



Safer Policy and Performance Board

**Tuesday, 8 November 2016 at 6.30 p.m.
Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Dave Thompson (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor John Abbott	Labour
Councillor Sandra Baker	Labour
Councillor Susan Edge	Labour
Councillor John Gerrard	Labour
Councillor Valerie Hill	Labour
Councillor Peter Lloyd Jones	Labour
Councillor Kath Loftus	Labour
Councillor Shaun Osborne	Labour
Councillor Geoff Zygadlo	Labour

Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or e-mail gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.

The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 21 February 2017

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
2. MINUTES	1 - 4
3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.	
4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	5 - 7
DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES	
5. CCTV PROVISION IN HALTON	8 - 9
6. CHESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE ANNUAL REPORT	10 - 12
7. COUNTERFEIT/ILLICIT GOODS AND TRADING STANDARDS	13 - 19
8. WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN	20 - 23
9. MISCHIEF NIGHT AND BONFIRE NIGHT	24 - 25

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 13 September 2016 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Thompson (Chair), Abbott, Edge, J Gerrard, S. Baker, V. Hill, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors N. Plumpton Walsh and Osborne

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Andrews, H. Mason and C. Patino

Also in attendance: Councillors D. Cargill, A. Lowe and J. Lowe and M. Harvey, Halton Housing Trust, V. Hodgson, Liverpool Housing Trust, C. Frazer and S. Tracey, Riverside Housing Association

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
SAF9 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<p>The Chair advised that on behalf of the Board he would write to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution to request clarification on the continuation of the hovercraft service currently provided in Halton from the New Brighton area.</p>	
SAF10 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2016 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
SAF11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p>	
SAF12 ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16	
<p>The Board considered a copy of the Annual Report from the Chair of the Safer Board, 2015/16. The Board met five times during the year and the report set out the work</p>	

carried out and the recommendations throughout the Municipal Year April 2015 to March 2016.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be noted.

SAF13 PRESENTATION: NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

On behalf of North West Ambulance Service, Mr Maddock attended the meeting to provide information on a scheme which aimed to identify and engage with frequent service callers. It was noted that there had been a substantial increase in demand for the ambulance service and this model was developed to help address that demand.

Mr Maddock advised that within the model there were individual teams for each area which consisted of a specialist paramedic. The specialist paramedic role was to contact these frequent callers and implement an intervention method. It was reported that, due to the success of the scheme, Central Government had increased funding and that some CCG's had also funded additional posts.

Arising from the discussion, Members asked Mr Maddock if the recent launch of two Urgent Care Centres in Halton had assisted the ambulance service with regard to demand on the service. In response Mr Maddock advised that these two Urgent Care Centres provided an excellent service and had helped to reduce demand for Accident and Emergency services.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Mr Maddock for his presentation.

RESOLVED: That the presentation be noted.

SAF14 HALTON COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which provided an update on the work of the Halton Community Alcohol Partnership (HCAP). Community Alcohol Partnerships encouraged the collaboration of local agencies, communities and businesses to reduce alcohol consumption in young people and alcohol related anti-social behaviour. In Halton the CAP had made good progress in reducing underage drinking, with admissions for those under 18 falling significantly over recent years.

Members were advised that as a result of intelligence received from Police, Halton Council and Young Addaction about alcohol consumption and anti-social behaviour, Murdishaw was selected as an area within Halton in which to pilot a Community Alcohol Partnership. A HCAP workshop had been held in May 2016 and actions were agreed to quickly achieve the HCAP objectives for Murdishaw. These ideas had now been incorporated into the HCAP action plan and actions to date included:

- Reducing proxy purchasing;
- Raising awareness of alcohol related harms;
- Diversionary activities; and
- Success measures.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

SAF15 REGISTERED SOCIAL LANDLORDS (RSL'S) PROVISION FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

The Board considered a presentation from the following representatives of Halton Registered Social Landlords (RSL) which provided information on their work, in partnership with the Police and the Council, to deal with Anti-social behaviour involving their tenants:

Halton Housing Trust - Mr Harvey;
Liverpool Housing Trust – Ms Hodgson; and
Riverside Housing Association – Ms Frazer and Ms Tracey.

