

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Thursday, 20 October 2022, 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 Scrutiny on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing scrutiny@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 Thursday, 20 October 2022, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

Membership

Councillors:

Cllr Tom Wells (Chairman), Cllr Alan Amos (Vice Chairman), Cllr Alastair Adams, Cllr Brandon Clayton, Cllr Matt Dormer, Cllr Steve Mackay, Cllr Emma Stokes, Cllr Shirley Webb and Cllr Richard Udall

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Mr T Reid (Church Representative - Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Mr M Hughes (Parent Governor Representative)

Agenda

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1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declaration of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance 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 case 19 October 2022). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Worcestershire County Council Community Safety Update Report	1 - 10
5	Community Speed Watch Worcestershire - Update	11 - 14
6	Scrutiny Chairmen and Lead Member Update	15 - 24

Agenda produced and published by the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager (Interim Monitoring Officer) Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

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

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NOTES

Webcasting

Members of the Board are reminded that meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board are Webcast on the Internet and will be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website. Members of the public are informed that if they attend this meeting their images and speech may be captured by the recording equipment used for the Webcast and may also be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 20 OCTOBER 2022

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE 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. Key partners involved in community safety have been invited to attend this meeting.

Background and context to community safety

3. The OSPB has been designated by the Worcestershire County Council (the Council) as its statutory Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee and is responsible for the consideration of Crime and Disorder matters. As part of this responsibility, the Board usually meets on an annual basis with Crime and Disorder partners, to discuss issues of mutual interest.
4. Community Safety responsibilities are primarily set out under s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act details the requirement for Responsible Authorities (Local Authorities, the Police, Fire and Rescue, the Integrated Care Board (formerly the Clinical Commissioning Groups) and the Probation Service to develop policy and operational approaches to prevent crime and disorder, combat substance misuse and reduce reoffending.
5. Community Safety is not a specific “service” as such and the wide ranging S17 requirements are carried out through a range of Council and Worcestershire Children First (WCF) duties and activities.
6. These include some significant commissioned services. Activities for instance include the wider safeguarding management responsibilities within the People Directorate and WCF (such as the GET SAFE child criminal exploitation services and tackling issues such as modern slavery and trafficking). There is strong partnership working which extends into the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and private sector. Much of the work is about systems leadership, coordination, and reassurance, to ensure that these responsibilities are brought together as appropriate and co-ordinated in a way that helps protect the local population. There are good working relationships with the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) across the Council and WCF, with excellent examples of co-operation in commissioning of services relating to child exploitation and domestic abuse in particular.

7. At County level, 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 Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's). The Worcestershire Safer Communities Board (SCB) discharges the statutory duty under S17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (within two tier authority areas) to provide strategic coordination and support to community safety and criminal justice activity, in Worcestershire, taking account of national legislation and guidance. It produces an annual Community Safety Agreement and action plan and has oversight of several priority areas overseeing the work of subgroups on domestic abuse, substance misuse, reducing offending and Prevent and Prepare (violent extremism). The SCB is chaired by the Interim Director of Public Health and administered by dedicated officers in the Council's public health team.

Coordination with other partnership boards

8. All members have key strategic roles and are responsible for reporting back to their own organisations. They are also engaged in other, related, forums such as the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel, the West Mercia Criminal Justice Board, the Health and Well-being Board, Worcestershire Adults Safeguarding Board and Worcestershire Children's Safeguarding Partnership.

Annual Update on developments in relation to Community Safety in Worcestershire

Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Government's 10-year drugs plan

9. The Government's new 10-year drug strategy, **From Harm to Hope**, is intended to cut crime and save lives. It has three priorities: breaking drug supply chains, delivering a world-class treatment and recovery service and achieving a generational shift in demand. It also includes £2.7m national funding for drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services from 2022/23 to 2024/25, through designated grants to areas that are intended to deliver:

- More treatment places
- Additional drug and alcohol and criminal justice workers
- Fewer drug related deaths.

10. A further £642k has been allocated by the Government to help support rough sleepers in Worcester City who have substance misuse problems.

