits are administered by Borough and District Councils on behalf of the Government Department for Work and Pensions. The purpose of the scheme is to help people on low incomes pay their rent and council tax. In general, people who receive Income Support, Guarantee Pension Credit and Income Based Job Seekers Allowance will still get all their rent and council tax paid.
- **Legal Services** – Action relating to provisions in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and the use of other legislation such as the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001. Byelaw enforcements include cycling, selling, begging and touting.
- **Leisure Services** – Sport is an important tool in addressing social exclusion and reducing levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. District/Borough Councils provide subsidised sports facilities and are pro-active in programming sports development opportunities.
- **Licensing** – The Licensing Act 2003 marks the end of a number of existing outdated licensing regimes and brings together six current licensing functions into one new system, including the sale and supply of alcohol, public entertainment, theatres, cinemas and late night refreshment. Local Councils have become Licensing Authorities, taking over responsibility from the Magistrates for licensing the sale and supply of alcohol. Legislation promotes four key objectives, which must be addressed when licensing functions are carried out. These are:
 - the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - public safety;
 - the prevention of public nuisance; and
 - the protection of children from harm.

The legislation supports a number of other key aims, such as a reduction of bureaucratic regulation to give businesses greater freedom to meet the expectations of their customers. Councils have developed policies within the Government's guidelines to suit the special character of residents and visitors to Dorset.

- **Parking** – In 2002, Dorset County Council took over responsibility for enforcing on-street waiting and loading restrictions under a process known as Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE). This has meant that more resources have been available for this than the Police had hitherto been able to provide. In the Boroughs of Weymouth & Portland and Christchurch, DPE has been delegated to the Borough Councils, who have been able to integrate the work within their existing off-street parking enforcement role.

As well as a higher visible presence on the street, there is good communication between the three Parking Authorities and the Police and, where schemes exist such as in Weymouth and Bridport, with Shoplink.

In Weymouth & Portland, the provision of CCTV, improvements to car parks' perimeters and the integration of CCTV has enabled the Council to move towards attaining secured car park status for a number of car parks.

- **Planning** – Economic development and regeneration, encouraging effective and appropriate land use, design and layout of commercial buildings and houses, car parking and open spaces.

- **Tourism** – Is vital to the economy of Dorset and provides significant benefits in terms of income and employment for local people. Tourism also causes a dramatic increase in the resident population and this is reflected in crime rates.
- **Waste Management** – Provides services to collect and dispose of domestic and commercial waste, street cleaning and removal of abandoned vehicles. Under new anti-social behaviour legislation they are additionally responsible for recording and removal of graffiti/fly posting and unlawfully deposited waste – fly tipping. They may also issue Fixed Penalty Notices in order to pursue this.

3.2 County Council Functions

3.2.1 County Council functions that have an impact on crime and disorder reduction include:-

- **Cultural Services** – Work to promote communities through using libraries as an outlet for local information on key local concerns, for family and lifelong learning, for homework support for children and to enable internet access for information, job vacancies etc.

Libraries, Museums, arts activities and the Records Offices are used to encourage a sense of local community identity and, through partnership with other agencies, seeking to work with young people at risk of becoming involved in anti-social or criminal activity. Cultural Services, therefore, provide opportunities for positive use of leisure time, in effect acting as a diversionary activity.

- **Education Welfare Service** – Deals with truancy from school and works with those either excluded from school or at risk of exclusion. Its work includes liaison with parents and other interested agencies, access to out of school education and Pupil Referral Units.
- **Emergency Planning** – Ensuring that the County Council, in partnership with districts and borough councils (Civil Contingencies Act 2004), responds appropriately to any disaster of major incident and promotes a state of preparedness through liaison, planning and training to a wide range of organisations and, more generally, promoting business continuity planning.
- **Gypsy and Traveller Services** – This service works in partnership with other Authorities and Dorset Police in the management of unauthorised encampments and in addressing issues of social exclusion particularly in relation to health, education, drug and alcohol addiction and housing where appropriate. The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 included additional powers for Police Authorities to direct Gypsies and Travellers from unauthorised encampments provided that Local Authorities develop transit sites and temporary stopping places to which they can be directed. The County Council has set the objective to achieve these additional powers for Dorset Police and has commenced an initiative to identify locations for sites.
- **Highway and Transportation** – The county highways infrastructure is developed and maintained by the Highways and Transportation Section of the Environmental Services Directorate. Currently there is a policy to develop Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) which include CCTV surveillance of key traffic signal installations across the county. The benefits of information sharing between Highway and Transportation and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships has been recognised and the technology being proposed and already in place will significantly benefit both the travelling public and the wider community.

- **Highway Street Lighting** – This service provides for new and replacement street lighting, illuminated signs and bollards. Existing and proposed programmes for street lighting asset renewal are to consider how best to assist the partnership through closer liaison on potential schemes.
- **Road Safety** – Through a combination of appropriate, targeted education, enforcement and engineering programmes and campaigns in partnership with all key stakeholders, this service seeks to provide support for an environment where all road users can travel in confidence, free from fear of death or injury on the roads and to meet Government road casualty reduction targets. The Authority seeks to continue its excellent partnership working with Dorset Police to promote successful intelligence-led enforcement/education initiatives such as anti-drink and drug/driving, seat belt wearing, mobile phone use and appropriate vehicle and driver documentation.
- **Schools** – The County Council assists schools in the management of school environments, security of school buildings and the safety of staff and pupils. It provides support to governors and teaching staff and access to funding and policy/procedures. School curricula includes drug and health education with input by other agencies including the Police, life education, drugs educators and drama workshops. Citizenship became part of the National Curriculum in September 2002 and covers a number of issues that form part of the crime and disorder reduction agenda. Financial support is available through the Drug Action Team and Standards Fund. The recent LEA OfSTED Inspection highlighted the Children out of School Service (COOSS), support for school attendance and an improvement in combating racism, while identifying the need for more preventative work with schools on behaviour management. A new Inclusion Strategy will support further developments in the future.

Extended schools will develop in the future, enabling schools to become the hub of the local community, providing additional support and opportunities for families and parents, particularly those in deprived areas.

- **Social Care and Health** – The development, purchase and provision of services, working in close partnership with other agencies which:
 - safeguard vulnerable children and adults of all ages;
 - promote social inclusion and community safety by addressing the personal, family and social difficulties associated with drug and alcohol misuse, mental health problems, or challenging behaviour and special needs of young people or adults.
- **Sports Development** – Co-ordination and production of the ‘Dorset Sports Strategy’ which highlights various ways in which sports development can help to reduce crime and help for communities to obtain funding for local sports facilities.
- **Supporting People** – Aim to review currently inherited contracts to create good quality and cost-effective supported housing services. To ensure that these services meet the needs of vulnerable adults in Dorset, and that they reflect and support the strategic requirements of commissioning partners and stakeholders.

Through these aims, supporting people will work in partnership with providers to ensure that their supported housing services are managed appropriately to ensure community safety, and will endeavour to support commissioning partners to reduce re-offending through integrated supported housing and community initiatives.

- **Trading Standards** – The aim of the service is to protect consumers and to support fair and honest businesses by the enforcement of rules concerning trade descriptions, product safety, food standards and animal health and welfare. Work includes enforcement of legislation concerning the sale of age-restricted products (such as alcohol, cigarettes, solvents, aerosol paints, knives, fireworks and video recordings) with a view to helping prevent anti-social behaviour. Other areas of enforcement activity cover doorstep traders and bogus callers, rogue traders (builders, car sales, etc), counterfeiting and copyright crimes. A Consumer Advice Service is also operated which holds the Community Legal Service Quality Mark. As a ‘responsible authority’ for the purposes of the Licensing Act 2003 the Service will scrutinise and make representations on licence applications in relation to the four licensing objectives.
- **Youth and Community Service** – Provides a universal service which also targets those at risk. It provides personal social development opportunities across the whole of the county including diversionary activities, advice and information, telephone helpline for young people, school holiday activities, Streetwork/Outreach and youth forums.

3.3 Drug Action Team Functions

- 3.3.1 **Strategic leadership and vision** – Following the completion of the consultant’s report and recommendations which were positively received by members of the DAT Board, a clearer vision for the improved co-ordination between the crime and drugs agendas is beginning to emerge. CDRP partners are also engaged in analysing their infrastructure to produce even more effective partnership arrangements.
- 3.3.2 **Commissioning** – The DAT has pioneered commissioning under the direction of the National Treatment Agency agenda. This has contributed towards an improvement of the provision of services against identified needs. Clear service specifications give clear descriptions of the actions, provider services are expected to deliver and be performance managed against. This has created the benefit of being able to strategically influence the way in which services have been previously delivered. The introduction of tendering processes has also created an opening up of the marketplace to encourage new providers thus increasing the range of choice available within Dorset. The CDRPs are also beginning to develop a commissioning framework.
- 3.3.3 **Young People** – Building on this foundation, national guidance (HAS Report 2001 The Substance of Young Need) has informed further development of partnership working between the Drug Action Team and Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership (CYPSP). A Joint Commissioning Group was developed during 2003/04 within the CYPSP framework to ensure integration within this planning structure for young people. This group oversees the commissioning of substance use services specifying models of delivery against identified needs. The group consists of senior representatives from the Youth Offending Team, Connexions, National Health Service Primary Care Trusts, Dorset County Council Social Care and Health and Education Directorates and Dorset Police.

3.4 Dorset Police Functions

- 3.4.1 The Home Office requires all Police Authorities to produce a three-year strategy plan setting out how they will contribute towards the National Policing Plan. This document reflects that requirement. It sets out the framework for the strategic development of the Force for the period 2005-08. It has been prepared jointly by the Authority and Force and represents a shared aim, priorities and developmental aspirations.

3.4.2 The plan is dynamic so as to:

- continue to reflect the views and expectations of the people of Dorset;
- respond to changing demands and resources; and
- optimise opportunities for further development of our organisational capability.

3.4.3 However, our policing philosophy will be consistent. It will continue to be locally delivered with particular emphasis on providing a community-based, visible and accessible uniformed service. We will implement our Community Policing Model and engage with partners and communities to look for innovative ways of working to deliver sustainable solutions to local problems of crime and disorder. By working in this way we seek to gain the confidence and support of communities throughout the county. We will place particular emphasis on front-line policing which includes responding appropriately to calls for assistance from the public. We will be targeting the most persistent and prolific offenders.

3.4.4 Delivery against this plan is dependent upon the availability of resources and current known legislative requirements. The Authority identified a shortfall of 200 frontline officers and agreed a five-year plan to rectify this. This will result in the addition of forty Police Officers each year. This growth in officer numbers is vital to achieving our objectives.

3.4.5 Our activities will be regularly reviewed and prioritised by rigorous application of the National Intelligence Model at Force, divisional and more local levels, thereby ensuring that the most appropriate action is taken to reassure the public and improve community safety throughout the county.

3.4.6 **Road Safety** – Concerns about road safety are clearly evident following the consultation that has taken place and the emerging themes arising in the strategy. Without diminishing the importance given to such concerns, ‘road safety’ is part of the National Road Policing Strategy led by the Police. It is, therefore, not necessary to set partnership objectives in the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy to address concerns such as speeding vehicles, dangerous driving and driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs.

Reducing road traffic collisions that result in death and serious injury is a priority issue. Dorset Police work in partnership with Dorset County Council and Poole and Bournemouth Unitary Authorities and the Dorset Safety Camera Partnership (DSCP) to achieve their aims. Education, engineering and enforcement measures are considered for identified problems to ensure a holistic, multi-agency approach is adopted. The National Roads Policing Strategy has been adopted with the secondary aim of “denying criminals use of the roads by enforcing the law”.

The DSCP has primacy for speed enforcement across the county using static and mobile speed cameras in addition to lasers to target those areas where analysis shows a high level of speed related collisions involving death and serious injury. The Road Policing Unit of Dorset Police also conducts speed enforcement using lasers and in-car VASCAR (Visual Average Speed Computer & Recorder) - time and distance computers.

Drink driving is a particular concern with figures showing a rise in the number of drivers testing positive. Of particular concern, are those drivers actually involved in collisions who subsequently test positive. Dorset Police are in the process of devising a range of tactics to address this particular trend.

3.4.7 There will be a clear focus on continuous improvement to the services we provide particularly to victims and improve working practices that directly enhance our delivery of frontline policing services.

- 3.4.8 We are fully committed to identifying the on-going needs and expectation of local communities. Our consultation processes have enabled us to embrace the priorities contained in the National Policing Plan, set them in a local context and prioritise our actions to ensure that we are dealing with the issues that are of most concern to the public. Dorset Police are committed to working with Local Authorities and other partners to deliver crime reduction with a particular focus on Community Policing.
- 3.4.9 Dorset Police is divided into four territorial Basic Command Units (BCU) (locally referred to as 'Divisions') with the Eastern and Western BCU covering the more rural county and shire areas. The Eastern Division comprises an area of approximately 476 square miles, with 90,440 households and is home to 207,100 people. This includes the Local Authority areas of Christchurch, East Dorset, North Dorset and Purbeck, with the exception of Corfe Mullen, Lytchett Minster and Upton which fall within the Poole Division. The Western Division covers an area of 497 square miles with 75,420 households and home to 169,970 people. The area is virtually co-terminus with the two Local Authority areas of West Dorset and Weymouth and Portland.
- 3.4.10 Community policing is made up of Police Officers, Special Constables, PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) and volunteers from the community are being introduced across the county. This is completely consistent with the recently published White Paper 'Building Communities – Beat Crime'.

3.5 Health in Dorset

3.5.1 Major changes to the National Health Service (NHS) from 1 April 2002 reshaped the way health services are organised, both locally and nationally. Primary Care Trusts are now at the centre of the NHS and allocate the majority of local NHS funding. These are local health organisations that are responsible for:-

- Looking at the health of their population and giving help to those who need it most
- Improving the health of their population
- Making sure primary care and community health services run smoothly
- Providing community-based health services such as health visitors and district nurses
- Making sure their local population has access to the health services they do not provide themselves – including hospital services
- Working with other organisations to improve health and social care.

3.5.2 The Primary Care Trusts in Dorset are:-

- North Dorset Primary Care Trust
- South and East Dorset Primary Care Trust
- South West Dorset Primary Care Trust

3.5.3 Acute hospital and emergency services (secondary care) in Dorset continues to be provided by the following NHS Trusts:-

- Dorset Ambulance NHS Trust
- Poole NHS Trust
- The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Trust
- West Dorset General Hospitals NHS Trust (Dorset County Hospital)

Mental Health services are provided by:-

- Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust
- North Dorset Primary Care Trust

- 3.5.4 Overseeing the performance of all these local NHS organisations is the Dorset and Somerset Strategic Health Authority.
- 3.5.5 A partnership approach is fundamental to improving the health of the Dorset communities. The Primary Care Trusts are committed members of the Dorset Strategic Partnership (DSP). The partnership has established a theme group, the Dorset Health Gain Group to look at improving health. This is currently comprised of PCT Directors of Public Health, a Strategic Health Authority representative, the DSP Manager and the County Council's Director of Social Care and Health. The group is seeking to widen its membership, initially to District and Borough Councils and the voluntary and community sector. This partnership approach was demonstrated by the publication of a joint Public Health Report for Dorset in 2004. The Primary Care Trusts are also members of their local community partnerships aligned with each District and Borough Council.
- 3.5.6 The Primary Care Trusts continue to ensure that a range of services and initiatives are provided which contribute to, and support local efforts to reduce crime and disorder. The key focus of such work has been around the fear of crime, particularly for older people, domestic violence and drug and alcohol-related crime. Choosing Health, the Public Health White Paper published in November 2004 outlines key priority areas for health improvement that include Improving Mental Health and Well-being and Reducing Harm and Encouraging Sensible Drinking, which reinforces these focus areas.

3.6 National Probation Service Functions

- 3.6.1 The National Probation Service – Dorset offers a range of services which contribute to crime and disorder reduction. Some examples of this work are:-
- Supervising offenders subject to Community Orders including requirements to undertake, for example, community service, supervision, drug rehabilitation or an offending behaviour programme and also subject to statutory licenses on release from prison.
 - Working with persistent/repeat offenders, who fulfil Home Office defined criteria to attend specific crime reduction programmes at the Poole Centre.
 - Offenders with alcohol and/or drug problems can receive specialist support and supervision via partnership arrangements with local alcohol/drug agencies and be supervised through Drug Treatment and Testing Orders within the Service's two Probation Hostels.
 - Offenders convicted of sexual offences can be subjected to Court Orders where they undergo a specialist accredited programme of supervision carried out in partnership with the NSPCC.
 - Potentially Dangerous (violent and/or sexual) Offenders are subject to more intensive surveillance and supervision procedures. The Probation Service convenes multi-agency panels to assess the risks posed to the public.
 - Unpaid work in the community (Community Services) makes an environmental contribution to crime reduction, with offenders having to work in their own time on a range of projects that benefit the community.
 - Victim Support is strongly supported by the National Probation Service. Dorset employs two Probation Officers to work specifically with the victims of serious crime. The views of the victims and/or their families can influence the supervision provided to known perpetrators of serious crime on release from prison.

3.7 Dorset Fire and Rescue Service Functions

- 3.7.1 The Dorset Fire Authority was established on 1 April 1997 and is responsible for Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. The area covered by the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service (DFRS) is identical to the combined areas of Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. The Authority is a Combined Fire Authority and comprises elected members of the constituent Authorities of Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole.
- 3.7.2 Our 'Vision' is a simple one – *'Working in partnership to make Dorset safer'*. We have placed a deliberate emphasis on partnership working as we believe in the need for co-operation and involvement of those that are at risk and our partners.
- 3.7.3 Our 'Mission' is also straight forward – *'We will work with communities and partners to efficiently, effectively and safely help prevent and drive down risks in order to protect people, property and the environment from the adverse consequences of emergencies'*. To achieve our mission statement we have determined four broad strategic aims namely:
- Reduce deaths and injuries
 - Reduce the numbers of incidents and their impacts
 - Respond to new threats
 - Be well managed.
- 3.7.4 The main statutory duties for the Fire Authority are contained within the new Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. The Authority discharges its duties and responsibility through Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. This new Act along with the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2005/06 (which sets out specific Government expectations), provide a wide range of challenges and opportunities. Principal among these are:
- a new duty to promote fire safety in the home and other places;
 - a new statutory framework that recognises our existing role in responding to a range of incidents, e.g. road traffic collisions alongside our traditional fire fighting role;
 - a new duty to respond to other emergencies, for example serious flooding and measures to plan for, and respond to, terrorist threat;
 - an expectation to work at a regional level such as planning for serious emergencies, joint control rooms, procurement, and developing joint approaches to training, human resource management and other common services;
 - improved powers to mutual assistance and to work in partnership to help deliver on our strategic targets; and
 - new opportunities to charge for certain services we provide.
- 3.7.5 The Service has been fundamentally restructured to achieve a more integrated approach to risk reduction and to enable improved working with key partnerships and partners. A strategic approach has been developed for community safety and this is needed to ensure that the work on the ground has a clearer corporate direction. This direction aims to ensure that the community gains real benefit from our partnership arrangements, which include:
- Co-responder schemes
 - Franchise holder - Princes Trust
 - Streetwise
 - Fire Setters
 - Faithworks Poole
 - Caring for the Carers
 - Environmental protection with Environment Agency

We recognise the need to improve our contact with hard to reach groups and have invested in additional resource provision to achieve this.

