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AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Democratic Services

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30 November 2015

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee will be held at **6.30 pm on Tuesday 8 December 2015** in **The Olympic Room, Aylesbury Vale District Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF**, when your attendance is requested.

Membership: Councillor M Winn (Chairman); Councillors S Jenkins (Vice-Chairman), P Agoro, M Bateman, A Bond, S Chapple, A Cole, S Cole, B Everitt, A Hetherington and T Hunter-Watts

Contact Officer for meeting arrangements: Charlotte Gordon; cgordon@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk;

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

Any changes will be reported at the meeting.

3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2015, copy attached as an Appendix.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests.

5. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE UPDATE (Pages 5 - 16)

The Committee will receive a presentation on Domestic Violence and Abuse from Buckinghamshire County Council. The Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy 2015-2018 is attached.

Contact Officer: Kay Aitken (01296) 585005

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE 2015 (Pages 17 - 32)

Contact Officer: Kay Aitken (01296) 585005

7. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 33 - 34)

Contact Officer: Charlotte Gordon (01296) 585060

Agenda Item 3

Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee

3 NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillor M Winn (Chairman); Councillors S Jenkins (Vice-Chairman), M Bateman, A Bond, A Cole, B Everitt, T Hunter-Watts and S Lambert

APOLOGIES: Councillors S Chapple, S Cole and A Hetherington

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lambert declared a Personal Interest in Item 3 – Update report on the Flooding on the Willows Development as he is the Ward Member for Buckinghamshire County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council.

Councillor Andrew Cole declared a Personal Interest in Item 3 – Update report on the Flooding on the Willows Development as he is the Ward Member for Aylesbury Vale District Council.

3. UPDATE REPORT ON THE FLOODING ON THE WILLOWS DEVELOPMENT

The Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee received an update on the flooding at the Willows development during December 2013 and February 2014. The Willows estate was located to the West of Aylesbury and was bounded by the A418 Oxford Road, Ellen Road and the Stoke Brook. The Stoke Brook, which was classed as a 'Main River' by the Environment Agency, was an open watercourse throughout the estate. The Environment Agency were responsible for managing the flooding from the Brook, and Aylesbury Vale District Council had responsibility for the east bank of the Brook abutting the Willows Estate.

In December 2013, the Willows Estate experienced a number of flooding incidents and, although no properties were affected, car parking areas were flooded with surface water. In February 2014, the South East of England suffered extreme rainfall. This affected the Willows and 80 properties suffered internal flooding. Following the flooding, Buckinghamshire County Council produced a Section 19 Flood Investigation Report, which was published on 30 April 2014.

Following the flooding, Central Government promised funding for the residents affected, which was available in two streams. Firstly, Council Tax or Business Rate Rebates for the time residents were out of their homes or businesses, and secondly a 'Repair and Renewal Grant', which was a maximum of £5,000 to each flooded property to help improve their resilience to future flood events. From the Repair and Renewal Grant, £500 per property can be used towards studies and/or flood risk reports. This allowed the Council to spend £40,000 on feasibility work.

The feasibility study included the whole of the upper catchment of the Stoke Brook to ensure that any works carried out in the Willows did not have an adverse effect upstream. This increased the cost of the original estimate from £16,000 to £27,000, which led to a delay as Aylesbury Vale District Council attempted to identify match funding for this from partner organisations. The financial impact of the study was decreased using funding from HS2 and the Environment Agency.

Temporary flood defences were put in place and were stored on the estate in a compound maintained by Transport for Bucks. Additional monitoring of the Stoke Brook was put in place upstream of the flooding. Aylesbury Vale District Council, the Environment Agency and Buckinghamshire County Council would be notified by text and email should the water level in the Brook rise above an agreed level. The feasibility report also produced a long term capital scheme that could be commenced if funding were available at a later date.

Buckinghamshire County Council also invested in flood prevention measures, and used part of the Repair and Renewal Grant to install a trash screen to prevent fly tipped rubbish from blocking the culvert on Oxford Road. This measure was maintained by the Environment Agency and was inspected every two weeks. It would be a permanent structure and had flood defence consent. Aylesbury Vale District Council would also carry out monthly checks.

Members of the Committee stated that the coordinated response between Aylesbury Vale District Council, Buckinghamshire County Council, the Environment Agency and the community groups was a great success and should not be understated. The response to the flooding on the Willows was the first nationally to pool the money received in the Repair and Renewal Grant to provide improvements for the community, and this would not have been possible without the majority of households agreeing to pool the money. The partnership work between the authorities also allowed some works to be fast tracked so that work could be started using time restricted funds. It was also noted that the temporary flooding defences stored at Rabans Lane were portable, and therefore were an asset to all residents in Aylesbury Vale not just those on the Willows estate. Members felt that the report underplayed the efforts of all parties involved. The Section 19 Flood Investigation Report was produced by the County Council in six weeks, and it was noted that they were one of the first authorities in the country to produce a report.

Councillors were advised that, as a result of the investigations and reports, this Council and partner organisations were more knowledgeable about flooding. It was asked that a further report be provided for consideration by the Committee detailing further risks identified and lessons learned. The report should also give further detail of the partnership work that took place between the different authorities and also with the community. It was noted that Buckinghamshire County Council were currently carrying out an in-depth scrutiny review of the response to the flooding, and it might be useful to this Committee if a representative from the County were able to attend the Committee meeting.