11. The current annual expenditure on the main drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services (the Council, Public Health (PH) and Government substance misuse grant), delivered through Cranstoun, is £4.46m

Combatting Drugs Partnership

12. Recent government guidance, that sits alongside its Drugs Strategy, outlined the structures and processes through which local partners in England should work together to reduce drug-related harm. To assist with the delivery of the strategy, a Combatting Drugs Partnership has been formed covering Worcestershire and

Herefordshire and chaired by the PCC. By the end of 2022, the partnership is expected to:

- Conduct a joint needs assessment, reviewing local drugs data and evidence (by end October 2022)
- Agree a local Drugs Strategy Delivery Plan, including developing data recording and sharing (by end November 2022)
- Agree a local performance framework to monitor the implementation and impact of local plans (by end October 2022)

13. A key focus through the forthcoming Drugs Strategy will be the need to have an enhanced focus on primary prevention – in the pre-treatment space. This will be assisted by the new Combatting Drugs Partnership and the PH and PCC’s focus on Prevention.

14. Treatment outcomes in Worcestershire:

Proportion of all in treatment, who successfully completed treatment and did not re-present within 6 months, 01/12/2020 to 30/11/2021		
Substance	Area	Percentage
Opiate	Worcestershire	6%
	National	5%
Non-opiate	Worcestershire	37%
	National	34%
Alcohol	Worcestershire	41%
	National	36%

Prevent

15. The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 sets a duty (the PREVENT duty) on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Worcestershire Prevent Strategy Group (PSG) role is to provide strategic co-ordination and support to the Government’s PREVENT agenda, in Worcestershire, taking account of national legislation and guidance. It receives an annual Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) for Worcestershire. From this, a local risk assessment has been created and the annual action plan has been developed.

16. For 2022/23 the action plan has changed its focus in order to prioritise issues relevant to Worcestershire; the risk assessment is now a living document, adapting to, and reflecting, local and national issues as and when they arise. Guidance from the regional Prevent advisor has led to the creation of a local problem-solving group, with representatives from the District Councils, Health and Education addressing PREVENT related issues. Although in its infancy, the group has already met and discussed the appearance of swastika symbols in Worcester and Bewdley, long term concerns regarding the risk of radicalisation via the online space, and the potential for vulnerable people and those with mental health to be radicalised.

17. Current threats to Worcestershire continue to relate to Islamist extremism, the extreme far right and unclear / unspecified ideologies, with the most significant threat from the far right. Communication is a key focus, with more information sharing on

current topics, such as a recent slideshow on the far-right group Patriotic Alternative and a detailed document illustrating far right symbolism

18. Training continues to be a priority; and national training packages are currently being tested prior to release. Partners in Counter terrorism policing are providing Synergy training at County Hall in October, the target audience relating to those who deal with young people and relate to an individual being radicalised. This invitation has been shared with a range of partners.

19. Worcestershire Channel Panel continues to receive referrals from a wide spectrum of sources. Advice from the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) is that it is inappropriate to share statistics, but common themes include an increase in Right Wing referrals and a consistent issue with individuals with mental health issues and learning difficulties.

20. The Council has issued the Annual Assurance Statement regarding Channel Panel which captures its compliance with the requirements relating to Channel panels. It is based upon a self-assessment for local authorities. The Statement considers processes and whether the Chair and Deputy Chair have the appropriate skills and authority to discharge the duties of the Panel. This document was endorsed by the Council's Chief Executive and returned to the Home Office on 1 April 2022.

21. The Home Office recently formally observed a Channel Panel meeting and fed back their satisfaction to the Chairman.

Protect

22. The Protect arrangements (forming part of the CONTEST, Counter Terrorism Act response) have been given significant prominence in this year's CTLP. The Government recognises that there needs to be a robust approach and guidance, similar to that provided for Prevent, around protecting spaces to which the public have access. The Government is due to legislate on this new duty. Following discussions with Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) Police, Worcestershire Local Authorities and the West Mercia Local Resilience Forum (LRF), a Worcestershire Protect Group has been established. The Protect Group is a sub-group of the SCB, who oversee assurance of the Worcestershire approach on Protect.

