

Community Planning Aberdeen

Progress Report	Safer Torry – Prevention Pilot
Lead Officer	Joanne Larsen
Report Author	Emily Queen
Date of Report	10 th February 2016
Governance Group	Community Planning Aberdeen –Management Group

1: Purpose of the Report

The Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group requested that Torry be used to test a model which assesses the impact of increased preventative work. The Management Group has previously received verbal updates from Neil Carnegie on the prevention pilot being undertaken in Torry.

This report will present the Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group with an update on the Safer Torry prevention pilot.

2: Summary of Key Information

Alcohol Related Disorder and Domestic Abuse in Torry

Background:

In early 2014 Aberdeen Community Safety Partnership's Tasking and Coordinating group identified the Torry neighbourhood as having relatively high rates of community safety incidents over various themes. Further analysis of incidents in Torry identified two key themes that the partnership wished to address. The two themes being alcohol fuelled disorder and domestic abuse.

Working with the Torry Community Council the Community Safety Partnership convened a multiagency group to develop local responses to alcohol fuelled disorder and domestic abuse. The multi-agency group consisted of Aberdeen City Council; Housing, Criminal Justice Social Work and Community Safety, Police Scotland, NHS, Cyrenians, Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC) and Torry Community Council.

Following creation of the multi-agency group a workshop was held on 23rd April 2014 highlighting the need to tackle alcohol related disorder and domestic abuse issues in the area. At this workshop four main actions were agreed for further progression by the group with the intention of implementation by October 2014:

1. Develop an approach similar to Safer Aberdeen (city centre) by engaging local licensed premises, facilitating sharing of information on offenders / people involved in anti-social behaviour, introducing a radio link system and implementing a case management

- approach for individuals involved in patterns of behaviour.
- 2. Communication plans targeted at various stakeholder groups to deter and encourage early reporting of domestic abuse.
- 3. Improve local accessibility of services introducing regular surgeries at a relevant community facility.
- 4. Training and awareness raising for local services on alcohol related disorder and domestic abuse issues.

Action Update:

The first action of the Safer Torry working group was to develop an approach similar to Safer Aberdeen by engaging local licensed premises facilitating sharing of information on offenders/people involved in ASB, introducing a radio link system and using a case management approach for individuals involved in patterns of behaviour.

The Safer Aberdeen scheme is a proactive scheme between retailers, licenced trade, the police and local authority primarily directed at criminal activity within Aberdeen City Centre. Members, who have each signed a confidentiality agreement, are involved in the collation and disclosure of offender information.

Safer Aberdeen aims to develop a range of measures to reduce and prevent criminality, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, for the mutual benefit of the business community, local community and partners.

Safer Aberdeen intend; to create and safe and secure area, build stronger communities through effective partnership, reduce crime and violence, reduce criminal opportunity and reduce the fear of crime, whilst utilising resources effectively.

Based on the Safer Aberdeen methodology a Torry scheme was launched titled Torry Alcohol Action Group (TAAG). The scheme aims to work in partnership with Torry businesses to reduce incidents of alcohol related violence and antisocial behaviour.

TAAG formally launched on 20th May 2015 at the Victoria Bar, Torry.

The group consists of representatives from Aberdeen City Council; Community Safety, Police Scotland and local licensees. The Group meet every 6 weeks to review and discuss alcohol related incidents occurring in their respective premises.

TAAG has a total of nineteen members out of an eligible twenty licensed premises in the Torry area.

In line with the group's constitution and procedures an exclusion order can be issued against an individual who has committed an offence, members vote to exclude nominated offenders for a period determined by the group. Enforcing the message 'banned from one banned from them all'.

Monthly bulletins of known offenders; serious and violent and or prolific and active are distributed to TAAG members in the form of a bulletin. At present there are a total of eleven individuals excluded from licensed premises in Torry. Subsequently there have been an additional five exclusions which have now lapsed.

