

The RSAG are currently monitoring high profile individuals (who have come to their attention in Durham city or otherwise) on the meetings matrix. All individuals are discussed with case workers and the matrix updated. The Winter Strategy re Night shelters provision etc will run differently this year due to the Covid19 Pandemic and the proximity of beds in one room. Facilities that have been used in the past especially around females will not be compatible due to the multi-use of the venue. It has been suggested that the "Everyone In" Government Initiative will again be adopted allowing vulnerable people the use of Hotels etc again, but funding will need to be identified. This will be taken forward by Housing Solutions once government guidance has been received.

DCC wardens continue to provide a high-profile presence in the City and signpost individuals to support if they are willing to accept it. At the October meeting the group discussed several high complex individuals who have been prioritised by the group due to their reluctance to engage and with the weather getting colder, its feared that their situations may become more urgent.

How the Night Shelter would open

The government have released guidance for Night Shelters, (I've put a link further down if you're interested.)

There are a few adjustments that Durham Winter Night Shelter will have to make in order to open, and partners are working on being able to do that (more details below), however one of the requirements is that local authorities give the project permission to be able to open.

This has been made particularly urgent as partners have a bid application with Kier (the building company for the council housing) who would like to support it, but they need confirmation that it can be open before they can accept that. They would like to announce as soon as possible, and before the new guidance they would have moved ahead.

Government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-provision-of-night-shelters>

On top of this, the DCC funding bid will provide the project with the ability to erect temporary sleeping pods within the halls that we're using, minimising airborne transmission. These pods will act as small rooms, meaning residents can keep guest separate at all times, unlike the usual dormitory style night shelters. Here's a photo which is similar to what the project is aiming for, apart from they would have a fabric roof, and they would be separated (or the entrances would face in opposite directions).



Following is some more specific details. The project can have a fuller risk assessment to you in due course.

- The shelter would run in a fixed venue in Durham City Centre, instead of rotating each week as we did previously. We have two options available to us (both church buildings) and we are in the final stages of choosing between them.

As we would be the sole user of the space, we could ensure cleanliness and minimise contamination.

- DCC would be able to provide masks, hand sanitiser and full cleaning in-between each night that they are open.
- DCC would allocate a toilet cubical to each guest and ensure that no cross-contamination happens by supervising guests to the cubicles.
- As with previous years the shelter would only open if the temperature drops to freezing or below. This amounted to roughly 20 nights last year but is entirely weather dependent. This would be adjustable if you would like it to be so.
- They would open based on referrals from Local Authorities. If Parish Council partners (or another organisation) makes us aware that there are individuals who will be on the streets, who would access our Night Shelter, and it is cold, we would then open to those who have been referred. Therefore, it is not in our current plans to open 'to the public' or to advertise when we are open, such that we are not attracting people into the city centre. We would have volunteers 'on hold' for any given night, awaiting the option that we could be open.
- Their aim would be to provide emergency accommodation for any individuals you feel need it, up to a maximum of 6 guests.
- If for any reason partners ask that we do not house an individual, we will not do so.
- In short, we would be there for any last-minute emergency cases.
- If you agree to us being able to open, but then we realise that there is not a need (there are very few rough sleepers), you can ask us to cease opening and we will at any point.
- We recognise the amazing work that the council has been doing to house individuals, and we want to join with these efforts. Therefore, we would work alongside yourselves to direct individuals to more permanent housing solutions wherever possible.

Rear of British Heart Foundation on North Road

This area was previously frequented by rough sleepers and others on an almost daily basis. However, the British Heart Foundation have now made improvements to the area by fitting steel shutters over a previously open garage area with the intention of making a secure storage area for themselves. This has also massively reduced the number of individuals attending the area who no longer have access to shelter.



Christchurch building on Claypath

This building remains clear and secure with no evidence of rough sleeping or drug and alcohol use. This building has been a historical problem area as it is directly across the road from the old needle exchange.

Hopper House – Top of North Road – Old Social Services building



Although this building is now derelict there are fewer problems here with individuals gathering which has been assisted by the removal of the public benches at the top of North road.

Elvet Bridge Parking problems

Police Colleagues are experiencing issues with vehicles driving on, and parking on, Elvet Bridge. From speaking with the new Neighbourhood Inspector (Dave Turner - david.turner@durham.pnn.police.uk) and members of the team this has always been an issue, however the closure of the main bridge appears to have compounded the problem.



The Neighbourhood Police Team will continue to speak to drivers when seen and inform them they should not be using the route which is happening more often, some vehicles are also being left unattended. It is anticipated that this problem will continue in the run up to Christmas if not addressed.