23. The Protect duty applies to all Worcestershire Local Authorities and District Council's (DCs) are central to this, with their town centre management oversight and interest in planning of buildings and the street scene. Chief Executives and senior Local Government officers are invited to regular national briefings on Protect and wider CT issues by the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) and the Council has been fully engaged in this.

24. A proportionate response to the proposed Protect duty has been taken, this has involved compiling a list of locations which may be subject to the legislation. Free SCan (See Check and Notify) training delivered by specialists in counter terrorism security, with the focus on addressing threats and risks to organisations is planned. This has been shared with partners and the Districts and is due to take place between October and January, with areas covered including communications teams, front line staff and CCTV operators. Staff will also be encouraged to download the Government Protect App, which provides information and advice on how to deal with a major incident. It is not known when the duty will be passed as legislation.

Reducing Reoffending

Worcestershire Reducing Reoffending Strategy Group

25. The role of the Worcestershire Reducing Re-offending Strategy Group's is to provide strategic co-ordination, oversight and support for reducing re-offending activity in Worcestershire, taking account of national legislation and guidance. It is constituted to discharge the Community Safety Partnerships' responsibilities (S17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998) to reduce re-offending by creating a strategic action plan.

26. The Group is responsible for overseeing implementation of the Integrated Offender Management strategy, and the 'One Day One Conversation' (ODOC) meetings in North and South Worcestershire. It takes responsibility, on behalf of the wider Community Safety Partnerships, for areas of activity that require a countywide and West Mercia area strategic response to reduce re-offending.

27. Worcestershire Reducing Re-offending Strategy Group (RRSG) monitors and supports the work of the Community Safety Partnerships on re-offending reduction and work with other strategic boards to ensure that re-offending reduction responsibilities are effectively co-ordinated at a strategic level. Current activity for the Group includes:

RRSG Action Plan - 2021 to 2024

28. This is a statutory requirement that falls to the CSPs; it is discharged on their behalf by the RRG. The plan is focussed on the Integrated Offender Management pathways, and aligns with the West Midlands Regional Reducing Re Offending plan published in 2022.

Work across the Pathways:

Accommodation

29. The PH funded commissioned report on offender accommodation in Worcestershire was finalised and published in June 2022. This identifies a range of required activities to support the implementation of a Worcestershire Criminal Justice Housing pathway protocol to be used across the partnership. The RRSG has set up a Task and Finish group to be led by Bromsgrove District Council. This Group will work on the development of the protocol, review other actions required and report to the RRSG with proposals. Their first meeting is due on 16th October 2022.

30. Community Accommodation Service Tier 3 implementation is due in the new year so progress on this will be tracked and the offender accommodation lead officer will be invited to the January meeting to brief the group. They will also be invited to be a part of the Task and Finish group.

Substance Misuse

31. The Hereford and Worcestershire Combatting Drugs Partnership with the PCC as SRO is now established and recruitment is underway to take forward the project management of this work. There will be a joint strategic needs assessment for drugs

and alcohol undertaken, with mapping of service provision. The Worcestershire Substance Misuse Oversight group will be reconvened to support the partnership.

32. A new Commissioned Rehabilitative Service - Dependency and Recovery will commence on 17 October 2022. The new service encompasses several elements to support people on probation identified with a drug or alcohol need, including:

- Offering practical assistance to people on probation through provision of psycho-social interventions to support recovery and build their motivation.
- Working closely with local probation staff to help build awareness of substance misuse and further treatment available through community providers of treatment.
- Improved liaison with locally commissioned drug and alcohol treatment services and other support organisations to help people on probation sustain engagement with statutory and existing provision

Mental Health

33. Mental Health professionals from across West Mercia have been engaged in work to establish a West Mercia Criminal Justice Mental Health team, led by Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Performance and Standards Group. A number of different potential intervention pathways have been identified and a gap analysis is being undertaken. This will strengthen the links between criminal justice

Child Exploitation – GET SAFE

34. GET SAFE Strategic and Operational meetings continue to take place working towards the Strategy and Action Plan for 2022 – 2024

35. The Raising Awareness of Vulnerability and Exploitation training continues to be offered to professionals across Worcestershire. From October 2021 to September 2022, 550 delegates attended. These attendees came from schools, district councils, housing associations, the NHS, West Mercia Police, youth groups and children’s charities.