Members were advised on recent property closure orders, possession orders, support for tenants, examples of anti-social behaviour and the consequences for tenants including enforcement action and examples of joint working with the Police and the Community Safety Team including Operation Treacle.

On behalf of the Board the Chair thanked the RSL's for their informative presentations.

RESOLVED: That the presentations be noted.

SAF16 SAFER PPB BI-MONTHLY TOPIC GROUP VISITS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which outlined a list of areas that had been identified for scrutiny. It was proposed to visit a number of areas to improve awareness and provide a direct on-site means of scrutiny with the potential to offer feedback to the various agencies.

The topic areas identified were:-

- Police Custody Suite;
- Stay Safe;
- Police Dog Operations;
- Creamfields;
- Match Day Operations – Select Security Stadium;
and
- Night Time Economy.

It was proposed that these visits would be Officer-lead and would be for one to two hours in duration. Details on arrangements for the visits were outlined to Members. A summary report on observations would be presented to a future meeting of the Board.

The Board discussed their recent visit to the Creamfields event and residents' complaints regarding noise from the event. In response, the Chair of the Regulatory Committee advised that a report detailing feedback from all agencies involved in the event would be considered at the November meeting of the Committee and Members of the Board were invited to attend.

RESOLVED: That the Board agree to participate in site visits as detailed in the report.

Meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

REPORT TO: Safer Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 8th November 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).

1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
 - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
 - Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	8 November 2016
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	CCTV Provision in Halton
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Scrutiny Board on Halton Council's current provision of Public Space CCTV, mobile camera system, public address function and an update on the Commissioner of Surveillance code of practice.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) **the report be noted; and**
- 2) **the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The presentation will describe the current approach to the provision of CCTV and associated services in Halton. The provision of CCTV is one means of helping to create a safe environment.
- 3.2 The Public Space CCTV is based in the Council's CCTV suite. Officers currently provide a 24 hour 7 days per week service monitoring the Council's CCTV cameras. They are in direct contact with Cheshire Constabulary by monitoring the police airwaves radio system.

The system can provide live images to the police central control room as well as recordings and statements in the form of evidence packs. They are also responsible for monitoring the town link (retailers) 2 way radio system and the Night net system (night time economy).

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The policy implications of the review relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **None**

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	8 November 2016
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Annual Report
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the report from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service presenting the Annual report for Halton 2016, and to receive an update on the Integrated Risk Management Plan 2017-18 (IRMP).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Board have a scrutiny function to review Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service on an annual basis.
- 3.2 The consultation on the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2017/18 is now underway and will last until Tuesday 3rd January 2017. During this time the Service will consult with the public, key partners and stakeholders and members of staff.

The draft 2017/18 Plan outlines a second review of our emergency response functions to reflect risk and demand up to 2020. This follows on from the first programme of change that the Service began in 2013 and has seen the building of four new fire stations at Alsager, Penketh and Powey Lane near Chester, as well the fire station and safety centre at Lymm. There have also been several changes to the way in which the Service staffs its stations.

Proposals within the second emergency response review and the wider draft Plan include:

- Cheshire Fire Authority's proposal to increase its share of council tax by 1.99% in 2017/18.
- Proposals to review the duty systems at Birchwood, Macclesfield, Penketh and Wilmslow fire stations.
- Move from three hydraulic platforms to two across the Service.
- Introduce an additional fire engine at Crewe and Ellesmere Port fire stations, staffed during weekdays.
- Rolling out the pilot programme to respond to cardiac arrests alongside North West Ambulance Service.
- Delivering 'Safe and Well' visits to 40,000 households to provide health information as well as fire safety advice.
- Developing a new policy to reduce the number of attendances to false alarms caused by automatic fire alarm systems.
- Promoting the need to install sprinkler systems in new schools.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The policy implications of the review relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **None**

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	8 November 2016
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	Counterfeit/Illicit Goods & Trading Standards
WARDS:	Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report identifies the issues related to counterfeit/illicit goods and illustrates the work of Trading Standards when dealing with criminality across Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 What are counterfeit and illicit goods?