3.8 Voluntary Sector Organisations

- 3.8.1 In Dorset there is a wide range of voluntary organisations, several of whom have a key impact on the reduction of crime and disorder. These include the local Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, local Crime Prevention Panels, Mediation Dorset, Relate, Dorset Race Equality Council and Victim Support – Dorset.

4. SHARED ACHIEVEMENTS

4.1 Dorset – A Safe Place to Live

- 4.1.1 The recent Dorset Crime and Drug Audits showed that recorded crime in Dorset remains low compared to many parts of the country, and considerably lower than national average crime figures. In 2003/2004, the rate of all crime for the Dorset County Council area (64 crimes per 1,000 population) was nearly half the figure for England and Wales (113 crimes per 1,000). In the same year, the Eastern Dorset policing area, or Basic Command Unit (BCU) had the lowest rate of recorded violence against the person of any BCU in England or Wales.
- 4.1.2 Local survey results also show that the vast majority of residents across all areas in Dorset feel safe living in their neighbourhoods. National crime surveys, such as those undertaken by The Sunday Times in 2003, also revealed that the chances of becoming a victim of crime were far lower in the South West of England than in any other region in the UK, with a rate of half the national figure. The 2003/2004 British Crime Survey further indicated that the prevalence of victimisation (the percentage of the population who have been victimised at least once) in the South West was significantly below the average for England and Wales for both household and personal crimes.
- 4.1.3 This information supports that, comparatively speaking, Dorset – and the South West region overall – remain amongst the safest places in which to live in the UK.

4.2 Alcohol Consumption in Public Places

- 4.2.1 The Police and Criminal Justice Act 2001 changed the need for Local Authorities to make a byelaw in respect of the prohibition of drinking alcohol in the streets to designating an area where alcohol consumption is restricted. These Designation Orders are more easily obtained requiring the support of only the Local Authority and the Police, although in practice extensive consultation is undertaken before designating a zone. There are now four designated areas in Dorset, these being the town centres of Christchurch, Weymouth, Wimborne Minster and Verwood.

4.3 Anti-Social Behaviour

- 4.3.1 There is an increasingly high emphasis being placed by the Government on anti-social behaviour (ASB) and methods to tackle it. This is particularly evident through the setting up of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU) within the Home Office, the launch of the Anti-Social Behaviour 'Together' Action Plan and the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003. Anti-social behaviour is a key issue of public concern. The audit of ASB reporting conducted by ASBU (Home Office) in September 2003 found that over 66,000 reports of anti-social behaviour were made to agencies on one day for England and Wales. The 2003/04 British Crime Survey (BCS) shows that over a quarter of the public fear particular behaviours such as vandalism, graffiti, litter and teenagers hanging around as a problem in their local area. Public perceptions have, however, been improving recently. The 2003/04 BCS estimates that 16% of the public perceive high levels of anti-social behaviour in their area compared with 21% in 2002/03.
- 4.3.2 Although anti-social behaviour in Dorset is low compared with national averages, it is a priority for Dorset Police and the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, reflecting the disproportionately high levels of fear of crime in Dorset and relatively low tolerance of anti-social behaviour.

4.4 Anti-Social Behaviour Order Protocol

- 4.4.1 The Dorset Community Safety Officers' Co-ordinating Group developed an Anti-Social Behaviour Order Protocol for Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in response to Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) introduced as part of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This protocol was implemented in 2004 and ensures that, in the event of an ASBO being applied for by a Local Authority or the Police, a consistent process will be followed.
- 4.4.2 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) are locally agreed contracts with alleged perpetrators. They have been developed, with encouraging results, as a way of addressing anti-social behaviour where the behaviour is not severe enough to warrant an ASBO or where a less interventionist response is justified.

4.5 Development of Arrest Referral Scheme into the new Drug Intervention Programme

- 4.5.1 The link between drug use and offending is well documented and the need to break the cycle of substance abuse and offending clearly recognised. The Western Dorset Arrest Referral Scheme was launched in June 2001, initially as a pilot project for two years. The scheme was originally set up to provide a signposting and referral service for persons with drug, alcohol and/or mental health problems who commit crime and are then arrested and detained at the Weymouth Custody Suite by Dorset Police. Dorset Drug and Alcohol Advisory Service is contracted to operate the service on behalf of the DAT and CDRPs. The scheme was jointly funded by the DAT, Western Dorset CDRP and Dorset Police.
- 4.5.2 The service has been enhanced and refocused to specifically target and case manage offenders into drug treatment under the Home Office Drug Intervention Programme. The Arrest Referral Workers are part of the virtual Criminal Justice Intervention Team together at Cranstoun Prison with a Throughcare/Aftercare Worker and a CADAS (Community Alcohol and Drugs Advisory Services) Nurse linking service clients into the drug treatment system.
- 4.5.3 New funding within the Drug Action Team has been able to improve the co-ordination of drug using clients within the Criminal Justice System through treatment and aftercare programmes. The intention is to increase the success rate in this client group who should remain drug free and, therefore, less likely to commit crime. The team is made up of multi-disciplinary service providers who contribute towards interventions and treatment from point of arrest, through the Courts, to provision of Drug Treatment Testing Orders and providing an exit strategy from prison back into the community. The key features of the service are care co-ordination of clients, a 24/7 help line to support clients, and a single point of contact for professionals referring clients back to their home area.
- 4.5.4 The nurse post also provides a link into treatment for Persistent and Prolific Offenders who have drug problems through the Quay Project (refer to 4.16).

4.6 CCTV

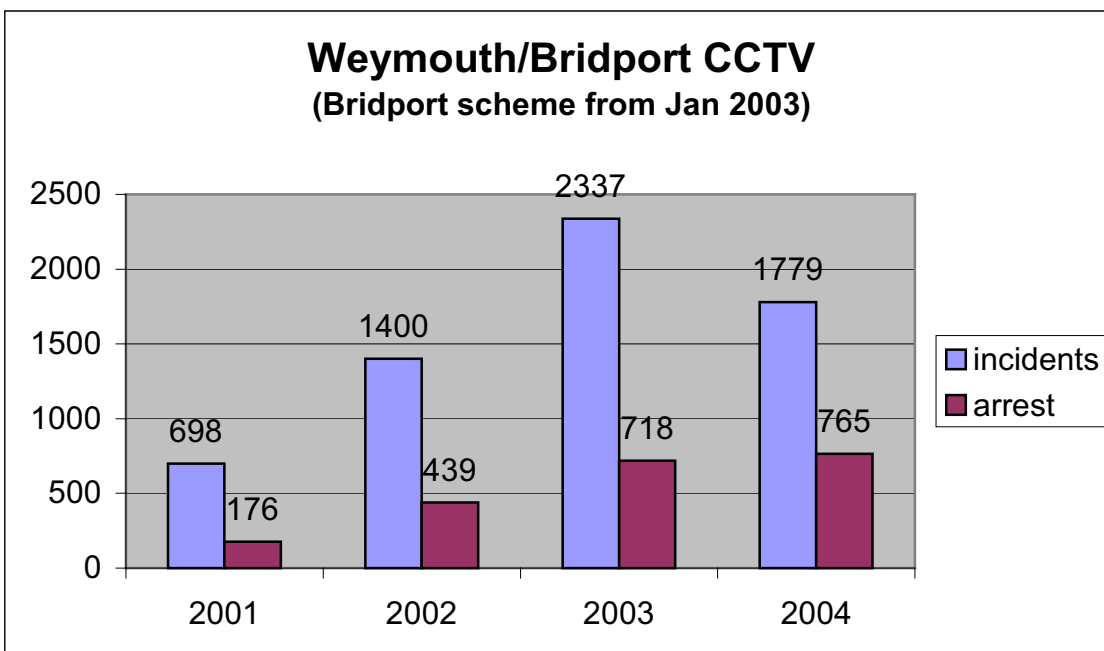
- 4.6.1 In April 2004 the Dorset CDRPs met to consider an integrated CCTV Strategy (produced by the Western Dorset CDRP) which looked at the broader issues of CCTV in Dorset. The strategy proposed four key objectives:
- to build and maintain a transmission system that will carry CCTV pictures across Dorset that all the community can use;
 - approve a costed business plan to provide on-going support for the system;

- to use all the information gathered by CCTV and to disseminate it easily to the partnership and community as necessary; and
- to involve members of the partnership and the community in the future development of CCTV.

4.6.2 These key objectives adopted by the Western Dorset CDRP partners apply equally to the Eastern Dorset CDRP partners and if agreed will require all partners co-operating to integrate resources, (including the main control rooms at Weymouth and Christchurch), ideas and requirements to provide a more cost effective and efficient information system. The challenge to be met over future years will be to achieve this county-wide.

4.6.3 Western Dorset CDRP has been one of the most successful partnerships in both gaining funding for CCTV and for the ongoing improvements and development of the original scheme. The current CCTV scheme covers both Bridport and Weymouth town centres with some thirty-two cameras in Weymouth and nine in Bridport. The Monitoring Suite in Weymouth is one of the most advanced in the country. It is hoped that in the near future other Western Dorset town centres will be able to benefit from CCTV. Many hospitals and other Trust properties are already working with their Crime and Disorder Partnerships and most hospitals now have CCTV schemes.

4.6.4 The graph below sets out the number of incidents recorded and arrests “assisted” by CCTV in Weymouth and Bridport. Incidents range from violent offences to assistance given to the public for safety reasons and lost children on the beach at Weymouth. The initial year 2001 is a part year, with 2002 being the first full year of service. In 2003 the Weymouth scheme was extended and Bridport came on-line. Improved operator efficiency combined with better communications and joint working with the Police, businesses (via Shopwatch and Pubwatch radio schemes) is thought to be the reason for this.



4.6.5 Christchurch has also been highly successful in securing funding for developments to its CCTV network. Major improvements include extending the number of hours cameras are

monitored and developing a network of moveable cameras via radio link. The availability of moveable cameras mean that the control room can monitor areas outside the town centre which were previously without CCTV coverage. The CCTV system supports a successful 'Shoplink' and enables high visibility police patrols to target problem areas effectively. There have also been developments in linking Youth Outreach Worker to the CCTV control room via Police Community Beat Officers on high visibility patrols.

4.6.6 The installation of CCTV cameras in 'hotspot' areas of Gillingham and Shaftesbury town centres has contributed to both a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour and helped with detection. The North Dorset Community Safety Partnership has made significant amounts of funding available to these systems. A grant has also been made to Blandford Forum Town Council to enable the installation of CCTV in the town centre during 2005/2006.

4.6.7 For further information about the success of schemes in Dorset, please refer to Part 2 of the strategy.

4.7 Communities Against Drugs

4.7.1 Tackling drug and alcohol related crime has been a key priority of the CDRP's since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act in 1998.

4.7.2 The Government recognised that resources afforded to CDRP's would need to be increased if any impact in this area was to be made and in 2001/02 introduced Communities Against Drugs (CAD) funding to partnerships. This provided funding for three years with a view to addressing community related drug problems. Innovation from the grass roots community levels was encouraged and as the Home Office strategy developed, more guidance affected delivery. CAD funding was subsequently absorbed into the wider building safer communities funding stream with an expectation placed on CDRPs to maintain existing funding levels for work to tackle drugs prevention and increase drugs crime detections.

4.8 Community Safety Survey – Fear of Crime

4.8.1 Each year Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships have contributed to the Police's Annual Community Safety Survey to better understand the relationship between peoples' perception of crime set against actual levels of crime. Work has been undertaken by the partnerships to raise the profile of their work through improved media relations and greater publicity of initiatives. The CDRPs are currently developing a Media/Public Relations Strategy. More recently a shared website has been developed to promote the Partnerships and to provide information on crime figures and current projects. The website will be launched later in 2005. The address for this website is www.dorsetworkingtogether.org.

4.9 Community Support Units

4.9.1 Eastern and Western Divisions of Dorset Police each operate a Community Support Vehicle (CSV) that visits towns and villages in rural Dorset, providing residents and visitors alike with many of the resources normally only available in police stations. In addition, the CSVs provide a focal point for other agencies to deliver services to the more isolated parts of the county. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships contribute to the running of the CSVs. A rota is published for both the winter and summer months and this is available on the Dorset Police website at www.dorsetpolice.org/yourarea/eastern/communityvan.shtml and www.dorsetpolice.org/yourarea/western/communityvan.shtml as well as generally available on parish and town noticeboards.

4.10 Dedicated Police Partnership Officers

4.10.1 Both the Eastern and Western Police Divisions have a designated Partnership Officer with specific responsibilities for multi-agency partnership working in support of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. In addition, local councils have dedicated Community Safety staff, operating at district and county levels.

4.11 Domestic Burglary

4.11.1 The Dorset Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) is a three-year agreement with the Government that commits Dorset County Council and its partners to delivering specific improvements in performance during the three years to March 2006. These improvements will be rewarded with an overall Performance Reward Grant of more than £8 million.

4.11.2 The thirteen LPSA targets reflect community concerns including a target led by Dorset Police to reduce the incidence of domestic burglary even further than originally planned. Another of the targets is to reduce the re-offending rates of all young offenders, whilst also reducing the average number of offences committed by persistent young offenders. LPSA targets can be more 'stretching' than would otherwise have been possible, because the Government funds additional work through 'pump-priming grant'.

4.11.3 The Crime and Disorder Partnerships have continued to support Neighbourhood Watch in their local areas and to promote initiatives such as Trickster the bogus caller musical, which has been shown to older audiences across Dorset including those in day care centres.

4.12 Domestic Violence

4.12.1 Addressing and reducing domestic violence is a priority for the Government and the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims' Bill received its Royal Assent in November 2004.

4.12.2 A Domestic Violence Officer for the county was appointed in May 2004 on a two-year contract. The post is hosted by Dorset County Council on behalf of all Dorset CDRPs and is funded through Government Office South West. The post exists to provide a main point of contact between statutory and voluntary agencies that are partners in the Pan Dorset Domestic Violence Forum and aims to ensure that best practice is adopted to support victims of domestic violence across the county.

4.12.3 Dorset Police have five Domestic Violence Officer posts established – one officer for each division and an overall Force Co-ordinator. Five local Domestic Violence Fora operate across Dorset each working to raise awareness and distribute publicity materials in their areas. The Police and the fora have organised interagency training on domestic violence and annual conferences for practitioners. There is also a Pan Dorset Domestic Violence Forum which exists to enable information sharing between agencies and local fora across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole.

4.12.4 The Dorset Women's Outreach Project in West Dorset, Christchurch and East Dorset continues its good work supporting victims and survivors. There are five women's refuges in Dorset – located in Shaftesbury, Weymouth, Dorchester, Bournemouth and Poole. These offer emergency accommodation for women and their children (Poole also has a facility for male victims) plus support for women and children whilst in the refuge and afterwards.

4.12.5 Local solicitors, Local Authority Housing Departments, The Health Service, Victim Support and many others provide additional support for victims and the issues they face, in a variety of ways. The Police have produced a domestic violence resource directory, survival card and leaflet, all of which have been widely distributed across the county.

4.12.6 The Domestic Violence Officer is completing a Domestic Violence Audit and mapping exercise that is due for publication during 2005. A Domestic Violence Strategy for the county will be developed from the audit and this will link domestic violence in to the Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy. Consultation with survivors of domestic violence will also take place during 2005.

4.13 DAT and CDRP Drug Related Initiatives

4.13.1 **Drug Analysts** – Inter-CDRP funding agreements enabled the employment of two Drug Analyst posts to research and map local drug markets and enable data led solutions to drug problems. A thorough understanding of the Dorset drug markets has been achieved which will inform supply reduction operations. The analyst posts have also produced the Dorset Drug Audit 2004 which has informed this Strategy.

4.13.2 **Ion Track Drug Analyser** – the purchase of sensitive monitoring equipment to detect persons handling drugs or explosives.

4.13.3 **Support to local Drug Reference Action Groups (DRAGS)** – a variety of initiatives have taken place to meet grass-roots drugs problems identified by the Drug Reference Action Groups and their local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.

4.14 Information Exchange Protocol

4.14.1 A joint protocol was agreed and implemented in 2004 for the collection, management and exchange of information between agencies to work to reduce crime and disorder in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. The Information Exchange Protocol will be reviewed annually take account of new legislation.

4.15 Itinerant Traders and Bogus Callers – The Doorstep Challenge

4.15.1 Every year complaints are received by Dorset County Council's Trading Standards Service about builders, tree surgeons and tarmacers who visit householders uninvited to carry out 'urgent' repairs. Too often extortionate amounts are charged for what is often very poor or even unnecessary work but may also lead to 'distraction burglaries'. To advise and assist householders Trading Standards, in association with Dorset Police, has produced an advisory leaflet and door display card which states 'We do not buy from doorstep sellers'. Many thousands have been distributed through Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, Councils and other organisations. Feedback has shown that the card makes people feel safer and more able to deal with uninvited callers.

4.15.2 There is currently an ongoing initiative (The Doorstep Challenge) to combat the problems of travelling criminals. Its aims are to reduce distraction burglaries, reduce fear of crime and prosecute offenders. This is achieved by a positive, pro-active, multi-agency approach.

4.16 Persistent Offenders Units – The Quay Project

4.16.1 The Quay Project was launched on 1 October 2004. It covers both Western and Eastern Dorset and is based at the Western Divisional Police Headquarters in Weymouth. It utilises a multi-agency team comprising of a Unit Manager, Police Officer, Probation Officer, Researcher and a Nurse/Drugs Worker.