RESOLVED -

That a further report detailing lessons learned, and the partnership work between the authorities be considered at a subsequent meeting of this Committee.

4. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee was provided with a work programme outlining the items that would be considered at future meetings. It was noted that the following items were currently on the work programme:

8 December

- Community Safety Partnership update, to include Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Violence.

11 February

- Five Ways to Wellbeing and Mental Health Update
- Encouraging the use of parks and open spaces

23 March

- Right to Buy Policy
- VAHT update
- Aylesbury Homelessness Action Group

Councillors also asked that the following items be added to the work programme.

- Private rented accommodation
- The adoption of the riverine corridor in Fairford Leys
- A further update report on the response to the flooding on the Willows Development
- The policy and maintenance programme for trees in the Vale.

RESOLVED –

That the work programme of the scrutiny committee as discussed at the meeting be agreed.

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No Race

No Gender

No Sexuality

No Excuse

There's no
excuse for
Domestic
Abuse

Physical, sexual or psychological abuse is never OK and never the victim's fault. There is help available.

Buckinghamshire Domestic Violence
and Abuse Strategy 2015-2018

DVA Strategy 2015-2018

What is Domestic Violence and Abuse?

The cross-government definition of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) is:

any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

Home Office, March 2013

(For this definition, family members are mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter and grandparents, whether directly related, step-family or in-laws.)

Foreword –

Martin Philips –Cabinet Member for Community Engagement

Domestic Violence and Abuse affects all sorts of people irrelevant of age, gender, sexuality, class or background. It is important that all agencies collaborate, communicate and deliver as part of a joined up, multi-agency approach to tackle this problem. There truly is no excuse for domestic abuse and communication and early intervention towards the older and younger generations is key to limiting the severity of these cases. This strategy is a multi-agency partnership document and has involved consultation with service users and partners to ensure we have a maximised co-ordinated approach. The aim of the strategy is to encompass areas of focus in one document so they are actioned and targets achieved to benefit victims and assist with reforming perpetrators. We all have a duty of care to the residents of Buckinghamshire and we continue to take seriously our duty.

Phil Dart – Service Director, Communities

Physical, sexual or psychological abuse is never ok and never the victim's fault. Ourselves and partners are committed to achieving the best results in order to safeguard, support and empower those who are victims of Domestic Abuse in Buckinghamshire as well as support perpetrators to make positive changes to their behaviour. The limitations in funding mean that resources are stretched. However our priority remains with Domestic Abuse and that services and support is on offer for our residents, we are able to build on the successes derived from the last strategy and

further develop our models of approach for the foreseeable future.

Buckinghamshire Vision

Within Buckinghamshire we want a **zero tolerance approach** towards Domestic Violence and Abuse and **coordinated** response to people at **risk** of it within Buckinghamshire, ensuring that those who are affected are **identified, supported, protected** and **empowered**.

Underlying Principles

- Domestic Violence and Abuse cannot be tackled in isolation and a coordinated partnership approach is essential. It is imperative that Domestic Violence and Abuse is recognised as a strategic priority within all individual agencies and resourced appropriately; both maintaining and developing the current level of provision.
- Working together to prevent, intervene and reduce the impact of Domestic Violence and Abuse, increasing the safety and reducing the risk posed to those who experience it within Buckinghamshire.
- To provide support to women and men in Buckinghamshire through a county wide IDVA service.
- To ensure that victims are identified by services/ agencies and are supported through their journey to ensure that they are empowered to make their own decisions.
- As individuals and agencies we give a clear message that Domestic Violence and Abuse will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be held to account for their behaviour.
- As agencies, we think long term and ensure putting in place provision so that we are creating, supporting and encouraging healthy relationships.

Key National Statistics

- 1:4 women are affected by an abusive relationship at some time in their lives after the age of 16¹.
- Domestic homicides account for approximately one third of all homicides in England and Wales with an average of 2 women killed every week by a current or former partner².
- DVA accounts for the highest number of repeat victims of all violent crime³
- DVA often starts or intensifies during pregnancy⁴.
- 750,000 children a year witness DVA⁵.

¹ Numerous research, including Council of Europe 2002

² Povey, 2005, 2005; Home Office, 1999; Department of Health, 2005

³ British Crime Survey Self-Completion Module 2010/2011

⁴ Bewley et al in Violence Against Women (1997)

⁵ Department of Health, 2002

⁶ Department of Health, 2002, Farmer and Owen, 1995

- 75% of children on local 'at risk' registers live in households where DVA occurs⁶.

How much Domestic Violence and Abuse is there in Buckinghamshire?

- **7,357** incidents reported to the police in 2013/14.⁷
- **3,153** repeat incidents reported to the police in 2013/14.⁸
- **16,738** women and girls have been victims of Domestic Violence and Abuse in 2013 (more than 2 times police reports)⁹.
- **0** domestic homicides in Buckinghamshire between April 2013 and March 2014.
- **1,041** victims supported in 2012/13¹⁰.
- **1,500** children supported through Women's Aid in 2012/13¹¹.
- Children involved/in the house in **3,461** of the incidents to which police were called in 2013/14 ¹².

Buckinghamshire Broad Strategic Aims

In February 2015, partnership representatives gathered to conclude the 2012-2015 DVA Strategy and also collectively discussed and compiled the strategic aims and priorities for the 2015-2018 strategy. There was an opportunity for agencies that were unable to attend the workshop to feed in to the draft strategy and put forward suggestions and amendments. Focus groups were also held in the autumn of 2014 to enable service users to make suggestions.

