

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Wednesday, 24 July 2019, 10.00 am
County Hall, Worcester

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

This document can be provided in alternative formats such as Large Print, an audio recording or Braille; it can also be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment. Please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing democraticservices@worcestershire.gov.uk

DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have
a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests** **OR**
relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Wednesday, 24 July 2019, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

Membership

Councillors:

Mr C J Bloore (Chairman), Mrs E A Eyre (Vice Chairman), Mr A A J Adams, Mrs J A Brunner, Mr A D Kent, Mrs F M Oborski, Mr P A Tuthill and Mrs R Vale

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Bryan Allbut (Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Vacancy (Secondary)

Agenda

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2	Declaration of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in writing or by e-mail indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this 23 July 2019). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (previously circulated)	
5	Annual Worcestershire County Council Community Safety Report	1 - 14
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Agenda produced and published by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Alyson Grice (01905 844962)/Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 24 JULY 2019

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; and
 - consider the briefing on the new GET SAFE support and protection approach to child criminal exploitation.
2. Key partners involved in community safety have been invited to attend this meeting.

Background and Statutory Duties

2. Appendix 1 to this Report sets out an overview of the activities that the Council has been and is engaged in relating to its community safety function.
3. Worcestershire County Council (WCC) as a Responsible Authority must 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.
4. This is a corporate responsibility for **all** WCC Directorates, although the strategic co-ordination of community safety partnership working and corporate leadership sits with the Director of Public Health (DoPH).
5. 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.
6. WCC fulfils its s.17 duty in several ways across its Directorates, through commissioning, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, strategic and policy development, operational activity (including social services responsibilities) and effective partnership engagement and leadership. There are many aspects of the Councils work that fall under s.17 but won't necessarily be badged as community safety and are business as usual and reported on and managed by the Directorates. Our community safety role is not a simple identifiable linear function, but a complex arrangement of cross cutting areas of work (internally and externally) with their own governance arrangements.

7. The North and South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) have statutory responsibilities to manage and co-ordinate community safety activity in their areas and the PCC has significant statutory and commissioning responsibilities which support his West Mercia Plan. The CSPs and the PCC are required to take full account of each other's plans and co-operate and WCC is heavily involved in supporting those arrangements at all levels. The Council is engaged in this work at officer and Cabinet Member level.

8. In two tier Local Government there is a requirement for a group to take strategic oversight of community safety matters, although it does not have the same operational duties that are required of CSP's. The Safer Communities Board, which fulfils that requirement, produces an annual [Community Safety Agreement 2018/19](#) and action plan and has oversight of several priority areas and receives reports from groups on domestic abuse, substance misuse, reducing offending and Prevent (violent extremism). This is led by Public Health and makes a significant contribution to meeting the community safety duty.

9. A common theme from these documents and evidence-based research, is that there must be a focus on trying to prevent individuals developing behaviours and lifestyles that can lead to criminality. This will be a focus through the whole life course, but with a strong preventative role in early years, when children and young people are vulnerable to negative influences. This is where the Council has a strong role to play through its Public Health approach and early help in children's services (and Children's First in future).

11. Appendix C and D in the attached Community Safety Agreement sets out the main governance arrangements for community safety in Worcestershire. Underpinning this structure there are other issue specific sub groups and increasingly the use of task and finish groups to manage one off issues or topics. There is ongoing consideration as to how the governance system operates, to enable both WCC and its partners fulfil their statutory duties at a time when resources are under severe pressure.

Current and future focus

12. Nationally and locally the nature of crime has been changing, although this is very dynamic and can be cyclical in nature and vary geographically. This is for instance reflected in the increase some violent crime, which often has a consequential impact upon more vulnerable victims. Specific and emerging challenges such as County Lines drug dealing, child criminal exploitation, modern slavery and trafficking and serious and organised crime are evident to varying degrees in Worcestershire and "Problem Profiles" produced by West Mercia Police provide helpful summaries of how and where some of this activity is taking place. There is a strong drive by the Government to tackle these issues and this is reflected in the recent Government guidance and consultations and a key PCC strategic review that are set out below. These all focus on the challenges and risks of violence and exploitation of vulnerable people, particularly children, highlighting where actions are required, particularly by Local Authorities. It also illustrates the high priority that the Government is placing on non-criminal justice agency interventions as being part of the solution and that it is not possible to simply arrest our way out of crime.