4.16.2 The Quay Project's aim is to reduce the criminality of key offenders who are 18 years or older, by addressing their addiction related offending. The project not only deals with those in the community but also focuses on those presently serving a prison sentence, prior to and following their release. The intention is to encourage and enable such offenders to

discontinue their addiction, to accordingly halt their 'cycle of offending' and to aid their rehabilitation back into becoming valuable members of the community.

- 4.16.3 Currently, the Unit is working in partnership with a multitude of community and Prison based statutory and voluntary agencies and providers managing 74 individuals. The Unit researches individuals, assesses their suitability based on Police, Probation and Health data and team assessments and co-ordinates the provision of tailored multi-agency treatment and support packages. Partners include a range of accommodation and treatment providers, counselling, self-esteem and mentoring services; and education, benefits, training and employment providers.

4.17 Police Community Support Officers

- 4.17.1 Police Community Support Officers are part of a new development to provide more high visibility policing in local communities. Their role is to assist Police Officers and Crime Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in crime prevention by pro-actively dealing with low-level incidents including anti-social behaviour, before they become serious crimes. The initiative is part of a Home Office, Local Authority and Neighbourhood Renewal Funding Scheme.
- 4.17.2 Police Community Support Officers spend their time patrolling the streets to undertaking additional high visibility patrol duties and help provide an extra link between the Police, community, businesses, Neighbourhood Watch Groups, and schools. They feedback crime and community intelligence so the Police and CDRP colleagues are aware of relevant issues and activities.
- 4.17.3 Funding has been secured across Dorset for the appointment of a total of twenty-eight PCSOs, sixteen in the Eastern part of Dorset and twelve in the Western area. The officers will be deployed in consultation with the CDRPs. In planning for the future CDRPs will need to consider how these posts can be funded through the partnerships.

4.18 Protocol Relating to Enforcement of Rules to Prevent the Supply of Alcohol to Persons Under the Age of 18 years

- 4.18.1 The Protocol was agreed and launched on 22 April 2002. It sets out how Dorset Police, together with Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole, have responded to changes in the rules relating to the supply of alcohol to persons under 18 years old. In particular, it relates to how these organisations' enforcement responsibilities will be discharged through co-ordination and partnership working. Since the launch, the protocol has been used as a model by other Local Authorities and Police Forces nationally but particularly across the South West. The Protocol was reviewed in November 2004 to take into account the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

4.19 Racist and Homophobic Incident Reporting

- 4.19.1 A multi-agency Racist and Homophobic Incident Group (RHIG) has developed a monitoring and reporting system to be used within each agency signed up to the system. Each agency can take a report from anyone wishing to report an incident to them or through them. The RHIG includes representatives from councils, the Police, the Probation Service, Health Agencies, Housing Associations, Citizen's Advice Bureau and Dorset Race Equality Council. The RHIG monitors reports and acts on them. Another key role is publicity – posters and postcards have been circulated cross Dorset and a 'self reporting' form has also been produced. The system is being revised and re-launched to include training and it is anticipated that the reporting of other discrimination, such as incidents relating to disability and gender will be added.

4.20 Responsible Retailers' Scheme

4.20.1 The Responsible Retailers' Scheme recognises retailers who work in conjunction with young people to prevent illegal sales of age-restricted products, in particular alcohol and tobacco. This award-winning scheme, jointly administered by Dorset County Council Trading Standards and Dorset Police, is strongly supported by all District/Borough Councils and has been rolled out across the county. The promotion of proof of age cards for young people has been a key element. The scheme was reviewed in 2004/2005 and as a result an updated best practice guide for businesses is being produced against which they will be asked to self-certify compliance.

4.21 Senior Researcher, Dorset CDRPs

4.21.1 The combined Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in Dorset employ a Senior Researcher to provide strategic information, research and analytical support for crime reduction and community safety-related work across the county. Based at County Hall in Dorchester, this post has recently been responsible for the production of the 2004 Dorset Crime Audit and associated duties, including providing several presentations on Audit findings to a variety of Partnership forums. The postholder was also responsible for helping co-ordinate the production of the recent Dorset Drug Audit.

4.21.2 The Senior Researcher has undertaken numerous partnership research projects, including supporting analysis for the provision and effectiveness of CCTV in Dorset, in-depth analysis of local community safety surveys, and reports on issues such as the fear of crime. The postholder also provides regular reports on crime reduction performance to local partnership forums.

4.21.3 A particular focus of the Senior Researcher's role is the management of information and performance monitoring projects connected with crime reduction across the county. This has included the development of a local data sharing and performance monitoring system, DE CRIME. This project supports the provision of crime-related information and analysis to partner agencies across Dorset, helping to develop a culture of wider-information sharing and underpinning successful collaborative working.

4.22 Sports Development

4.22.1 The Dorset Leisure Officers' Group comprises officers from Sport England, the County, District and Borough Councils and Bournemouth and Poole Unitary Authorities to promote leisure and recreation across the sub-regional area. The 'Dorset Sports Strategy' highlights various ways in which sports development can help to reduce crime. A specific aim of the Strategy is 'to encourage sport participation as part of a healthier lifestyle and as a way to develop community spirit and reduce anti-social behaviour'. Sport helps tackle social exclusion by increasing people's sense of integration into their local communities. Evidence shows that taking part in sport reduces the chances of young people getting involved in crime by enhancing their self-esteem, developing social skills, team spirit and understanding the value of rules and self-discipline.

4.22.2 The County Council helps communities to obtain funding for local sports facilities. A good example of this is Weymouth Skatepark, which has brought together young people often forgotten through traditional formalised team sports, and those who would normally skate on the streets with a facility where they can be part of a community of extreme sports users. These new community sports/activities also provide employment opportunities for young people who would normally have difficulty in starting paid employment.

- 4.22.3 Sport provides 'lessons in life' that help young people cope with the stresses of normal life by teaching them the value of mutual respect and fair play. It enables them to channel their energy, competitiveness and aggression in a personally and socially beneficial way.

4.23 Street Lighting

- 4.23.1 Numerous research studies have suggested that, with the right design, street lighting can have a positive impact in helping to reduce crime (and the fear of crime) during the hours of darkness. In July 2003 Dorset County Council submitted an expression of interest to the Department for Transport to pursue a Private Finance Initiative based street lighting project. In November 2004 its outline business case was approved with provisional funding of £31.6 million allocated subject to the successful procurement of a PFI Contractor. The contract award is planned for June 2006.

4.24 Streetwise Partnership Trust

- 4.24.1 Streetwise Partnership Trust is the result of a merger in 2004 of two successful charities: Dorset Interactive Safety Centre (Streetwise); and the Police Partnership Trust. Membership of the Streetwise Partnership Trust includes the emergency services, statutory authorities, voluntary sector, businesses and the community that work together with the single aim of making Dorset communities safer.

- 4.24.2 The Charity works closely with the Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, providing wide-ranging support. This includes many forms of interactive training, project management and on-line assistance. Support for numerous and diverse community safety related projects previously provided by the Police Partnership Trust will continue. It also delivers preventative education to young people and families, older people, and those with a disability. The aim is to increase the level of safety awareness in the community and building citizenship skills which will help people to be more aware of their surroundings and the impact of their actions on themselves and others.

- 4.24.3 Streetwise Interactive Safety Centre is an award winning interactive safety centre based in North Bournemouth and contains life-sized scenarios from town, country and seaside which are designed to bring appropriate safety, citizenship and crime prevention education to a wide audience including young children and teenagers. Groups learn about risk reduction and good citizenship in a safe, controlled environment using interactive role-play and communication skills. This provides them with the information they need to make their own informed choices, helping to reduce the tragedies of lives lost or ruined and the financial cost of avoidable accidents. Personal responsibility is emphasised in visits which are positive, build confidence and are enjoyable and memorable.

- 4.24.4 The focus of every Streetwise safety tour is on giving information to allow children to take responsibility for their actions and make an informed choice in the light of the possible consequences. Over 12,000 children aged from 5–11 years visit Streetwise every year and receive input on various accident and crime prevention issues in a memorable and interactive way. From a CDRP perspective young people learn about the consequences of anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, vandalism and littering and basic personal safety guidance in the park, alleyway, road, heathland and beach scenarios at Streetwise. A special scenario on 'Theft and Consequences' for children over the age of 9 is also available as an optional scenario for schools and groups to choose.

- 4.24.5 The Police Partnership Team offers a range of initiatives and projects that are designed to help to combat crime and anti-social behaviour and so assist in delivering a safer environment. One such project is Trickster. Trickster is the bogus caller musical that teaches the elderly how to handle bogus callers and fraudulent traders. A pilot is underway, which brings Trickster into the school, with the young people acting as host to

the older generation. This gives the young people an opportunity to learn about how it was to be a young person growing up during the war and the values that such experience endows that person with.

4.25 Young People's Services

4.25.1 Young people are a very important part of the work of the Partnerships – they are just as likely to be victims as offenders. Youth Action Groups all over the country have shown the potential for a positive contribution from young people, and Neighbourhood Watch is also keen to work actively with them. Effective communication between local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, the Youth Offending Team, Connexions and Youth and Community Services is essential to success. A number of youth fora have been established with support from all the Local Authority partners. These provide the opportunity for young people to initiate projects and take responsibility for the allocation of funds.

4.26 Youth and Community Services

4.26.1 The County Council employs three hundred full and part-time Youth Workers across the county who are engaged with young people daily about all issues relating to community safety. The service operates a number of outreach projects, where Youth Workers are in regular contact with young people about issues relating to safety on the streets and anti-social behaviour.

4.26.2 The U Project (summer activities for young people in Dorset) was a partnership project involving Dorset Youth and Community Service, Bournemouth Youth Service, Poole Youth Service and the Connexions service for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. The project focused on young people who were at risk of, or experiencing social exclusion. Adventurous activities such as canoeing, climbing, mountain biking were balanced with opportunities for young people to discuss both their personal circumstances and their hopes and fears for the future.

4.26.3 A multi-agency Outreach Team was set up in order to work with young people who were gathering on the streets of Ferndown on Friday nights. The team included Dorset County Council Youth Workers, the East Dorset Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Officer, local Police, Connexions workers and a worker from Shadows (a drug and alcohol agency). The team's response to anti-social behaviour has included; working with local businesses in order to create an environment that reduces the likelihood of confrontation; direct intervention with young people in order to diffuse confrontational situations and providing the Police with accurate intelligence when young people are the victims of crime.

4.27 Youth Offending Team

4.27.1 **Christchurch Youth Inclusion and Support Panel (YISP)** - this project is a partnership of statutory and voluntary groups working with children in the Christchurch area. It is funded by Dorset Children's Fund Partnership and managed by Dorset Youth Offending Team.

- The YISP is a multi-agency planning group seeking to prevent offending and anti-social behaviour by offering voluntary support services and other complementary interventions for high-risk children and their families.
- The main emphasis and rationale for the Panel's work is about ensuring children at risk of offending or re-offending and their families are receiving support from main stream public services (e.g. education, social services, youth service and mental health services) at the earliest possible opportunity.

- The Panel will hold statutory bodies and agencies accountable for delivering services and provide a focus for co-ordinating and analysing the sharing of inter-agency information on risk factors and problem behaviour.

4.27.2 **Ferndown Safe Schools Project** - managed by the Youth Offending Team the project obtains funding from the Children's Fund and a Police Officer. This is a project that aims to work with all children in a school setting.

- The Police Officer and a YOT Project Worker are based in Ferndown Middle School. They work with all the children in the school contributing to the education agenda by talking about crime and the effects of crime. At the same time the YOT Officer takes referrals of children felt to be at risk and undertakes a variety of interventions with them and their parents.
- The targets are to reduce the incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Ferndown area.
- The project has been well received by school staff, pupils and parents.
- It is intended to spread the scope of the project to other schools across the Eastern Dorset CDRP area, with the inclusion of an increased number of dedicated safe schools officers.

4.27.3 All young offenders who come into contact with the YOT will be assessed for drugs misuse by a nurse seconded from a primary healthcare trust to work in the YOT. Advice on all aspects of drug use will be given to young people who, if appropriate, will be referred to other treatment services.

4.27.4 The YOT has run a number of social inclusion events that are designed to assist in the re-integration of young people into local services where their behaviour, which may have been criminal or anti-social, has led, or is in danger of leading, to their exclusion. To date groups have been based around educational establishments. It is anticipated that a few events will be delivered on geographical areas where there are groups of young people causing concern.

5. DORSET CRIME AUDIT 2004

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 As part of their duties under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998), Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDPRs) have a responsibility to carry out an audit of crime every three years. The audit report provides a comprehensive assessment of trends, patterns and relationships in crime and associated factors, the findings from which help to set priorities for reducing crime over an ensuing three year period in local crime reduction strategies.

5.1.2 As in previous years, the 2004 Dorset Crime Audit was produced as a single, county-wide, report covering the six district/borough council areas in Dorset, and was principally compiled by the Senior Researcher for Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. Wherever possible, data presented within the report directly followed on from the previous Dorset Crime Audit (conducted in 2001), and covered the period April 2001 to March 2004.

5.1.3 Issues arising from Dorset Crime Audit 2004:-

- Recorded crime in Dorset increased over the three-year period of the Crime Audit, but this can, in part, be accounted for by the inflationary effect of the National Crime Recording Standard introduced in April 2002.
- However, an examination of comparative trends in crime rates shows that the relative amount of crime committed in Dorset County in 2003/2004, when compared to England and Wales, is proportionately greater when making the same comparison with the national picture in 2001/2002.
- Whilst levels of violent crime in Dorset are generally lower than national and regional averages, evidence suggests that alcohol-related violence is a growing cause for concern, particularly in towns which have buoyant late night economies such as Weymouth.
- The results of public surveys included in the Crime Audit shows that anti-social behaviour is a significant issue for Dorset residents.
- One of the difficulties in accurately measuring levels of anti-social behaviour in Dorset, however, is the lack of cohesive and reliable data from local agencies.
- Procedures and processes are being developed to co-ordinate the county-wide collection of anti-social behaviour data from the six Borough and District Councils together with the County Council.
- Levels of fear of crime in Dorset appear to be relatively high, in contrast with the comparatively low levels of recorded crime in the county.

5.1.4 The 2004 Dorset Crime Audit included a wealth of supporting information, drawn from a variety of sources. These included:-

- Dorset Police
 - Recorded crime data for various offence categories
 - Recorded incident data, including anti-social behaviour
 - Arrestee data (age, sex)
 - Victim data (age, sex)
 - Regional and national crime figures from the Home Office to enable comparisons in crime rates
- Dorset Community Safety Surveys
 - Information on perceptions of safety amongst residents
 - Issues of concern amongst residents regarding criminality
 - Residents' personal experiences of crime victimisation

- Indices of Deprivation data
 - Sub-ward level data to assess the relationship between crime and factors such as income deprivation, health deprivation, and education deprivation
- National Probation Service - Dorset
 - Demographic information on offenders
- Dorset Ambulance Trust
 - Data on ambulance call-outs for ingestions and poisonings through substances (including alcohol)
- Dorset Fire and Rescue Service
 - Detailed information on deliberate fires (to correlate with arsons recorded by police)
- Dorset Youth Offending Team
 - Details of the scope and nature of youth offending in Dorset, together with demographic data
- Dorset County Council Social Care and Health Department
 - Information on children in need
- Dorset County Council Education Department
 - Details of school exclusions
- Weymouth and Portland Borough Council
 - Incidents recorded by CCTV
- Supplementary information, including:
 - national research findings;
 - costs of crime estimations;
 - local data on domestic violence; and
 - accident and emergency admissions.

5.2 Summary of Audit

5.2.1 The following table provides a comparative assessment of changes in rates of major crime types at the local and county level in Dorset (excluding Bournemouth and Poole) with those for the South West Region and England and Wales.

5.2.2 Main findings identified from the 2004 Dorset Crime Audit were as follows:

Crime Audit figures 2001/02 to 2003/04 ⁽¹⁾

Rate of Crime per 1,000 population	Violent Crime		Dwelling Burglary (3)		Vehicle Crime		Criminal Damage		Total Crime	
	2001/02	2003/04	2001/02	2003/04	2001/02	2003/04	2001/02	2003/04	2001/02	2003/04
Christchurch	5.7	9.7	8.4	7.8	11.0	8.3	12.1	18.0	61.3	70.8
East Dorset	2.9	4.6	5.2	3.2	8.2	7.4	8.7	11.7	37.2	43.1
North Dorset	5.3	7.8	9.7	6.0	7.8	6.9	9.3	11.9	49.3	48.6
Purbeck	7.1	11.6	6.5	4.9	13.0	10.0	15.6	17.2	64.4	66.3
West Dorset	4.5	9.0	8.1	7.3	9.2	8.2	9.4	12.4	54.6	60.9
Weymouth & Portland	12.6	25.3	8.8	11.0	10.3	10.4	18.3	23.7	78.6	105.2
DORSET COUNTY (2)	6.0	10.9	7.7	6.6	9.6	8.4	11.7	15.2	55.8	64.1
South West Region	10.8	17.2	15.2	12.3	16.4	13.7	15.1	18.9	85.4	92.7
England & Wales	15.4	21.1	19.4	18.6	18.6	16.9	20.1	23.0	104.4	113.1

Figures are numbers of recorded crimes per 1,000 population - Source: Dorset Police (produced by Senior Researcher, Dorset CDRPs) and Home Office

(1) Numbers of recorded crimes will be affected by changes in crime recording practices (see 'Violent Crime' section for further detail)

(2) Dorset County relates to the administrative area covered by Dorset County Council and excludes Bournemouth and Poole

(3) Figures for Dwelling Burglary are based on rates per 1,000 households

- 5.2.3 **All crime** - A general overview of the nature and scope of crime in Dorset indicated that levels of crime are comparatively low overall compared to both regional and national averages. In 2003/04, the rate of total crime in Dorset County (64.1 offences per 1,000 population), was almost half the national average for England and Wales (113.1 offences).
- 5.2.4 **Violent crime** - The difficulty in determining 'real' rises in violent crime, as opposed to changes in crime recording practices implemented by the Police, was highlighted by the Crime Audit. This is clearly a significant issue with regard to accurately interpreting changes in trends and patterns in violence that have occurred in Dorset over the last three years. However, the audit outlined that a number of issues – particularly alcohol-related violence and its link to the late-night economy – clearly provide cause for concern.
- 5.2.5 An increasing focus for partnership working in Dorset is the issue of domestic violence, and the impact that this type of crime can have on its victims. Statistical evidence based on police data was used to provide an indication of the extent of domestic violence within Dorset, but analysis of this type is hampered by the fact that many incidents of domestic abuse go unreported. Additional evidence drawn from both local and national research findings provided further background to the likely extent of domestic violence within the county.
- 5.2.6 **Property crime** - The Crime Audit outlined that crime committed against property – including burglary and vehicle crime – remains comparatively low in Dorset. Burglary and vehicle crime offences have exhibited a general downward trend in the county overall, with greater fluctuations in offence levels discernible at the local level. In contrast, criminal damage offences show a notable increase across Dorset. However, with few exceptions, rates of offences (per 1,000 population) remain relatively low for most individual local authority areas when compared to national average figures. More reflective of national levels is the rate of arson in Dorset, and analysis presented in the audit shows numbers of recorded offences to have increased in some local authority areas within the county. The Crime Audit recognised that this rise may reflect an increase in recording rather than in offending. In contrast, numbers of deliberate fires recorded by Dorset Fire and Rescue Service significantly decreased in Dorset County during the three-year coverage of the audit report.
- 5.2.7 **Anti-social behaviour** - The Crime Audit also assessed the impact of anti-social behaviour in Dorset, an issue which local opinion surveys have shown to be an important concern for the county's residents. Incidents of anti-social behaviour have exhibited an increasing trend county-wide over the last three years, although further analysis indicates that incidents tend to be concentrated in particular areas of Dorset. However there is a general acceptance that the lack of definition of the term is problematic when considering the extent of the issue of anti-social behaviour.
- 5.2.8 **Drugs and crime** - Drug problems have also been shown to be a significant area of concern for people in Dorset. Drug problems – and the link between drugs and crime – gain a great deal of exposure in the media, although the full extent of this relationship in a Dorset context remains largely unknown. However, a breakdown of types of drugs offences recorded in Dorset indicates that a large majority relate to 'possession' of drugs offences, with the majority of these involving Cannabis. Data in the Crime Audit also shows that numbers of offences considered by police to be 'drug-related' have also fallen in Dorset overall.
- 5.2.9 **Fear of crime** - An analysis of results from the Community Safety Surveys conducted in Dorset over the last three years reveals that fear of crime is an area of increasing concern for the county's residents.