3.1.1 Counterfeit (Fake, Blag, Snide) Goods

Criminal intellectual property offences tend to relate to the sale, production, possession or distribution of 'counterfeit' (fake) goods that bear an unauthorised registered trade mark. Or the 'piracy' of artistic works including films, music, etc., including copying, distribution and importation of DVD's, video games and CD's.

Counterfeit goods invariably are of a poorer quality to the genuine items as they are not subject to rigorous safety tests and quality controls. In turn this can lead to safety issues for the consumer, e.g:

- hair straighteners can overheat – welding the hair together, resulting in permanent scarring of the scalp
- vodka can be produced with industrial grade alcohol (e.g. screen wash) containing high levels of methanol or i-propanol - which can lead to blindness and induced coma

Those breaching the legislation can expect penalties ranging from low level fines, right up to ten year custodial sentences, for Trade Mark offences. Furthermore, if Money Laundering can be proved the offenders can expect sentences up to 14 years in prison and under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 the assets of the criminal can be seized and forfeited.

3.1.2 Illicit (Smuggled) Goods

Illicit tobacco refers to products which have been imported into the UK illegally and thereby have breached taxation legislation, i.e. the appropriate duties haven't been paid by the importer or seller.

Whilst taxation enforcement issues fall to HMRC, the labelling of illicit tobacco invariably fails to comply with legislation enforced by Trading Standards. Whilst the agencies will work in partnership on larger cases the majority of investigations so far in Halton have related to relatively low volume suppliers and so have been dealt with by Trading Standards alone. Sellers of illicit tobacco often diversify into selling counterfeit goods including tobacco.

3.2 Legislative Duty to Enforce

To combat the trade in counterfeit (fake) goods the legislature in Europe and in the UK have over the years developed a range of legislation to protect the wellbeing of residents and the legitimate businesses that provide economic growth and employment across the Euro Zone, the UK and Halton.

Much of the relevant UK legislation is driven by EU Directives, which provide a 'duty to enforce' for Trading Standards Officers.

3.3 Who are the victims?

The market for counterfeit goods exists because some consumers perceive it as a victimless crime - a cheap way of having the goods they want without harm to anybody other than wealthy brands. The truth of the matter is that consumers have been injured by unsafe counterfeit products and retailers have lost trade to the counterfeiters.

3.3.1 Consumer Victims

Consumer's either knowingly, or unwittingly, purchase counterfeit goods. Those who do so knowingly, either foolishly accept the safety risks associated with unsafe products or they are unaware of the risks they are taking. Trading Standards seize opportunities to raise awareness of counterfeit goods through the local press and regional press; via press releases; initiatives – counterfeits in the workplace, poster campaign targeting workplaces, doctors surgeries and council buildings; and our own internal iCAN messaging service.

Whilst Halton has not had any reports of serious injury from counterfeit products, colleagues elsewhere in the country have been involved in cases where a thirteen year old girl was permanently scarred due to

counterfeit GHD hair straighteners, and where a family was left homeless because their counterfeit iPhone charger exploded during the night.

3.3.2 Business Victims

The growth of the internet may have forced some of the 'big' retail giants to transform their business models into 'bricks and clicks', however, for the smaller high street entrepreneurs it has been a difficult ride with less opportunity to change their business models. Local businesses in Halton will have been affected not only by consumer switch to the internet, but also by the growth of individuals involved in the sale of counterfeit goods from their own homes to local people.

From an economic perspective every sale of a counterfeit product on Facebook is a potential lost sale for a local shop owner, whether that be fashion wear, electrical products, cosmetics, handbags, alcohol and tobacco.

3.4 Who are the Counterfeiters?

Essentially there is a three tier system in place: local criminals, regional criminals; and serious organised crime groups (SOCG) (UK/International).

3.4.1 Local Criminals

Historically counterfeit/illicit goods have been sold via local car boot sales, markets and the 'spiv' down the local pub. More recently with the growth of the internet, auction sites like ebay became the counterfeiters selling medium.