The Buckinghamshire Domestic Violence and Abuse strategy will be delivered through an implementation plan that will be based on 4 strategic priorities.

Coordinated Community Response	To continue to support, develop and implement the Coordinated Community Response
Safety, Support and Harm Reduction	To improve the victim journey by identifying gaps, areas of good practice and improve the victim experience with our partnership services
Prevention and Early Intervention	To support the safeguarding agenda and continue to enhance the current training and awareness raising to ensure that professionals and the public are well informed. To support, encourage and provide information to children, young people and families around healthy relationships and to provide services to those who

⁷ Strategic Assessment – TVP data

⁸ Strategic Assessment – TVP data

⁹ Home Office VAWG Ready Reckoner tool – based on 2013 population of approximately 515,000

¹⁰ Women's Aid Annual Statistics

¹¹ Women's Aid Annual Statistics

¹² TVP data

	<p>have experienced Domestic Violence and Abuse. To ensure that those who are vulnerable are supported appropriately.</p> <p>This priority has three sections:</p> <p>A) Training of Professionals B) Children and Young adults C) Adults</p>
Local Communities	<p>To engage with communities at a local level, including those who are harder to reach to ensure they are getting the services they need and that communities are equipped to help</p>

Expectations

Every adult survivor/victim, women or men, can expect:

- To have their dignity upheld by local statutory and voluntary agencies
- To be believed (unless evidence shows otherwise) when they seek help against violence and abuse.
- That their life choices be respected and supported provided they cause no harm to others.
- Not to be exploited or abused due to their identity or circumstances, including gender, age, disability, vulnerability, immigration status, imposition of concepts of community or family honour, sexual orientation, substance misuse or being sexually exploited.
- To have their needs and risk of violence assessed effectively and be offered support or be sign-posted to appropriate and welcoming sources of support and protection.
- That they and their families, friends, neighbourhoods, work colleagues and statutory and voluntary service providers be given consistent, clear and repeated messages that violence and abuse against women, girls and male victims is unacceptable, regardless of their personal circumstances or life choices.

Every child and young person can expect:

- To receive culturally sensitive and educational information/messages that violence and abuse against women, girls, men and boys is unacceptable, in language which is appropriate and clear for children and young people.
- To be supported and protected, whether as children and young people affected by violence against their parents or carers, or as young people abused by partners, friends, or acquaintances.
- Not to be exploited or abused due to their age, vulnerability or gender.

Every perpetrator of violence against women, girls, men and boys can expect:

- To be held accountable through the criminal justice system for crimes of violence and abuse, including threats, psychological violence, or control of the victim through threats and/or violence against friends and/or family, pets, criminal damage, stalking or harassment.
- To have access to the voluntary perpetrator programme and receive support and help to change their behaviour if they seek to engage.

Communities and residents can expect:

- To live free from the impact on communities of violence, abuse and sexual violence against women, girls, boys and men.

Priority 1

Coordinated Response	Community	To continue to support, develop and implement the Coordinated Community Response Model
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- Link in with partners to ensure effective processes and policies are in place to effectively respond to DVA locally.
- To monitor/scope demand for DVA services, identify funding streams and ensure subsequent effectiveness of delivery.
- To continue to maintain the existing MARAC and seek to ensure that it is working to good practice levels with a focus on increasing referrals and incorporating referrals from all sections of the community.
- To scope a localised mini MARAC for standard and medium risk victims
- To work towards an integrated commissioning strategy for DVA services to ensure a holistic approach is taken that considers the impact of decisions on different groups.
- To formulate a co-ordinated response plan to substance misuse, mental health and DVA across services including strengthening links across the Thames Valley region.
- To respond effectively to DVA priorities using demand management, analysis processes and apportioning resources efficiently.
- To continue to analyse existing programmes which operate in Buckinghamshire to enable an evidence led approach and effective use of resources.

Priority 2

Safety, Support and Harm Reduction	To improve the victim journey by identifying gaps, areas of good practice and improve the victim experience with our partnership services.
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- To maintain IDVA provision across the county.
- To encourage our multi agency partnership to support and actively promote schemes and legislation that is available to protect current and future victims of abuse.
- To periodically organise victim focus groups, so as to get the views of victims and their children to help with the development of services and campaign work.
- To continue with the Sanctuary Scheme, across all tenures of housing so survivors can continue their lives in their existing/new homes.
- Explore the support needed for victims of all ages who may be experiencing extended abuse via new technologies and how the effects can be reduced.
- To engage with Registered Providers (Housing Associations) to ensure their DVA policies are fit for purpose.
- To continue to raise awareness to victims of DVA and local support available, seeking to ensure this is replicated across all areas of the county.
- To identify those perpetrators who move from one victim to another and to encourage perpetrators in accessing information and support in relation to their abusive behaviour. For agencies to ensure that they are including perpetrators in assessments in relation to the victim and their children.

Priority 3

Prevention and Early Intervention: a) Training of Professionals b) Children & Young People b) Adults	Support the safeguarding agenda and continue and enhance the current training and awareness raising to ensure that professionals and the public are well informed
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A) Training of professionals & increased partnership working:

- To train, develop and sustain a competent DVA Champion's network across a multiplicity of agencies in Buckinghamshire who can help with early intervention of victims, faster identification of perpetrators and professional guidance of colleagues.
- To develop a DVA training strategy that would align professional competency levels to completed training.
- To engage with professionals who due to the composition of their work may be harder to reach (such as GPs, Paramedics etc) and are vital in terms of partnership working, early intervention and referral into services and MARAC.