6. DORSET DRUG AUDIT 2004

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 As a result of changes to Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 it is now a statutory requirement for all responsible authorities (partnerships) to produce, every three years, an audit of drugs in their local areas. This report provided a detailed assessment of the nature and scope of the use and supply of drugs across Dorset. Supporting information obtained from a variety of sources, including Dorset Police, Health Services (including drug treatment and support agencies), and other statutory and non-statutory organisations in Dorset, was used to compile the report. The project was undertaken as a joint initiative by partnership Drugs Analysts, with assistance received from the Dorset Drug Action Team (DAT) Co-ordinator.

6.1.2 The Dorset Drug Audit is a detailed document, incorporating extensive research findings, some of which are listed below. In summary, the audit found that generally good progress had been made in Dorset with the existing local Drugs Strategy (released in 2002), and the Drug Audit offers wide-ranging recommendations which it envisages will help further build on this robust framework. The audit is available on Dorset County Council's website.

6.1.3 Issues arising from the Dorset Drug Audit 2004:-

- The coverage of the data is not comprehensive. Some sources have provided data that covers the full three year period that the audit intended to cover e.g. syringe collection from Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, however other data only covers one year e.g. treatment figures from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS).
- The only co-terminous boundaries in Dorset between police and Local Authority areas exist in Christchurch. The rest of the county has overlapping police boundaries, which can confuse data collection processes.
- Government Key Performance Indicators have varied each year. A systematic approach needs to be established, so that performance trends can be measured over a longer period of time.
- Dorset has made good progress over the past three years with its local drug strategy and has a robust framework on which to build.

6.1.4 Some of the main findings from the 2004 Dorset Drug Audit are listed below:-

Drugs Supply - The quantity of heroin seized has increased, but the number of seizures has decreased. This may be due to changes in the method of moving drugs around within the markets, making it more difficult to locate drugs on a person, combined with the success of planned police operations recovering large quantities of drugs in fewer seizures.

The numbers of seizures and the quantities of crack seized in Dorset have increased by 80% and 200% respectively. This corroborates the increase in drugs use reported by the treatment agencies, received intelligence and drug workers. There was a higher proportion of drug seizures in the Western Police BCU.

In the Dorset DAT area, there were no assets seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (effective from February 2003) in the audit reporting period.

The number of offenders arrested, cautioned or reported for Class A drug offences per 10,000 population has declined year on year for the Eastern BCU and shown a downward trend for Western BCU. Cocaine intelligence has nearly doubled in the two years from

2002/2003 to 2003/2004. Cocaine features in the heroin markets more than in previous years. Cocaine seizures have increased.

Young People and Substance Misuse - In Spring 2003 a survey of young people was commissioned by the Eastern Dorset Crime Reduction Partnerships. Further details of this survey can be found on page 45. Some of the findings of the survey detail:-

- Twice as many girls than boys were actively smoking tobacco at the time of the survey, and just under half of the respondents had never smoked. This means that over half of the respondents had had some kind of smoking experience at least once – a far higher proportion than those who had experienced any of the other drugs (except alcohol). Around one fifth of those surveyed were smoking on some kind of regular basis (albeit possibly infrequently), which is far less than those who drank alcohol regularly.
- The level of drinking, particularly those that drink once a week or more, is also of concern. Youth workers and Police are finding an increase in alcohol related anti-social behaviour. Drug services consider alcohol to be a far greater problem than drugs for young people in the Dorset area.

Communities - Almost 74% of offenders sentenced with a DTTO (Drug Treatment and Testing Order) in Dorset between April 2001 and March 2004 successfully completed their course of treatment.

Intelligence indicates that recreational drug markets exist to varying extents around nightclubs in Blandford, Dorchester, Gillingham, Swanage and Weymouth.

Begging offences have increased in Western BCU in the last year, and are concentrated in Weymouth. Eastern BCU has seen a decrease in such recorded offences. Christchurch town has seen the most offences over the three years in Eastern BCU. 74% of those arrested for begging offences were Class A drug users.

Weymouth and Portland Borough Council is the only Local Authority in Dorset that has a system in place to collate and disseminate syringe collection figures. Most syringes are found in public toilets in and around Weymouth town centre. Areas like Ferndown, Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Sherborne and Verwood are not sufficiently serviced by needle exchange schemes.

Treatment - Staff employed in drugs treatment in Dorset reached their lowest number of recent years in March 2004. This is because up until 2004 workers employed in the treatment of young people in staff counts as well, whereas now counting incorporates workers in adult services only. The age of Dorset clients reaches a peak in the 15 -18 age bracket thereafter it decreases steadily downwards. The snapshot gained from the treatment figures is that most people in treatment are from Bridport, followed by Blandford and Weymouth.

Heroin is by far the most common drug and alone counts for 67% of primary problem substances in National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) data. The use of 'crack' alone, without heroin, is not common in Dorset, where there is not the demand that is seen in other areas of the country.

40% of clients reported using a secondary problematic substance. Alcohol features highly as a secondary problem substance, highlighting the link between alcohol abuse and the misuse of illicit drugs. In most cases alcohol is quoted as the secondary substance where cannabis is the primary drug of use.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation Undertaken in 2004

7.1.1 The following consultation processes have taken place in 2004, the results of which have informed the new Dorset Crime and Drugs Strategy 2005 – 2008:

7.2 Qualitative Processes

- 7.2.1 **Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Consultation Conference 2004** - In order to consult the widest possible range of relevant organisations from across Dorset, a conference was held in October 2004 at Weymouth where over eighty people attended. The event consisted of morning and afternoon workshop sessions plus an audience interactive presentation, all of which were based upon key issues arising from the crime and drugs audits. Each workshop had a subject theme of either anti-social behaviour, hate crime, domestic violence, violent crime, drug and alcohol misuse or perception of crime, from which participants had to highlight key issues.
- 7.2.2 There were some common themes identified across the different themed workshops. The need for the development of prevention strategies such as those to support through treatment for substance misuse, self-esteem projects with all age groups and early intervention projects with children were highlighted. A link was identified between alcohol and anti-social behaviour and recognition that in different communities there can be different tolerance levels of behaviour. The link between drugs and 'acquisitive' crimes such as burglary was raised. Funding was highlighted as a need to deliver a range of preventative measures such as youth diversionary activities. Education featured in most workshops such as the need to target anti-social behaviour, domestic violence, and hate crime through working with all age groups. The benefit of learning from examples of good or best practice was also suggested, as was the role of the media in influencing the perception of crime including issues such as binge drinking. Finally the need for multi-agency working to tackle these issues and the importance of the need for confidence in community safety agencies. The key issues that came out of each of the six topics are shown below.
- 7.2.3 In the anti-social behaviour (ASB) workshops the key issues were: the need for prevention strategies; tackling town centre ASB especially alcohol related; multi-agency working including with the voluntary sector; need to differentiate between ASB and intolerance; everyone has the right to a life free from harassment, alarm or distress and finally the need for support for both victims and offenders.
- 7.2.4 Under the domestic violence theme key issues were: the need for awareness raising on Domestic Violence being unacceptable; education on both understanding and prevention; funding for core work and support services; learning from problems and finding solutions; a multi-agency approach must be encouraged and finally communication and a consistent approach is essential to building trust.
- 7.2.5 The drugs misuse workshops identified these key issues: tackling under-age drinking through preventing selling to minors targeting ASB and off-licences; preventative work through education and training such as skills and parenting; the links between heroin misuse and crimes such as thefts and robbery; the effects of the media on issues such as 'binge drinking'; the level of acceptance of alcohol misuse; tackling drugs/alcohol supply and the availability of treatment and finally learning from good practice elsewhere.

- 7.2.6 The workshop on hate crime identified these key issues: the black and minority ethnic communities are dispersed and therefore isolated; need for a national media strategy to challenge stereotypes; reporting mechanisms need to improve to increase confidence in reporting of incidents; need to improve confidence and credibility in the criminal justice system; educating all ages in diversity and equality issues; felt that the law relating to traveller/gypsy is so often criminalised; disability training needed in organisations to encourage the reporting of harassment and finally in terms of communication and joint working there are few local BME networks and it is difficult to identify community leaders.
- 7.2.7 Under perception of crime the workshop's key issues were: Police and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) visibility essential; Police availability and community contact such as with schools and visits to sheltered housing accommodation; regularly promote actual crime the use of tri-signs can be positive; the need for strong local watch groups through the use of noticeboards and 'ringmaster' messages; direct funding towards youth diversionary community projects; good lighting and visibility in areas used by the public, graffiti and rubbish adds to perception of crime.
- 7.2.8 The violent crime and alcohol misuse workshop's key issues were: seems to be the main cause of fear of crime; alcohol and drugs related street crime can be linked to adverts promoting binge drinking; violence can be as a result of frustration, lack of education and low self-esteem; physical communities that are run-down are seen as a planning issue, working to improve developments using 'safe by design' could help; alternatives to custody and other measures can be used during custody; early intervention work with children through education and improving their self-esteem and finally parental education and support.
- 7.2.9 In addition to the workshops there was an inter-active presentation which produced some interesting findings:-
- 54% of the audience believed that between the years 2002/04 the amount of crime in Dorset County had increased by 5% or more, whilst in fact it had only increased by 1%;
 - 42% of the audience thought that the crime rate in Dorset in 2003/2004 was 85 per 1,000 head of population, in fact it was 64 per 1,000;
 - 59% of the audience thought that of the violence against person offences (including assaults and woundings) in Dorset, 50% or more were recorded as alcohol related, the proportion was 30%;
 - 72% of the audience thought that, according to recent Government backed research findings, the estimated combined annual cost of domestic violence to public services and from lost economic output in the UK was £2 billion or less, in fact it was over £5 billion. Broken down, domestic violence cost public services £3.1 billion with the cost of lost economic output estimated to amount to a further £2.7 billion;
 - when asked how the audience would rate the importance of the different community safety issues raised in the presentation, by choosing their top three the results were:-
 - anti-social behaviour – 24% of the audience
 - violent crime (including alcohol related violence) – 21%
 - fear of crime – 15%
 - drug problems – 15%
 - domestic violence – 12%
 - burglary and vehicle crimes (property crimes) – 9%
 - hate crime – 4%.

7.2.10 The evaluation questionnaire at the end of the conference identified the following priorities:-

- more opportunities for young people
- targeting anti-social behaviour
- more policing
- more community involvement
- improving the understanding and tolerance between generations
- targeting substance misuse

7.2.11 **Consultation with Young People** – From Autumn 2004 to March 2005 a comprehensive survey of young people was carried out in schools across Dorset. The survey included a number of questions on crime and drugs issues including asking young people which issues they felt were most important. The findings of this survey are available on www.dorsetforyou.com.

7.2.12 In the Spring of 2003, a survey was commissioned by the Eastern Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. The questionnaire was produced by the Dorset Youth & Community Service, with the assistance of the National Centre for Social Research. The survey was a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the scope of smoking, drinking and drug use amongst 13 – 16 year old pupils in the eastern side of Dorset (excluding Bournemouth and Poole). The methodology used was completion of a questionnaire by pupils directly, and using focus group sessions. The aim was to obtain data on prevalence of drinking and smoking, along with drug use, awareness and availability of drugs, plus attitudes and trends.

7.2.13 Ten schools participated in the survey, and there were a total of 1,356 responses. Listed below are some of the findings of the survey. The complete list of findings are detailed in the Drug Audit 2004 which is available on the www.dorsetforyou.com website. The comprehensive results of this survey will be available on the www.dorsetforyou.com website from early Summer 2005.

7.2.14 Between 93% and 96% of respondents were aware of the main four Class A drugs. This indicates that drug awareness education appears to be successful, at least in terms of knowing what drugs are. Looking at drug usage, however, there are still a significant number of young people prepared to experiment with certain substances. Substance misuse in the main seems to be limited to alcohol, cannabis, smoking and solvents. There were no substances listed that had not been tried by at least three of the respondents. Less than 2.5% of any of the respondents had tried Class A drugs. This may also be a result of drug education, with most young people not prepared to even experiment with these drug types.

7.2.15 The 'at risk' schools for drug use are the secondary schools (and the final year of some middle schools) - from the ages of 13 and 16 years, 24% more young people will have used drugs at least once. Of those who said they had taken drugs, nearly 90% of 'first drug use' takes place in the 12 – 15 years age range. Therefore this group are the most in need of drug education, harm reduction advice and service interventions.

7.2.16 **Consultation with older people** - In feedback from a local charity working with older people it was raised that older people can be frightened and some do not go out at night. They expressed some concern over being robbed and are also worried about being knocked over by cyclists and skateboarders. Further work is required with local forums and groups to identify why older people are frightened and what they are frightened of.

- 7.2.17 **Consultation with people with a disability or long term illness** - Between August and November 2004 a 'Quick' questionnaire survey on the Crime and Drugs Audit was carried out across Dorset, the details and overall findings of this are included in paragraph 7.3.3. This section summarises the results of a comparison of responses from those that stated that they had a long standing illness or disability, compared to those who stated that they did not (as explained in 7.2.19) NB. The overall number of responses for the survey, particularly when considering responses for those stating that they had a longstanding disability, are relatively low. This may affect the representativeness and statistical veracity of the survey results and because of this, the following findings should be treated with some caution.
- 7.2.18 There was a small difference in levels of awareness of the existence of CDRPs in Dorset, between those with and those without long standing disabilities. Approximately 55% of respondents with a long standing disability stated that they were aware of CDRPs in their area, compared to 62% for those without.
- 7.2.19 A slightly higher proportion of those respondents with a disability felt 'safe' living in their neighbourhoods (98.6%) compared to the proportion of people without a disability (94.8%). However, the proportion of people with disabilities feeling 'very safe' was noticeably lower. In regard to feeling safe walking alone in the daytime, the vast majority of respondents both with and without long standing disabilities felt 'safe' (over 98% for both category types). Again, the proportion of people with disabilities feeling 'very safe' was noticeably lower, however. In regards to feeling safe walking alone after dark, a higher proportion of respondents with long standing disabilities felt unsafe (27.4%) compared to the figure for those without (18.7%).
- 7.2.20 The same top six issues, albeit in a slightly different order, were presented by both those respondents with a long standing disability and those without i.e:-
- speeding and reckless driving;
 - vehicle crime;
 - drunkenness and associated bad behaviour;
 - burglary;
 - drink/drug driving offences;
 - graffiti and vandalism.
- 7.2.21 **Consultation on the Dorset Crime Audit** - The Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships consulted on the Audit findings using "Your Dorset" – Dorset County Council's community newspaper delivered to all households in its area.
- 7.2.22 **Consultation on Draft Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy** - Elected members from the Dorset Borough, County and District Councils were consulted on the draft strategy, in addition to representatives from each Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. Their comments were taken into account in finalising the document.
- 7.2.23 **Dorset Citizens' Panel** - The Dorset Citizens' Panel was established in April 2003. The Panel is a joint project and the partner councils are Dorset County Council, Christchurch Borough Council, East Dorset District Council and North Dorset District Council. The Panel is co-ordinated by the Market Research Group at Bournemouth University on the councils' behalf.

When the Panel was established, the County Council recruited 3,000 members from across Dorset with roughly 500 members in each of the six District Council areas. Members were recruited on a random basis by mail using a postal address file. Comparison with broader demographic variables for the Dorset population as a whole show that the profile of panel members recruited by Dorset County Council is broadly representative of Dorset's

population. The exception is young people aged 18-24 where the Panel currently has fewer members than it should have if it is to be representative of the population in that age group.

Each year, a third of the Panel will be refreshed. This is important to ensure that panel members do not become bored by requests to complete surveys and that they do not become too knowledgeable about the County Council as this would mean that they were no longer representative of the Dorset public. The maximum time a member of the public can serve on the Panel is three years.

The County Council undertakes three surveys of its members of the Dorset Citizens' Panel each year. The exact timing of the surveys will be determined by the topics to be consulted on, but as a general rule, the surveys will take place in June, November and March.