36. The CLIMB program run by the Children’s Society delivers diversionary activity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable children and young people in society incorporating sports, dance, arts and music, and work with young people who are missing school or college, starting to be reported as missing, or at risk of being drawn into criminal activity.

37. Breakdown of CLIMB referrals

Worcs Regions	Accepted	Rejected	TOTAL
Wyre Forest	27	9	36
Worcester City	30	9	39
Redditch	19	8	27
Bromsgrove	15	5	20
Malvern Hills	10	2	12
Wychavon	21	5	26

TOTAL	116	38	160

38. Multi Agency Audits have been undertaken (for GET SAFE) in respect of individual children who have been RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rated RED due to the level of risk and concern. There have been two so far for 2022. Actions agreed by the Operational Group after these audits:

- GET SAFE Team will be delivering workshops to WCF colleagues focusing on victim blaming language.
- Other agencies will provide similar support as this continues to be an issue within case recording and report writing.

Trading Standards

39. The Strategic Assessment for the County Council's Trading Standards Team has identified the following areas as key priorities for the coming 2 years:

- Doorstep Crime and Scams
- Illegal Tobacco
- Product Safety
- Protecting animals and the food chain
- High value incidents of consumer detriment

40. During 2021/22, the service:

- Removed 201,510 illicit cigarettes and 57kg of illegal tobacco from the marketplace,
- Removed 11,021 unsafe products from the market, including non-compliant vapes
- Tested 36 premises for sales of age restricted products to minors, with 5 selling (3 alcohol, 2 vapes)

41. Whilst the Team have yet to formally map any organised crime groups (OCGs) it is clear that the distribution of illegal tobacco is very much done via OCGs, and the team continues to work with the Police on this. Two Licensing Act 2003 reviews were undertaken in relation to the on-going supply of illegal tobacco, resulting in licenses being revoked and the Police undertook a closure of a premise in Kidderminster under provisions in the Anti-social Behaviour, Policing and Crime Act 2014, these powers not being available to the County Council.

42. Doorstep Crime, rogue traders approaching older and vulnerable consumers about unnecessary home improvement or repair work didn't go away during the pandemic and has remained a focus, as has dealing with the victims of mailing and telephone scams. One trader was prosecuted last year for various offences including

fraud and 118 scam. Victims were subject to interventions from officers seeking to help them to stop responding to scam mailings.

Domestic Abuse: implementing the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

43. In the last report (October 2021) details were provided of the duties imposed by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the creation of the Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Partnership Board (DAPB), the commissioning of the Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Strategy (based on a needs assessment) and the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board Action Plan. These have all been completed.

44. The key Domestic Abuse Advice and Support Service (DAASS) commission was awarded to West Mercia Women's Aid in April and covers refuge services, support into Safe Accommodation, Help line, one-to-one counselling, psychological support and children's play therapy. At the time of this report there are 15 new safe units of accommodation either open or due to be opened across the County

45. The Council are also:

- Involved in jointly commissioning the DRIVE perpetrator program in partnership with the PCC which is delivered by Safe Lives and Cranstoun
- Funding 3 modules of Domestic Abuse Training
- Managing PCC's Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) contract

46. This commissioning activity is supported by a partnership Joint Commissioning Group involving the Council, the DC's, the PCC and the ICB

47. The Domestic Abuse Lead for the Council, an advanced Public Health Practitioner, is working with Herefordshire Council to prepare for the White Ribbon campaign 2022 themed around Men and Masculinities and with the intention of engaging businesses to challenge Domestic Abuse.