- To train professionals from a range of agencies to positively identify and signpost victims of abuse. If confidence in departments/agencies is low in respect to DVA to tackle this appropriately with training.

B) Children and young people:

- To continue to develop services for children and young people who experience DVA, including those who are still living in a violent home.
- To scope the need for interventions for perpetrators who are below 18 years of age. To encourage and provide provision to support them to change their behaviour.
- To increase awareness among children, young people and professionals working within universal educative settings of healthy relationships and the support available. This also includes accessing other settings young people use to inform them of what healthy relationships are e.g.-youth clubs.
- To analyse and review the pilot DVA Youth Worker role in Wycombe, Chiltern and South Bucks and seek to extend the DVA Youth Worker role to Aylesbury Vale as appropriate.

C) Adults

- To provide support and raise awareness for adults who are vulnerable, experiencing DVA and are harder to reach.
- To review options of support for adults that experience adolescent to parent abuse.
- To research and scope funding, partnership options and viability of refuge/support of adult victims with complex needs.
- To seek to expand existing services to other localities in Buckinghamshire so there is increased consistency in the services offered to victims across the county.

Priority 4

Local Communities	To engage with communities at a local level, including those who are harder to reach to ensure they are getting the services they need and communities are equipped to help
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- To equip community leaders, including Members, with information such as legislation change and for them to lead on the message of a zero tolerance approach of DVA within their communities.
- To identify groups where there are emerging issues and to put in place appropriate support.
- To scope and implement support for those in the Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual Transgendered communities, those with disabilities, BME, male, elderly etc.
- To target awareness of DVA in rural communities and scope funding for rural engagement of support services.

Implementation and Delivery

This Strategy is the overarching document which sets out a common understanding and commitment from all partners to tackle DVA in Buckinghamshire. It will promote working together in a planned way that will drive positive outcomes for local people.

To accompany the DVA Strategy there will be a DVA Action Plan compiled each year for the duration of the 3 year strategy. Each annual action plan will detail how each of the strategic priorities will be achieved and apportions the agencies and individuals who will be leading on the actions required. The strategy has been developed taking into account existing resources and funding. If either the resource or funding changes there may be an impact on the ability to deliver the subsequent action plans.

The Safer Communities Team at Buckinghamshire County Council will have the responsibility for the coordination of the delivery of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy and Action Plan.

Who will oversee the Strategy?

The DVA Strategy will be led by the Domestic and Community Violence Strategy Group, with overall governance coming from the Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board (SSBPB). The SSBPB brings together the Community Safety Partnership Chairs and the representatives from the responsible authorities in Buckinghamshire. Implementation and delivery of the strategy will be the responsibility of individual agencies through a joined-up approach.

DVA is a priority of the Partnership Board. The Partnership Board will be responsible for monitoring the performance and delivery of the desired outcomes.

How will we know we have made a difference?

These will be monitored through the Domestic and Community Violence Strategy Group and will be reported on a quarterly basis:

- Increasing the numbers of victims that are seen by the MARAC.
- Evidenced reduction in risk of victims who engage with the IDVA.
- A reduction in the number of repeat victims of DVA.
- Increased first time reporting of DVA to the police.
- Maintain admissions to support programmes delivered by our commissioned services.
- Training to be delivered to more professionals so they have a better understanding of DVA.
- Increased membership to the DVA Champions Network in Bucks.
- Decrease in number of children subject to repeat referrals to CSC for DVA related issues
- That those children and young people that enter the refuge are allocated a school place within 15 days.

Diversity

Whether or not a person is a victim or perpetrator of DVA does not depend on their age, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation or social economic background, whether or not they are disabled or have undergone gender reassignment, or whether they live a travelling life. However, we recognise that, for some people, one or more of these aspects of their identity can make it more difficult for them to seek help. We also recognise that the vast majority of people who experience DVA are female and that the vast majority of perpetrators are male. If our services are to be effective, therefore, they need to take account of the diversity within our communities and flex to work with people's different experiences, values, attitudes, understanding, behaviour, ability to communicate and to change. We will work with our stakeholders to encourage them to also be committed to this approach so that all service users can expect to be treated fairly, with dignity and with respect.

Glossary

BME- Black & Minority Ethnic

DVA-Domestic Violence and Abuse

IDVA- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

LGBT-Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender

MARAC-Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

Sanctuary Scheme- Offers extra security measures within properties

Child Protection Plan-A child protection plan is a plan drawn up by the local authority. It sets out how the child can be kept safe, how things can be made better for the family and what support they will need.

DVA Champions Network-Through the Champion's Network, we can develop valuable DVA knowledge amongst professionals in all agencies in a way that ensures that the information they possess is of quality, up to date and consistent across all members. The Champion is seen as the lead for domestic abuse issues within their agency or unit and acts as the contact in and out of that unit/agency

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AYLESBURY VALE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE 2015

Chief Executive

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides Members with information about current crime levels, a summary of activity on the delivery of the Aylesbury Vale Community Safety Partnership (AVCSP¹) Plan in 2015/16, and an update on some of the recent and future changes taking place in connection with community safety.