- [HM Govt Serious Violence Strategy](#) (Home Office April 2018)

This highlights the Government's concerns about increasing violence, including knife crime and how a wider partnership approach is required to tackle this.

- [HM Govt Serious and Organised Crime Strategy \(November 2018\)](#) – National and local system-based approaches are required to tackle increasingly sophisticated criminal gang networks, who target business, communities and vulnerable people. All these issues fall within the Council's own responsibilities and business priorities and require its leadership and co-operation.
- [Consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence \(Home Office April 2019\)](#)- This sets out the Government's proposals to place more targeted duties on a range of agencies, including Local Authorities, to co-operate to reduce violence. We responded to the consultation and await an announcement in due course on the Government's preferred course of action.
- **West Mercia PCC Serious Violence and Vulnerability Strategic Review** – A wide range of WCC and other stakeholders have been interviewed as part of the review and a report and recommendations will shortly be considered by key partnerships and an action plan agreed. This will include a number of proposals that will firstly require the agreement and full support of WCC and in particular children's services/Children First and Public Health.
- [Public Health approaches in policing \(Public Health England/College of Policing June 2019\)](#) – This discussion document focuses on a "Public Health" approach to reducing crime and improving community safety. This is a common theme within the Government's guidance and recent consultations and calls for an improved understanding of what drives criminality (including structural determinants such as housing, education, income), how early prevention mitigates against criminal behaviours and enhancing the use and interpretation of wide streams of data and evidence to determine patterns of behaviour and what the risks and protective factors are. This will be a consideration for Public Health and the key partners about how such approaches may look in practice in Worcestershire and including the development of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on violence locally.
- [Prevent duty toolkit for local authorities and partner agencies \(Home Office September 2018\)](#). This guidance has been adopted by the Worcestershire Prevent Group and will be used to benchmark our local approach to see where we can improve local practice.
- [Integrated Communities Green Paper \(HM Government Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019\)](#) – This builds on the Government's Green paper on Integrated Communities and highlights the requirement for Local Authorities to do what it can to ensure community integration and provide leadership as required.
- [Domestic Services – support to victims and their children in accommodation based domestic abuse services \(Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation- May 2019\)](#) – This consultation, which is open until August, sets out proposals to require upper tier Local Authorities (WCC) to take responsibility for the governance, planning, commissioning and reporting to Government on the provision of accommodation for victims of DA and their families. It requires full co-operation with key partners and specifically lower tier Local Authorities (District Councils) who have housing responsibilities. Public Health will on behalf of the Domestic Abuse Forum and the Strategic Housing Partnership, be providing a Worcestershire consultation response.

13. The Public Health approach to tackling criminality and violence will be considered and will initially involve the production of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment on

violence. Moving forward this will require an understanding of and identification of many complex issues, considering evidence-based approaches of what works and the wider system “influencing” to improve health, wellbeing and safety generally. This will involve a more explicit recognition of the causes of criminality, which can be socio economic, cultural and environmental. These are key areas where the partnership and particularly Local Authorities have a direct responsibility. A better understanding of childhood adversity (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and how this increases the risks of people developing violent and addictive behaviours, such as drug taking, is critical in developing new trauma-based approaches for both young people and adults, to help move them away from criminality. Early success is evident in Worcestershire where this approach is being utilised.

14. There is well-established partnership working and co-operation on community safety across Worcestershire and successive Governments have recognised that many of the challenges faced in the criminal justice system can be prevented and mitigated by partners such as Local Authorities.

