

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 13 SEPTEMBER 2016

ANNUAL WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to consider the Annual Update on developments in relation to Community Safety in Worcestershire.
2. The following people have been invited to attend:
 - Tracey Onslow, West Mercia Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Glyn Edwards, Head of Commissioning, West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner's Office
 - Claire Richardson, Commissioning Officer, West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner's Office
 - Superintendent Kevin Purcell, West Mercia Police
 - David Cookson, National Probation Service
 - Councillor Tony Miller, Police and Crime Panel Member for Worcestershire County Council (WCC)
 - Councillor John Smith, Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well Being, WCC
 - Frances Howie, Director of Public Health, WCC
 - Tim Rice, Health and Well Being Manager, WCC
 - Martin Lakeman, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Co-ordinator, WCC
 - Amanda Smith, Community Services Manager, Worcester City Council
 - Sheena Ramsey, Chair of South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
 - Linda Collis, Vice Chair of North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
 - Lorraine Preece, Chief Executive Officer, YSS Ltd
 - David Cookson, National Probation Service
 - Keith Barham, West Mercia Youth Offending Service
 - Mark Preece, Area Commander, Hereford & Worcester Fire And Rescue Service
 - Susannah Stennett, EOS Community Rehabilitation Company

Background:

3. This report sets out an overview of the activities that the Council has been and is engaged in relating to its community safety function. It confirms the statutory duties of both the Local Authority and the Director of Public Health (DoPH) relating to community safety and ways in which those duties are complied with and the assurance arrangements that are in place in this regard.

4. Worcestershire County Council (WCC) as a Responsible Authority has to comply with its duty under s.17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended), which requires each Authority to exercise its functions with due regard and to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and the misuse of drugs and alcohol and other substances and reduce reoffending.
5. This is a corporate responsibility for all Directorates, although the strategic co-ordination of community safety partnership working and corporate leadership sits with the DoPH in the new Directorate of Public Health (PH).
6. Section 30 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, gives the DoPH, responsibility for amongst other matters, their Local Authority's role in co-operating with the police, the probation service and the prison service to assess the risks posed by violent or sexual offenders. They should also work with local criminal justice partners and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) to promote safer communities.
7. WCC fulfils its s.17 duty in a number of ways across Directorates, through commissioning and operational activity and ensuring that policies reflect the duty.
8. A diagram showing the bodies engaged in community safety in Worcestershire and the links between partners is attached as appendix 1.
9. Set out below is an overview of some of the community safety related activities that have and are continuing to take place within WCC and with our key partnerships.
10. This is underpinned by a significant amount of strategic and partnership work, as well as carrying out operational functions that support the duty. The governance structures in place in Worcestershire and West Mercia are designed to operate as assurance systems for the work of WCC and the partnerships. These working arrangements have recently been refreshed through work by PH officers, but are kept under review in terms of efficiency and effectiveness.
11. The report outlines some of the key activities that WCC supports, with some outcomes from 2015/16, some current actions in 2016/17 and where relevant, some headline examples of crime information.

12. Worcestershire Safer Communities Board (SCB) and North and South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs):

In two-tier Local Authority areas such as Worcestershire, there is a requirement for a strategic oversight on County wide community safety issues and this is provided through the SCB. The SCB has membership from all of the Responsible Authorities and some additional key partners such as the voluntary sector. The Board carries out this **strategic function** and also oversees a number of sub-groups, charged with leading on a Worcestershire wide response to priority community safety issues. The SCB is co-ordinated and led by PH and the DoPH is the Chair.

It is important to recognise that CSPs are a statutory requirement at District Council level and their remit is to focus upon the analysis of local community safety issues and support strategic and specific operational approaches to help make local communities safer. They produce and deliver against annual action plans that are backed up by a strategic assessment. They receive funding from the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to support their work. PH officers represent the Council on both CSPs and fully engage and support delivery of their plans. This is a significant contribution by WCC to meeting its s.17 duty.

2015/16 Outcomes

- Annual reports received from the chairs/lead officers from the Forum against Domestic Abuse, the Integrated Offender Management Strategy Group, Substance Misuse Oversight group and Prevent Strategy Group on their activities and outcomes.
- Production of the annual Community Safety Agreement 2015/16.
- Monitoring of the annual CSA action plan.
- Commencement of joint business meetings between the chairs of the SCB, the Children's and Adults Safeguarding Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Commissioning and completion of an external peer review of the governance and operation of partnership working arrangements across Worcestershire and reporting back to the SCB with a series of recommendations.