DCC Wardens have contacted the Parking & Transport Infrastructure Team to ask if any assistance could be provided.

DCC Traffic & Parking Officers will continue working until 8pm on an evening with ongoing targeted enforcement to be carried out on the bridge as late as possible, this has helped alleviate the issue in the past.

In addition, DCC are monitoring a camera that has been up and running for some time now at the top of Old Elvet Bridge, which monitors vehicles wrongfully accessing the pedestrian zone outside of the prescribed hours. Obviously, as this is a moving traffic restriction, these contraventions will be sent to Durham Parking to take forward with the motorist and possibly issue an FPN.

DCC Wardens attend the area daily to educate any motorists they found parking incorrectly

St Margaret's Church – Durham City



Reports received by the Durham City Parish Council from local residents that people are accessing the more secluded areas of the church and using drugs. DCC Wardens continue to patrol the site on an almost daily basis and since a large group of youths were interrupted one evening and moved on, the area has been relatively quiet with little issues. Church staff have been spoken to and made aware of patrols when wardens are able to just to provide visible reassurance that patrols are continuing

Bonfire Strategy 2020

The Bonfire strategy overall was successful where there were a few minor issues with badly behaved youths in and around Durham who threw missiles at wardens and fire crews. Worryingly enough this was a countywide trend and is being addressed by Police.

Some interesting stats you may find useful: -

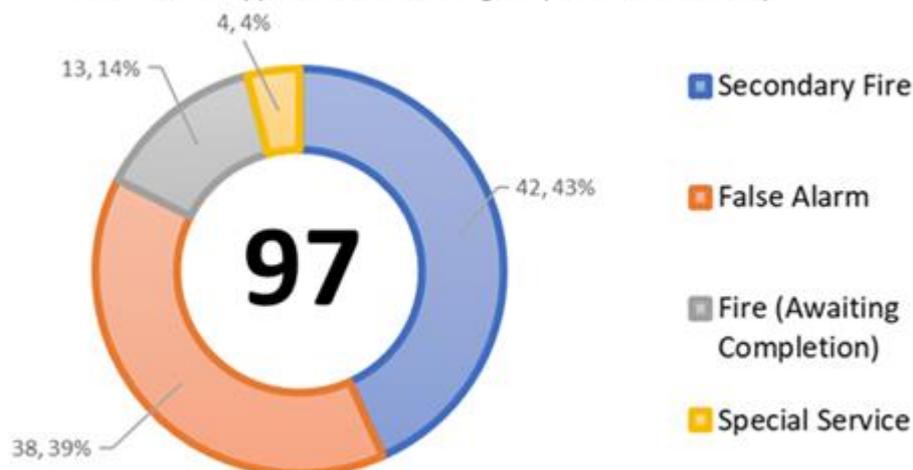
The call volumes were very high, being the highest call volumes since 2010. It follows that actual incident numbers were high too, the highest since 2013. Perhaps surprising as we are in a period of lockdown.

Call Attended?	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
No - not attended	67	120	42	67	53	43	52	64	56	83	51	95
Yes - IRS Incident	138	81	106	106	98	81	68	78	94	92	66	97
Over the border incidents	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	205	201	148	173	151	124	120	142	150	175	117	192

Types of Calls Attended	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Secondary Fire	72	36	48	54	64	46	32	39	50	47	29	42
False Alarm	58	35	47	41	28	31	28	31	33	37	31	38
Fire (Awaiting Completion)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Special Service	2	3	3	4	1	1	6	4	4	3	3	4
Primary Fire	5	7	7	7	4	3	2	4	5	4	3	0
Chimney Fire	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0

Station Ground	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Peterlee	11	7	9	12	21	12	3	9	7	13	5	20
High Handenhold	15	11	7	11	5	8	8	3	8	6	2	11
Darlington	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	1	8	4	5	5
Seaham	6	6	5	7	7	6	6	6	6	7	4	4
Newton Aycliffe	2	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	5	5	4	4
Sedgefield	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Consett	9	4	5	4	3	4	6	8	2	7	1	3
Durham	6	0	7	7	2	2	1	4	2	2	3	2
Wheatley Hill	5	4	1	2	7	0	0	6	4	0	3	2
Bishop Auckland	3	5	6	7	5	4	1	2	8	3	3	1
Crook	11	0	0	6	3	4	2	0	4	0	1	0
Spennymoor	2	0	4	0	7	1	1	2	0	4	1	0
Stanhope	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Barnard Castle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middleton-in-Tees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	77	43	55	61	68	49	34	43	55	51	32	55

Incident Types Bonfire Night (5th Nov 2020)



Keep in the Know Durham and Darlington is a free messaging service brought to you by Durham Constabulary where you decide when and how you are kept informed about the issues that matter to you.

