

## Worcestershire County Council Community Safety overview

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

The Safer Communities Board (SCB) has **strategic** oversight of community safety in Worcestershire and oversees a number of sub-groups; the Worcestershire Forum against Domestic Abuse, the Worcestershire Prevent Strategy Group, the Worcestershire Reducing Offending Group and Worcestershire Substance Misuse Oversight Group. The SCB is co-ordinated and led by Public Health (PH) and the Director of Public Health (DoPH) is the Chair.

An annual plan with associated strategic actions is produced and monitored. Its priorities are reducing offending, harm reduction, domestic abuse and tackling drugs and alcohol

The North and South Worcestershire CSPs have the statutory community safety responsibilities at local level (including the responsibility for reducing re-offending) and a PH officer and the WCC cabinet member for Health and Well Being attend both CSP's.

#### 2018/19 Outcomes

- Annual reports received from the chairs/lead officers from the Forum against Domestic Abuse, the Reducing Offending Strategy Group, Substance Misuse Oversight Group and Prevent Strategy Group on their activities and outcomes.
- Monitoring of the annual CSA action plan and completion of actions.

#### 2019/20 current activity

- New Community Safety Agreement (2019/20) actions being monitored.
- Response completed to Government's consultation on a Public Health approach to Serious Violence
- PH leading a quick review of the Worcestershire Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG) structure review
- Community Safety Information sharing Protocol to be reviewed and restructured to meet broader requirements
- Consider, respond and as appropriate implement the recommendations in the PCC's strategic review on serious crime and vulnerability.
- PH assessing the design of a "performance" scorecard for SCB.

**Crime Data/monitoring:** Information is provided as required in relation to specific reports from SCB sub groups. Work to be undertaken to consolidate a SCB "performance" scorecard

**West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP):**

**PCC:** WCC works closely with the PCC and supports his Police and Crime Plan (Safer West Mercia) objectives. Council officers support work with the PCC primarily through the West Mercia Crime Reduction Board. The North and South Worcestershire CSPs receive funding for some activity from the PCC and have been requested, by him, to administer funding to other organisations.

**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. The Panel scrutinises and provides support for the work of the PCC.

**2018/19**

- PCP Scrutiny on the HMICFRS inspection report: PEEL Police effectiveness 2017
- Officers and the new PCP chair attended LGA workshops in preparation for developing new working arrangements for the PCP with regard to the transfer of fire and rescue responsibilities to the PCC (currently subject to Judicial Review).
- An Induction Programme created for members on their potential new responsibilities.
- The PCP has become a member of the new National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels, which will provide support and assistance to the PCP in carrying out its responsibilities.
- Joint commissioning between PH and the PCC of the DRIVE domestic abuse perpetrator programme.

**2019/20 activity**

- PCP consideration and comment on the PCC's annual report.
- PCP monitoring the ongoing process of dissolving elements of the alliance between Warwickshire and West Mercia
- Awaiting the outcome of the Judicial Review into taking over the responsibilities of the H&W Fire and Rescue Authority. PCP role, responsibilities and membership would change significantly with any change of governance.
- Supporting the PCP chair and attendance at the LGA annual PCP workshop and the annual PCP conference for Members.
- PH commented in detail on the PCC's draft Drugs Strategy.
- Joint work with the PCC and partners to consider and as appropriate implement the recommendations for the strategic review on serious crime and vulnerability.

**Crime data/monitoring:** Detailed quarterly reports and crime trend data and analysis presented to the PCP, plus ad hoc reports as requested. [PCP Quarterly report](#)

**Reducing reoffending:**

The duty to support the reduction of reoffending primarily sits with the CSPs. Worcestershire Reducing Offending Strategy Group oversees the Partnership work in this area and supports activities to reduce offending and re-offending across the county. The focus of the work is through the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme which is a multi-agency approach that considers individual offenders and tactical responses and support to help prevent and reduce their risk of reoffending.