48. Relating to the duty from Part iv of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the Council are also partnering with Herefordshire Council to commission a Lived Experience project intended to seek the views of the survivors of Domestic Abuse (particularly those with protected characteristics and to whom the Equalities Act applies)

49. Also relating to the duty detailed above, the Council is in the process of building a service specification and commissioning a Sanctuary Scheme to enable the survivors of Domestic Abuse to be supported to remain in their accommodation by "target hardening" the premises. This requires enhanced resource across the county to advise on Designing Out Crime as well as capital outlay, a service provider and a new, consistent pathway to describe how such services are accessed

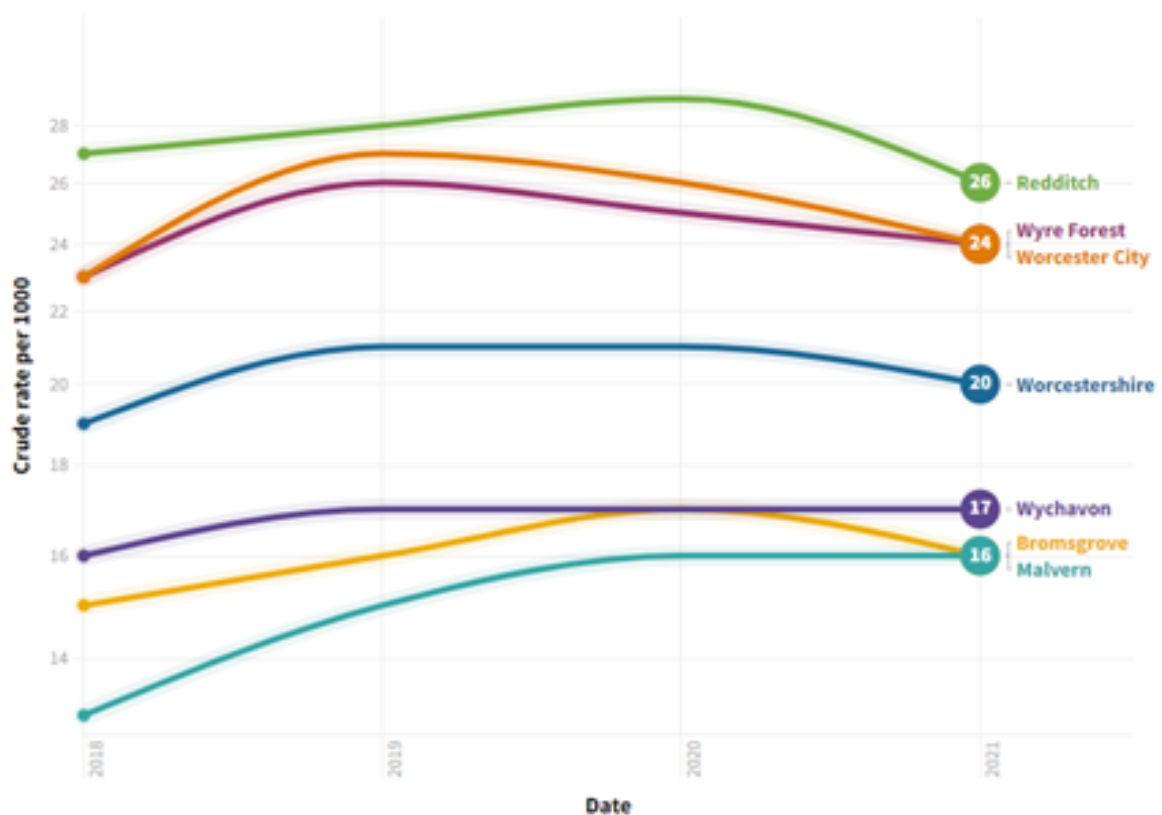
50. The duty to carry out statutory Home Office Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) sits with the two Community Safety Partnerships. In Worcestershire it has been agreed through the SCB, that these will be co-ordinated at County level, with PH Community Safety officers carrying out that role as its contribution to the DHR process. Sadly, since the time of the last report, there have been 7 Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) referrals that have been identified as meeting the criteria for review. This presents a considerable commitment for the Safer Communities Team.

51. A new protocol for delivering these reviews has been developed, published and agreed with the Community Safety Partnerships.

52. Domestic Abuse rates per 1000 population 2018-2022 (Date provided by partnership activity between WCC and West Mercia Police):

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021
Worcestershire only data	19	21	21	20
West Mercia data	25.7	29.1	30.8	30.4

53. Domestic Abuse Rates by district and averaged:



54. Historically, disaggregating Worcestershire’s data from that of West Mercia has proven difficult. This data is presented as a result of work currently being conducted between PH analysts and West Mercia.