2016/17 current activity

- Work continuing on the Peer Review outcomes with Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) considering specific recommendations.
- Community Safety Agreement to be completed after the Police and Crime Commissioners plans are published.
- SCB to become a signatory to a joint working protocol which is currently in place between the two Safeguarding Boards and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Finalising the Worcestershire Community Safety Information Sharing Protocol between statutory agencies.

Crime Data/monitoring: Information is provided as required in relation to specific reports from SCB sub groups. New standardised PCC scorecards will be utilised to monitor crime trends. Appendices 2 and 3 provide examples of the scorecards for the north and south Worcestershire CSP areas. These will increasingly become strategic working documents for all partners and specifically used by CSP analysts to consider crime data at tasking meetings.

13. West Mercia PCC and West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP):

PCC: WCC works closely with the PCC and his office and in particular continue to develop areas where the Council can co-commission and develop joint working approaches, current examples being the financial support for substance misuse, domestic abuse commissioning and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Council officers

support work with the PCC through the West Mercia Crime Reduction Board and regular contact and exchanges. The new PCC, John Campion, is currently consulting on his new Police and Crime Plan and WCC will respond accordingly.

PCP: The Council is responsible for the administration and support of the Panel and this is managed by officers from Legal and Democratic and Public Health team. It meets quarterly and sub groups are set up for reviewing the PCC's proposed annual precept and on an ad hoc basis for specific pieces of work.

2015/16

- Senior officer attendance and support at the West Mercia Criminal Justice Board and close co-operation with the PCC and the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan
- Work with the OPCC and CSPs to develop and introduce new West Mercia PPC Scorecards to standardise crime data and analysis across all CSP areas.
- Support for the PCP sub group scrutiny of the PCC budget and precept proposals.

2016/17

- PH analysts are working with counterparts in the Police and CSPs to improve data quality and share best practise.
- WCC responding to the PCC's consultation on the new Plan.
- Best practise training for Councillors in their PCP role has been organised and provided, including preparing for confirmatory hearings of the Chief Constable, the Deputy PCC and finance officer
- Officers are working with a Members sub group on the advertising, shortlisting and interviewing of independent PCP members.
- Officers are preparing an annual work plan which is to be agreed by the PCP and assists in its role of supporting, scrutinising and holding the PCC to account.

Crime data/monitoring: PCC scorecards to be modified and finalised to include the new PCC priorities.

14. Reducing reoffending:

The duty to support the reduction of reoffending primarily sits with the CSPs. Worcestershire IOM Strategy group oversees the Partnership work in this area and receives funding from the PCC to support activities to reduce offending and re-offending across the county. The group has received £40,700 to support activity and interventions around the 7 Pathways to Reducing Reoffending and £20,000 has been allocated to the two "One Day One Conversation" (ODOC) groups (£10,000 each area). The focus of the work is through the ODOC multi-agency meeting that considers individual offenders and tactical responses to reduce their risk of reoffending. This area of business is primarily led by the Police, probation agencies and the CSPs.

2015/16

2016/17

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work completed against IOM annual work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers supporting the updating of the IOM reducing reoffending strategy and action plan when the PCC Plan is launched. • Officers are working with the IOM team to develop approaches to working with Domestic Abuse Serial Perpetrators.
<p>Crime data/monitoring: A range of data is produced to monitor the IOM cohorts which is in turn reported to the OPCC. Work is underway with analysts to extend the level of data and analysis at a West Mercia wide level.</p>	

<p>15. Harm Reduction</p>	
<p>Safeguarding: Safeguarding is everyone's business and is well embedded in the practise and operation of the Council and is key in reducing crime, the risk of crime and protecting vulnerable adults and children. There is a strong systems cross over between safeguarding and community safety work in relation to vulnerable adults and children and young people, particularly in relation to reducing reoffending, reducing the risks relating to domestic abuse and sexual and the wider prevention approaches to keeping Worcestershire a safer place to live.</p>	
<p>2015/16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic meetings have been established between the chairs of the two safeguarding Boards, the Health and Wellbeing Board and SCB to foster closer working arrangements and to ensure that business plans and activities are more effectively aligned. • Establishment of the new Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub arrangements (Family Front Door) where WCC officers work side by side with the police and other agencies to manage safeguarding concerns. 	<p>2016/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific multi-agency triage system comprised of WCC, Health, Police, Probation, Women's Aid staff is now in place to in the Family Front Door consider all domestic abuse referrals at source and be able to instantly exchange data and information at that point and make decision making significantly more efficient and effective. • An agreement has been reached to utilise the Family Front Door for all Prevent related referrals for children and the procedures will shortly be launched internally. • Adult referrals to be triaged by Safeguarding officers.
<p>Crime Data/Monitoring: Data is provided in detail to the two Safeguarding Boards to monitor. An example of the impact of the new DA triage approach is from June 2016, where there</p>	