<p><b>2018/19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Reducing Reoffending strategy for Worcestershire (a statutory requirement upon the CSPs) remains in early draft form.</li> <li>• Public Health, Children’s, Families and Communities, Adult Services and Worcestershire Regulatory Services now contribute to the county wide Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG).</li> </ul>	<p><b>2019/20 activity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The final draft strategy for Worcestershire to be developed for consultation.</li> <li>• PH are leading on the development of a new structure for the county wide Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG).</li> <li>• West Mercia level discussions taking place about reviewing/refreshing the partnership arrangements on reducing reoffending activity are also taking account of future changes in the Probation system.</li> <li>• An initial partnership work shop held by the Strategic Housing Partnership to review and develop the offender housing pathway.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Crime data/monitoring:</b>  The Worcestershire Reducing Offending Strategy Group receives performance information on a quarterly. Monitoring information focuses on the local Worcestershire IOM performance. Due to data quality issues within W Mercia Police there is a problem in comparing year-on-year outcomes.  In 2017/18 there were, on average, 66 individuals on the offender cohort, 18 of whom had committed further offences and 48 of whom were not known to have offended. Currently, the IOM cohort comprises of approximately 137 offenders of which 55% (75) are in the community and 25% (19) of this number are assessed as high risk.</p>	

**Harm Reduction** (incorporating Hate Crime, Safeguarding, Cyber - Crime, Modern Slavery/ Human Trafficking, Child Sexual Exploitation, Preventing Violent Extremism, Child Criminal Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage).

**Hate Crime:** Hate crime is not recorded as a specific crime type, but a marker is applied to offences to enable analysis. Oversight of Hate Crime is primarily led by the CSPs through their Hate Incident methodology (North Worcestershire Hate Incident Partnership and South Worcestershire Hate Crime Forum).

Hate Crimes in Worcestershire have reduced by 22% (758 – 587) and Hate Incidents reduced by 55% (89-37) between 2017/18 and 2018/19. West Mercia Police remain concerned that this reduction is indicative of under reporting.

**Child Criminal Exploitation:** A strategic group (GETSAFE) reporting to the Children's Safeguarding Board supports activities through its action plan. The group has

expanded its remit beyond child sexual exploitation, to consider other areas of criminal exploitation e.g. through County Lines, gangs and modern slavery. It is, itself, supported by an operational GETSAFE Group which delivers on the actions and which will support and direct activity around particularly difficult cases.

**Prevent Duty:** A Worcestershire Prevent Strategy group is led and chaired by WCC PH to ensure that Prevent is being effectively embedded across the County. The Group consists of the "Specified Authorities", to whom the Prevent duty applies. An action plan is maintained that draws upon recommendations from the annual Police Special Branch / Counter Terrorism Unit, Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) for West Mercia, which is a restricted document.

The 2019 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 policies and processes in place to ensure that risk is mitigated.

A WCC Public Health officer chairs the statutory Channel Panel which is a multi-agency group that considers referrals of children, young people and adults where there are specific, Prevent-related safeguarding concerns about radicalisation or extremism.

Redacted data from the Channel process is presented to Adults' and Children's Safeguarding Boards as well as to the Prevent Strategy Group and the SLT. Data on the number and nature of referrals into Channel is shared with the Prevent Strategy group as appropriate. Most referrals are from the Police.

The headline figures are:

2017/18 - 24 Channel referrals

2018/19 - 16 Channel referrals

**Domestic Abuse:** The Worcestershire Forum against Domestic Abuse, which is chaired and co-ordinated by PH has continued to work towards the prevention and reduction of domestic abuse in all its forms. The Board and its partners are very proactive in raising awareness of DA and supporting working arrangements to assist survivors and victims of DA. Comprehensive reports on DA are produced for the Forum and its partners. An annual action plan is monitored by the Forum. Crimes with a domestic abuse marker increased by 15% from 6142 in 2017/18 to 7055 (+913) in 2018/19. In April 2019, the Drive domestic abuse perpetrator programme (jointly commissioned by PH and the PCC), was managing 71 offenders of whom 17 were actively engaging with case managers and completing behaviour change work.

### **Drugs and Alcohol:**

Worcestershire CC (with £106k support from the PCC) commissions the criminal justice element of the integrated substance misuse service in Worcestershire. This includes assessment and referral services in police cells and criminal courts, criminal justice pathways focussing on DIP, drug testing on Arrest and Drug Rehabilitation requirement (DRR) and Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR) services in liaison with National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company.

In the first three quarters of 2018/19 (available data) the service made 832 contacts with identified clients with 363 meaningful contacts 44% of service users experienced a meaningful contact.

The commissioned service plays an important role overall in reducing the risk and harm of substance misuse and the consequential impacts of crime reduction. PH chair

the Substance misuse oversight group which is a partnership working group focusing on alcohol and substance misuse.