Purpose of the Meeting

55. The Board is asked to consider:

- The Annual Update on developments in relation to Community Safety in Worcestershire;

- Whether it wishes to make any comments to the Cabinet Member for Health and Well-being, or partner agencies; and
- Whether there are any issues which should be the subject of future scrutiny work.

Contact Point

Paul Kinsella, Advanced Public Health Practitioner (01905) 846550

Email: pkinsella@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Public Health) 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.](#)

Community Speed Watch – Worcestershire Update

October 2022 – West Mercia Police Road Safety

Context

In November 2021, members of staff from West Mercia Police Road Safety attended Worcestershire County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board to discuss how the County Council can support its councillors to empower communities to manage speeding.

Alongside councillors and senior officers from West Mercia Police, discussions included the force's Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme and the process involved in setting up new CSW schemes. Following this meeting, it was determined that it was an appropriate time to relaunch the CSW programme within West Mercia.

This report aims to provide an overview of the work undertaken since the meeting in order to relaunch Community Speed Watch in February 2022 and ongoing work since then.

Introduction

Community Speed Watch (CSW) schemes are coordinated by the police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. The scheme enables local people to take an active role in road safety and make their community safer.

CSW was launched in West Mercia in 2014 and has gone from strength to strength with almost 50 active groups across the force area.

With the Local Policing Community Charter firmly embedded, it is clear that speeding remains a key concern for our communities.

In late 2021, it was deemed timely to relaunch CSW; taking on board comments made during the November meeting as well as refreshing the force's CSW policy and procedure and ensuring roles and responsibilities involved in setting up a CSW scheme are clear and understood by all parties involved.

Overview of CSW

The aim of CSW is NOT to catch as many speeding drivers as possible. It aims to encourage motorists to drive at a safe and appropriate speed, reduce speed in areas of concern, re-educate drivers about the dangers of speeding and address concerns from local residents about cars speeding through their neighbourhood.

There are a number of criteria which must be met before a scheme will be established:

- Speeding must have been identified as a community priority.
- Active speed enforcement operations must not already be underway in the area by West Mercia Police.
- There must be at least six volunteers in each CSW scheme.
- Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers.
 - The area must have a 30 or 40 MPH speed restriction

Schemes are evaluated to ensure they are having a positive impact on vehicle speed, driver behaviour and community reassurance.

Review of CSW

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken by the Road Safety Team since November 2021 to review the Community Speed Watch programme.

Some of this initial work involved reviewing the CSW Force Policy and Force Procedure documents, ensuring both are up-to-date and reflect current working practices.

A key element of the CSW review has involved providing clarity around the roles and responsibilities of setting up new schemes, including the Road Safety Team, the two Force Community Speed Watch Coordinators within the Road Safety Team and local Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs). While links between the Road Safety

Team and SNTs have always been strong, there has understandably been much movement of staff within SNTs in the eight years since CSW launched so it was an ideal opportunity to communicate key messages, both internally and externally.

Relaunch – Feb 2022

In February 2022, Community Speed Watch was relaunched internally by the Chief Superintendent for Local Policing, by way of an email briefing to all Local Policing Area Superintendents for dissemination to SNTs.

Additional internal communications included:

- CSW article in **N2K**, the force's internal digital newsletter.
- CSW article published on force **intranet news** page, with a prominent link from the intranet homepage.
- CSW policy and procedure documents uploaded to an '**SNT Toolkit**' – a dedicated intranet resource for SNTs, providing guidance on dealing with speeding concerns.

External communications took place the following week and included:

- **CSW press release** published via the force website ([click here](#) to read).
- Press release distributed forcewide via **Neighbourhood Matters**, the force community messaging service (over 13,000 subscribers at the time).
- Promotion of CSW messages via @WMerciaRoads **social media** channels – Twitter and Instagram.
- Refresh of the Community Speed Watch **Volunteers Guide leaflet**.
- SNTs were encouraged to follow-up messages on **Neighbourhood Matters** with more targeted articles within their own local communities, giving examples of local schemes.