The content of each survey is determined by the Corporate Consultation Group that is chaired by the Corporate Consultation Co-ordinator. The Group meets five times each year and the Dorset Citizens' Panel is a standing agenda item.

The results of the Dorset Citizen's Panel completed in January 2005 were that of the respondents, only 29% were aware of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership/Community Safety Partnership within their area.

When asked how safe or unsafe do they feel living in their neighbourhood 97% felt safe (46% very safe and 51% fairly safe). When asked how safe or unsafe do they feel walking alone during the day near their home 98% felt safe (65% very safe and 33% fairly safe). When asked how safe or unsafe do they feel walking alone at night near their home 79% felt safe (21% very safe and 58% fairly safe).

The panel were asked to think about their local area and identify how worried they are about a range of crime and disorder issues. The five issues that people appeared to be most worried about were:-

- speeding and reckless driving
- drink/drug driving
- drunkenness and associated bad behaviour
- burglary and vehicle crime
- graffiti and vandalism

The survey asked how do they think the amount of crime has changed in Dorset within the last 12 months and responses were that 8% felt it had gone up a lot, 29% - gone up a little, 37% - stayed the same, 13% - gone down a little, 0% - gone down a lot and 14% - didn't know.

Finally the panel were asked to rank a list of options in order of importance to them in tackling crime in their area, these were the five most important:-

- detection and apprehension of criminals
- more police patrols on foot and in vehicles
- more facilities for young people
- addressing drug problems
- joint partnership working between the Police and other agencies

7.3 Quantitative Processes

7.3.1 Community Safety Survey - The Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships collaborated with Dorset Police and the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service on a survey of Dorset residents, which included many questions relating to the fear of crime. The survey has been carried out every year since 2001, using a representative sample, split across the

eight local authority areas of Dorset, including Bournemouth and Poole. The results of the survey were compared, where appropriate, with the results of the survey carried out in 2003.

For the area of Dorset County in 2003 94% of residents felt safe living in their neighbourhood (25% very safe, 69% fairly safe) in 2004 this had increased to 96% feeling safe (32% very safe, 64% fairly safe). The figure for feeling safe walking alone in daylight had stayed the same from 2003 to 2004, 97%. For feeling safe walking alone in their locality at night 63% felt safe (12% very safe, 51% fairly safe), 16% were rarely in that situation and 21% felt unsafe (15% fairly unsafe, 6% very unsafe). 56% of the panel felt that levels of crime had risen in the past year, compared to 55% in 2003.

The survey identified a series of crimes and respondents were asked to identify how concerned they were about each one. The five highest ratings were for the following issues:-

- speeding and reckless driving (1)
- burglary (2)
- drunkenness (3)
- drink/drug driving offences (3)
- drugs use/dealing (4)
- rubbish/litter (4)
- noisy/rowdy youths (5)
- vehicle crime (5)

The panel were asked if they had personally experienced a crime in the last 12 months and the following results were identified: 9% of respondents said that they had had their property vandalised and/or were insulted or harassed by strangers; 6% - vehicle broken into; 5% - burgled; 2% - vehicle stolen and 1%- mugged or robbed, physically attacked by strangers, sexually assaulted, physically attacked due to colour, racial origin or religion and/or physically attacked due to sexual orientation; 71% -none stated.

It is proposed that this survey will continue to be carried out on an annual basis to help identify the perception and concerns of crime in Dorset. More detailed results of the survey at the local District or Borough Council level may be found in the local section of the Strategy.

7.3.2 Town and Parish Councils' Survey 2004 - A questionnaire was circulated to all Town and Parish Clerks in Dorset and an overall response rate of 30% was achieved (eighty valid responses).

The key results of the survey were that in terms of how safe or unsafe do people feel living in their neighbourhood; overall results show that 97% feel safe (31% very safe and 66% fairly safe). In the last 12 months 29% of respondents felt crime had increased, 65% felt crime has stayed the same, whilst 6% felt crime had decreased in their parish/town. Overall, 70% of respondents felt that crime levels in their town/parish were low – 26% felt crime levels were 'medium' and 3% 'low'

In terms of particular locations in their parish or town that respondents felt attracted problems the following five were of greatest concern; recreation ground/park/open space/play area (38%), bus shelter (20 %), village/community hall (20%), car park (16%) and wooded/overgrown/ derelict area (15%).

The five crime issues that were of greatest concern were:-

- house/ property burglary
- speeding offences
- anti-social behaviour
- vandalism/ graffiti
- vehicle crime

Of the respondents 80% felt that there was not enough going on in their town/parish for young people. The five key facilities/opportunities that they felt young people would like were; improved transport – (45%), sports and recreation facilities – (33%), youth centre/ youth club – (25%), youth shelter – (21%) and drop-in centre 20%.

The five key other facilities/opportunities that respondents thought other groups of people would like in their area were; improved transport – (46%), sports and recreation facilities – (26%), community involvement projects – (25%), shops/ services – (21%) and play areas/childcare facilities and employment were each 20%.

In relation to local initiatives, 83% said that Neighbourhood/Home Watch Schemes operate in their area and nearly 60% felt they were effective. The five initiatives that the respondents felt would best help in providing a safer area in which to live were; more police patrols, the detection and apprehension of criminals, access to activities for young people, local initiatives which address the causes of crime and increased visits of Police Community Support Units.

The Town/Parish Councils or Parish Meetings were asked about their current level of involvement in local crime and disorder reduction –76% felt it is about right, 25% felt it is too little.

Those who felt it was too little identified the following as the three most popular ways to improve levels of involvement; increased consultation on local crime and disorder reduction projects, increased consultation on new developments and through district level task groups e.g. burglary, car crime, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour.

7.3.3 Community Safety Quick Survey - This report provides some selected localised findings from the Crime and Drugs Audit 'Quick' Questionnaire Survey conducted between August and November 2004. The results summarised below are for those questions where a comparison of local authority variations in responses are particularly pertinent. N.B. The overall number of responses for the survey, particularly when considering responses for individual local authority areas, are relatively low. This may affect the representativeness and statistical veracity of the survey results and because of this, the following findings should be treated with some caution.

Awareness of the existence of CDRPs in local authority areas varied significantly across the Dorset County Council area. Based on the number of returns received for each area, highest levels of awareness of CDRPs were found amongst East Dorset residents (70.5% of respondents were aware of CDRPs) and Purbeck (70.2%). Recognition of CDRPs was lowest in North Dorset (where 47.5% of respondents were aware of CDRPs) and West Dorset (45.2%).

Generally, there was relatively little variation in the proportion of residents feeling 'safe' between the majority of local authority areas. However, the figure for Weymouth & Portland (88.5% of respondents feeling safe) was noticeably lower than that for other local authority areas and lower than the average figure for Dorset County overall (approx. 95%). Please refer to Part Two – The Local Perspective on Western Dorset for more information on this.

With regard to feeling safe walking alone in the daytime, the vast majority of respondents felt 'safe' (the average figure for Dorset County was nearly 98%). Whilst there was very little local authority variation in proportions of respondents feeling 'safe', further analysis shows that both the Christchurch, and Weymouth & Portland, had lower than average proportions of respondents feeling 'very safe' walking alone in the daytime. In regards to feeling safe walking alone after dark, there were noticeable local authority variations in proportions of respondents feeling safe, with Weymouth & Portland (approx. 67%) and Christchurch (60.5%) registering significantly lower proportions than the remaining local authority areas and the overall average figure for Dorset County (approx. 77%). Christchurch and Weymouth & Portland also had comparatively lower proportions of respondents feeling 'very safe' walking alone after dark than other local authority areas.

Overall, speeding and reckless driving was regarded as the most significant concern across Dorset County, with approximately 72% of all respondents stating that they were worried about this issue. It was also the concern that received the highest proportion in each of the individual local authority areas in Dorset except Weymouth & Portland, where drunkenness and associated bad behaviour came top. Consistently high levels of concern were also expressed over vehicle crime, drunkenness & associated bad behaviour, burglary, drink/drug driving offences, and graffiti and vandalism in the majority of local authority areas.

7.3.4 Conclusions - Overall the issues that have appeared in the top priorities of the main consultation processes are:-

- anti-social behaviour including noisy/rowdy young people;
- burglary;
- drink/drug driving offences;
- drunkenness and associated bad behaviour;
- fear of crime;
- graffiti and vandalism;
- speeding and reckless driving;
- substance misuse including drug dealing;
- vehicle crime;
- violent crime (including alcohol related violence).

The priorities that have been identified in Section 8 link to all these issues.

The consultation process identified some key preventative measures and solutions which were: more opportunities and facilities for young people; more policing including foot and vehicle patrols; more community involvement; improving the understanding and tolerance between generations; detection and apprehension of criminals and joint partnership working between the Police and other agencies.

The issues that came out near the top in most of the consultations were of speeding and reckless driving and drug/drink driving offences. These issues link with the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships through the Roads Policing Strategy, see 3.4.

Other issues that have not appeared high on the agenda, are domestic violence and incidents of discrimination or hate crime, although in the final evaluation of the Partnership's 2004 Community Safety Consultation Conference they were identified within the top seven priorities. These issues have been identified as priorities through the Dorset Crime Audit and as a result of the diversity impact assessment on this Crime and Drugs Strategy. These issues affect people who are often isolated and as the consultation conference highlighted, may not have confidence in the Criminal Justice System if they do report these incidents or crimes.

The findings of the 'Quick' Survey in relation to the awareness of CDRPs reveal the need for a county-wide impetus aimed at raising the public awareness of the existence and activities of CDRPs. This is particularly important in regard to the Partnership's future efforts over addressing the fear of crime and the provision of public reassurance.

The issue of the fear of crime is linked to all the top priorities identified in the consultation findings and so cannot be addressed as a single issue in isolation from other considerations. Fear of crime is a quality of life issue, which is linked to issues such as social cohesion, citizenship, anti-social behaviour and general perceptions about the areas in which people live. Fear of crime may also capture the wider social, political and cultural anxieties of individuals.

The notion of 'safety', as the 2004 Dorset Crime Audit recognises, may relate to anxieties about a number of mishaps, such as accidents or physical vulnerability (particularly amongst older citizens) and not just fears relating to crime however.

To tackle the issue of fear of crime the CDRPs need to establish strategies, engage with local communities, educate people about actual crime and work with the media. Strategies to tackle the fear of crime should target what particular groups (i.e. older people) or certain communities are actually fearful of. The strategies should also be appropriate to specific areas, for instance initiatives applicable to rural areas may be different from those for urban areas. Engaging with communities and involving them in the activities of the partnerships would help to reassure citizens that work is being undertaken to tackle their concerns. Educating people about actual (in Dorset, generally low) levels of crime and levels of risk would be beneficial as would correcting misperceptions about crime. The media has an important role to play in the process. It is an essential medium through which to publicise positive news and the work of the partnership. Adoption of a communications or media/public relations strategy would help to facilitate this, as identified in Part Three.

The issues of greater multi-agency partnership working and community involvement have been raised. These will be developed through the targets identified in the strategy's action planning process, as explained in Part Three.

7.4 Christchurch and East Dorset Local Consultations

7.4.1 The result of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities are detailed below. These results reflect the issues and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships will be tackling at a district/borough level.

Issue	LOCAL ISSUES							
	Christchurch				East Dorset			
	Town and Parish Council Survey	Quick Survey	CSAG Open Meeting	Fear of Crime Survey	Town and Parish Council Survey	Quick Survey	Crime focus event for LAG's	Fear of Crime Survey
Alcohol Misuse		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Anti-social Behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Begging				✓				
Business burglary	✓							
Cannabis misuse			✓		✓			
Class A drugs use/dealing e.g. heroin, Cocaine			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Domestic violence				✓			✓	✓
Drink/drug driving				✓		✓		
Fear of crime			✓	✓			✓	
House/property burglary (including distraction burglary)	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Inadequate policing			✓					
Inconsiderate or reckless pedal cycling				✓				
Lack of opportunities for young people			✓					
Litter / dog fouling			✓	✓				
Neighbour disputes / noise problems			✓	✓	✓			
Recourses (e.g. CCTV)			✓					
Robbery/personal safety/street crime				✓	✓			
Rural crime (e.g. poaching)								
Rural isolation								
Speeding/ other traffic offences	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Unlawful Discrimination				✓			✓	✓
Vandalism/graffiti	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Vehicle Crime (theft of and theft from)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Violent crime							✓	

7.5 North Dorset and Purbeck Local Consultations

7.5.1 The result of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities are detailed below. These results reflect the issues the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships will be tackling at a district/borough level.

Issue	LOCAL ISSUES							
	North Dorset			Purbeck				
	Town and Parish Council Survey	Quick Survey	Fear of Crime Survey	Town and Parish Council Survey	Quick Survey	Community Safety Consultation Evening	Fear of Crime Survey	
Alcohol Misuse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Anti-social Behaviour	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Begging	✓							
Business burglary								
Cannabis misuse						✓		
Class A drugs use/dealing e.g. heroin, Cocaine			✓			✓	✓	
Domestic violence			✓			✓		
Drink/drug driving	✓	✓			✓		✓	
Fear of crime			✓			✓		
House/property burglary (including distraction burglary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Inadequate policing								
Inconsiderate or reckless pedal cycling								
Lack of opportunities for young people			✓				✓	
Litter / dog fouling			✓				✓	
Neighbour disputes / noise problems				✓				
Recourses (e.g. CCTV)								
Robbery/personal safety/street crime			✓					
Rural crime (e.g. poaching)				✓				
Rural isolation								
Speeding/ other traffic offences	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Unlawful Discrimination						✓		
Vandalism/graffiti	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Vehicle Crime (theft of and theft from)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Violent crime						✓		

7.6 Western Dorset Local Consultations

7.6.1 The result of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities are detailed below. These results reflect the issues the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships will be tackling at a district/borough level.

Issue	Western				
	Town and Parish Council Survey	Quick Survey	Fear of Crime Survey	Community Planning Partnerships	Audit Findings
Abandoned vehicles			✓		
Airguns/replica guns			✓		
Alcohol misuse	✓	✓	✓		✓
Anti-social behaviour	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arson			✓		✓
Begging		✓	✓		
Business burglary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cannabis misuse		✓			
Cars parked illegally/ inconsiderately			✓		
Class A drugs use/dealing e.g. heroin, Cocaine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Domestic violence		✓	✓	✓	✓
Drink/drug driving	✓	✓			
Drug dealing		✓	✓	✓	✓
Fear of crime	✓			✓	✓
Fireworks			✓		
Hate crime		✓	✓	✓	✓
House/property burglary (including distraction burglary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inconsiderate or reckless pedal cycling		✓	✓		
Litter / dog fouling/ uncontrolled dogs			✓		
Neighbour disputes / noise problems	✓	✓	✓		
Recourses (e.g. CCTV)				✓	
Robbery/personal safety/street crime	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rural crime (e.g. poaching)	✓				
Rural isolation	✓				
Solvent misuse				✓	✓
Speeding/ other traffic offences	✓	✓	✓		
Vandalism/graffiti	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vehicle crime (theft of and theft from)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Violent crime				✓	✓
Visible police presence				✓	
Young offenders					✓

8. KEY PRIORITIES OF CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIPS AND THE DRUG ACTION TEAM

- 8.1 The major issues for Dorset, identified through evidence gathered by the various audit and consultation processes, are summarised below. These issues have been adopted by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. Plans for tackling them are integrated into local plans as set out in Part Two of this Strategy. It should be noted that the level of priority afforded to each of the county-wide issues will vary according to local circumstances and priorities.
- 8.2 Fear of crime has been identified as an issue which is common to all the priorities and themes.
- 8.3 It is recognised that tackling problem drug use by the implementation of the Updated Drug Strategy 2002 and Drug Intervention Programmes will also impact across each of the key priorities.
- 8.4 The Priority and Other Prolific Offenders Schemes (see Section 10) is a cross cutting approach that is intended to reduce crime across each of the identified priorities. The scheme will be a focus for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships over the lifetime of this Strategy.
- 8.5 The key means of delivery for the priorities are through partnership arrangements described elsewhere in the Strategy and also through the Local Area Agreement (LAA) which is a pilot agreement between the Government and the Dorset Strategic Partnership (DSP) covering the key themes of Safer and Stronger Communities (SSC), Children and Young People, and Healthier Communities and Older People, explained in Section 9.
- 8.6 The priorities have been listed below in relation to the order of the PSAs (National Targets).

8.7 Key Priorities

8.7.1 Priority 1 - Reducing the fear of crime

Objectives

- Develop community confidence, sense of well being and public reassurance.
- Enhance Police presence by maintaining the numbers of Police Community Support Officers and develop their role within the partnerships.
- Promote the work of partnerships to ensure that actual levels of crime are reported for all crime types.
- Raise the profile of progress on tackling crime and disorder and achievements through public relations and awareness-raising activities.

8.7.2 Priority 2 - Tackling anti-social behaviour and criminal damage

Objectives

- Implement a multi-agency approach to tackle anti-social behaviour through the use of a problem-solving.
- Provide public reassurance by promoting the work of the partnerships.

8.7.3 Priority 3 - Tackling violent crime including alcohol related crime and domestic violence (Consistent with the Home Office categorisation 'violent crime' consists of violence against the person, robbery and sexual offences)

Objectives

- Reduce incidents of violent crime across Dorset with a focus on street crime and alcohol related violence.
- Reduce the harm caused by the abuse of alcohol.
- Provide co-ordination of domestic violence prevention activities and deliver a programme of targeted initiatives.

8.7.4 Priority 4 - Tackling discrimination

Objective

- Improve the confidence of individuals and minority communities in reporting incidents of discrimination.
- Improve understanding of the localities needs of minority groups or those that are experiencing discrimination in Dorset.

8.7.5 Priority 5 - Reduce the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol

Objectives

- Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system.
- Encourage the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes.
- Increase the proportion of problem drug users sustaining or successfully completing treatment programmes.
- Reduce the average waiting times by treatment modality.
- Reduce the use of Class A drugs and the frequent use of any illicit drug among young people under the age of 25, especially the most vulnerable young people.

8.7.6 Priority 6 - Tackling domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft

Objectives

- Support the work of the Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) Scheme across Dorset.
- Reduce domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft.
- Promote crime prevention initiatives and encourage participation in Homewatch and other volunteer schemes.
- Provide public reassurance by promoting the work of the partnerships through the implementation of a public relations strategy.