Safer Torry partners recognised the importance of communication in this strategy. The TAAG meetings allow for neighbouring businesses to communicate however the group recognised the potential for implementing a radio link system. The radio link gives many benefits to TAAG members from increasing staff confidence, ending business isolation, reducing the fear of crime, giving up to date information, incident management and managing real time crime.

On this premise a radio link system was set up were each member of TAAG was issued a radio

functioning on its own independent frequency 'TAGG Channel' this allows members to communicate with neighbouring businesses permitting effective real time sharing of information. The radios are also carried by the city wardens in Torry and a radio is based at Torry Police station.

It is worth noting that this is the first group of its kind in Scotland which combines 'on sale' and 'off sale' businesses working together to exclude individuals offending in these businesses and in the Torry area.

The success of the group can be measured by the take up and participation at the regular meetings. The response has been extremely positive and the group continues to work together, building stronger relationships through the partnership, sharing information and reducing crime and antisocial behaviour in the locality.

The second action of the Safer Torry working group resolved to develop; communication plans targeted at various stakeholder groups to deter and encourage early reporting of domestic abuse.

In relation to this second action progress was made to develop new methods for communicating specifically with victims of domestic abuse. The Safer Aberdeen App was adapted to include more information on domestic abuse. Relevant websites were updated. The group designed and produced posters, leaflets and business cards. The posters highlighted the issue of domestic abuse and the services designed to help those affected. These materials were also printed in Polish and Latvian and were distributed amongst the local community.

Social media platforms were used to convey the messages and the group featured on SHMU radio.

To raise awareness of early reporting of domestic abuse, health visitors were briefed and efforts were made to engage with local GP practices.

The third action set out to; improve local accessibility of services introducing regular surgeries at a relevant community facility.

The three providers; Aberdeen City Council's Domestic Abuse Team, The Cyrenians and Grampian Women's Aid agreed to deliver two hour weekly drop in sessions on a rotational basis.

Wallet size cards were produced with details of the drop in session and a 24 hour helpline number. Translation of resource was also made available in Polish and Latvian. Promotion and marketing of this resource was carried out through primary care specifically Torry Medical Practice, various partnerships and community groups.

The surgeries launched on 27th October 2014, two hour surgeries were set up to take place from 1:30 till 4pm every Monday at Deeside Family Centre. An intake form was designed to record details of how people reached the service to assist evaluation. Surgeries ran from October 2014 to February 2015 however no one attended the surgeries. Three referrals were made by health professionals but no one attended. Subsequently the decision was made to end these surgeries and instead promote the wide range of services available.

The fourth action of the group focused on; developing training and awareness raising for local services on alcohol related disorder and domestic abuse issues.

It was agreed that action four would be developed following progress with actions one to three.

A general awareness raising event was proposed and a training session took place on 18th November 2014. At the training event nine attendees confirmed and efforts were made to promote Safer Torry to services currently not involved as well as further invitations to the community.

A General awareness raising lunchtime event took place on 2 December 2014.

The Torry Action group resolved to engage with local hairdressers, beauticians and pharmacists to seek participation in an awareness raising briefing as per the actions outlined by the group. This consultation was carried out by means of a door stop discussion with managers. The general consensus was that these business managers would be receptive to attend any future event.

The group resolved to host a Domestic Abuse event to be held in Torry during 16 Days of Action. 16 Days of Action against Gender Violence is a national campaign which ran from Wednesday 25th November to Thursday 10th December and the Aberdeen VAWP held a calendar of events to support and promote this campaign, including service user events, awareness raising sessions and a candlelit vigil.

This particular event aimed at local businesses in the Torry area was to warn of trigger signs and how to deal with anyone they may come in to contact with that is dealing with a domestic abuse issue. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts and difficulty in obtaining a venue, coupled with a lack of time in which to promote such an event, it was decided that we could not hold the aforementioned session during 16 Days of Action as previously hoped.