Further work to date

Since the roll-out in February, work to develop CSW further has been ongoing and has included:

- Relaunch of the bi-annual force **Community Speed Watch newsletter**. Issue 1 was distributed in April 2022, and Issue 2 is due for distribution imminently (October 2022).
- Introduction of a **6-monthly external communications update** – including promotion of any new schemes or good results via media, social media and Neighbourhood Matters. (Next update due Oct/Nov 2022, in line with newsletter distribution).
- Development of a '**Roles & Responsibilities**' leaflet – outlining the tasks involved in setting up a new CSW scheme. This aide memoir provides clarity to SNTs and helps local communities understand what to expect and by whom.
- Development of a CSW **volunteers poster** – for distribution within local communities to encourage volunteers to get involved. This was developed specifically in response to certain areas across the force who were struggling to recruit enough volunteers to fit the criteria for CSW.
- The Force Community Speed Watch Coordinator for Worcestershire has held **meetings with SNT inspectors, sergeants and officers** across the county to further reinforce accountability of roles, and this joint working approach is working very well.
- **Collation of month on month CSW activity** and summary data provided at relevant road safety and roads policing strategic and tactical meetings.

Community Speed Watch in Worcestershire

In Worcestershire, there are currently 14 active Community Speed Watch groups, operating at 34 site locations in total. Of these 14 groups, one is currently on hold.

40 volunteers in Worcestershire have received CSW training in the last months (27 south, 13 north).

CSW Group	Number of locations	North / South Worcestershire	Notes
Bournheath	4	North	
Redditch	6	North	
Wilden Lane, Stourport	1	North	Launched in 2022
Bishampton	3	South	
Cookhill	1	South	
Crowle	3	South	On hold. Working to identify new Group Coordinator
Eckington	1	South	
Fladbury	2	South	
Honeybourne	4	South	Launched in 2022
Lenchwick	2	South	
Martley	2	South	
Ryall	1	South	
Tibberton	1	South	
Wellend	3	South	

To provide a comparison to 12 months ago before the re-launch, there were 13 operational CSW groups in Worcestershire in October 2021, of which four were on hold.

New Sites in Progress

There are currently six new groups being processed for Worcestershire, at different stages of set-up including volunteer training or force vetting: Cropthorne, Kinnersley, Peopleton, Drakes Broughton, Swinton Lane in Worcester and Spennels, Kidderminster.

Anna Southall
Engagement & Campaigns Manager,
West Mercia Police Road Safety.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 20 OCTOBER 2022

SCRUTINY CHAIRMEN AND LEAD MEMBER UPDATE

Summary

1. Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (the Board) are asked to provide feedback on the work within their Scrutiny remit, Panels and Task Groups. This should include suggestions for Work Programmes and items to be considered from the latest Cabinet Forward Plan.

Member Updates

2. In order to ensure that Members of the Board are fully informed about issues relating to scrutiny in Worcestershire, communication between Members is essential.

3. Members of the Board are therefore invited to feedback on recent Scrutiny meetings (including performance and budget monitoring), Task Groups and emerging issues and developments within their remit. Regard for the Council's statutory requirements in relation to access to information will be critical.

4. Board Members' areas of responsibility are as follows:

- Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Shirley Webb
- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Steve Mackay
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Emma Stokes
- Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Matt Dormer
- Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Alastair Adams
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Brandon Clayton
- Crime and Disorder – Richard Udall

5. To assist in their role, scrutiny lead members have the benefit of regular briefings from the Directorates they are shadowing, something which was put into place by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT). 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 Board members, the notes from these briefings (where produced) are available to all members electronically.

Work Programme

6. From time to time the Board will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

7. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny, which is agreed by Council on an annual basis. The last programme was agreed on 14 July 2022.

9. The Board is asked to consider its 2022/23 Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1) and agree whether any amendments are needed.

8. The main responsibilities of the Board are:

- Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels
- Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)
- Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework or which may be and have been adopted to be part of that Framework eg Corporate Plan, Budget
- Call-ins
- Designated by the Council as its statutory Crime and Disorder Committee and must meet at least annually.