15. There is, however, a complex range of responsibilities and duties and partnership structures in place, which are increasingly requiring focus beyond the Worcestershire boundary, such as supporting the PCC’s remit which extends across West Mercia and the Herefordshire and Worcestershire sustainability and transformation partnership (STP) footprint that extends across to Herefordshire. There are significant pressures on organisational capacity and this is increasingly impacting on the ability to support joint working. New ways of co-operating and utilising peoples time need to be considered and a better use of technology to reduce the need for attendance at meetings, would for instance, be highly beneficial and encourage wider participation.

16. The Government plans highlighted above, contain a significant number of requirements for consideration by Councils and potential new duties to implement, probably without any additional resources. Co-operation with the PCC is very positive and there are joint approaches to tackling issues such as domestic abuse and child criminal exploitation (the GET SAFE workstream), through joint commissioning and planning. In delivering his Safer West Mercia Plan the PCC will require high levels of co-operation from partners and the Council, with his new strategies on drugs, rural crime, serious, organised crime and a significant number of recommendations from a serious violence and vulnerability strategic review.

17. Although Worcestershire presents a lower risk of radicalisation than other areas of the West Midlands, there has to be vigilance around potential violent extremism and there are concerns nationally about people who are potential perpetrators, but not “in plain sight”. The Council has a strong role to play in the Prevent agenda and also manages the Channel Panel where cases are referred for consideration around vulnerability and risk. Unaccompanied child asylum seekers from war zones are being placed in counties across the country and Worcestershire is no exception; in the last three years, three such young people have been referred into the Channel Panel as having given concerns around their behaviours and have been managed from a safeguarding and community safety perspective with all the key agencies in the Channel meeting. The Ofsted Assistant Regional Director, West Midlands has attended both the Channel Panel and Prevent Strategy Group (including the Counter Terrorism Local Profile briefing) and has commented favourably on the administration and partnership attendance at both meetings. The 2019 CTLP and the Home Office Prevent Toolkit have been incorporated into the 2019/20 Prevent Strategy Group Action Plan to

develop the partnership approach to and understanding of extremism and radicalisation.

18. The Public Health Team have also reported to the Partnership Executive Group (June 27th, 2019), detailing the national approach to cohesion and integration as a means to help reduce Hate Crime and radicalisation. This has begun a senior officer conversation about how well we understand any challenges to cohesion in our local communities and how we work to address any tensions.

Crime Data

19. There is a range of national and local published community safety and criminal justice data available. Locally this is best illustrated through the West Mercia Police. Performance summary for January – March 2019 (Appendix 2), which is reported to the West Mercia Police Crime Panel. This contains crime information and some analysis across the force area and broken down for the north and south Worcestershire CSP areas. CSP's also receive their own analytical geographic data.

20. The summary highlights what is always a complex picture and changes over time in recording methods and data can make longitudinal comparisons difficult. The Police analysts also produce other bespoke tools such as Problem Profiles on issues such as child sexual exploitation, knife crime and County Lines.

21. Nationally, there has been no significant increase in recorded crime (Office for National Statistics) between 2017/18 and 2018/19. In Worcestershire there has been an overall increase of 1.6% (41,748 – 42,420 offences) during that period. The rate of violence with injury across the West Mercia, between 2017/18 – 2018/19, is virtually static (10164 -10167). Between April 2018 and April 2019, North Worcestershire recorded the highest volume of knife offences in West Mercia (n = 150) and South Worcestershire observed the largest increase, +28% (n = 126). Hate Crime reporting in N and S Worcestershire has reduced, year on year, by 22% but this is against exceptional spikes in 2016 (at the time of the referendum) and in 2017.

22. Information is also collected and utilised by commissioned and internal Council services that contribute to supporting community safety activity, which would include domestic abuse, substance misuse, Prevent, GET SAFE and adult safeguarding. There is to be some further consideration by the Safer Communities Board as to how to develop a more bespoke data dashboard using both criminal justice and Local Authority to enable a better strategic oversight of trends.

GET SAFE Support and Protection Approach to Child Criminal Exploitation.