In 2018/19 successful completion rates for alcohol, opiates and non-opiates remain higher than the national average. In addition, successful completions of those living with children also remain above the national average.

The arrests for offences where alcohol was tagged reduced from 3655 – 2593 in the eleven months Feb-Mar 2017/18-2018/19. This is a reduction of 29%. In the same period, arrests for possession of a controlled drug reduced from 755 to 602 – a 20% reduction. It should be noted that there may not be an observable, causal relationship between diversionary intervention and these crime figures.

**2018/19**

- S Worcestershire convened Hate Crime forum and established regular meetings
- SCB representative contributed to Hate Crime meetings on N and S Worcestershire.
- Reports on the Prevent duty delivered to Senior Leadership Team and to the Adults and the Children's Safeguarding Boards.
- PH Practitioner delivers Workshop Raising Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) training to School Safeguarding Leads
- 2018/19 Prevent Action Plan developed from CTLP and local issues
- Learning points from the review into Surrey County Council's Channel Panel used to audit and develop Worcestershire Channel Panel processes and structure.
- Mental Health support to Channel has been enhanced through three "fast-track" pathways
- The funding secured from the DCLG to develop sustainable networks with BME communities has commenced in July with the recruitment of specialist staff.
- The DRIVE project (working with perpetrators) commenced with a Governance Board meeting regularly and the successful commissioning of the provider. It is scheduled to be operational in August.
- Three Domestic Homicide reviews supported.

**2019/20 activity**

- PH commented in detail on the PCC's draft Drugs Strategy.
- PH are developing a Strategic Drugs Plan, on behalf of the Worcestershire Substance Misuse Oversight Group. This is aligned with the priorities outlined in the 2017 national Drugs Strategy
- Completion of a needs assessment on drugs and alcohol in Worcestershire (May 2019).
- PH have submitted a joint partnership funding bid to assist deliver health interventions to people who are rough sleeping and have substance misuse problems.
- New PH commissioned domestic abuse training programme has been launched to positive feedback.
- DA Forum and Strategic Housing Partnership to respond to Government consultation on the provision of accommodation for victims of DA and their families.
- Reports on the Prevent duty scheduled for SLT and the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards.
- The 2019/20 Prevent Action Plan has been developed from the West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit CTLP, the Home Office Prevent Toolkit and knowledge of local issues.
- Monitor further recommendations from Parsons Green Inquiry (into the Surrey County Council Channel Panel) and the "Dovetail" Channel procedural changes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of successful campaigns have been delivered throughout the year including "Worried" around Clare's Law, Coercive control and our White Ribbon campaign.</li> <li>• 12 month pilots of the Blue Light project for resistant drinkers commenced in Worcester and Redditch.</li> <li>• The memorandum of understanding between Adult Mental Health services and Substance misuse service is being reviewed to ensure it is reflective of the PHE publication, 'Better care for people with co-occurring mental health and alcohol/drug use conditions'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/20 Community Safety Agreement to be agreed and actioned.</li> <li>• Joint work with the PCC and partners to consider and as appropriate implement the recommendations for the strategic review on serious crime and vulnerability.</li> <li>• Report from SCB to PEG on community cohesion</li> <li>• Consider and respond to the Government consultation on accommodation based Domestic Abuse support</li> <li>• Respond to, and support, recommendations arising from PCC's Conference on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.</li> <li>• Launch of GETSAFE initiative (June 2019)</li> </ul>
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### Funding and commissioning:

Set out below are the headline PH costs in relation to the specific Community Safety related activity. This meets the requirements of the 2019/20 Local Authority regulations on the use of the Public Health Ring Fenced Grant. Other Directorates will incur costs that could be aligned to meeting the Councils community safety function.

PH community safety related expenditure 2018/19 and projected for 2019/20

Staffing (staffing equivalent 3 FTE, including strategic and operational levels posts)	2019/2020 budget £154,076
Alcohol and Substance misuse contract:	2019/20 budget £3,798,000 plus £106,000 funded by West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner
Domestic Abuse contract:	2019/2020 budget £417,000

Public Health Ring Fenced Grant is provided to support the Trading Standards work of Worcestershire Regulatory Services. Their work supports crime prevention, targeting fraud and protecting vulnerable people.

2019/2020 budget £250,000