10. The Board agreed to use a set of criteria (listed below) to help determine its scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria 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?

Cabinet Forward Plan

11. The Board will wish to consider any issues arising from the Council's Forward Plan. The latest version of the Plan available at the time of Agenda despatch is (attached at Appendix 2) for consideration.

Purpose of the Meeting

9. Members of the Board are asked to feedback on:

- the work within their Scrutiny remit, Panels and Task Groups;
- key issues from the Directorate that may be appropriate for future scrutiny;
- performance information they have queries or concerns about;
- any issues to be added to the Work Programme:
- 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.

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1: OSPB 2022 Work Programme
- Appendix 2: Forward Plan [Forward Plan 2022](#)

Contact Point for the Report

Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Manager - Tel: 01905 844963

Email: sjmorris@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

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

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

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Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board – 2022 Work Programme

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
20 October 2022	Annual Crime and Disorder Meeting (including an Update on Community Speed Watch Schemes and Community Safety Partnerships)	21 October 2021	
	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		
25 October 2022	Relocation of Redditch Library		
16 November 2022	New and emerging pressures for the Council likely to impact on the 2023/24 budget and medium term financial plan		
	Draft Scrutiny Report: Developer-Funded Highways Infrastructure and Section 278 Technical Approval	19 November 2020	Task Group started October 2021
	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		
7 December 2022	Budget Scrutiny		
	Draft Scrutiny Report: Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	10 December 2019	Task Group started December 2021
	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		
January 2023	Budget Scrutiny		
	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		
February 2023	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
March 2023	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring (Q3) - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels		
	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update		
April 2023	Review of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	30 September 2021 29 June 2022	To be endorsed by Council in May 2023
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan		
Possible Future Items			
tbc	Update on the Worcestershire Response To Invasion of Ukraine	23 March 2022 26 April 2022 29 September 2022	
May 2023	Update on the 2022-27 Corporate Plan		
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)		
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Elective Home Education	10 December 2019	Scrutiny Task Group paused due to COVID-19
Crime and Disorder	Safety of Worcestershire Parks and open spaces (Crime and Disorder)		Suggested at 30 September 2021 Meeting
TBC	Income Generation		Suggested at 17 March 2020 meeting

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
TBC	Update on Trading Standards (including reporting mechanisms)		Suggested at 22 July 2020 meeting
Standing Items			
Each meeting	Scrutiny Chairmen And Lead Member Update	Each meeting	
November/January	Budget Scrutiny		
March (Q3) July (Q4) September (Q1) November (Q2)	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels		
April	Review of Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme		To be endorsed by Council in May
July	Annual Crime and Disorder Meeting		
September	Annual Update from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)		
As necessary	Call-ins		
As necessary	Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels		
As necessary	Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)		
As necessary	Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such		

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
	other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework		

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.
Pershore Education and Planning Area Review Consultation Responses Key Decision	27 October 2022	4
Redditch Railway Quarter and Transport Interchange Key Decision	27 October 2022	5
Relocation of Redditch Library Key Decision	27 October 2022	6
Treasury Management Mid-Year Update	27 October 2022	7
Worcestershire Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP)	27 October 2022	8
Worcestershire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy	27 October 2022	9
Expansion of Worcestershire Parkway Station Car Park Key Decision	17 November 2022	10
Full Business Plan for the A38 Corridor, Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme Key Decision	17 November 2022	11
Net Zero Carbon 2022	17 November 2022	12
Proposed Delivery Model for Medical Education Provision in Worcestershire	17 November 2022	13
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Period 6 21/22	17 November 2022	14
Worcestershire Streetscape Design Guide Approval Key Decision	8 December 2022	15
2023/24 Budget and Council Tax	5 January 2023	16
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Period 8 22/23	5 January 2023	17
2023/24 Budget and Council Tax	2 February 2023	18
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Period 9 22/23	2 February 2023	19
'Called In' Decisions or Scrutiny Reports Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	20
Notices of Motion Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	21

All entries will be for decision by Cabinet unless otherwise indicated.