23. The Board will also receive a presentation from some of the partners involved with **Get Safe**, which is the Worcestershire name for the multi-agency support and protection for children and young people at risk of Criminal Exploitation. The Worcestershire partnership includes: West Mercia Police, Children's services, Health, Education, Youth Justice, Early help services and the voluntary sector all working together with other agencies and existing forums within Worcestershire having a joined-up approach in working together to tackle this.

Conclusion

24. 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.

25. There is a requirement to adapt to changing community safety and criminal activity and WCC, as a significant Responsible Authority, is committed to further understanding the problems and finding preventative and operational solutions to minimise risk and harm to our population.

26. The Directorate of Public Health and other Directorates will continue to ensure that systems assurance and rigour is embedded in the Council's responsibilities for community safety, but it is noted that there are increasing challenges in the system both for the Council and its partners`.

Purpose of the Meeting

27. The OSPB is asked to consider:

- (a) The Annual Community Safety report and the discussion on the new GET SAFE support and protection approach to child criminal exploitation;
- (b) Whether it wishes to make any comments to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-being, 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: Worcestershire County Council Community Safety Overview

Appendix 2: [West Mercia Police Performance Summary for January - March 2019](#)

Specific Contact Points for this report

Tim Rice. Senior Public Health Practitioner (Public Health Directorate) (01905) 843107
Email: TRice@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here](#)

Worcestershire County Council Community Safety overview

Worcestershire Safer Communities Board (SCB) and North and South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs):	
<p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>	
2018/19 Outcomes	2019/20 current activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>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</p>	

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>2018/19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Reducing Reoffending strategy for Worcestershire (a statutory requirement upon the CSPs) remains in early draft form. • 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). 	<p>2019/20 activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final draft strategy for Worcestershire to be developed for consultation. • PH are leading on the development of a new structure for the county wide Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG). • 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. • An initial partnership work shop held by the Strategic Housing Partnership to review and develop the offender housing pathway.
<p>Crime data/monitoring: 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	2019/20 activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> • A series of successful campaigns have been delivered throughout the year including "Worried" around Clare's Law, Coercive control and our White Ribbon campaign. • 12 month pilots of the Blue Light project for resistant drinkers commenced in Worcester and Redditch. • 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' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019/20 Community Safety Agreement to be agreed and actioned. • Joint work with the PCC and partners to consider and as appropriate implement the recommendations for the strategic review on serious crime and vulnerability. • Report from SCB to PEG on community cohesion • Consider and respond to the Government consultation on accommodation based Domestic Abuse support • Respond to, and support, recommendations arising from PCC's Conference on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. • Launch of GETSAFE initiative (June 2019)
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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
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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 24 JULY 2019

PERFORMANCE AND 2018/19 YEAR-END BUDGET MONITORING

Summary

1. The Board is asked to consider the feedback provided by Scrutiny Panel Chairmen following the discussion of Quarter 4 (January – March 2019) performance monitoring and 2018/19 year-end budget monitoring information.

Background

2. Performance and financial monitoring are part of the Scrutiny Panels' role in maintaining oversight of service provision and a key role for Scrutiny.
3. As previously agreed by the Board, Scrutiny Panels will carry out quarterly performance and financial monitoring, and then report to the Board by exception any areas of concern or suggestions for further scrutiny.

Performance Information

4. At the July Scrutiny Panel meetings, Members were provided with performance information reports. The Panels welcomed the information and gave both general and panel specific feedback which is being considered (and incorporated where possible) for future reports.

Financial Information

5. The Panels considered 2018/19 year-end financial information. The Cabinet report relating to the 2018/19 year-end budget information is available on the Council's website [here](#) and each Scrutiny Panel was provided with information relevant to its remit in the form of presentation slides.

Purpose of the Meeting

6. The Board is asked to:
 - consider and comment on the feedback from Scrutiny Panel Chairmen following the discussion of Quarter 4 (January – March 2019) performance monitoring and 2018/19 year-end budget monitoring information; and
 - determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Contact Point for this Report

Samantha Morris/Alyson Grice, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844963/844962

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

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

Agenda and minutes of:

- Adult Care and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 11 July 2019
- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 17 July 2019
- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 5 July 2019
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 16 July 2019

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here](#)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 24 JULY 2019

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to consider the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20.

