

REPORT TITLE: COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – PERFORMANCE REVIEW

3 MARCH 2022

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Angela Clear, Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing

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WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

For the purpose of Section 19 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, this Committee acts as the Council's Crime & Disorder Committee and as such is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

This report provides an update on the progress made by the Partnership against the priorities and actions emerging from the Strategic Assessment 2021. It covers the period 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021. The District Police Commander will be available at the meeting to respond to questions raised by the Committee in relation to the report and Appendices, if required a verbal update in relation to police statistics can also be provided.

The Covid pandemic has largely impacted upon crime & disorder levels throughout the last 2 years and in some cases has skewed some statistics in terms of actual crimes. This is demonstrated in some of the benchmark comparisons between 2019 and 2020.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Committee note the work programme and agree any matters of significance to draw to the attention of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing or cabinet generally.

IMPLICATIONS:

1. COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

1.1 **Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District**

The Neighbourhood Services Team currently have 3 electric vehicles in the fleet, with a further 3 electric vehicles on order.

The 2021 business plan for Estate Services/Improvements included greater use of flora and fauna that absorbs/neutralises carbon i.e. over 173 new trees were planted during 2021 on Winchester City Council (WCC) Housing estates (to include New Builds) and in collaboration with the Natural Environment & Recreation Team (NERT) the further development of wild flower areas.

Update: Between February and March 2022 there is an expectation that a further 51 new trees will be planted on housing land.

The appointment of the new Estate Improvement Officer within the team will inform greater discussion/consultation around improvements that include biodiversity projects and reduction of carbon emissions i.e. Electric Vehicle Charging Points.

1.2 **Homes for all**

Neighbourhood Service Officers work alongside WCC Housing Options, Tenancy Support and external housing providers when signposting for support, those who come to their attention because of their vulnerability, behaviour, substance dependency or homelessness.

1.3 **Vibrant Local Economy**

The CSP works in partnership with the BID, WCC Licensing and Hampshire Constabulary to reduce crime & disorder in relation to the night-time economy.

Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety will input to consultation opportunities around regeneration, in order that identified risks related to crime & disorder can be addressed at the design stages.

1.4 **Living Well**

Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety work alongside Housing Tenancy and Hampshire Constabulary to tackle the issues related to transient drug dealing.

Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety work collaboratively across Housing services in support of tackling homelessness, tenant involvement/support/concerns for welfare i.e. Health & Safety checks, tackling waste issues in communal areas, implementing estate improvements and managing open space contracts.

1.5 **Your Services, Your Voice**

Neighbourhood Services work alongside TACT and Community Groups to consult around estate improvements.

The CS Teamwork in collaboration with ward councillors and community representatives to understand and provide remedial action to crime & disorder concerns.

The Housing Operations and Community Safety Service is in the process of developing greater opportunity for residents to 'feedback' their views in terms of service satisfaction (includes contracted services) i.e. digital options such as QR Codes, Texting, E-mail, Mobile Apps.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 All work undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership is either provided using existing resources or is supported with government grant funding as commissioned projects, managed by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner.

The budget allocated for the delivery of the city council's Neighbourhood Service & Community Safety Team is set against a net budget of £400K.

The transfer of fly tip resources from the Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety Team across to the Service Lead for Environmental Services has resulted in a successful grant funding application of £25K from the Waste And Resources Programme (WRAP).

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Sections 19 and 20 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, requires the City Council to have a 'Crime & Disorder Committee' with the power to review and scrutinise decisions made and other action taken in connection with the discharge of crime & disorder functions by responsible authorities (which include the City and County Council, National Probation Service, Hampshire Constabulary, Hants Fire & Rescue Service and Clinical Commissioning Group). The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 compliment the provisions under section 19.
- 3.2 The Committee has a power to make reports and recommendations to the City Council and the County with regard to the discharge of those functions. A member of the City Council must be able to have a local crime & disorder matter placed on the agenda of the Committee. As the City Council operates executive arrangements (with a Cabinet), the Committee must be a Scrutiny Committee.

- 3.3 The role of the committee is as a “critical friend” of the community safety partnership, providing it with constructive challenge at a strategic level rather than adversarial operational level.

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Delivery of Community Safety work is a partnership activity, managed by the Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety Manager. Amongst their other core activity, the Team actively supports the work of the CSP and Housing Services by responding to community concerns and issues related to County Lines, Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental issues.

- 4.2 Community Engagement is a key factor in the delivery of successful crime reduction and community empowerment opportunities. The current staffing resource does provide sufficient capacity from within the existing service to meet this objective. A proposal has been put forward for an additional 2 FTE posts whose focus will be to deliver against specific community engagement outcomes, this is subject to full council approval.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Protecting the assets of the council is a role for Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety Officers, specifically in relation to hot spot areas of crime & disorder i.e. utilising the tools and powers related to ASB legislation and contributing to consultation processes around district regeneration i.e. Kings Walk.