The last five years has seen an exponential growth in the sale of counterfeit/illicit goods via Social Networking Sites, such as Facebook and Shpock. Providing the opportunity for criminals to not only sell from the comfort of their own home, but to have access to a wider market through their customer's Facebook friends.

In December 2013 Warrington & Halton Trading Standards carried out an audit of Facebook accounts operating within the Boroughs, targeting specifically Facebook buy and sell groups and their members, or individuals involved in the sale of counterfeit goods. The audit identified:

- 32 buy and sell sites (not an exhaustive list)
- 26 individuals selling counterfeit goods (via the buy and sell sites only) – including GHD's, cosmetics, perfumes, clothing and illicit tobacco and cigarettes.
- Four accounts selling only illicit tobacco.
- One account was involved in organising potentially illegal poker nights.

- Another account appeared to be involved in illegal money lending.

Another audit specifically for Halton is scheduled for 2016, although the level of intelligence we are receiving suggests that such activity by Halton residents has not declined.

It is estimated the average Facebook account seller generally has a weekly revenue in the region of £500-£2,000, equating to an annual revenue of between £26,000-£104,000. Therefore, the potential annual revenue of the sellers identified in the Audit across the two Boroughs would be in the region of £676,000 - £2.7m. These figures must have an impact on the businesses and income of legitimate local traders.

3.4.2 Regional Criminals

Some local criminals obtain their counterfeit goods via the internet from overseas traders predominantly based in China, however, the majority of sellers purchase them from the numerous warehouses located in Cheetham Hill, Manchester.

Some 'entrepreneurial' local criminals have developed into 'Facebook Super Account' users, not content with supplying their close friends and family they also operate mail order and deliveries, throughout the UK and Halton respectively.

Some of the criminals involved at this level ultimately sell their manufactured wares to local criminals and some will have links to local, national and international SOCG's.

3.4.3 SOCG

Counterfeit goods sold in the many warehouses in Cheetham Hill, which are eventually sold on the streets of Halton, may have direct links to SOCG's, both in the UK and overseas. Interpol have established a clear link between the trade in counterfeit/illicit goods and SOCG. This shift in commodities from drugs to counterfeit goods is driven by lesser sentences and a greater profit ratio.

Cutting off the demand at a local level for these goods will have a direct impact on the criminality of the SOCG's.

What's happening in Halton?

3.5 Halton Trading Standards Role

The Service takes a proactive and reactive role in the enforcement of counterfeit/illicit goods across the Borough.

Proactively the service will initiate project work to address the latest trends in criminality, based upon research and/or intelligence. The Service has an eCrime specialist who polices the local internet and social networking sites. Furthermore, the Service is actively engaged in developing partnerships with Cheshire Constabulary and provides assistance during operations for Police matters where counterfeit goods may be uncovered.

Reactively, the Service will follow up complaints and intelligence received in relation to criminals involved in the sale of counterfeit/illicit goods, with a zero tolerance approach taken towards those involved in the sale of tobacco and alcohol products.

3.5.1 Recent Cases

Roger Bailey:

On 14th July 2016, a male from Widnes was found guilty of five offences breaching the Tobacco Products (Manufacture, Presentation and Sale) (Safety) Regulations 2002. As part of a joint operation in February 2016 involving Cheshire Police and Halton Trading Standards, the individual was caught in possession of tobacco products that did not comply with the aforementioned legislation. The Court ordered the defendant to pay a fine and costs totalling £775. In sentencing the court was sympathetic to the health issues of the defendant.

In addition a Proceeds of Crime application was made based upon the perceived benefit of £4,386 and the defendant was ordered to pay a confiscation order calculated on the cash seized during the operation of £750. Also the Court ordered the forfeiture of the defendant's iPhone 6 and destruction of the tobacco seized.

Ian Baldwin:

On the 9th August 2016 a 50 year old Runcorn man was sentenced at Runcorn Magistrate's Court after pleading guilty to 21 offences relating to counterfeit and illicit alcohol and tobacco seized last December from his taxi, his personal vehicle and a storage unit.