8.8 Monitoring the Outcomes and Delivery of the Priorities

8.8.1 Outcomes from the Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy will be monitored locally by CDRPs where these relate to local targets and by the Safer and Stronger Communities Group on a quarterly basis. The outcomes will also be monitored by the Police and Local Authorities as part of their Best Value Performance Plans. In addition, the Senior Researcher will prepare a quarterly report for the Safer and Stronger Communities Group. The SSC group will in addition forward this report onto the DSP. Annual monitoring reports will be produced by the Local Authority Community Safety Officers. The performance management framework for the crime and drugs outcomes in the Local Area Agreement (LAA), (see Section 9) which reflect the priorities of this Crime and Drugs Strategy draws upon the current good practice within current models of performance management in partner organisations including Dorset County Council, the Criminal Justice Board, District Councils and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.

8.8.2 Performance and targets will be measured against agreed indicators and targets. Formalising these will be undertaken in Phase Two and Three of the LAA. Performance

will be measured quarterly, reporting to the Government Office South West (GOSW) on a six monthly cycle. This reflects that priorities will be evaluated and reported upon.

- 8.8.3 A review of targets will take place on a year on year basis through the lifetime of the strategy.
- 8.8.3 The SSC Group will work with the Dorset Strategic Partnership to evaluate the progress of all projects and any barriers identified that may hinder achievement. This will be supported by the Dorset Strategic Partnership (DSP) Manager.
- 8.8.4 CDRPs through the SSC Group will also negotiate with GOSW throughout the course of the LAA pilot to seek opportunities to reduce the overall burden upon public service providers of monitoring indicators where these have become part of the LAA.
- 8.8.5 There is potential for developing existing systems to incorporate an enhanced Performance Management facility. One such potential will be identifying lead agencies and detailed actions on each target.

9. RESOURCES

- 9.1 **Local Area Agreement** - In July 2004, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister set out in a prospectus, proposals for Local Area Agreements (LAA) to be piloted nationally during 2005/06. In Autumn 2004 Dorset became one of only five county/district areas selected to pilot an LAA together with sixteen unitary areas.
- 9.2 The prospectus sets out that delivery of the 'Safer Stronger Communities' Fund would come into effect in all areas in England regardless of the LAA pilots. This would bring together ODPM and Home Office funding streams and requires the development of shared priorities, outcomes and activities from 2005/2006.
- 9.3 The processes set out in the LAA and Safer Stronger Communities Guidance identified that negotiations with Government on the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) and the LAA would be:
- led by the upper tier LSP (Local Strategic Partnership) in two tier areas;
 - co-ordinated by the County Council; and
 - take on board the views and considerations of key partners within the area.
- 9.4 The LAA encourages CDRPs and the DAT to work more closely with Local Community Partnerships and the Dorset Strategic Partnership in order to deliver community based outcomes that are identified in Local Community Plans, Parish Plans, the Dorset Community Strategy and the Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy. This acknowledges the impacts of CDRP and DAT activity in other areas of community interest such as young people, sport, culture, environment, health and well-being and encourages a more flexible approach to the best use of traditional funding streams.
- 9.5 The following crime and drugs funding streams have been identified as part of the Local Area Agreement, Domestic Violence funding, Basic Command Unit (Eastern and Western), Building Safer Communities (Eastern and Western), anti-social behaviour, Home Office Dorset Drug Strategy Partnership Grant and the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) funding.
- 9.6 Additional funding will be actively sought through various funding streams outside of the LAA as a result of working in partnerships with voluntary agencies on various projects, as well as through agencies own budgets.
- 9.7 Although Safer Stronger Communities Fund is applicable in all areas, the Local Area Agreement in Dorset is a pilot. It incorporates three development phases:-
- Phase 1 - by mid March 2005, agreement reached between GOSW and Dorset County Council and their partners on the broad priorities, outcomes, indicative targets and indicative measures in each LAA block
 - Phase 2 – by mid September 2005, the LAA will be developed to include specific outcomes, targets and measures in each LAA block. The LAA will also identify the mechanisms to deliver each outcome, and financial contributions, including from Central Government.
 - Phase 3 – by April 2006, Dorset's second Local Public Service Agreement will have refined and integrated targets, measures and additional funding streams.

9.8 The local outcomes agreed with GOSW in relation to Safer Stronger Communities are:-

- to reduce the levels of crime within Dorset by 15% (SSC1);
- to reduce the public perception and fear of crime (SSC2);
- to reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol (SSC3);
- to reduce the incidence of domestic violence and support victims (SSC4);
- to have cleaner, safer and greener public spaces (SSC5);
- increase and broaden the impact of culture, to enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve the places where people live, now and for the future (SSC6);
- increase and broaden the impact of sport and physical activity, to enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve the places where people live, now and for the future (SSC7).

9.9 The activities needed to deliver the outcomes of the LAA will be supported by the pooled funding identified within the Agreement. It has been essential therefore to reflect Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy priorities within LAA outcomes in order that resources are available to deliver local priority outcomes.

9.10 Local Resources

9.10.1 In addition to funding for crime and disorder reduction there are also staff who work for various agencies in the county who have a community safety remit. Currently in Dorset there is an officer based at County Hall and Community Safety Officers based in each district. The Police provide Police Partnership Officers who are based in each police divisional area. In addition to these staff all councils have officers working on community safety alongside other services in their organisations. The combined benefit of this is identified in Section 3 of this strategy.

10. PROLIFIC AND OTHER PRIORITY OFFENDERS (PPO) STRATEGY

- 10.1 The central aim of the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders (PPO) Strategy is to reduce crime and re-offending by developing a joined-up approach, whereby local agencies manage a small group of offenders who commit the most crime (or create the maximum disorder) in every Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) area.
- 10.2 Each local PPO scheme selects the individuals who are responsible for the most crime and disorder by using the National Intelligence Model.
- 10.3 CDRPs then ensure that agencies prioritise these offenders, with the explicit aim of putting an end to their offending.
- 10.4 There are three strands to this strategy:-
- a) **Catch and Convict**
 - To actively identify all of those persons who are causing the most harm to our communities. To ensure that all criminal justice agencies work together to prioritise efforts towards reducing the impact through successful prosecutions where necessary.
 - b) **Prevent and Deter**
 - To stop people entering the pool of (prolific) offenders
 - c) **Rehabilitate and Resettle**
 - To encourage prolific and other priority offenders to alter their behaviour by offering opportunities for change and rehabilitative support.
- 10.5 The complete guidance for the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders' Strategy can be located on the Home Office website – www.homeoffice.gov.uk.
- 10.6 **Role of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships** – The CDRP have been allocated a governance role for the implementation of the PPO scheme to ensure that there will be effective joint working between service providers. In practice, the CDRP will establish a governance group that will ensure delivery of all strands of the strategy, and this group will nominate a representative/s to ensure that the Local Criminal Justice Board is kept fully informed and arrangements are jointly agreed to enable the broader aspects of the strategy to be achieved.
- 10.6.1 Under the Catch and Convict strand, the CDRP has put in place arrangements to take responsibility for the day-to-day management of the PPO process and manage the definitive PPO list. Under the prevent and deter strand the Youth Offending Team is a key partner from the CDRPs. In the rehabilitate and resettle strand the core partner in the CDRPs is the Probation Service.
- 10.7 **Prolific and Other Priority Offender Schemes** - Work is in progress to develop a consistent framework that will be used across Dorset by all agencies who are involved with prolific and other priority offenders. At the time of writing this strategy a scoping exercise is underway. Following this exercise, proposals will be made to the Police BCU Commanders and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships on the framework. It is hoped that the framework will be adopted across Dorset during April 2005.

- 10.8 **Drug Intervention Programme (DIP)** - The purpose of the DIP is to better link offenders with drug related problems into drug treatment, employment, and housing support.
- 10.9 The Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) will be responsible for delivering the programme and will be the key referral route for drug related Prolific and Priority Offenders and for people returning from prison. This will contribute towards the aims of the Rehabilitate and Resettle Strand of the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders (PPO) Strategy. The team will offer a single telephone contact number for professionals (such as Prison Resettlement Teams /CARATs)_to access local services. It will also offer 24 hour support telephone services for clients on the CJIT caseload.

11. NATIONAL TARGETS

11.1 Targets

11.1.1 Local Authorities and the Police have various national measures by which they must assess their performance on an annual basis and set targets for future years. In addition to these, Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership have to set local targets.

11.2 National Targets

PSA 1 Reduce crime by 15%, and further in high crime areas by 2007/08
PSA 2 Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the criminal justice system without compromising fairness
PSA 3 Improve the delivery of justice by increasing the number of crimes for which an offender is brought to justice to 1.25million by 2007/08
PSA Drugs PSA target 1 Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system
PSA – Drugs PSA target 2 Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes by 100% by 2008 and increase year on year the proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes
PSA – Drugs Target 3 Reduce the use of Class A drugs and the frequent use of any illicit drug among all young people under the age of 25, especially by the most vulnerable young people

11.3 Local Authorities Best Value Performance Indicators

BV 2b Duty to Promote Race Equality (by increasing confidence in reporting racial incidents and increasing satisfaction in the way racial incidents resulting in further action are handled)
BV 126 Domestic burglaries per year, per 1,000 households in the Local Authority area
BV 127a Violent crime per year, per 1,000 population in the Local Authority area
BV 127b Robberies per year, per 1,000 population in the Local Authority area
BV 128 The number of vehicle crimes per year, per 1,000 population in the Local Authority area
BV 174 The number of racial incidents reported to the Local Authority, and subsequently recorded, per 100,000 population
BV 175 The percentage of racial incidents reported to the Local Authority that resulted in further action
BV 225 Actions against Domestic Violence
BV 198 The number of drug users in treatment per thousand head of population aged 15 -44

11.4 Monitoring

11.4.1 **Crime and Disorder Act Review** - The Government is conducting a formal review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, to ensure that the framework for partnership working is fit for the purpose of crime reduction in today's environment. The announcement was made in the White Paper on Police Reform, Building Communities, Beating Crime. The CDA review was carried out between November 2004 and January 2005.

Once the results of the Crime and Disorder Act Review are known an update will be provided.

11.4.2 **DAT Monitoring** - The DAT is performance managed via the Home Office Crime and Drugs Team and the National Treatment Agency based at Government Office for the South West in Bristol. Advisors work with the DAT during the year and attend meetings as required. A national Performance Management Framework is emerging which will ultimately capture a number of Key Performance Indicators across the four key areas of the National Drug Strategy.

Quarterly meetings will be set up between the Government Office and a panel from the DAT to assess quarterly progress against Key Performance Indicators and targets.

Individual partner agencies will be monitored via their inspectorates to gauge effective contributions towards the Crime and Drugs Strategies.

The DAT will monitor its collective performance via its quarterly Strategic Board meetings and will include an annual report from March 2005.

DATs together with CDRPs will also review and consider their Partnership Improvement Action Plans to ensure effective partnership working.

11.4.3 A review of targets will take place on a year on year basis through the lifetime of the strategy. Refer to Pages 52 and 53 for further information regarding monitoring.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Eastern Partnership covering the District/Borough areas of Christchurch, East Dorset, North Dorset and Purbeck have worked consistently together over the period of the last Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, developing shared initiatives and pooling funding.
- 1.2 **Eastern Funding Group**
During the 2002 -05 strategy period funding has been allocated to each partnership via the Home Office. Annually this amounts to approximately £500,000 over the four district areas that form the eastern division.
- 1.3 The individual CDRP's have worked closely together to share funding to tackle crime and drugs issues. This has included working with the Western Dorset Partnership, jointly funding initiatives and posts to further the work of the partnerships.
- 1.4 **The Future of Partnership Working in Dorset**
Changes to the way in which CDRP's receive Home Office funding in the future has resulted in members of the partnerships reviewing their working practices.
- 1.5 Although not agreed at the time of this strategy being published, consideration is being given to the merging of the eastern partnerships into one, which would mirror the existing arrangements in the Western Division.
- 1.6 To retain a local focus within each district area a local or themed action group will be appointed specifically relating to crime issues and linking into the council's community planning process.

2. Shared Successes

- 2.1 The eastern partnerships have been successful in achieving additional funding for a number of initiatives over the last three years. During the 2004/05 financial year the Eastern Policing Division received funding from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. With match funding made up by the Police and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, sixteen PCSO's have been appointed to work across the division.
- 2.2 The value of these officers is already being felt, with them able to undertake many of the routine patrol duties of the Police but also being used to target issues of particular concern within communities, such as co-ordinating the removal of graffiti and then working with schools and other agencies to help to identify the offenders.
- 2.3 In conjunction with volunteers from the community, the PCSO's offer an additional valuable resource to the partnerships in helping to reassure the public by increasing the capacity of the Police to undertake their enforcement duties, and with their involvement in community issues.
- 2.4 The eastern partnerships have also put money into theatre diversionary activities with the commissioning of dramas such as Gemma's Wardrobe, which tackles the issue of cannabis and the life choices young people have to make. Such was the success of this particular performance in addressing the issue, Dorset Education Authority has since picked up the funding for it to be shown across Dorset schools.
- 2.5 Another production supported by the partnerships using additional funding from the Home Office is Backfire, which is an educational video targeted at teenagers addressing heathland arson. The video was launched in May 2004 and has been distributed free of charge throughout Dorset schools and has also been sold to Fire and Rescue Services throughout the country. Last year saw a significant reduction in the number of heathland fires in Eastern Dorset.
- 2.6 The video which was jointly produced in partnership with the Urban Heaths Partnership recently received a Royal Television Society award in the non broadcast category.
- 2.7 The appointment of Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Officers across Eastern Dorset has resulted in an uptake of the number of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts being made and close working relationships between agencies to exchange information and develop protocols in relation to this work.
- 2.8 Their role is also to work with the community helping to provide opportunities, particularly for young people in diverting them from anti social behaviour and other criminal activity.

3. The Local Perspective - Christchurch and East Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

3.1 Background

- 3.1.1 In July 2003 the Christchurch and East Dorset CDRPs merged into one partnership. The merger was in response to the need to rationalise meetings and promote closer joint working and shared initiatives. Since merging the partnership has shared best practice as well as funding joint initiatives.
- 3.1.2 Christchurch and East Dorset have area partnerships to implement the strategy locally. In Christchurch this role is taken by a single Community Safety Action Group (CSAG) and, due to the size of the District, East Dorset has several Local Action Groups (LAGs). Both the CSAG and LAGs hold regular community meetings to ensure community involvement.

3.2 Christchurch and East Dorset – Local Achievements

- 3.2.1 **ADCAP Personal Development Programme** - This project was jointly funded by Christchurch and East Dorset in 2003/04 and 2004/05. The project is targeted at individuals recovering from drug dependency and aims to enable them to remain drug free by developing their self esteem. Evaluation of the project has shown a positive effect on those taking part.
- 3.2.2 **CCTV and Alcohol Free Zones** - Christchurch has an extensive CCTV system covering the Town Centre with mobile cameras monitoring identified hot spot areas. CCTV has been particularly successful when used in conjunction with other measures such as the Alcohol Free Zones in the Town Centre and Mudeford Wood. Following the problem solving approach of local community meetings, the Town Centre Alcohol Free Zone is to be extended to cover an emerging problem area.
- 3.2.3 **East Dorset Motor Project** - One of the key initiatives that has been developed in East Dorset is the development of a motor project based in Ferndown. Linked initially with the Ferndown Upper School the project allows young people close to exclusion, an opportunity to follow an alternative curriculum, which includes access to a fully equipped garage to study mechanics. The project has proved so successful that additional CDRP funding has provided the project with larger premises and pupils are now referred from across eastern Dorset.
- 3.2.4 **Ferndown Safe School Partnership** - Established in September 2003, the Ferndown Safe School Partnership is a unique project aimed at promoting safe schools and safe communities within the local area. The project is managed by Dorset Youth Offending Team in conjunction with Dorset Police and local schools. Traditionally safe schools projects were applied to inner city areas and were based within large secondary schools. In Dorset the challenge was rather different and the project has evolved to cover a pyramid of schools in the Ferndown area. Two Project Workers, one seconded from the Youth Offending Team, the second from Dorset Police work with the schools delivering lessons promoting citizenship and responsibility in a number of ways.

Incidents in the schools or even outside the schools are dealt with by a restorative approach involving all parties including; the victim, the offender and anyone else affected to help repair the harm that has been caused.

Future development of the project will see it extended to other school pyramids within Eastern Dorset.

3.2.5 **Verwood Youth 'Kabin'** - A partnership approach has been taken to the development of a temporary drop-in facility in an areas identified as an anti-social behaviour hotspot. The project involves a wide range of partner agencies and will give young people somewhere informal to meet. This in turn will allow Youth Workers to get to know individuals who are not currently engaged in youth clubs or other activities and will be able to address their behaviour with them and the effects that it has on the wider community.

3.2.6 **Youth Inclusion and Support Panel** - Christchurch is the first area in Dorset to develop a Youth Inclusion and Support Panel (YISP). The YISP is aimed at 8 -13 year olds at risk of developing offending behaviour. The YISP has accessed support and funding through the Community Safety Action Group. It is hoped that this worthwhile and successful pilot will be rolled out to other areas.

3.3 **Christchurch and East Dorset Local Priorities**

3.3.1 The results of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities, are shown as on page 45. These results reflect the issues the CDRP will be tackling at a district/borough level. These results are detailed later in this chapter.

4. The Local Perspective – North Dorset Community Safety Partnership

4.1 Background

4.1.1 The North Dorset Community Safety Partnership has a wide membership with a range of voluntary and community sector representatives as well as the statutory partners, local prison and Ministry of Defence representation. The partnership is supporting the development of local action groups based on the four town-based community partnerships in North Dorset. In the long-term it is intended that the local action groups will merge into those community partnerships which will then take on the full community safety function at their local level. Two local action groups have already been established in Blandford Forum and Sturminster Newton. It is intended to set up groups in Shaftesbury and Gillingham by October 2005.

4.2 North Dorset – Local Achievements

4.2.1 A wide range of projects have been supported over the past three years in North Dorset by the Community Safety Partnership. Projects have focused on three main themes of education, prevention and enforcement.

4.2.2 **Education** - The partnership awarded funding to the Pupil Support Project working in Blandford schools with 13-18 year olds, providing individual support and guidance to young people at risk of exclusion and those who are at risk from drugs and alcohol abuse, as well as assisting in the delivery of the PSRE curriculum. The project has proved to be a valuable asset to the school and a dedicated office has been provided at Blandford School.