It is still the intention of the Aberdeen Violence Against Women partnership to hold an event in Torry as per the action from the Safer Torry group but it is clear that more planning needs to take place in order to properly promote such an event.

Torry Analysis:

An evaluation report was produced on 28th April 2015. The report was created to inform future approaches by the group. The report aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of the various actions under consideration.

Previous analysis reported a reduction in public space violence for the 2014/15 fiscal year compared with the previous fiscal year for both Aberdeen City and the neighbourhood of Torry. The analysis, however, showed a much greater reduction for Torry than for Aberdeen City (19% and 4% reduction respectively for Common Assaults). While assaults classed as Serious showed an increase, it would be fair to say that there was an overall reduction as the numbers of assaults classed as "serious" are much less. Furthermore, the classification between serious assault and common assault can be somewhat obscured due to the amendment to the definition and distinction. The variance in the classification of a Serious or Common Assault depends upon the severity of injury sustained by the victim and does not always reflect the intensity or intent of the assault itself.

The previous analysis undertaken compared the six month period prior to and after the 1st October 2014 and pointed to some reduction in common assaults of a domestic nature in non-residential locations. Examination of Threatening & Abusive Behaviour (unrelated to domestic incidents) also pointed to some reduction within non-residential locations over the 6 month period after October 2014.

Updated Analysis

An updated analysis was undertaken comparing the 12 month period prior to and after the 1st October 2014 to obtain a further update, particularly as the measures linked to Safer Aberdeen (city centre) implemented in Torry were in their infancy at that time.

Summary

Updated analysis compares 12 month period pre and post October 2014.

Small percentage reduction in common assaults for Aberdeen City & Torry (3.2% and 5.6% respectively).

However, Torry has seen a small increase in non-domestic common assaults while Aberdeen City saw a small decrease. However, closer analysis shows that the increase is for assaults located at residential addresses while assaults at non-residential locations have reduced and that reduction is higher than the Aberdeen City average.

The above is backed up by:

A map (below) showing common assaults at locations around licensed premises and shops on Victoria Road showing a reduction in common assaults at non-residential locations.

Sobriety levels for non-domestic common assaults at non-residential locations show a decrease for perpetrators and victims recorded as Drunk, Had Been Drinking and Drugs.

When cost saving estimates are applied to the reduction in the number of crimes for Common Assaults overall, the estimated saving is £30,962 for the 12 month period post October 2014. However, if we were to exclude common assaults related to domestic incidents there would an increased cost element of £44,819. If only non-domestic assaults at non-residential locations were considered, there is an estimated saving of £161,257 for the 12 month period.

Overall Performance

The following table compares crimes and reports related to Public Space Violence in the 12 month period prior to 1st October 2014 with the 12 month period after for Torry and Aberdeen City.

CSP Performance 14/15	Oct 14 to Sep 15	Oct 13 to Sep 14	Difference (Nos)	Difference %	Oct 14 to Sep 15	Oct 13 to Sep 14	Difference (Nos)	Difference %
		TO	RRY		ABERDEEN CITY			
PUBLIC PLACE VIOLENCE								
Common Assaults (All)	204	216	-12	-5.6%	2976	3075	-99	-3.2%
Common Assaults (non-domestics)	114	111	3	2.7%	1936	1997	-61	-3.1%
Serious Assaults	12	10	2	20.0%	154	123	31	25.2%
STREET DRINKING							•	
Street Drinking	11	24	-13	-54.2%	112	231	-119	-51.5%

The updated results show that there has been a small percentage reduction in all common assaults within Torry and Aberdeen City as a whole (5.6% and 3.2% reduction respectively). The reduction has been slightly higher for Torry. However, Torry has seen a small increase in non-domestic common assaults (2.7% increase) while Aberdeen City as a whole saw a small reduction (3.1% decrease). Serious assaults have increased for Aberdeen City and Torry, with Aberdeen City seeing a slightly higher % increase.