2 Recommendations/for decision

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| 2.1 That Members note the content of the report. |
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3 Executive summary

- 3.1 Total recorded crime in 2015/16 is currently showing an increase of 16% (712 crimes) compared to the same period in 2014/15 . Buckinghamshire is showing an increase in crime of 9% compared to the same period in 2014/15. An increase was anticipated due to the changes in Home Office crime recording practice in April 2015.
- 3.2 Chief Inspector Neil Kentish from Thames Valley Police will be attending the meeting.
- 3.3 The report provides information about activities completed to date from the AVCSP 2015/16 action plan such as the Purple Flag Accreditation and Chelsea's Choice roll out, as well as forthcoming activities.
- 3.4 The AVCSP is currently developing the action plan for 2016/17. A strategic assessment identifies priorities for the Partnership based on the crime and disorder risks, and a public consultation will inform us of residents' priorities. This will be the last action plan of the current strategy.
- 3.5 The ASB, Crime and Policing Act gained royal assent in March 2014, bringing with it the biggest change in ASB powers since their introduction in 1998. This report provides an update on the implementation of the new powers.
- 3.6 CCTV continues to be a valuable tool in the reduction and detection of crime and disorder. From April to September 2015 CCTV has been used to capture evidence of 374 incidents and supported 56 arrests. It also captured 83 incidents of ASB resulting in 2 arrests, It played an essential role in the EDL protest in Aylesbury in October.

¹ The Partnership Plan is drawn up by the AVCSP, which is made up of Aylesbury Vale District Council, Buckinghamshire County Council, Thames Valley Police, Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Thames Valley Probation, Aylesbury Vale Clinical Commissioning Group.

- 3.7 A number of new duties were implemented during 2015 which are community safety related, such as the Prevent duty and the duty to report slavery.

4 Crime statistics

- 4.1 Crime has been falling in the Vale for the last few years and the Community Safety Partnership did not set numerical targets in the 2015/16 plan as it was felt unlikely that crime would continue to fall.
- 4.2 In April 2015, the Home Office changed the way that Police forces in England and Wales record crime. This was predicted to most likely increase crime levels in 2015/16.
- 4.3 From 1st April 2015 to the end of October 2015 overall crime has increased by 16% compared to the same period last year. A breakdown showing the changes in different types of crime is provided below. Due to the changes in recording practice this year's data is not directly comparable with last year's figures. In order to provide some context, the table below also shows the percentage change for the same categories, over the same time period, for the Buckinghamshire area:

Crime Type	Crime figures (April – Oct 2015/16) Aylesbury Vale	% change compared with 2014/15 Aylesbury Vale	% change in crime figures across Buckinghamshire
Burglary	132 (down 33)	20% reduction	10.2% reduction
Theft of vehicle	72 (up 22)	44% increase	29.3% increase
Theft from vehicle	461 (up 82)	22% increase	7.7% increase
Robbery (business)	4 (same as 2014/15)	0%	21.4% increase
Robbery (personal)	22 (down 1)	4.35% reduction	5.2% increase
Total Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) offences	691 (up 70)	11% increase	5.1% increase
Total crime	5126 (up 712)	16% increase	9% increase

5. Update on the Community Safety Plan 2015/16

5.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, requires the Aylesbury Vale Community Safety Partnership (AVCSP) to produce a three year partnership strategy and annual action plans to achieve the priorities set in the strategy. The current strategy² (2014-2017) has two key priorities:

(i) Safe and Secure town centres

(ii) To reduce ASB and crimes that are of most concern to the public and to protect the most vulnerable members of our community.

5.2 The current action plan is available at <http://www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk/section/community-safety-partnership-news-and-events>

Examples of projects undertaken to date in 2015/16 include:

(i) When looking at sexual assault figures across the force, TVP identified that issues surrounding consent seem to be a key area of concern. In October we supported the launch of the Thames Valley Police campaign *#Consentiseverything*. This campaign is a YouTube video showing that consent cannot be assumed. The message is based around the context of making a cup of tea, in that you would always ask someone if they wanted a cup of tea and the same should be said about embarking in sexual activity. We have promoted the campaign through our Facebook and twitter feeds, and internally through our intranet and posters around the council offices. More details can be found at www.consentiseverything.com

(ii) Chelsea's Choice³ is a play about how a young girl becomes the victim of child sexual exploitation (CSE). The play has been performed to year 9 students at local secondary schools across the Vale, and allows teenagers to see that certain risky behaviours may lead them into dangerous situations, illustrating that this type of crime can happen to anyone. The play is followed up with a session run by R U Safe⁴ and the drama group to give practical advice to young people who have concerns about themselves or friends. Following the play in 2014/15 some schools had disclosures of CSE immediately after the play. Feedback from schools in 2014/15 confirmed that students had found the play impactful and partners agreed to secure the roll out in this year. Evaluations of this years play are being conducted by the Countywide CSE group to see if partners will use Chelsea's Choice again in 2016/17.

(iii) Aylesbury town centre has held Purple Flag⁵ status since 2010. We have recently submitted our annual renewal application and inspectors from the Association of Town Centre Managers visited Aylesbury on

²http://www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk/sites/default/files/page_downloads/AVCSP%20strategy%202014%202017%20and%20annual%20plan%202014%202015.pdf

³ More information about Chelsea's Choice can be found at www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/chelseas-choice

⁴ R U Safe are a part of Barnardo's who work specifically with young people who are involved in sexual exploitation.