Support was given to the Blandford Drugs Reference Action Group in undertaking community events for parents and the community to raise awareness of drug and alcohol misuse. One event used the theatre company Vita Nova who are a group of recovering addicts who talk about their experience first hand.

Funding was provided to support parenting classes through Treads, the Blandford youth advice centre to improve relationships between young people and their parents by improving communication, offering strategies to deal with difficult behaviour and to promote resilience in families to reduce anti-social and criminal behaviour.

4.2.3 **Prevention** - The partnership funded outreach workers in Blandford, Shaftesbury and Gillingham to engage with young people in their environment to provide advice on alcohol and substance misuse as well as providing intensive sessions on a one to one basis.

Support was given to Focus on Youth events that run a number of sports and arts activities during the summer holidays for 11-16 year olds.

Funding has been provided for the building of the skatepark in Blandford and support given annually for the Skatefest events run in the skatepark. Skatefest involved young people in a number of workshops to learn skills of graffiti art, street dancing, skateboarding and inline skating which ended in an open evening event and competition.

Youth shelters have been built in Stourton Caundle and Milton Abbas with more pending in Milborne St Andrew and East Stour. Support was given to all consultation events with the young people who were involved through the process in determining which design of shelter was wanted by the young people and other facilities in the area.

Additional lighting has been provided in Marnhull's village hall, outside the village hall in Milborne St Andrew, in Blandford in Larksmead and Damory Court and Swans yard in Shaftesbury to reduce the fear of crime, intimidation or anti-social behaviour.

Support has been given each year to the Crime Prevention Panel annual conference, covering printing costs for the production of crime prevention newsletters and poster campaigns.

Homewatch noticeboards have been provided in a number of parishes within North Dorset as well as Homewatch and Farmwatch signs all providing increased awareness and communication for residents to further reduce the fear of crime.

- 4.2.4 **Enforcement** - CCTV has been provided in Shaftesbury and Gillingham by providing additional cameras, a tower and funding for the system to be digitally upgraded to make the recording of images more efficient to reduce the fear of crime, increase the detection rate and to provide evidence for prosecutions.

All door staff in the district have been trained in conflict management and drug awareness alongside drug safes being installed in all the night-clubs in North Dorset which are used to store drugs found during searches undertaken on the premises.

4.3 North Dorset - Priorities

- 4.3.1 The results of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities, are shown on page 46. These results reflect the issues the CDRP will be tackling at a district/borough level. These results are detailed later in this chapter.

As a result of, and in addition to the consultation results, North Dorset's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Officers will address the following:-

- 4.3.2 **Anti-Social behaviour** - The Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Officer will implement policies to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- 4.3.3 **Domestic Violence** - Tackling domestic violence is a key priority of the Crime Reduction Partnership which will work with the North Dorset DCV Forum and the Dorset DV Co-ordinator to implement the county-wide DV strategy.
- 4.3.4 **Drug and Alcohol Misuse** - In partnership with the Drug Action Team, drug reference action groups, DCC Trading Standards, schools, advice and information centres, voluntary groups and the North Dorset Primary Care Trust the Crime Reduction Partnership will develop strategies and policies to tackle under-age drinking and violent and anti-social behaviour resulting from either alcohol or drug misuse.
- 4.3.5 **Fear of Crime** - Although crime continues to fall in North Dorset and although the district is ranked in the top ten safest local authorities in England, nevertheless the fear of crime continues to rise. In order to tackle this problem more attention will be paid to public reassurance and tackling "low-level" crime such as environmental crime, for example, fly-tipping, graffiti and vandalism. Also important is tackling anti-social behaviour resulting from alcohol or drug misuse, particularly late-night street problems. A carefully managed media campaign may also contribute to reducing the fear of crime.
- 4.3.6 **Speeding and Dangerous Driving** - Officers will liaise closely with those responsible for helping to speeding and dangerous driving, such as the Safety Camera Partnership, the Police and the County Council.

5. The Local Perspective - Purbeck Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

5.1 Background

- 5.1.1 The Purbeck Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership has wide representation from a range of voluntary and community sector representatives as well as statutory partners.
- 5.1.2 Geographical Task Groups were established in 2002 to enable the strategy to be implemented locally and ensure community involvement. Task Groups have been operating in North Purbeck, South Purbeck and Upton, and there is also an established Substance Misuse Task Group.

5.2 Purbeck – Local Achievements

- 5.2.1 **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders** - A pro-active approach has been taken to address anti-social behaviour within Purbeck. Eight Anti-Social Behaviour Orders have been obtained on individuals in Swanage, Lytchett Matravers and Upton. This has had an impact on crime figures for the area with Purbeck District being the only local authority area in Dorset County to show a decrease in the rate of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents between 2002/03 and 2003/04. In volume terms this decrease amounts to an 11% fall in incidents.
- 5.2.2 **CCTV Wareham** - A contribution has been made to a CCTV scheme in Wareham. The project has provided a CCTV system with associated monitoring equipment to cover the Town Centre. The system allows for twenty-four hour monitoring and the identification of hot spots.
- 5.2.3 **Dirty Beats DJ Project** - The primary aim of this project has been to offer DJ workshops, DJ/Music production competitions and regular nightclub events at Wareham Youth Centre. The project aims to tackle youth crime and anti-social behaviour by offering alternative activities, advise youth people on issues surrounding drinking, drugs and the club culture, provide training in the music industry and facilitate social interaction in a safe environment. There has been a high level of interest in this project; similar projects have been run in Bristol, Poole and inner city London with a number of positive results. Once established in Wareham there is potential for the scheme to be moved across Purbeck.
- 5.2.4 **Viking 101 Mobile** - The Viking 101 mobile provides a high quality environment to make contact with unattached young people, especially in isolated communities, who have limited access to advice, information and social facilities. The project has been extremely successful to date, with demand exceeding capacity and resources. Issues raised have included binge drinking, personal relationships, career development, anti-social behaviour, transport and the environment. Between August 2004 and November 2004 contact had been made with 546 young people and over twenty sessions there had been an average of 27.4 young people present.

5.3 Purbeck - Priorities

- 5.3.1 The results of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities are shown on page 46 of this document. These results reflect the issues the CDRP will be tackling at a district/borough level.

5.4 **Consultation**

- 5.4.1 The Town and Parish Survey in Eastern Dorset highlighted the top five crimes as house and property burglary, anti-social behaviour, speeding and other traffic offences, alcohol related crime and vehicle crime.
- 5.4.2 The Quick Survey showed the top issues as; speeding and other traffic offences, alcohol related crime, burglary, vehicle crime, vandalism and graffiti.
- 5.4.3 The Fear of Crime Survey identified the top issues as speeding and other traffic offences, alcohol related crime, burglary, vehicle crime, vandalism and graffiti.

5.5 **Community Planning**

- 5.5.1 Consultations held in Eastern Dorset with the representatives of the community identified the following issues:- vehicle crime, violence including domestic violence, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse, burglary.

5.6 **Audit Findings**

- 5.6.1 In Eastern Dorset the audit findings show similarity across the Districts and the following issues have been identified; violence against the person (particularly alcohol related), domestic violence, sexual offences, robbery, vehicle crime, burglary both domestic and commercial, alcohol related crime, anti-social behaviour, drugs, the fear of crime, vandalism and criminal damage including arson.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Western Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) formed in 1999 is made up of the areas of both West Dorset District and Weymouth and Portland Borough. This includes the towns of Beaminster, Bridport, Dorchester, Lyme Regis, Sherborne and Weymouth. The Partnership formed in 1998 and covers the area of the Western Division of Dorset Police.
- 1.2 The Partnership meets four times a year, with several sub-groups that meet more frequently, working on key issues such as anti-social behaviour, CCTV, domestic violence, vehicle crime, burglary and violent crime.
- 1.3 The organisations who are members of the Western Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) have worked together over the period of the last Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, to develop and fund them.
- 1.4 **Western Dorset Funding Group** - During the strategy period 2002 to 2005 funding has been allocated to each CDRP via the Home Office. In 2004 this amounted to over £300,000.
- 1.5 The members of the Western Dorset CDRPs have worked closely together to share funding to tackle the crime and drugs issues. This has included working with the CDRPs in Eastern Dorset to jointly fund initiatives such as the Senior Statistical Analyst post who monitors the performance of the CDRPs and the crime levels. It was anticipated that this arrangement would continue in to this new strategy period of 2005 - 2008 and a spending plan covering the year 2005 – 2006 was prepared.

2. Shared Successes

- 2.1 **Anti-Social Behaviour** - Western Dorset CDRP has an Anti-Social Behaviour Team made up of a Co-ordinator and two Support Workers (one covering West Dorset and the other covering Weymouth and Portland). The Anti-Social Behaviour Team is managed by a steering group made up of officers from the Western Division of Dorset Police, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, and meets monthly.
- 2.1.1 The work of the team includes the following, which have all been broken down into measurable time-limited actions:
- developing effective working links with partner agencies and organisations;
 - reporting on the progress of anti-social behaviour cases;
 - monitoring the performance of the anti-social behaviour work including the targets relating to the number of new organisations in the ASB partnership and the percentage of identified anti-social behaviour cases that result in further action;
 - promoting and disseminating the work done to tackle anti-social behaviour;
 - identifying the projects and potential funding to tackle anti-social behaviour;
 - producing an Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Strategy and to link the work with the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy, the Local Strategic Partnerships and other relevant strategies e.g. to engage young people.
- 2.1.2 Under legislation there are several new powers to tackle elements of anti-social behaviour, which includes giving the police the power to disperse groups of people behaving anti-socially. See legislation Part 1 Section 2.
- 2.1.3 Locally agreed Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) to tackle incidents of anti-social behaviour have been used successfully in Western Dorset in the last three years. They are signed by the alleged perpetrator and officers from the local council, housing association and/or Police to agree to behaviour that they will discontinue. Nine such contracts have been used.
- 2.1.4 Eleven Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have been granted by virtue of criminal convictions in Western Dorset. Two of the ASBOs have been used to tackle persistent shoplifters who caused alarm and distress to shop staff.
- 2.1.5 In addition there have been six notices issued under Section 30 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003; police powers to disperse groups of two or more persons acting in an anti-social manner.
- 2.1.6 The partnership wishes to promote positive activities for young people and has contributed directly to projects including; skate parks, drop-in centres, mobile youth facility, music and films events, "Relate" peer project for schools and mentoring/esteem building.
- 2.2 **Burglary Group** – A Strategic Burglary Group was recently formed with the aim of working in partnership to reduce burglary. The Group is in its early stages but it is intended to have a broad membership comprising; Police, Community Safety Officers, Homewatch Co-ordinator, Trading Standards and others. The aim will be to develop an action matrix of appropriate responses to identified problems. Whilst latest crime statistics show a decrease in the numbers of burglary crimes when "hotspots" do develop the group is aware and implements the required interventions to ensure that this encouraging trend is maintained.

- 2.3 **CCTV** - Western Dorset CDRP has been one of the most successful partnerships in both gaining funding for CCTV and for the ongoing improvements and development of the original scheme. The current CCTV scheme covers both Bridport and Weymouth town centres with some thirty-two cameras in Weymouth and nine in Bridport. The Monitoring Suite in Weymouth is one of the most advanced in the country. It is hoped that in the near future other Western Dorset town centres will join. The benefits of being part of the Western Dorset CCTV scheme are considerable. Operational cameras are linked to Weymouth Control Room where they are continuously monitored by trained staff. All images are recorded for management or evidential purposes and can be easily retrieved by the trained tape reviewers. The Control Room has a direct link to the Police Control Room by radio and video. In addition, there are radio links to the Town Centre Radio Schemes in both Weymouth and Bridport ('Shopwatch' and 'Pubwatch' Schemes).
- 2.4 **Domestic Violence** - The Western Dorset Partnership benefits from the Domestic Violence Officer, now in place for Dorset and funded directly by the Home Office for two years, see 4.12. There are local initiatives supported by Western Dorset CDRP such as a freephone helpline number for victims of domestic violence.
- 2.5 **Police Community Support Officers** - Western Dorset first introduced PCSO's in January 2003. There are now PCSO's in Sherborne, Bridport, Dorchester, Littlemoor, Westham and it is planned to introduce them to Portland in the near future. PCSO's are paid full time members of police staff who wear the police uniform but do not have the same powers as Police Officers; they do however have the power to seize alcohol, issue fixed penalty notices and demand the name and address of any person acting in an anti-social manner. The PCSO's have forged good working relationships with the community and are a valuable resource in maintaining public confidence within the community.
- 2.6 **Vehicle Crime Western Dorset** - The Western Dorset CDRP Vehicle Crime Group is a multi-agency group set up to tackle vehicle crime in the Western Dorset area in particular at 'beauty spots'. In addition there is a policy to increase safety and security in town centre car parks with a view to making improvements and moving towards secured car park status. Funding of £39,400 was obtained from the Home Office Crime Director's Fund.
- 2.6.1 In conjunction with its partners including; Dorset Police, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council, West Dorset District and Dorset County Council (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty), National Trust and the Forestry Commission, a joint Action Plan has been developed and launched in Easter 2004. Initiatives have included a 'Capable Guardian Scheme', providing additional seating at parking areas, leaflet and signage. One novel approach to raising awareness was to paint approach roads to car parks with 'THINK THIEF' markings to make drivers aware of the risk.
- 2.6.2 Town centre car parks have received further funding for improvements that have included CCTV boundary improvements and lighting.
- 2.6.3 Initial funding from the initiatives appear to have some positive impact with vehicle crime reported being at a lower level than comparative quarters in previous years.
- 2.7 **Western Dorset Arrest Referral Scheme** - The scheme launched in June 2001 aims to interview and assess any person who is arrested for a criminal offence in Western Dorset. Acquisitive crime is often the means by which to fund a drug habit and it is these individuals that the scheme targets. In Western Dorset the CDRP is aware that it is not only illicit drugs that cause problems but, alcohol as well. Further, long term use of drugs and alcohol can often result in mental health problems. The scheme recognises this and arrest referral workers are able to direct individuals to appropriate agencies.

2.8 **Working towards Secured Car Parking Schemes and Street Lighting Improvements -**
The Western Dorset CDRP has recognised the value of improving car park security and street lighting. This is helping us to achieve the Government's car crime reduction targets, as well as having a positive effect on the fear of crime. Car park improvements have included; perimeter fencing, signs, lighting, access and egress improvements, landscaping and disabled parking bays.

3. **Western Dorset Priorities**

3.1 The results of the various consultations undertaken, including consultation with local communities are shown on page 47 of this document. These results reflect the issues the Western Dorset CDRP will be tackling at local level.

4. **Consultation**

4.1 The overall findings from the consultation events and surveys for Western Dorset are shown in the table on page 47. Each of the consultation activities produced a list of the most common issues of concern which are identified below for each activity.

4.2 The Town and Parish Survey in Western Dorset highlighted the top five crimes as; house and property (e.g. shed or garage) burglary, anti-social behaviour, speeding offences, vandalism and graffiti and vehicle crime.

4.3 The Quick Survey showed the top issues as; speeding and reckless driving, drunkenness and associated behaviour, burglary, vehicle crime (theft of and from vehicles), graffiti and vandalism, drink/drug driving and noisy or rowdy young people.

4.4 The Fear of Crime Survey identified the top issues as; speeding and reckless driving, drunkenness, burglary, drugs use and dealing, drink/drug driving offences, vehicle crime, noisy/rowdy young people, uncontrolled dogs/dog mess and rubbish and litter.

4.5 Through the work of the local Community Planning Partnerships in both West Dorset and in Weymouth and Portland, which are explained previously in 2.6, the following shows the issues that have been identified for each area.

4.5.1 The West Dorset Partnership has recognised issues of; fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, vehicle crime, burglary, substance misuse, violent crime, including domestic violence, hate crime and vandalism and graffiti. It has had objectives to reduce and prevent; substance misuse, increase visible police presence, reduce anti-social behaviour, reduce crime levels and tackle the fear of crime and to reduce vehicle crime.

4.5.2 The Weymouth and Portland Partnership has identified the issues of; substance misuse, police visibility, anti-social behaviour, CCTV and the fear of crime.

4.5.3 The audit findings were different in West Dorset compared with Weymouth and Portland which is not surprising considering the disparate socio-economic, population spread and demographic characteristics e.g. Weymouth is a more urban area.

4.5.4 In West Dorset the audit findings identified issues of; violent crime, including violence against the person, such as domestic violence and racially aggravated violence, burglary, vehicle crime, criminal damage, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.

4.5.5 In Weymouth and Portland the issues identified were; violent crime, including violence against the person (particularly alcohol related), burglary, both domestic and commercial, vehicle crime, criminal damage, arson, anti-social behaviour, drugs, young offenders and the fear of crime.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Prior to deciding on priorities, the Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships have conducted extensive consultation in the form of a Town and Parish Council Survey, youth surveys, community safety surveys and a consultation conference involving a wide range of organisations across Dorset.

2. The Dorset Action Plan 2005 - 2008

- 2.1 The Dorset Action Plan lists all of the key actions to be completed by the CDRPs in the coming three years. This action plan will be amended in light of GOSW agreeing the Local Area Agreement and will also include further actions and targets in relation to sport and culture. The actions in the plan are linked to:-
- The six strategy priorities developed by the partnership in conjunction with local partners and communities through the process of consultation and work undertaken on the crime and drug audits;
 - The Dorset Local Area Agreement; and
 - Key actions in the national objectives and targets set by Government. Responsibility for delivery of these targets rest with CDRP Partners (i.e. Local Authorities, Police, Fire and Police Authorities, PCTs and the Criminal Justice Agencies).