The defendant, who was working as a taxi driver in Chester, was stopped in his taxi just after leaving his home address in Runcorn during a joint operation with Halton Trading Standards and Cheshire Police. The haul of illicit hand rolling tobacco and cigarettes along with 26 litres of counterfeit Vodka and 108 bottles of illicit wine (that were not marked with traceability information) had a street value of over £1700.

The taxi was also seized by the Police because it was being used to facilitate crime, along with £790 in cash and three mobile phones.

The prosecution was taken by Halton Trading Standards (for illicit and counterfeit products) and Halton Environmental Health (for food safety and food labelling issues).

The Vodka was analysed and found to be unfit for human consumption and unsafe because it contained i-Propanol and i-Butanol. i-Propanol is a chemical that's commonly found in rubbing alcohol, hand sanitizers, and certain cleaning products and poisoning usually causes: stomach pain; confusion; dizziness; slowed breathing and can lead to a coma. i-Butanol is a chemical that is used in paint solvents, varnish removers and ink, and poisoning can cause irritation to eyes, skin & throat; headache and drowsiness.

Sentencing the defendant to 6 months and 12 weeks custody (to run concurrently, both suspended for 2 years) and a 20 day Community Requirement plus ordering that he pay £1000 in costs and an £80 victim surcharge, the Court commented that as a taxi-driver he had been in a position of trust when he was selling bottles of Vodka that had been contaminated, which was a public health issue. The Court granted an application for the forfeiture of all goods and cash seized including the taxi which the defendant had valued at £26,000.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Children and young people in Halton are at risk of receiving counterfeit goods which may pose detrimental to their health. For Halton smoking continues to have a significant impact on the morbidity and mortality rates and most young smokers claimed to have started smoking at the ages of 13-14, 38% were 12 or under when they first started smoking.

In 2015 31% of respondents aged 14-17 years in Halton who smoke (Trading Standards North West survey) reported they had bought cigarettes with health warnings in different languages i.e. illicit cigarettes.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Since May 2015 Trading Standards have seized, or had forfeited: 25,561 cigarettes; 3.4 kg of tobacco; 69 other items; £2,140 in cash; two vehicles (including a Taxi cab); and 5 mobile phones. The value of items seized is in excess of £22k, plus the vehicles at £27k.

It should be noted the seizures from the individuals involved represents only a snapshot in time in relation to their supply of illicit/counterfeit goods – sellers tend to operate supply to order business models and therefore the days of big seizures have gone. The apprehension and prosecution of these individuals has removed them from the supply chain and sent out a clear deterrent to other criminals.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The health implications associated with traders who deal in counterfeit/illicit tobacco should be noted and according to www.ash.org nationally:

- two thirds of smokers start before age 18 and of those who try smoking, between a third and a half will become regular smokers.
- half of all regular cigarette smokers will eventually be killed by their addiction.
- annually around 100,000 smokers in the UK die from smoking related causes.
- smoking accounts for: a third of respiratory deaths, a quarter of cancer deaths, and a seventh of cardiovascular disease deaths.

Further statistical information highlights the issues from a local perspective for Halton residents:

- smoking continues to have a significant impact on the morbidity and mortality rates.

6.4 A Safer Halton

See 6.3

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None – the report is for information only

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	8 November 2016
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	White Ribbon Campaign
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members of the Board on the current scheme and to outline the process for the Council to seek corporate status for the Borough.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) The Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Every year three million women and girls experience rape, domestic violence, forced marriage, stalking, sexual exploitation and trafficking, female genital mutilation (FGM) or honour crimes in the UK. There are clear connections between violence against women and social problems such as child poverty, social exclusion and homelessness and the vast majority of violence against women is perpetrated by men.
- 3.2 More specifically, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence are also significant problems at a national and local level. Whilst there is significant partnership working ongoing to target domestic abuse and violence against women, such as the Specialist Domestic Violence Court, third party reporting and early intervention work with families, clearly there remains a need to raise further awareness of the issues associated with domestic abuse and violence against women and girls.
- 3.3 The principles of the award are that local authorities should express a commitment to involving men in anti-Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and produce a preliminary action plan on how this commitment will be achieved.