⁵ For information about Purple Flag visit https://www.atcm.org/programmes/purple_flag/WelcometoPurpleFlag

Saturday 21st November 2015 to meet partners and experience Aylesbury's night time economy for themselves. We will hear the outcome in January 2016.

(iv) Waste amnesty project – alongside the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust (VAHT) we organised an awareness raising campaign in Walton Court, distributing information packs about the high levels of fly tipping and contaminated waste. Alongside this we arranged for additional clearance teams to visit on the day who removed 1.5 tons of household waste.

5.3 Examples of upcoming projects for 2015/16 include:

(i) The annual wintertime burglary campaign runs through to January 2016. Although we have seen a continuing decrease in this type of crime, people are most at risk of burglary during the winter months. The Community Safety Officer is supporting police colleagues at advice stands across the Vale and Members will be informed of any activity in their area.

(ii) Due to ongoing concerns about CSE, in January 2016 we are launching the Barnardo's "*Say something*" campaign. This aims to raise the awareness of local businesses about how they are important eyes and ears in spotting risk factors associated with CSE and what to do should they suspect CSE related activity.

(iii) In 2016 we will be working with housing providers to raise the awareness of parents about e-safety by arranging some sessions for their tenants. The sessions provide information about the different methods of communication young people use today and the associated risks to privacy. The sessions also raise awareness about the consequences of sharing too much private information about yourself on internet sites such as where you visit, bands you like, friends groups etc.

6. Action plan 2016/17

6.1 During the next few months we will be drafting the new community safety action plan for 2016/17. The recent strategic assessment⁶ (2014-2015) identified that the two priorities of the current strategy are still valid.

6.2 A summary of key points around these areas are:

(i) Violent crime accounts for 20% of all reported crime in Aylesbury Vale. An increase of 6% on the previous year. Some of this is related to the night time economy which is referenced in point two below. Sexual offences rose by 36% compared with last year's figure and account for 4% of offences in the Vale. Further analytical work is taking place to provide the partnership with more information around violent crime, such as high risk locations, times or dates.

⁶ CSP's have a duty to conduct annual reviews of crime, known as strategic assessments, to help identify priorities for action.

(ii) Town centre crime 5% of all crime in Aylesbury Vale takes place in Aylesbury town centre. The most frequent crime being public order followed by shoplifting and violence. 24% of the crime in the town centre is violence related and primarily occurs at the weekends between 1-4am with the majority of offenders being male between the age of 18-24.

(iii) Emerging areas of crime include CSE, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and other forms of exploitation such as slavery. Work is being undertaken to help the partnership understand the scale of these crimes in the Vale. Whilst the number of victims of these types of offences is low, they have a high impact on the victims and the local community.

6.3 Each year the AVCSP consults with residents about the priorities for the new action plan. We also ask people to tell us how safe they feel in their neighbourhood, town centre or place of work, how informed they feel about the emerging areas of crime and where they would seek information. The results of this year's survey will help to shape the activities and awareness raising campaigns during 2016/17.

7. Update on the Antisocial Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014.

7.1 Reducing ASB incidents is one of the AVCSP's objectives. From 1st April 2015 to end of October 2015 overall incidents of ASB have increased by 6 incidents, an increase of 0.46%.

7.2 A partnership approach was established to tackling ASB in 2007 when the Public Safety Team was created. This is a co-located team working from AVDC offices or Aylesbury Police station and is staffed by a council officer (the ASB Co-ordinator) and a police constable. They work with partners to:

- (i) give tactical advice to neighbourhood police teams to reduce the incidence of ASB in repeat locations
- (ii) give tactical advice to local housing providers and other partners to deal with perpetrators of ASB.
- (iii) Utilise ASB powers and lower level sanctions to disrupt ASB activity.

7.3 Each year the AVCSP have a target to reduce youth related ASB in the three areas of the Vale identified as having higher levels of youth related ASB complaints. In the current plan (2014/15) the areas identified to focus on youth ASB include Aylesbury West, Aylesbury Central and Winslow and district wards. Partners such as Addaction are currently consulting with young people in these locations which will help partners to develop informed action plans for for 2016.

- 7.4 Last years plan identified the key locations of Southcourt and Buckingham for youth related ASB. We have continued to work in the areas this year and examples of work undertaken include:
- (i) In July 2015 an awareness raising campaign was launched in Walton Court and Southcourt about the illegal use of mini motorcycles. A leaflet explaining the law and consequences was delivered to households in the area. This was followed up with an enforcement campaign by TVP whereby one motorcycle was seized and crushed.
 - (ii) A 'Switch' project has been running in the Southcourt area which is designed to encourage young people to participate in positive activities and divert them from committing ASB. The project addresses negative behaviours through a range of sports and group work activities. On average 32 young people attend weekly.
- 7.5 In our last update to this committee in 2014 we informed Members about the ASB, Crime and Policing Act which was just being implemented. This was the biggest change to ASB powers since their inception through the Crime and Disorder Act in 1998. A summary of the new powers has been attached as Appendix A.
- 7.6 Environmental Health lead on the Community Protection Notices (CPN's) and Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's), whilst the Public Safety team lead on the other powers. The AVCSP oversee the Community Trigger.
- 7.7 Since the implementation we have successfully used the following powers :
- (i) CPN's. One CPN has been served, for a low level repeat burning of waste matter where this did not constitute a statutory nuisance.
 - (ii) CBO's. We currently have an application lodged with the magistrates court to serve a CBO on conviction.
 - (iii) Closure Notices/Orders. TVP have used a Closure Notice on three occasions to close households which were suppling and allowing the misuse of drugs from the premises. The notice lasts for 24 hours only, and has to be followed up with an application to court for a Closure Order, to extend the closure period. On one occasion TVP have applied to the court for a Closure Order on a local property to remove the occupant for 6 months. Whilst this Order was initially successful at court, the occupant later appealed the decision and was allowed to return to the property. In the other two cases serving the Notice for 24 hours did stop the ASB and therefore an application to the court for a full Closure Order was not necessary.
 - (iv) Community Trigger. This has been activated on four occasions. On two occasions the community trigger did not lead to a panel review. One activation resulted in a review of the case, concluding that work to address the problem was being undertaken in a reasonable time period. A fourth activation was a complex case spanning a number of years. Although a panel conducted a review of the case this was later