Registration is quick, simple and completely free and if you change your mind, you can unsubscribe at any time.

To sign up visit the website www.keepintheknow.co.uk

Once you sign up you will get an automated email containing a link asking you to activate your account.

The messages will come through as an email, so once you are signed up you don't need to keep checking back for updates, you will receive them automatically.

The system allows you to choose who you wish to receive messages from and what subjects interest you, this means that the only messages you will get are the ones that are relevant to you. You can log into the system at any time and change your preferences so that you manage what you receive as your needs or interests change.

During the registration process you will have the opportunity to review and select additional licenced information providers who will, if authorised by you, be able to see your data and send you messages too.

Current licensed information providers who are also able to send messages out on the alert system are Action Fraud, Get Safe Online and Neighbourhood Watch. You simply choose on sign up if you want to opt in (or out) of receiving additional messages from these providers. If another licensed information provider comes on board, you will receive a message to notify you and you can choose if you would like to receive messages from them too. You can add or remove an information provider at any time.

Your personal details will be securely held under the provisions of the Data Protection Act (GDPR).

As a registered recipient you may also hear good news stories in your community, or we may appeal for information to help us identify suspected or wanted criminals or suspect vehicles. If we are appealing for information, we may provide an officer's name and contact details so you can contact the officer directly, or if you choose to reply to the Keep In The Know message, we will ensure that the message is passed on to that officer.

Please note that Keep in The Know is not monitored 24/7 and is not for reporting crimes or incidents

You can report a crime by calling the non-emergency number 101 or in the case of an emergency dial 999

P.S.P.O (Public Space Protection Orders)

THE Durham City P.S.P.O is in place within the City with powers to remove alcohol being drank on the streets. This is invoked by wardens at every opportunity with no exceptions.

Bin issues reported at Crossgate, Durham

What I believe is an overzealous member of the public is constantly reporting bin issues at Crossgates, Durham. Namely bins presented



early on the carriageway, untidy bins, and bins not being removed after collection. I have visited the area several times and spoken to residents (mainly students) who have just moved back to Durham to give them verbal advice about correct bin management / storage which was well received. I have also ordered green boxes for those residents that did not have them. Wardens will continue to monitor this area



Cars Blocking the pavement on Hawthorn Terrace, Durham

I took the following report verbally from a member of the public in Durham city who lives at St Bedes Close, Neville's Cross.

She was complaining about cars parking on pavements in and around Hawthorn Terrace, Durham and blocking pedestrians from using them correctly. This has been passed to NCP Officers to patrol and enforce as they see fit.



coronavirus advice

National restrictions

- You must stay at home
- Only leave home for food, medical reasons, exercise, education or work
- You must work from home if you can
- Avoid travel unless essential
- Remember: wash hands, make space, cover face

For more information visit www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus

ASB Reported at Allergates

Parish Council have requested DCC wardens conduct patrols around Allergates, Durham due to complaints of noise and ASB while new students are settling in. Warden colleagues have undertaken some of these patrols and have not made me aware of any issues.

Reports of Bins not being emptied at Wanless Terrace, Durham

Residents have reported that their bins have not been emptied in Wanless Terrace. However, this is due to 2 factors; namely cars are parking inappropriately in the street and blocking bin crews from gaining access to bins. Plus, nearby building works is preventing bin lorry access. DCC refuse have been contacted and bins have now been emptied

ASB St Nicholas Church

Parish Council have requested DCC wardens conduct patrols around St Nicholas Church due to complaints of ASB. My colleagues have undertaken some of these patrols and have not made me aware of any issues.

Trade Waste Bin Issues at Claypath



I have tried to visit this restaurant several times during the day and the bins were out on the highway, but the restaurant was closed during the day, so I was unable to educate them about correct bin storage. Bin collection day was also Wednesday. I am sure ongoing enforcement was taken against this restaurant anyway by a former colleague.

I have already spoken to the shop further down Claypath who have promised to remove their bins after collection. I will arrange a revisit to Claypath at periodic intervals to check the bins have been stored correctly.

I have also passed this problem to a colleague who works late shifts (when the restaurant will be open) and he should address this and report back.

Problems with bins left on the street - Sutton street (Under the Viaduct)



I visited the likes of Sutton street under the arches and those students who have left articles on the street have received a firm polite knock asking them to remove their bins / boxes asap.

All students were present when I knocked at various addresses and all were receptive to my request so hopefully this has done the trick in the shortfall



Attached Community Safety Information

Please see the 9 attached documents which I have sourced from colleagues which may be of interest? Hope this is ok but if of no value please let me know and I will omit from the next report