Reported incidents of Street Drinking saw a reduction for Aberdeen City as a whole and for Torry. The percentage decrease was slightly higher for Torry. However, while this seems to be only a slightly higher decrease for Torry than Aberdeen City, this decrease is particularly significant as the previous analysis showed a substantial increase in Street Drinking reports for Torry in 2014/15 while Aberdeen City as a whole saw a substantial decrease

Consideration Made to Populations:

In understanding the impact of public place and domestic violence with consideration made to populations.

Looking at the above table and adding additional columns to accommodate incidents per 10,000 people in Torry and Aberdeen City (using mid-2013 population estimates). It suggests that across all categories, Torry is considerably above the city average, with for example Torry experiencing just shy of 200 common assaults per 10,000 people in the Oct 2014 - Sep 2015 period, compared to just over 130 common assaults per 10,000 people across the City. Per 10,000 people, Torry sees roughly double the city average for street drinking.

	Oct 14 to	Incidents	Oct 13 to	Incidents	Difference	Difference	Oct 14 to	Incidents	Oct 13 to	Incidents	Difference	Difference
CSP Performance 14/15	Sep 15	per 10000	Sep 14	per 10000	(Nos)	%	Sep 15	per 10000	Sep 14	per 10000	(Nos)	%
			то	RRY			ABERDEEN CITY					
PUBLIC PLACE VIOLENCE												
Common Assaults (All)	204	193	216	204	-12	-5.6	2976	131	3075	135	-99	-3.2
Common Assaults (non-domestics)	114	108	111	105	3	2.7	1936	85	1997	88	-61	-3.1
Serious Assaults	12	11	10	10	2	20.0	154	7	123	5	31	25.2
STREET DRINKING												
Street Drinking	11	10	24	23	-13	-54.2	112.0	5	231	10	-119	-51.5

Table 1 - Public Place Violence and Street Drinking - Torry vs. Aberdeen City

However, when looking at some available data for April-November 2015 regarding common assaults across neighbourhoods, Torry does not experience the highest rate of assaults, although it consistently experiences the highest number of assaults. Taking aside the City Centre, Middlefield and George Street experience a higher rate of common assaults than Torry, due to their significantly smaller populations.

COMMON ASSAULT	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Sum	Population	Rate per 10000
City Centre	9	8	10	6	13	8	11	11	524	6229	841.2
Middlefield	5	5	6	12	3	7	4	14	56	2881	194.4
George Street	8	15	11	13	15	13	10	14	99	6055	163.5
Torry	20	18	19	19	22	30	12	30	170	10582	160.7
Cummings Park	3	8	2	1	5	6	2	5	32	2147	149.0
Ashgrove	6	8	3	5	3	8	3	3	39	2634	148.1
Woodside	14	9	10	9	8	9	5	9	73	5297	137.8
Tillydrone	5	15	7	7	5	10	9	9	67	4972	134.8

Table 2 - Common Assault - High Priority Neighbourhoods, April-November 2015

Looking at domestic violence, however, shows a perhaps surprising picture. Torry does not feature in the top 3 neighbourhoods for domestic violence (year to date, to December 2015) once population is taken into account. Woodside, with over 325 incidents per 10,000 people takes the crown for the highest rate of domestic violent incidents. Torry, although it has experienced the highest number of domestic incidents, does not have the highest rate of incidents, due to the higher population in Torry. All six of the featured neighbourhoods, however, do have rates of domestic violence far above the Aberdeen average of just over 44 incidents per 10,000 people.