Developing a Scrutiny Work Programme

2. The current 2018/19 Scrutiny Work Programme was agreed at Council in November 2018. It would now seem timely for the work programme to be refreshed for the coming year. The refreshed work programme will be considered by full Council in September 2019.
3. Throughout May stakeholders (including all Councillors and County Council staff) were asked to let the scrutiny team have any suggestions for future scrutiny.
4. In preparation for this meeting, Panel Chairmen have been asked to consult with their Panels on any amendments they would like to make to their work programme. Draft Work Programmes for the Panels and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) are attached at Appendix 1. (To follow)
5. Members are reminded that the Council's Constitution includes a requirement for the OSPB (using the Panels where appropriate) to receive, comment and advise on the Council's policy framework.
6. The Board is also asked to consider whether, in addition to the Policy Framework and standing items it considers, there are any other issues that should be added to its Work Programme.
7. In determining its Scrutiny Work Programme, the Board needs to take into account a number of points.

Issues suitable for scrutiny

8. On 19 June 2017, the OSPB agreed to continue using the set of criteria listed below to help determine its scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria in order to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.
 - Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
 - Is it a key issue for local people?
 - Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
 - Are improvements for local people likely?
 - Does it examine a poor performing service?

- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

9. In considering the proposed work programme Members should also aim for it to be:

- balanced, in terms of some topics being of longer duration and some being suitable for shorter study
- Mixed in terms of covering different topics/directorates
- Not so onerous that there is no flexibility and room left for smaller, additional items such as Call-ins, to be added in at a later time if the OSPB regards it as a priority, and
- Taking account of the resources available to support scrutiny.

Directorate Specific Information

10. Cabinet Member and Director Briefings attended by scrutiny lead members will also help identify suitable items for Scrutiny Panels to follow up, for example, forthcoming important public consultations.

Purpose of the Meeting

11. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:

- consider the reports from Panel Chairmen on Panels' discussions on potential work programme topics;
- consider whether there are any issues which should be added to the OSPB's Work Programme;
- determine the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20 to be considered by full Council.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Draft 2019/20 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (To follow)

Specific Contact Point for the Report

Alyson Grice/Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers

Tel: 01905 844962/844963

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

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, 10 September 2009, 19 June 2017 and 28 June 2018
- The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 24 JULY 2019

MEMBER UPDATE AND CABINET FORWARD PLAN

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:
 - (a) Receive an update on emerging issues and developments within the remit of each Member of the OSPB, including an update on each Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Task Group;
 - (b) Consider the Council's latest Forward Plan to identify:
 - any items it would wish to consider further at a future meeting; and
 - any items it would wish to refer to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel for further consideration.

Member Updates

2. In order to ensure that Members of the OSPB are fully informed about issues relating to scrutiny in Worcestershire, communication between Members is essential. To assist in this, it has been agreed that an item will be placed periodically on the OSPB agenda to enable each member to feed back on emerging issues and developments within their remit. This will also provide an opportunity to highlight possible future agenda items. Regard for the Council's statutory requirements in relation to access to information will be critical.

3. Board Members' areas of responsibility are as follows:
- Adult Care and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Juliet Brunner
 - Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Fran Oborski
 - Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Alistair Adams
 - Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Adam Kent
 - Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Paul Tuthill
 - Crime and Disorder – Rebecca Vale
 - Quality Assurance – Liz Eyre

4. As part of their role, it was agreed by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) that scrutiny lead members should receive regular briefings from the Directorates they are shadowing. These briefings, alongside the Forward Plan (see below), can be used to help identify any emerging issues that may be appropriate for future scrutiny. Recognising that work across the County Council is of interest and value to all OSPB members, the notes from these briefings (where produced) are available to all members electronically.

5. Members may also be leading scrutiny task groups. It will be important for Members of OSPB to be aware of how each scrutiny is developing so that they can fully consider the final report.

6. Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairmen are asked to feedback on:

- progress on the work of their Panels and any scrutiny task groups they are leading;
- key issues from the Directorate that may be appropriate for future scrutiny;
- performance information they have queries or concerns about;
- items in the Forward Plan which they consider may be possible issues to scrutinise; and
- any other issue which they feel is relevant/of interest to the OSPB.

Cabinet Forward Plan

12. The Board will wish to consider any issues arising from the Council's Forward Plan which is attached at Appendix 1.

13. The latest version of the Plan (available at the time of Agenda despatch) is routinely considered at each meeting of OSPB.

14. The Board is asked to consider the Council's latest Forward Plan in order to identify:

- Any items that it would wish to consider further at a future meeting;
- Any items that it would wish to refer to the relevant overview and scrutiny panel for further consideration.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Forward Plan (as at 16 July 2019)

Contact Point for the Report

Alyson Grice/Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers
Tel: 01905 844962/844963
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

FORWARD PLAN

FORMAL NOTICE OF KEY FORWARD PLAN

FORMAL NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN BY, AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

OF, CABINET (OR OTHER EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKING BODY OR PERSON)

Forward Plan	Expected Date of Decision	Page No.
Worcestershire Education Developer Contributions Policy <i>Key Decision – Cabinet Member Decision</i>	18 July 2019	4
Lifestyle and Behaviour Change Contract <i>Key Decision – Cabinet Member Decision</i>	22 July 2019	5
Delivery of Children's Services through Worcestershire Children First from October 2019 – Business Plan and Update Report Key Decision	5 September 2019	6
Organisational Redesign Key Decision	5 September 2019	7 - 8
Future Provision of Overnight Unit-based Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities <i>New Entry – Key Decision</i>	26 September	9
Optimising the use of Children's Centre Buildings in the Context of Effective Prevention Services for Children and Young People <i>New Entry – Key Decision</i>	26 September	10
New Model of Delivery for Medical Education Provision Key Decision	24 October 2019	11
Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2018/19	14 November 2019	12
'Called In' Decisions or Scrutiny Reports Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	13
Notices of Motion Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	14

All entries will be for decision by Cabinet unless otherwise indicated

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 24 JULY 2019

STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IN LOCAL AND COMBINED AUTHORITIES

Summary

1. This report summarises the statutory guidance on Overview and Scrutiny from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Local authorities must 'have regard' to the guidance when carrying out their functions attached as Appendix 1.
2. The Guidance follows on from the House of Commons Select Committee report of December 2017 and takes note of written and oral evidence supplied to that Committee¹.

Background

3. In December 2017, the House of Commons Select Committee published its report and recommendations relating to the Effectiveness of Local Government Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
4. The Committee found 'that the most significant factor in determining whether or not scrutiny committees are effective is the organisational culture of a particular council. Having a positive culture where it is universally recognised that scrutiny can play a productive part in the decision-making process is vital and such an approach is common in all of the examples of effective scrutiny that we identified.'
5. The Committee recommended that Government Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny arrangements should be updated. This would aim to reflect changes in the sector since the introduction of the requirement to have at least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee where an authority is operating executive arrangements under the Local Government Act 2000.

Contents of the Statutory Guidance

6. The guidance is broken down into separate chapters dealing with:
 - Culture
 - Resourcing
 - Selecting Committee Members
 - Power to access information
 - Planning work, and
 - Evidence sessions

¹ <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/local-authority-scrutiny-17-19/>

Culture

7. The guidance points out that performance of the scrutiny function is not solely of interest to the authority but is often considered by external bodies such as regulators and inspectors. There are 10 suggestions for how a strong organisational culture can be established, including:

- Identifying a clear role and focus - deciding priorities can help ensure that scrutiny concentrates on delivering work of genuine value and interest to the authority
- Ensuring early and regular engagement between the executive and scrutiny, whilst being mindful of the distinct roles for each
- Managing disagreement – potentially developing an executive-scrutiny protocol to help define the relationship between the two
- Communicating scrutiny's role and purpose to the wider authority, to demonstrate its value and the outcomes it can deliver
- Maintaining the interest of full Council in the work of scrutiny, specifically by reports and recommendations going to Council rather than solely to the Executive
- Ensuring that members have an independent mindset – the guidance suggests that scrutiny chairmen should work proactively to identify any potentially contentious issues and plan how to manage them.