were 1136 domestic abuse incidents presented at multi agency triage. The contact and referral team only accepted 80 referrals and out of these, 52 were opened to Children's social care for assessment, giving the right response to children who are in need of protection and support. The remaining cases were appropriately signposted for other specialist or universal services.

Hate Crime:

Hate crime is not recorded as a specific crime type, but a marker is applied to offences. to enable analysis. It is primarily led by the CSPs through their Hate Incident Partnerships (HIP)

2015/16

- WCC officers contribute to Hate Incident Partnership meetings.

2016/17

- Support for the Police campaign on Hate Crime week commencing 8 October 2016. Supporting Fortis Living's event "Pride and Prejudice" event.
- Agreement has been reached with the CSPs that we will look to merge the two HIPs to create a Worcestershire wide partnership.
- PH officers liaising with the Police on the Commonly Recognised Information Picture (CRIP) used to inform their understanding of community tensions to see how this could be utilised by the HIPs.

Crime Data/Monitoring:

- In North Worcestershire Hate Crimes increased by 58% in in the two year period between 2013/14 and 2015/16 and in South Worcestershire, Hate Crimes increased by 103%.
- Race related hate crime accounted for 36.7% and 39 % respectively of reported incidents in 2015/16.

Post Brexit there has been an increase in reported Hate Crime, specifically Racial/Religious Hate Crime. Hate Crimes are reviewed on a daily basis and it is apparent that the volume of reports is now increasing too. Local Authorities and CSPs are working locally to try and reduce community tensions and are closely monitoring the situation

Prevent and radicalisation: The new duties placed on Local Authorities under the counter terrorism legislation have required the Council to review its previous approach to Prevent. This is an area of significant officer activity to ensure WCC complies with the new prevent duties.

A PH officer chairs the statutory Channel Panel which is a multi-agency group that considers voluntary referrals of children, young people and adults where there are

specific Prevent related safeguarding concerns about radicalisation or extremism.

A Worcestershire Prevent Strategy group has been re-constituted by WCC to ensure that Prevent is being effectively embedded across the area. The Group which is chaired by the Health and Wellbeing manager consists of the "Specified Authorities", to whom the Prevent duty applies. The Group will collectively reassure itself and other key agencies such as the SCB and the two Safeguarding Boards that the Specified Authorities are doing what they collectively need to do meet the Prevent duties. A short action plan is being finalised to that end and it will also incorporate some of the recommendations from the annual Police Special Branch Counter Terrorism Profile (CTLP) for Worcestershire, which is a restricted document.

There are a number of Prevent duties, the most significant being to ensure that the WCC workforce is fully aware of the Prevent duty and how to apply it where required. Other duties include a requirement that new WCC commissioned contractors ensure that their staff are appropriately briefed on Prevent and that other WCC policies such as the booking and use of WCC public buildings take account of Prevent to ensure they are not used for purposes of radicalisation and extremism.

The CTLP concludes that Worcestershire is considered to be a safe and low risk area in relation to risks of terror attacks but all parties must be vigilant and have polices and processes in place to ensure that risk is mitigated.

2015/16

- Rollout of Prevent awareness raising for education and adult learning front line staff and school governors, in line with Ofsted requirements.
- Reports to the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Board on progress implementing the Prevent duty
- WCC chairing and administration of the Channel Panel meetings.
- New WCC contract requirements are now compliant with the Prevent duty requirement for contractors to include the Prevent duty into their own roles as necessary.

2016/17

- WCC Senior Leadership Team is fully briefed on the Prevent duties and the agreed the establishment of an officer task and finish group to steer this work.
- Update reports on the Prevent duty to the Adults and the Childrens' Safeguarding Boards.
- Staff awareness raising events on radicalisation and extremism are being provided for WCC staff via the Home Office Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) briefings and Prevent eLearning packages.
- The Council is finalising its arrangements to receive Prevent referrals and make onward referrals to the Channel Panel where there are concerns about radicalisation or extremist views.
- Setting up of triage arrangements via the family Front Door and Adult Safeguarding team for referrals.
- Arrangements are to be made for the

	<p>Police and our PH officers to brief WCC Members on Prevent and the Channel arrangements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent briefing to take place with the Worcestershire Voices Board to assist the voluntary sectors response to prevent and dealing with any Channel referrals.
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16. Domestic abuse:

The Worcestershire Forum against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence has continued to work towards the prevention and reduction of both domestic abuse and sexual violence in all its forms.