Neighbourhood	Population	Total 14/15	Rate per 10,000 pop
Woodside	5297	167	315.3
City Centre	6229	189	303.4
Tillydrone	4972	151	303.7
Torry	10582	265	250.4
Middlefield	2881	68	236.0
Summerhill	3616	78	215.7
ABERDEEN CITY	227129	1007	44.3

Table 3 - Domestic Violence - High-Priority Neighbourhoods

In conclusion, Torry is clearly a high-priority neighbourhood across the CSP priorities, featuring prominently and experiencing above-average levels across almost all categories, even when the neighbourhood's large population is taken into account. However, when population is considered it is not the neighbourhood with the highest rates of incidents for the issues considered here, and we have possibly been neglecting equally high-priority neighbourhoods, such as Woodside and Middlefield, due to their relatively small populations.

Location

Further analysis on the above in relation to location of common assaults was undertaken to establish any links with measures being implemented in Torry linked to Safer Aberdeen on the location of such crimes occurring.

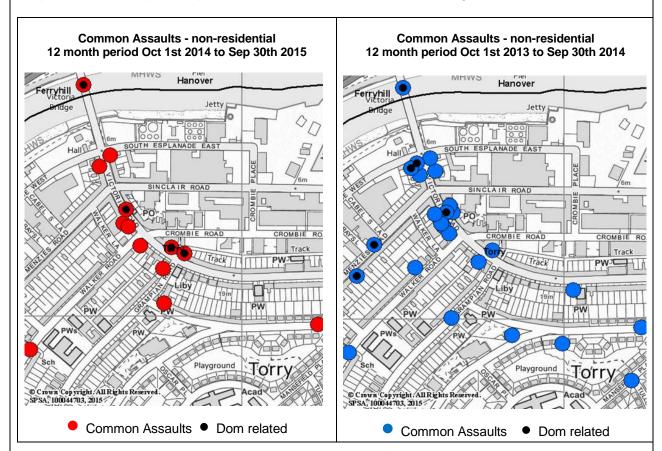
12 month comparison

		то	RRY			ABERDI	EN CITY	
Location	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %
	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	DIII %	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	DIII %
Commercial	9	9	0		450	491	-41	
Conveyance	1	1	0		17	22	-5	
Educational	1	1	0		40	44	-4	
Open Space	1	10	-9		38	71	-33	
Public Space	55	53	2		820	873	-53	
Public Utilities		9	-9		73	74	-1	
Recreational	3		3		69	64	5	
Residential	130	128	2	1.6%	1393	1380	13	0.9%
Not Recorded	4	5	-1		76	55	21	
Total	204	216	-12	-5.6%	2976	3074	-98	-3.2%

The outcome revealed that Torry saw a higher decrease in assaults at non-residential locations than that seen in Aberdeen City.

Area around Licensed Premises & Shops at Victoria Road

The last evaluation report for Common Assaults in Torry for the last 2 fiscal years showed a concentration of assaults around the licensed premises of Victoria Bar and Grampian Bar and shops. A 12 month pre and post 1st October 2014 shows the following:



The above maps demonstrate visually that the 12 month period since October 2014 has seen a reduction in Common Assaults around the area of Victoria Road close to various licensed premises and shops. This effect seems to have spread out along nearby streets.

Domestic and Non-Domestic Common Assaults and Location

Further analysis of assaults in relation to domestic and non-domestic and location was undertaken to get a better understanding of the circumstances.

The following table shows a breakdown of domestic & non-domestic common assaults by location for Aberdeen City and Torry and compares the 12 month period prior to 1st October 2014 and the 12 month period after for each.