appealed by the residents, and this has led to further action being undertaken by partners.

The AVCSP is currently undertaking a review of the trigger procedure in light of experience to date.

(v) PSPO's. These orders will eventually replace the Designated Public Place Order (DPPO). There are currently 27 DPPOs across the Vale on various public spaces. The council's licensing team is currently reviewing the Aylesbury town centre DPPO so that this DPPO can be the first to be converted into a PSPO. As PSPO can have more prohibitions than a DPPO this will involve consulting with partners on the types of activities the PSPO will seek to prohibit. (vi) Dispersal Powers. TVP have been using this power in Aylesbury town centre to move people on, who are sleeping in car parks. Once served with a notice they are not allowed to come back to the nominated location for 48 hours. They have been useful in helping TVP to disrupt this kind of activity.

(vii) Civil Injunctions. We have not yet had cause to serve a civil injunction.

8. CCTV

- 8.1 CCTV continues to be a valuable tool in the reduction and detection of crime and disorder. From April to September 2015 CCTV has been used to capture evidence of 374 incidents and supported 56 arrests. It also captured 83 incidents of ASB and resulted in 2 arrests, It played an essential role in the EDL protest in Aylesbury in October.
- 8.2 A TVP review completed in 2014 concluded that CCTV provides a significant benefit in fighting crime and supporting community safety, and that there could be benefits in examining emerging technologies and any collaborative opportunities across the Thames Valley. This work is ongoing.

9. Upcoming legislation or changes to Community Safety

- 9.1 In 2012 Police Authorities were replaced by directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs). The initial term of duty is coming to an end in May 2016, when elections for this post will take place.
- 9.2 The Government consulted earlier in 2015 on a new duty to make emergency services work closer together in the future. One of the proposals is to extend the role of the PCC to take on the duties of the Fire Authority, thus creating a single employer. We will keep Members updated.
- 9.3 Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) were appointed following the PCC elections and in Thames Valley the panel consists of one councillor from each local authority area. The Panel is independent of the office of the PCC and oversees the work of the PCC. The AVDC Member who sits on the Panel is Cllr Mrs Angela Macpherson. Its role includes:

- reviewing the PCC’s proposals for the amount of council tax local people pay towards policing. It has the power to veto these proposals if it considers the amount is inappropriate
 - considering the PCC’s Police and Crime plan and annual report
 - considering the PCC’s proposals for the appointment of a new Chief Constable, with the power to veto
 - investigating complaints about the PCC
- 9.4 At the last scrutiny meeting Members received a presentation from the Buckinghamshire Drug, and Alcohol Action Team about legal highs. Members may therefore be interested to note that the Government has been considering a blanket ban on legal highs. The Psychoactive Substances Bill (2015) will allow for this legislation.
- 9.5 Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies, including local authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. Statutory guidance⁷ has been published regarding the duty and how it relates to different sectors and institutions. One of the key issues is effective partnership working and co-operation, and this takes place locally through the AVCSP and the countywide Safer and Stronger Partnership Board.
- 9.6 On the 31st October 2015 a new mandatory reporting duty for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) was introduced via the Serious Crime Act (2015). The duty will require regulated health and social care professionals and teachers in England and Wales to report known cases of FGM in under 18 year olds. The AVCSP continue to work with these colleagues to raise awareness of these types of crimes by promoting the campaigns developed at the county level. .
- 9.7 From 1 November 2015, public authorities have a duty to notify the Secretary of State of any individual identified in England and Wales as a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking. This duty is intended to improve the identification of victims and help build a more comprehensive picture of the nature and scale of modern slavery, to improve victim identification and the law enforcement response. The “duty to notify” is set out in Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and applies to public authorities in England and Wales.

10 Resource implications

- 10.1 There are no additional financial implications for the council at this time.

⁷ For a copy of the statutory guidance visit https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf

Contact Officer Kay Aitken
Background Documents ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014
Crime and Disorder Act 1998
AVCSP Community Safety Strategy 2014-17 and
2015-16 action plan

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Antisocial Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014

On the 13th of March 2014, the ASB, Crime and Policing Act gained Royal Assent.