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 The development of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment and the subsequent delivery plan is completed in consultation with statutory, non-statutory partners and community representatives.

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing is the chair of the Community Safety Partnership and is fully informed of partnership activity via monthly update meetings with the Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Manager.

Supporting the most vulnerable during the Covid-19 Pandemic has been a key function for the city council. Recognising the importance of continued education and awareness raising during this period, the Community Safety Partnership collaborated with the council's Communications Team to deliver against local and national campaigns, using social media as an engagement tool. See **Appendix 3**.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Effective management of the Community Safety Partnership and relevant legislation i.e. Environment Protection Act 1990 promotes a positive environment approach for those who live, work or visit the district.

8 EQUALITY IMPACT (EqIA) ASSESSEMENT

- 8.1 This report provides an update on the progress made by the Partnership against the priorities and actions emerging from the Strategic Assessment 2021 and is not requesting any decisions. The report is for noting and raising issues only and therefore an EqIA is not required.
- 8.2 The council has a statutory duty under section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 that requires all public bodies to consider the needs of all individuals in their day-to-day work and in the course of their work supporting the Partnership, officers must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).
- 8.3 More specifically, officers have an understanding of the protected characteristic groups as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as advance equality and foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 8.4 Completion of an EqIA was undertaken in relation to the extension of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in 2020 and concluded it reasonable and proportionate for the extension to be implemented (report LR533 refers). The EqIA demonstrated that delivering the PSPO does not disadvantage anyone in the use of its power.
- 8.5 Officers will consider the council's Public Sector Equality Duty and if required complete an EqIA on any specific recommendations or future decisions to be made.

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The Community Safety Partnership is governed by legislative powers in relation to the sharing of information for the purposes of managing risk around crime and disorder i.e. Section 115 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. The security and storage of personal data within the confines of the service is managed in line with statutory duty, council policies and service retention schedules.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<i>Property - none</i>		
<i>Community Support – Insufficient staff resource to cover the priority areas of the Town Forum.</i>	Staffing levels remain set at a minimum of 3 wherever possible to cover core hours. Resilience across the team has been built in.	The merger of two teams has improved team collaboration across the service and in doing so has identified where there are opportunities for greater community engagement.
<i>Timescales –</i>		
<i>Project capacity - none</i>		
<i>Financial / VfM - none</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Legal – statutory duty for the city council to provide the scrutiny functions set out in ss19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.</i> 	Ensure that a report is placed before the scrutiny committee which enables feedback on the work programme	
<i>Innovation - none</i>		
<i>Reputation – Partnership working arrangements.</i>	Ensure the professional integrity of all staff/partner contact is maintained.	Increase opportunity for greater communication using social media e.g. responding to Facebook forums.
<i>Other</i>		
Financial Exposure		
Exposure to challenge		
Innovation		
Reputation – reputational risk around not resolving ASB issues.	Ensure all ward members are kept apprised of issues in hot spot locations in order to manage expectation.	Improving confidence in reporting.
Achievement of outcome		
Property		
Community Support - Reputational Risk around	Proposal put forward for additional resource to	Those living and working in Winchester will be

not being in a position to provide staffing resource to events/walkabouts.	provide community engagement opportunity.	provided with greater access to services and decision making processes.
Timescales		
Project capacity – Team cannot respond to all ASB issues, police resources limited.	Broaden the partnership collaboration.	
Other		

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

11.1 For the purpose of Section 19 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, this Committee acts as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee and as such is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and work of the Community Safety Partnership.

11.2 The Committee is asked to consider this report as part of its role as the Council's Crime & Disorder Committee.

This report forms part of the regular performance and financial monitoring process designed to check progress in delivering the Council's Crime & Disorder Committee.

11.3 The Community Safety work plan for 2021/22 focuses on 3 priority categories, they are:

- a) Domestic Violence and Abuse
- b) Quality of Life
- c) High Harm Crime

The information listed in **Appendix 1** to this report is the Community Safety Delivery Plan update, providing a progress report against the actions and objectives the Community Safety Partnership has delivered against for the period April to December 2021.

11.4 The data in **Appendix 2** is a crime summary provided by the police district Commander Ch. Insp. Jon Turton.

11.5 The data in **Appendix 3** shows the results of collaboration between the Community Safety Partnership and the council's Communications Team.