Resourcing

8. The guidance states that when deciding on the level of resource to allocate to the scrutiny function, authorities should consider the following factors:

- Scrutiny's legal powers and responsibilities
- The role and remit scrutiny will play in the authority
- Training requirements of members and support officers, particularly around asking effective questions and making effective recommendations
- The need for ad hoc external support where expertise does not exist in the council
- Effectively resourced scrutiny can help policy formulation and minimise the need for call-in of executive decisions.

9. The guidance suggests that there are a number of ways in which officer support can be provided for scrutiny. Examples given include officers drawn from specific policy or service areas; officers from the corporate centre who also support the executive and officers dedicated to scrutiny. It emphasises that it is up to each authority to decide how scrutiny support is provided.

Selecting Committee Members

10. This part of the Guidance refers to selecting individual committee members and the qualities that should be considered. It also considers selection of the Chair, stating that 'Chairs should pay special attention to the need to guard the committee's independence. Importantly, however, they should take care to avoid the committee being, and being viewed as, a de facto opposition to the executive.'

11. The guidance emphasises ensuring induction and ongoing training opportunities for scrutiny members, especially about the legal powers of scrutiny and how to prepare for and ask relevant questions at scrutiny sessions.

Power to Access Information

12. This is an area where the Board has recently sought and obtained advice from the Monitoring Officer. The Chairman has met with the Chief Executive and received assurance about scrutiny's access to the information which it requires from within the organisation.

13. The Guidance suggests that where scrutiny receives accurate and timely information it enables scrutiny members to frame their requests for scrutiny reviews and exercises from a more informed position. It recommends that whilst each request for information should be judged on its individual merits, 'authorities should adopt a default position of sharing the information they hold, on request, with scrutiny committee members.'

14. The guidance also sets out how scrutiny committees might obtain information from external organisations, especially when an organisation is not legally required to provide it. As well as suggesting collaborative approaches it recommends that where authorities agree contracts with organisations to provide services they should include a requirement to provide information, or to appear before scrutiny committees.

Planning Work

15. The Guidance states that to have defined impact on the ground and make recommendations which have a tangible impact, scrutiny committees need to plan their work programme whilst being flexible enough to accommodate any urgent, short term issues that might crop up during the year.

16. The Guidance acknowledges that deciding priorities for scrutiny is challenging, but states this is necessary to enable appropriate scrutiny to take place. The role of scrutiny should be clear. It suggests different overall roles for scrutiny could include focusing on risk, finances or the way the authority works with partners. Applying the focus should be about looking at topics and deciding whether their relative importance justifies the positive impact scrutiny's further involvement could bring.

17. Various approaches to gathering evidence to support including items on a work programme are suggested, including not using formal consultation but rather having conversations with communities, partners and executive members. Sources of information are also suggested, from performance information about the authority to reports and recommendations from relevant external bodies including relevant ombudsmen.

18. The Guidance advocates using local solutions to shortlisting topics for scrutiny. It suggests a consistent approach helps committees to justify why a decision is taken to include certain issues and not others.

Evidence Sessions

19. This part of the Guidance covers preparation for effective evidence sessions, how to plan and developing recommendations.

20. It suggests that Chairmen play a vital role in leading discussions on objective-setting and ensuring all members are aware of the specific role each will play during the evidence session. Effective planning should enable the themes and findings to be drawn together.

Purpose of the Meeting

21. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board is asked to consider the Statutory Guidance, whether there are any areas where the County Council's approach should be reviewed and how it would like to deal with this going forward.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - [Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities](#)

Specific Contact Points

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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:

County Council Constitution, available on the County Council website [here](#):

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)