The action plan should be aimed at reducing incidents of violence against women such as discrimination, harassment or victimisation and fostering good community relations. It should also have a specific White Ribbon emphasis of increasing male participation in anti-VAW events and strategies as well as raising awareness and the profile of these issues amongst men.

- 3.4 The White Ribbon Campaign (WRC) team will work with the authority on the development of an action plan, providing feedback and suggestions as necessary. The authority should appoint a senior individual to act as a liaison point with the WRC and to oversee implementation. It is suggested that the senior, nominated officer for Halton is the Council's Community Safety Manager, supported by the local Domestic Abuse Coordinator.

4.0 WHITE RIBBON PLEDGE ACTION PLAN

- 4.1 The action plan will need to set out how we will:

- Involve and educate men and boys in an anti-VAWG strategy and encourage men and boys to sign the WRC pledge “never to commit, condone, or remain silent about men's violence against women in all its forms.”
- Identify White Ribbon ‘ambassadors’ within the Council and partner organisations.
- Raise awareness and provide training on VAWG within the Council, incorporating the VAWG message into Council informational and promotional materials where appropriate.
- Deliver events to promote the Council's anti-VAWG commitment, by organising and supporting local activities to assert the unacceptability of VAWG. Examples include:
 - White Ribbon's “These heels are made for walking” and “These hands are not for hurting!” events, demonstrating solidarity with anti-VAW
 - campaigns as well as work with sports teams or music venues
 - Football, rugby and other sporting events to raise awareness with young
 - People in innovative ways.
- Involve the local community in our WR campaign through a variety of venues and facilities including Libraries, Schools, Sport

clubs, gyms, Social Landlords etc. and by encouraging other organisations and clubs to sign up for the White Ribbon award and sponsor special events e.g. White Ribbon Cup tournament.

- Involve local businesses as partners with substantial resources and contacts through which anti-VAWG can be promoted.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The policy implications of the review relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are limited financial implications in achieving White Ribbon status. There is an annual cost of £400 for achieving and maintaining the award, which can be met from within existing Council and partnership budgets.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

7.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

7.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

7.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None at present.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

10.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Safer Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 8 November 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Environment

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety

SUBJECT: Mischief Night and Bonfire Night

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To receive a verbal update on the activities and initiatives delivered to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour and unauthorised fires on mischief night and in the period up to bonfire night.

2. RECOMMENDATION: That the Policy & Performance Board receive and comment upon the verbal update.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Each year, the Safer Halton Partnership delivers a number of activities to reduce incidents of unauthorised bonfires and other forms of anti-social behaviour during the period covering 'Mischief Night' and 'Bonfire Night'. This includes preventative measures, diversionary activity and the 'Bonfire Removal Initiative' which sets out to improve community safety by removing unauthorised and uncontrolled bonfires before they are ignited, and which has been successfully operating in Halton since 1999. As part of the Partnership's efforts to reduce environmental nuisance and anti-social behaviour during this period, education and community safety messages are delivered across the borough, and information is directly delivered to households in known 'hot spot' areas.
- 3.2 Members will receive a verbal update on the activities and initiatives delivered in 2016, together with an outline of their impact.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5. OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Financial and resources implications will be included in the verbal report presented to Members at the Board meeting.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

No direct impact

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

No direct impact

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Reducing the risk of nuisance, crime and harm potentially associated with anti-social behaviour and unauthorised bonfires shall have an overall beneficial effect on wellbeing.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Bonfire Removal Initiative and other preventative measures contribute towards the Council's strategy for improving environmental standards and reducing environmental crime. This will help improve public safety and have a positive impact upon the Safer Halton Priority.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The Bonfire Removal Initiative and other preventative measures will contribute towards the 'Cleaner, Greener, Safer' agenda and help to protect public open spaces, keeping them safe and clear of debris and fires.

7. RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 If initiatives were not put in place the risks of harm to the public and damage to the local environment would be significantly increased.

7.2 All Partner organisations are responsible for their risk assessments and briefings. The Community safety Team and Police will carry out joint briefings which include full risk assessments.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 There are no equality or diversity issues as a result of this report.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers within the meaning of the Act.