DORSET ACTION PLAN 2005 - 2008

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Reducing the fear of crime	Enhance policing presence by deployment of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and other relevant services from partner agencies.	PSA2	1, 2 & 6 SSC1 SSC2	To maintain or increase the existing number of PCSOs within Dorset up to March 2008	Police	LAA BCU
	Improve the system to ensure offenders are brought to justice	PSA3	1, 3 & 6 SSC1	14,920 offences to be brought to justice across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole in 2005/06 (baseline figure 2001 – 11,726)	CJB/ Police	
	Commission Annual Fear of Crime Survey. (targets will be achieved by March 2006 and will continue on an annual basis)	PSA2	1, SSC2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase/maintain day time perception of safety at or above existing levels within each Local Authority area. - Increase/maintain night time perception of safety at or above existing levels within each Local Authority area. - Reduce the % of residents concerned about crime (calculated using a composite average of % concern over four issues: burglary, vehicle crime, graffiti and vandalism, and street crime, derived from the results of the annual Community Safety Surveys). - Reduce the % of residents concerned about anti-social behaviour (calculated using a composite average of % concern over four issues: speeding and reckless driving, drunkenness, noisy/rowdy youths, and neighbour problems, derived from the results of the annual Community Safety Surveys). - Incorporate new questions within local Community Safety Surveys to enhance the measurement of fear of crime. 	CDRP	LAA
	Provide public reassurance and raise the profile of progress on tackling crime and disorder by promoting the work of the partnerships	PSA2	1, SSC2	Develop the Communications and Public Relations/Media Strategy to include issues of accessibility and diversity for adoption by March 2006.	CDRP	LAA

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Reducing the fear of crime	Integrate CCTV systems across Dorset	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 SSC1 SSC2	Implement a Dorset CCTV Strategy by March 2008	CDRP	LAA
	Continue to use CCTV systems to bring about crime and anti-social behaviour reductions	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 SSC1 SSC2	Provide baseline information on crime hotspots by March 2006. Establish and implement a monitoring system that will help to reduce crime hotspots by March 2006.	CDRP	LAA
	To identify urban locations where improved street lighting could assist.	PSA2 PSA1	1, 2 SSC1 SSC2	To identify Dorset crime 'hotspots' using up to date information by February 2006 – linked to CCTV action above. Ensure that CDRPs needs are given an early consideration within the PFI tender process. Ongoing till June 2006. CDRPs to be consulted on annual basis from late 2006.	DCC/ CDRP	PFI
	Implement the Bogus Callers Protocol (enforcement) across Dorset by 2006. Implement the cold calling protocol in Corporate Services by 2006.	PSA1 PSA	1, 2, 3 & 6 SSC1 SSC2	Contribute towards reducing the incidence of bogus caller incidents by enforcement, joint working and an education and awareness raising programme for enforcers by March 2006 and ongoing. Empower consumers to protect themselves with targeted education and awareness raising materials by March 2006 and ongoing.	Trading Standards DCC/ CDRP	LAA Local Authority Budgets

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Tackle anti-social behaviour and criminal damage	To agree and introduce consistent data collection and monitoring systems for anti-social behaviour incidents and cases across the partnerships.	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2 SSC2	Introduce data collection and monitoring systems by October 2006. 100% of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour that reach Level 2 to result in further action in Western Dorset.	CDRP	LAA
	To raise the level of awareness and outline the potential for partnership working in problem solving initiatives and perceptual training.	PSA2	2 SSC1 SSC2	To adopt a common definition and typology of anti-social behaviour based on Home Office Guidance by October 2005. To implement a multi-agency approach to tackling anti-social behaviour through the use of a problem-solving approaches including a range of projects and initiatives, by March 2006. Establish an action plan to promote the work of the partnership via the Communications/Media Strategy by March 2006	CDRP/ PPT	LAA PPT
	To provide a Juvenile Mentoring Scheme to encourage acceptable behaviour.	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2 SSC1 SSC2	To identify and refer 15 young people to the Juvenile Mentoring Scheme in the first year (March 2006) To monitor the level of repeat offending for 1 year from date of referral. This target will be ongoing	YOT/ CDRP	LAA
	Develop youth diversionary activities aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour and criminal damage	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2 SSC1 SSC2	Reduce criminal damage by 15% for Dorset overall by March 2008. Reduce all BCS comparator crimes by 6% in Western Division and 15% in Eastern Division in 05/06	Youth & Community Service (DCC)/YOT/ Police	LAA
	Reduce deliberate fires	PSA1 PSA2	2 SSC1 SSC5	Reduce by 10% the number of deliberate fires by 31 March 2010 from the 2001/2002 baseline.	Dorset Fire & Rescue Service/ Urban Heath Partnership	DF&RS LAA

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Tackle anti-social behaviour and criminal	Respond to complaints about anti-social behaviour where the use of age restricted products by young people may be a contributory factors.	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2, 3 & 5 SSC1 SSC2 SSC3	Through the implementation of an agreed enforcement programme (responsible retailer, test purchasing, proof of age card) reduce the incidences of anti-social behaviour linked to the illegal sale of age restricted products (particularly alcohol). By March 2006 and ongoing	Trading Standards DCC/ CDRP	LAA Local Authority Budget

Tackling violent crime including alcohol related crime and domestic violence (Consistent with the Home Office categorisation 'violent crime' consists of violence against the person, robbery and sexual offences)	To reduce violent crime.	PSA1 PSA2	2, 3 SSC 1	Reduce violent crime by 15% for Dorset overall by 2008. Violent crime to be reduced by 8% in 05/06 in Western Division.	Police	LAA BCU
	Introduce measures to prevent alcohol related violence.	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2, 3, 5, 6 SSC3	Reduce the number of alcohol related violent crimes by 15% for Dorset overall by 2008.	Police	LAA BCU
	Develop a Dorset-wide domestic violence strategy.	PSA1 PSA2 BVPI	3 SSC4	To produce a domestic violence strategy and action plan for Dorset by March 2006.	CDRP	LAA
	Increase awareness of domestic violence.	PSA1 PSA2 BVPI 225	3 SSC4	To deliver a programme of education, publicity and training by March 2006 and then ongoing.	CDRP/ Voluntary Sector	LAA
	To reduce the impact of domestic violence on victims and children.	PSA1 PSA2 BVPI 225	3 SSC4	Increase the number of domestic violence offenders brought to justice by 2008. Baseline information to be established by March 2006. Set targets for 2006/2007	Police	LAA BCU
	Improve the monitoring of domestic violence.	PSA2	3 SSC4	Increase the number of agencies implementing the reporting, referral and monitoring system for domestic violence by 2008. Baseline information to be established by March 2006. Set targets for 2006/2007	CDRP	LAA

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Tackling discrimination	Publish a revised protocol for the reporting and monitoring of incidents of discrimination.	PSA2 BVPI 2b, 174 & 175	4 SSC2	Publish protocol by October 2006. Establish baseline for number of incidents of discrimination reported by March 2006.	CDRP	LAA BCU
	Identify and work with people from target equality groups in Dorset.	PSA2	4 SSC2	Establish contacts and a link with at least 2 individuals/ groups from each of the 6 strands of the equality legislation – race, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation and religion and faith by October 2006. Implement a minimum of one positive campaign on diversity issues every year from April 2005 to March 2008.	CDRP	LAA
	Promote and adopt the revised incidents of discrimination reporting scheme across Dorset, and improve the understanding of the localities needs of minority groups or those that are experiencing discrimination.	PSA2 BVPI 2b, 174 & 175	4 SSC2	Implement training in dealing with enquiries/complaints regarding discrimination for relevant staff within partnership organisations by October 2006.	CDRP	LAA
	Supporting people from diverse backgrounds and circumstances to have fair and equitable opportunities in the workplace, schools and in their neighbourhood.	PSA2	4 SSC2	Submit planning applications by the Autumn 2005 for first phase of transit sites/ temporary stopping places for Gypsies and Travellers. Percentage of Traveller encampments on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorised sites – 6% • 50% of authorised sites in acceptable locations • unauthorised sites in unacceptable locations – 44% 	DCC	Gypsy Sites Refurbishment Grants Scheme/ LAA

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Reduce the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol	To task the work of the Drugs Analysts.	Drugs PSA1,2,3 PSA 1	2, 5 SSC3	To identify drugs hotspots in Dorset by March 2006. To research local drugs markets and provide data-led solutions to drug problems by March 2006.	CDRP/ Police	LAA
	Improve referral of detainees to drugs/alcohol treatment.	Drugs PSA1	2, 3 & 5 SSC3	A minimum of 60 detainees to access treatment services as a result of arrest referral from April 2005 to March 2006.	DDAASS/ Police	LAA
	Increase the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system	Drugs PSA 1 & PSA 1	2,3 & 5 SSC 3	Establish a Drug Intervention Programme (Criminal Justice Intervention Team) during 2005.	DAT	
	Key Performance Indicators for the National Drug Strategy are being finalised. (Further information will be available from the DAT)	Drugs PSA 1,2,3	2,3 & 5 SSC 3	National and local targets to be agreed and set during 2005/06 under the headings of Universal Drug Education, Looked After Children, Youth Offending Team and Specialist Services for young people.	DAT/Education/Social Care & Health, PCTs	Young People Substance Misuse Planning Grant /Others to be confirmed
	Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes(Further information will be available in the DAT Treatment Plan)	Drugs PSA 2	2,3 & 5 SSC 3	Increase the number of drug users in treatment by 720 in 2005/06, 800 in 2006/07 and 848 2007/08. Increase the proportion of problem drug users sustaining or successfully completing treatment programmes by 45% in 2005/06, 51% in 2006/07 and 61% in 2007/08 Reduce the average waiting times by drug treatment modality	PCT	Adult Pooled Treatment Budget/ PCTs/Local Authorities/Police/ National Probation Services

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Reduce the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol	Improve awareness raising and support with young people on drugs and alcohol issues.	Drugs PSA3	2, 3 & 4 SSC3	Identify a minimum of one project a year which includes monitoring on numbers who seek further support/referral from Youth Advice Centres and drugs outreach agencies from April 2005 to March 2008.	DAT/ EDDAAS/ DDAAS/ Dorset Youth Association /Youth and Community Service	

Priorities	Action	Link to National Targets	Strategy and LAA Priorities	Target	Lead Partner	Funding Source
Tackling domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft	Reduce incidents of domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft.	PSA1	2, 6 SSC1	Reduce incidents of domestic and commercial burglary, vehicle crime and theft by 15% for Dorset overall by 2008.	Police	BCU LAA
	Promote crime prevention initiatives and encourage participation in Homewatch and other volunteer schemes.	PSA1 PSA2	1, 2, 6 SSC1 SSC2	Establish baseline for participation in Homewatch and other volunteer schemes by March 2006. Increase participation in Homewatch and other volunteer schemes by March 2008.	CDRP	LAA
	Maintain downward trend in burglary and to increase the detection rate.	PSA1 PSA2	2, 6 SSC1	To reduce repeat victimisation of dwelling burglary. Establish baseline information by March 2006. Set targets for 2006/2007	Police	BCU LAA
	Maintain a downward trend in vehicle crime and to increase the detection rate.	PSA1 PSA2	2, 6 SSC1	To reduce incidents of theft from vehicles by 15% for Dorset overall by 2008.	Police	BCU LAA
	Develop a Performance Management system for PPO	PSA 2 PSA 3	6 SSC1	To pilot the database developed in Western Division and roll out cross county by March 2006	CDRP/ Police	BCU LAA
	To support the weightings of county wide BSC comparator targets to individual partnership areas	PSA1 PSA 2	All priorities SSC1	To carry out research to establish baseline information and weightings by August 2005. <i>(This action links in with all 15% targets as documented in this action plan)</i>	CDRP/ Police	LAA

3. CDRPs Spending Plan Priorities 2005/06

- 3.1 The Local Area Agreement Pilot for Dorset is developing new innovative approaches to funding and service delivery for Dorset. This is reflected in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships Spending Plan priorities for 2005/06.
- 3.2 In the light of partners existing commitments for 2005/06, there is limited opportunity to bring together new spending proposals for this year. Therefore attention has been focused on those existing projects and posts that are known to meet the emerging priorities and that have so far proved successful.
- 3.3 During the course of 2005/06 and in subsequent years, the spending plans from CDRPs and the DAT will be reviewed to take account of opportunities for greater efficiency, improved service delivery and to avoid duplication.
- 3.4 There is already a significant amount of common working across the county, reflected in particular in the Partnership's Senior Researcher Drugs Analysts, Domestic Violence and Racist and Homophobic Research Assistant roles.
- 3.5 In addition to these clearly defined joint roles, there is much common working on themes, such as anti-social behaviour, PPO, CCTV and information sharing.
- 3.6 The spending plan priorities highlights current projects and commitments for 2005/06 together with how the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships intend to impact upon the key local and national priorities and targets.
- 3.7 Budgets that are not yet allocated for 2005/2006 will be determined against priority outcomes in the LAA.

CDRPs Spending Plan Priorities 2005/06

Name of Project/Intervention	How is the project/intervention going to directly or indirectly reduce crime, disorder or improve community safety?	Links to National Targets	Strategy & LAA Priorities
Senior Researcher	To provide strategic information and analytical support for the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in Dorset and to manage and progress research and monitoring projects connected with crime and disorder.	PSA 1, 2	SSC1, SSC4, SSC5 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Drugs Analysts	Provide detailed information for intelligence led solutions to drugs problems.	PSA 1, 3 Drugs PSA 1, 3	SSC1, SSC3, SSC5 Priority 5
Domestic Violence Projects	Providing the Domestic Violence Officer with resources to implement specific relevant initiatives aimed at reducing Domestic Violence in Dorset.	PSA 1	SSC1, SSC4 Priority 3
Racist and Homophobic Research Assistant	Working with Dorset Police and other partners to identify, monitor and tackle incidents of discrimination.	PSA 1	SSC1, SSC2 Priority 4
Drug Reference Action Groups	Provide support to and evaluation of a range of new and existing local youth diversionary activities within Dorset to divert young people from drugs, anti-social behaviour and crime.	Drugs PSA 2, 3	SSC3 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 5, 6
CCTV Schemes and Reviewers	In Western Dorset to work as a deterrent in addition to the detection crimes. Working closely with the Police, shop, pub and club link via radio transmissions to the control room whereby the operators instantly monitor most incidents.	PSA 1, 2, 3 Drugs PSA 1, 3	SSC1, SSC2, SSC3, SSC5 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 5, 6

Name of Project/Intervention	How is the project/intervention going to directly or indirectly reduce crime, disorder or improve community safety?	Links to National Targets	Strategy & LAA Priorities
Anti-Social Behaviour/PPO Posts	In Dorset, Anti-Social Behaviour Officers are in post to work with partner agencies to initiate projects to reduce ASB and in some areas with responsibilities of the PPO Scheme in order to facilitate its operation thereby minimising the effect of such offenders on the community.	PSA 1, 2, 3	SSC1, SSC2, SSC3, SSC5 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 5, 6
Partnership Project Co-ordinator/ Manager (East and West)	To manage the plans, financing and delivery of the Action Plans to implement CDR initiatives. To oversee and co-ordinate the inter-agency responsibilities of the PPO Scheme.	All the PSAs	SSC1, SSC2, SSC3, SSC4, SSC5 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Arrest Referral Workers	Intervention to signpost detainees with substance misuse and mental health issues to support and treatment services.	PSA 2	SSC3 Priority 5
Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)	Increased Police presence in anti-social behaviour and disorder hotspot areas to deter and reduce criminal and anti-social behaviour.	PSA 1, 2, 3 Drugs 1, 3	SSC1, SSC2, SSC3, SSC5 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Housing Registration Project	Improve security measures to reduce domestic burglary against vulnerable households.	PSA 1, 2	SSC1, SSC2 Priorities 1, 6
Community Support Worker	To provide accessible means of contact to mobile police and other agency staff for members of rural communities.	PSA 1, 2	SSC1, SSC2 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Local Problem Solving Initiatives/ Projects	To provide support to and evaluation of a range of new and existing problem solving projects/initiatives to assist reduction of crime and disorder.	PSA 1, 2	SSC1, 2 Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

ABCs	Acceptable Behaviour Contracts	ASBOs	Anti-social Behaviour Orders
ASBU	Anti-Social Behaviour Unit	BCS	British Crime Survey
BCU	Basic Command Unit	CAD	Communities Against Drugs
CADAS	Community Alcohol and Drugs Advisory Services	CCTV	Close Circuit TV
CDRPs	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships	CJS	Criminal Justice System Teams
COOSS	Children Out of School Scheme	DAATs	Drug and Alcohol Action Teams
DAT	Drug Action Team	DFRS	Dorset Fire and Rescue Service
DIP	Drug Intervention Programme	DRAGs	Drug Reference Action Group
DSP	Dorset Strategic Partnership	DTTO	Drug Treatment and Testing Order
GOSW	Government Office for the South West	KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LAA	Local Area Agreement	LCPs	Local Community Partnerships
NDTMS	National Drug Treatment Monitoring System	NHS	National Health Service
NTA	National Treatment Agency	ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
PCSOs	Police Community Support Officers	PCTs	Primary Care Trusts
PFI	Private Finance Initiative	PPO	Priority and Other Prolific Offenders
PPT	Police Partnership Trust	SSCF	Safer and Stronger Communities Fund
YISP	Youth Inclusion and Support Panel	YOT	Youth Offending Team
YPSMP	Young People's Substance Misuse Plan		

Your Views Count

What Happens Next?

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the key partners to work with all sections of the community including public, private and voluntary organisations, businesses and, most importantly, residents of local communities.

You have a voice in reducing crime and disorder in your area. Please take the opportunity to let us know your views.

Where Do I Send My Comments?

Please send written comments to:

Christchurch	The Chairman Christchurch and East Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Civic Offices Christchurch Dorset BH23 1AZ
East Dorset	The Chairman Christchurch and East Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Council Offices Furzehill Wimborne Dorset BH21 4HN
North Dorset	The Chairman North Dorset Community Safety Partnership North Dorset District Council Nordon Salisbury Road Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7LL

Purbeck	The Chairman Purbeck Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Westport House Wareham Dorset BH20 4EY
West Dorset	The Chairman Western Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership 58/60 High West Street Dorchester Dorset DT1 1UZ
Weymouth & Portland	The Chairman Western Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Weymouth & Portland Borough Council North Quay Weymouth Dorset DT4 8TA
Dorset Drug Action Team	The Chairman Social Care and Health Dorset County Council County Hall Colliton Park Dorchester Dorset DT1 1XJ
Dorset Strategic Partnership	The Chairman c/o The Chief Executive's Office Dorset County Council County Hall Colliton Park Dorchester Dorset DT1 1XJ

If you would like further information about Community Safety please contact the Community Safety Officers on the following telephone numbers:-

Christchurch	01202 495088
East Dorset	01202 639032
North Dorset	01258 484006
Purbeck	01929 557387
West Dorset	01305 252267
Weymouth & Portland	01305 838261

If you would like further information about the Drug Action Team please contact the DAT Co-ordinator on:- 01305 224270