2015/16

- In November 2015, Worcestershire as a county was awarded National White Ribbon Status, in recognition for our collective work in tackling and raising awareness of both domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- Completion of three Domestic Homicide Reviews with the reports published on the respective community safety websites CSPs. PH officers lead and co-ordinate these detailed reviews on behalf of the CSPs.
- DA Forum newsletters published.
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) development events delivered to staff across Worcestershire.

2016/17

- August 2016 saw the re-introduction of the Specialist Domestic Violence courts (SDVC) into Worcestershire.
- Conference for Magistrates around domestic abuse, a collaborative day between the courts, Forum, Police, District Judge, Witness Service, Women's Aid and survivors
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) arrangements are currently subject to a review.
- Three further DHR cases have been referred.
- Planning is underway with partners for the 16 days of action against DA in November/December 2016.
- In September 2016 the DA co-ordinator is organising a training event "Safeguarding Children, Preventing Homicide" for Family Front Door teams.
- A conference for Adult Social Care entitled "Safeguarding Victims, Preventing Homicide" is being arranged on the 2nd December. The event is a result of emerging issues that have been identified from Worcestershire Domestic Homicide Reviews and to raise awareness across the workforce.
- Work is under way to refresh the

	<p>current Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence strategy and plan and it will be developed in partnership with the Safeguarding Boards and Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forum has collaborated with the Children's Safeguarding Board on developing Healthy and Respectful relationships agenda, and a new toolkit for schools of recommended materials for young people is being made available. • Regular DA Forum Newsletter produced which sets out the activities and issues relating to DA, August edition attached (Appendix 4) • The DA service is being recommissioned with a new service due to be in place by November 2016.
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Crime data/monitoring:

There has been a 72% increase in the recording of domestic abuse across Worcestershire. The increases in reported crimes are mirrored in increased calls to the specialist helplines in Worcestershire. In respect of the domestic abuse helpline this is a 154% increase.

In MARAC 502 high risk cases have been discussed in 2015-16, a 56% increase on the previous year. These included 20.5% who were repeat victims and included 613 children in families. Repeat victims in Worcestershire are lower than the national average (25%). Work with the Adult Safeguarding Board has revealed that there have been 541 safeguarding concerns in the last 12 months with a domestic abuse indicator and 77% of these are with people over 50 years.

17. Sexual Violence/Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE):

NHS England, along with other partners, is the lead commissioner of health services for victims of sexual violence and rape, with Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) in England, being where the health care and therapeutic pathways and wider Sexual Assault services are provided. The national commissioning guidance states that "the provision of these services will be reliant on the development of effective co-commissioning relationships between NHS England, Public Health England, the Police, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local authorities." The requirement placed on NHSE is to ensure robust care pathways for victims and appropriate referral at a time of crisis; including psycho-social intervention that may be required at the time of presentation, and ongoing therapeutic support.

The SARC, based in Bransford Worcestershire, is the main centre in West Mercia and it currently operates under contract to G4S. 211 Worcestershire residents used the SARC service in the last year. Most were assaulted by an acquaintance with rape being the prevalent offence.

Currently NHSE is working with key partners on the recommissioning of the SARC, with the paediatric SARC arrangements already having been recently commissioned. There are ongoing discussions relating to the responsibilities of other agencies to jointly commission and support elements of the service pathway and NHSE are holding a major event in this regard in September 2016 which PH will attend.

Support for victims and survivors of sexual violence and rape is also provided by the voluntary sector and notably WRASAC in Worcestershire, who provide a range of services including Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) and a pilot Family ISVA programmes. WRASAC operate across Herefordshire and Worcestershire and their Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) are funded primarily by PCC grants.

The Children's Safeguarding Board has a CSE strategy and comprehensive action plan designed to take an overarching approach to tackling CSE. Significant progress has been made in meeting the CSE action plan outcomes. WCC is at the forefront of leading this work and the SCB and CSPs have actions in support of those objectives. The Family Front Door has developed a triage system whereby daily multi agency meetings assess CSE and missing young people cases and significant improvements in the service and communications with young people have taken place

2015/16

- CSE Action plans require SCB/CSPs to support specific activities.
- CSPs and District Councils joined the CSE Panel and are supporting local actions to target any CSE hotspots.