		TOI	RRY		ABERDEEN CITY						
	Non-Domestic Common Assaults										
	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %			
	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	DIII /0	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	וווט /0			
NON-	57	66	-9	-13.6%	1332	1417	-85	-6.0%			
RESIDENTIAL	Domestic Common Assaults										
	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %			
	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	DIII 76	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	וווט //			
	13	17	-4	-23.5%	180	224	-44	-19.6%			
	Non-Domestic Common Assaults										
	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %			
	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	DIII /0	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	וווט //			
RESIDENTIAL	54	42	12	28.6%	558	535	23	4.3%			
RESIDENTIAL			Dom	estic Com	ımon Assau	lts	_				
	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Difference	Diff %			
	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	וווט %	Sep 15	Sep 14	(Nos)	שוול %			
	76	86	-10	-11.6%	835	845	-10	-1 .2 %			

The results show:

Non-Residential Locations

- an overall 14% decrease for Torry in the 12 month period after 1st Oct 2014 for non-domestic common assaults (Aberdeen City as a whole shows a 6% decrease)
- an overall 24% decrease in domestic common assaults for Torry in the 12 month period after 1st Oct 2014 (Aberdeen City as a whole shows a 20% decrease)

Residential Locations

- An overall 29% increase in non-domestic common assaults for Torry (Aberdeen City as a whole on the other hand shows a small increase of 4%)
- an overall 12% decrease in domestic common assaults for Torry (whereas Aberdeen City as a whole shows a 1% decrease)

Sobriety

Analysis of sobriety levels was undertaken to establish any association with measures being implemented in Torry linked to Safer Aberdeen. The following table shows a breakdown of sobriety for non-domestic common assaults at non-residential locations:

NON-DOMESTIC COMMON ASSAULTS (Non-Residential Locations)									
Sobriety coded as Drunk, Had Been Drinking, Drugs									
Torry	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to	Increase/ Decrease						
TOTTY	Sep 15	Sep 14	iliciease/ Decrease						
Victim	29.5%	32.0%	-2.5%						
Perpetrator	Perpetrator 39.1% 55.2% -16.1%								

This shows a decrease for the 12 month period after 1st October 2014 for both Victims and Perpetrators classed as "Drunk, Had Been Drinking or Drugs". The decrease is particularly marked for perpetrators committing non-domestic common assaults.

Breach of the Peace and Threatening & Abusive Behaviour

Analysis of crimes relating to Breach of the Peace and Threatening & Abusive Behaviour showed an increase in non-domestic crimes. Those crimes located at non -residential locations showed a 15.3% reduction while those located at residential locations indicated a 40% increase.

Location of Breach of the Peace & Threatening & Abusive Behaviour crimes

	то	RRY		
Location	Oct 14 to	Oct 13 to		
	Sep 15	Sep 14		
Commercial	11	16		
Conveyance		2		
Educational	2	4		
Open Space	3	5		
Public Space	43	41		
Public Utilities	1	2		
Recreational	1	2		
Residential	66	47		
Total	127	119		

The 12 month period since October 2014 shows an increase in non-domestic crimes for Threatening & Abusive Behaviour located at residential locations. For all locations which are non-residential there has been a reduction from 72 to 61 which is a percentage reduction of 15.3%.

COSTS

Alcohol Related Disorder

The following are rough estimates of costs associated with the following crimes¹

Common Assault: £6,700
Serious Assault: £24,719
Breach of the Peace £2,072

¹ Community Safety Costs in Scotland: Measuring Preventative Spend - A Toolkit for Community Safety (SCSN).

The above estimates have been applied to the crimes of Common Assault and Serious Assault for the 12 month period pre and post October 2014 for the Torry neighbourhood.

All Common Assaults

TORRY	Oct 141	to Sep 15	Oct 13	to Sep 14	Savings/Costs
TORKT	Nos	Cost	Nos	Cost	Savings/ Costs
Common Assaults (All)	204	£1,366,800	216	£1,447,200	-£80,400
Serious Assaults	12	£296,628	10	£247,190	£49,438
Total Cost	216	£1,663,428	226	£1,694,390	-£30,962

This would indicate a saving of £30,962.

