

# SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES OUTCOMES



What role do councils play in creating places where people feel safe, feel engaged and understand the role of public services?



## ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

Adult social care services offer care and support to people who need it to be able to participate in their community, and work

with local communities to develop community-based support that helps people stay independent, safe and able to engage. They also provide connections to other services, especially the NHS but also local housing and community services.



## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Children's services play an important role in making children feel like part of the community and reducing anti-social behaviour. Education aims to create confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors. Children's services provide additional resources for the most vulnerable children such as those that are looked after, and focus on early intervention and

prevention. Youth services provide support and advice for young people aged 11-25 and contribute to young people feeling part of the communities. Youth Justice services seek to reduce the number of children and young people in the Criminal Justice System through support for timely and effective interventions which prevent further offending by addressing its underlying causes and improve life chances.



## CULTURE AND LEISURE

Culture and leisure services consistently find new ways to engage with everyone in the community, including the most vulnerable and socially isolated. This contributes to more resilient, responsible and safe communities, in part by providing diversionary activities.

Culture and leisure services lead on public events which bring together communities and offer intergenerational and family learning. They also offer anti-social behaviour programmes and help offenders re-enter society. Parks offer everyone the opportunity to exercise and enjoy being outdoors, safe from traffic and air pollution. At their core, culture and leisure services offer somewhere safe, often free, for everyone in the community to go.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Clean, safe and well-maintained communities foster a sense of pride among residents that lead to stronger and more resilient communities. Environmental services make the local environment feel more attractive

by cleaning litter up, removing fly-tipping and graffiti, waste management services, maintaining public spaces and dealing with public health nuisances. Good street lighting and well-maintained roads, cycle paths and pavements reduce falls and accidents. Consumer protection helps to protect citizens from scams and fraud.



## HOUSING

Well-designed and maintained housing encourages communities to interact and to access community facilities, promoting higher levels of community connectedness and a greater feeling of safety. Good housing can also reduce social isolation.

Giving opportunities for tenants/residents/community groups to influence decisions on local housing and improvements in local neighbourhoods can identify and resolve locally specific issues that affect people's feeling of safety in their local area. Offering good quality, low cost housing and housing advice/support can break the link to poverty in communities.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Safe and strong communities are built on a thriving and expanding economy which provides employment opportunities and supports key infrastructure and local services needed by communities. Economic development and planning services contribute to these outcomes by providing

services to encourage economic growth, a resilient infrastructure and a highly skilled workforce.

Social and economic inequalities create divisions. Inequality increases property crime and violent crime. People in less equal societies are less likely to trust each other, less likely to engage in social or civic participation, and less likely to say they're happy.