2016/17

- PH analysts are currently finalising a JSNA briefing on sexual violence which will be published shortly.
- The sexual health commissioned service is required to closely co-operate with the SARC service.
- Support for the Police campaign on "Stop Rape Now" in September and December 2016.

Crime data/Monitoring:

- In 2015 rape and other sexual offences accounted for 3% of all recorded crime across North Worcestershire and for 3.6% of all recorded crime across South Worcestershire.
- Rape offences increased by 142% in North Worcestershire, 206% in South Worcestershire, and 168% in total for the County from 2010/11 to 2015/16.
- The number of other sexual offences increased by 54% in North Worcestershire, 135% in South Worcestershire, and 90% in total for the County, from 2010/11 to 2015/16.
- Part of this increase can be attributed to changes in reporting and the impact of historical cases now being reported. On average there is a 40%/60% split between rape offences that are current (recorded within 28 days of being committed) and

those classified as non recent. For other sexual offences this proportion is 50%/50%.

- In North Worcestershire 5% of other sexual offences in 2015 had a cyber-crime marker, compared to 3% in South Worcestershire.
- In 2015 25% of sexual offences and rape in both North and South Worcestershire involved children aged 13 and under.

18. Drugs and alcohol:

There is currently an OSPB scrutiny exercise underway entitled 'Effectiveness of the Prevention and Recovery Drug and Alcohol Misuse Service', which commenced following an Adult Care and Wellbeing O&S Panel on 16 March 2016, to consider the drug treatment service commissioned by WCC.

Relating to community safety, the Council's commissioned service provider Swanswell has made significant improvements in positively supporting criminal justice outcomes and works very closely with the Police and probation services in relation to arrest, people in custody, treatment orders and requirements, working in prison and supporting the wider operational and strategic meetings as necessary.

Significant challenges lay ahead regarding the use of Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and the impact of new legislation on NPS will be monitored closely.

2015/16

- Health Chats feature a range of information about drug misuse, including signposting information to the local support services.
- Officer support for key partnerships - West Mercia Police Drug Strategy Alliance Group,

2016/17

- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding to improve the experience of service users who are subject to co-existing substance misuse and mental ill-health (commonly termed dual diagnosis).
- Public Health have developed a Twitter account and a Facebook page to provide information on drugs e.g. information on NPS targeted at festival goers.
- Support for the West Mercia Police campaign around NPS in November 2016.
- Development of Public Health processes as a formal consultee relating to licencing applications is under way, with a focus upon the impact of crime and disorder.
- Public Health is working in partnership with Worcester Business Improvement District and licensees in Worcester City to support responsible licencing schemes such as Best Bar

	None and Purple Flag.
Crime data/ Monitoring: Under consideration in the current OSPB scrutiny exercise.	

19. Funding and commissioning:

Set out below are the headline PH costs in relation to community safety related activity.

PH community safety related expenditure 2016/17 (rounded)

Staffing (3 posts)	£103,000pa (projected)
Alcohol and Substance misuse contract:	£4,020,000pa. plus £106,000 funded by West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner
Domestic Abuse contract:	£462,000pa under the current contract. £ 417,000pa from November 2016 (not including the IDVA contract)

Conclusion:

20. WCC continues to meet its own duties relating to community safety as far as it reasonably can and makes a significant contribution across Worcestershire and West Mercia through its leadership role and its commissioned services.

21. The new Directorate of Public Health and the DoPH will continue to ensure that systems assurance and rigour is embedded in the Council's responsibilities for community safety.

Purpose of the Meeting

22. The OSPB is asked to consider:

- (a) The content of the Annual Community Safety report;
- (b) Whether it wishes to make an comments to the Cabinet Member, WCC officers or partner agencies; and
- (c) Whether there are any issues which should be the subject of future scrutiny work.

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1: Diagram showing the bodies engaged in community safety in Worcestershire and the links between partners
- Appendix 2: Total Recorded Crime 2015/16: North Worcestershire
- Appendix 3: Total Recorded Crime 2015/16: South Worcestershire
- Appendix 4: Worcestershire Forum Against Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence Forum Newsletter August 2016

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board 7 July 2015

which are available on the Council's website at:

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/democratic-services/minutes-and-agendas.aspx>