Non-domestic Assaults

if we wanted to exclude common assaults related to domestic incidents which have already been included under Domestic Abuse costs then the following estimates would apply:

TORRY	Oct 14	to Sep 15	Oct 13 t	to Sep 14	Savings/Costs
TORKT	Nos	Cost	Nos	Cost	Savings/ Costs
Common Assaults (All)	114	£763,800	111	£743,700	£20,100
Serious Assaults	11	£271,909	10	£247,190	£24,719
Total Cost	125	£1,035,709	121	£990,890	£44,819

Non-domestic Assaults at Non-Residential locations

TORRY	201	.4/15	201	.3/14	Savings/Costs
IORNI	Nos	Cost	Nos	Cost	Savings/ Costs
Common Assaults (non-doms)	70	£469,000	83	£556,100	-£87,100
Serious Assaults	3	£74,157	6	£148,314	-£74,157
Total Cost	73	£543,157	89	£704,414	-£161,257

This would indicate a saving of £161,257 for non-domestic assaults at non-residential locations.

Breach of the Peace & Threatening & Abusive Behaviour incidents at Non-Residential locations:

Γ	TORRY	2014/15		2013/14		Savings/Costs
		Nos	Cost	Nos	Cost	Savings/Costs
ſ	Breach of the Peace & Threatening & Abusive Behaviour (non-doms)	61	£126,392	72	£149,184	-£22,792

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Previous Analysis

Previous figures produced from SCOMIS (Police Performance Management Information System) reported a 15% increase in incidents reported for the fiscal year 2014/15 compared with the previous year for Aberdeen City as a whole. However, as this system does not enable figures to be broken down at locality level, some analysis looking at crimes for Common Assaults and Threatening & Abusive Behaviour with the domestic incident marker was undertaken in an attempt to establish any trend.

This analysis showed that there was a reduction in domestic abuse crimes (Common Assaults and Threatening & Abusive Behaviour crimes with a domestic marker) for the fiscal year 2014/15 compared with the previous year for Torry. Aberdeen City on the other hand saw a 2% increase in Common Assaults but a 9% reduction in Threatening & Abusive Behaviour.

Comparison of the 6 month period prior to and after 1st October 2014 pointed to some reduction in common assaults of a domestic nature in non-residential locations. A similar pattern was found for Threatening & Abusive Behaviour.

Updated Analysis

Year to date, figures produced from the Police SCOMIS system report a 19% reduction in reported incidents of domestic abuse for the fiscal year 2015/16 compared with the previous year to date figures.

Initial findings looking at the crimes in relation to domestic abuse (common assaults with a domestic abuse marker) and which compare the 12 month period prior and post October 2014, indicate that Torry has continued to see a reduction in crimes relating to domestic abuse (common assaults). Furthermore, Torry has seen a greater percentage reduction in such crimes compared with Aberdeen City as a whole (Torry 13.6% reduction, Aberdeen City 5% reduction).

Summary

The statistical analysis and updated evaluation report provided shows encouraging trends. Partners are committed to continue to meet to develop future initiatives and inform strategy. Torry Alcohol Action Group (TAAG) will continue to meet and work in partnership, sharing information and serving exclusion notices on persistent offenders of criminal and antisocial behaviour. The group will continue to work on communications plans targeted at various stakeholder groups to deter and encourage early reporting of domestic abuse whilst continuously raising awareness through training events and seminars. The Community Safety Partnership are currently working to build a Subgroup which will co-ordinate Torry based initiatives and action groups including Youth Annoyance, Alcohol Action and Motorcycle Annoyance amongst others with members of each individual group, partners and locality managers.

3: Recommendations for Action

Community Planning Management Group is recommended to:

Note the update on the Safer Torry Prevention Pilot.

4: Opportunities and Risks

Aberdeen Community Safety Partnership is the community planning group working leading progress towards the safety theme within the single outcome agreement. Domestic abuse has been a priority for the partnership over the past three years, initially as part of the wider violence theme, and now since April 2014 within the violence against women theme. The Safer Torry group agrees to deliver tactical responses to relevant issues.

The opportunity presents itself to be scaled across to other communities within Aberdeen city.