11.6 Community Safety – Headlines

11.7 During the last year the Neighbourhood Services & Community Safety team has worked with other services across the city council and externally with statutory and voluntary partners to deliver against the priorities within the corporate strategy and associated plans. **Examples** are listed below:

- a) **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Housing** – WCC housing tenancy team worked with an average of **167** live cases and **27** new cases per month. Reports of ASB and concerns around mental health and wellbeing which was shown in referrals to the assessment and Mediation Service **10** and Victim Support **9**. In addition, the data showed there were **6** Notice Seeking Possession, **1** Suspended Possession Order and **3** management moves.
- b) **Housing Case Management** – the service is hoping to implement a new case management system this year which will enable the recording and reporting of specific case details.
- c) **Fly Tip Enforcement** – the 2021 figures showed that the council received **1349** new incident reports of fly tip. **217** site visits were undertaken (unfortunately not all site visits have fly tip evidence within the rubbish so it's important to note that the number of site visits don't necessarily equate to reports coming in – without evidence and/or witnesses an investigation into the fly tip cannot be pursued), **13** investigations were opened within the reporting period as opposed to **58** in 2020.¹ During the same reporting period there were **273.70** tons of waste collected, **7** incidents were on private land (3 sites the waste was removed prior to the officer attending, 2 had no evidence and 1 site was not accessible). However, **1** was investigated and is due in court for prosecution in April 2022. Private land reports increased from the previous year (3) in 2020 as opposed to (7) in 2021 (if landowners do not have appropriate measures in place to reduce the risk of fly tip they are offered advice about securing land).
- d) **Fly Tip Resource** - in order to ensure a single service approach to the waste management and enforcement of fly tipping, responsibility has been transferred to the Service Lead Environmental Services who also has responsibility for the waste management contracts. The current staff vacancy for an enforcement officer is out to advert with an interview date booked for 8th March.
- e) **Fly Tip Education/CCTV** – a pilot project was launched in August 2021 which provided new signage and the use of cameras for hot spot locations. This is deemed to have been successful in terms of providing a deterrent to perpetrators, to date the number of fly tips have reduced in hot spots where cameras are located. The cameras are effective at taking photo's but have not caught anyone in the act yet, however a further 6 of the same type have been purchased. This will enable the installation of more cameras at a single location in order to minimise

¹ Fly Tip Data – see appendix 1 for updates related to investigation outcomes.

the chance of the fly tip being out of the range of the camera. This pilot will continue to be monitored in order to identify any gaps in provision and improve the use of cameras and signage as part of the ongoing campaign against perpetrators of fly tip.

- f) **Your Winchester online ASB Report forms** – There were **95** online reports (**34** Rural and **61** Urban areas) made within the reporting period and **113** compared with the same period in 2020. Reports consisted of Neighbourhood issues, Drug intel/paraphernalia/usage issues, ASB linked to Criminal Damage and Graffiti and rough sleeping related ASB.
- g) **Direct Reports** to the ASB lead within the reporting period totalled **103** cases compared to **71** in 2020. As a result of reports about HMO's **9** (**6** in 2020) noise visits were undertaken to student properties.
- h) **Begging stats** (As identified by CCTV) - There has been a significant reduction with the begging stats over the past year, data showed there were **43** reports in the reporting period compared to **81** in 2020. The figures reflect the fact that the majority of individuals are accommodated and support is provided via outreach, sign posting to other services and where appropriate the use of enforcement powers in line with ASB legislation i.e. Community Protection Warning Notices, Community Protection Notices and Community Banning Orders.
- i) **Community Warning Letters and Community Protection Notice's** – **10** Community Protection Warning letters were issued compared to **3** in 2020, all were linked to begging. Likewise, there was **4** Community Protection Notice issued within the data period compared to **1** in the same period for 2020.
- j) **ASB Hot Spot Locations²** – **14** within the reporting period compared to **8** in 2020. The number of reports coming in for specific locations included complaints of; rough sleepers and the associated detritus, discarded drug paraphernalia, criminal damage and drug dealing. The partnership used a variety of methods to address the issues and engage with the communities e.g. Street Briefs, Door Knocks, Patrols (joint partnership), Letter Drops, and Outreach. The Community Safety Partnership has recently supported grant funding applications to the Police & Crime Commissioners Office that would see the provision of increased outreach support throughout the day to try and encourage those causing issues to return to their accommodation.
- k) **Needle finds** – **46** unused and **115** used needles, **14** NOS Canisters were disposed of within the reporting period.
- l) **Community Trigger** – **1** application was received, it met the threshold and the case is still in review.
- m) **Community Partnership Intelligence** – data showed **22** intelligence reports were made within the reporting period. Information included; drugs, racist/offensive graffiti, safeguarding concerns (reports related to drug intelligence was the predominant issue).

² Hot Spot Locations – are identified as Hot Spots if they reach a level that requires discussion at the ASB panel for multi-agency support. Wards included Whiteley and Shedfield, St Michael, Colden Common/Twyford, Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery, St Bartholomew, St Lukes.

12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 12.1 The Council is a responsible authority within the Community Safety Partnership and has a statutory duty to deliver against crime & disorder. No other options can be considered.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

[SCO43: COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – PERFORMANCE REVIEW](#)

11 MARCH 2021.

Other Background Documents:-

Winchester Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2021

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/community-safety-and-neighbourhood-services/winchester-community-safety-partnership/current-csp-strategy>

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1. Winchester Community Safety Partnership - Annual Delivery Plan 2021/2022 (April to December Performance Update)

Appendix 2. Police District Commander Summary

Appendix 3. Community Safety – WCC Social Media Analysis