The Act introduced legislation to deal with dangerous dogs, firearms, sexual harm and forced marriage but the main focus of the Act is to bring into power new provisions and tools around anti-social behaviour, bringing with it the biggest change in ASB powers since their introduction in 1998 (through the Crime and Disorder Act). Parts 1-6 of the Act, (which apply in England and Wales) took forward measures to:

- focus the response to anti-social behaviour on the needs of victims
- empower communities to get involved in tackling anti-social behaviour
- ensure professionals can protect the public quickly through faster, more effective powers and speed up the eviction of the most anti-social tenants

The ASB provisions in the Act consolidated the existing 19 ASB powers into 6 more flexible powers. These are:

- Part 1 - Civil Injunctions (CI)
- Part 2 - The Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)
- Part 3 - Dispersal Power (DP's)
- Part 4 (1) - Community Protection Notices (CPN's)
- Part 4 (2) - Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's)
- Part 4 (3) - Closure Orders (CO's)

In addition the Act brought into power two new community involvement tools to help focus the response to antisocial behaviour on the needs of victims. These were the Community Trigger and Community Remedy.

A summary of each new power is given within this briefing note, however more details can be obtained in the Home Office Guidance available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/anti-social-behaviour-crime-and-policing-bill-anti-social-behaviour>

Civil Injunctions

This is a civil power the district council can apply for, which offers a quicker and more effective protection to victims and communities, stopping the perpetrator's behaviour from escalating. The case will be heard in a County Court where, if the behaviour meets the nuisance and annoyance test (using civil standard of proof on the balance of probabilities), an injunction will prohibit an individual from certain behaviours for 2 years and can require

them to do something to address their behaviour (i.e. address a substance misuse problem, with support services). A breach of the order can result in maximum 2 years imprisonment, as its considered to be a contempt of court.

AVDC currently uses informal approaches to behaviour management such as yellow/red cards, warning letters and acceptable behaviour contracts (ABC's) which have been very successful. It is envisaged that the use of lower level sanctions will continue to be used before considering the need to use an Injunction.

Lead officer for more information contact, Kay Aitken, Community Safety Manager.

Community Behaviour Orders (CBO)

These orders replace the antisocial behaviour order (ASBO) and are available on conviction for any criminal offence in a criminal court. Breach of these orders is a further criminal offence, with a maximum sentence of five years in custody for an adult, and a 2 year detention order for those under 18 years. These orders will be implemented by the Police.

Lead officer for more information contact Joanne Loftus, ASB co-ordinator

Dispersal Power (DP)

This is a Police power and replaces the existing dispersal order. This will enable officers to require a person who commits, or is likely to commit, ASB to leave a specified area and not return for up to 48 hours. A police officer of at least the rank of Superintendent must authorise the use of the powers in a particular area.

Lead Officer for more information contact, Kay Aitken, Community Safety Manager.

Community Protection Notices (CPN)

The CPN is intended to deal with nuisance or annoyance that is persistent and unreasonable and has a detrimental impact on the community. . District councils and the Police can issue can issue CPNs. These powers are similar to, but do not replace, the Statutory Nuisance powers used by Environmental Health for complaints such as bonfires noise and rubbish under section 79 and 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990..

A CPN can be issued by council or Police officers where they are¹satisfied on reasonable grounds that the conduct is:

- having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and
- is persistent or continuing in nature, and
- is unreasonable

The process is a staged response, an initial written warning letter is given, if behaviour continues then a formal notice (CPN) is issued. If this is breached a sanction for non compliance is issued such as a fixed penalty notice (FPN), remedial works or prosecution.

¹. The Government are still considering allowing local authorities to delegate the power to issue CPN's to registered social landlords (RSL's). A decision on this will be made by Spring 2015, after local authorities and police have had time to embed the new powers.

Issuing a CPN does not discharge the council from its duty to issue an abatement notice where the behaviour constitutes a statutory nuisance under section 79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. A CPN can be used to deal with issues that are causing annoyance to the community but may not constitute a statutory nuisance, Environmental Health Officers and Technical Officers will initially take the lead role on issuing CPN's for the council, working in partnership with other council services such as the Community Safety team who will remain responsible for dealing with lower level sanctions to deal with ASB. Environmental Health will be delegated the new powers under the council's current scheme of officer delegations.

Lead officer for more information contact Lindsey Hone, Environmental Health and Licencing Manager.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

These are aimed at dealing with nuisance or problems in a particular public area that are detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area. They are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can enjoy public spaces.

These orders replace existing powers (designated public place orders, gating orders and dog control orders) and are aimed at dealing with nuisance or problems in a particular public area that are detrimental to the local community's quality of life. Existing orders will remain enforceable until 2017 after which they will be treated as PSPO. The power to make orders is exercised by the local authority.

PSPO's can prohibit certain activities (e.g. drinking alcohol) or require certain actions (e.g. keeping dogs on leads) Orders must be reviewed at least every 3 years and can be varied or discharged at any time.

Any breach of the order makes the offender liable to an FPN (up to £100), or on summary conviction a fine, not exceeding £1,000. Council Officers, PCSO's or Police can issue FPNs but would need to witness the breach and have given the offender a previous warning to correct behaviour, i.e. asked a dog walker to put the dog on a lead or asked someone to stop drinking.

As current DPPO's are regulated via the Licensing Committee a report will be presented to this committee early next year to review the implications on the existing orders. Procedures for making new orders will also be developed and Members will be kept updated.

Lead officer for more information contact Lindsey Hone, Environmental Health and Licencing Manager.

Closure Orders (CO)

This power allows local authorities and Police to close any premises that are causing nuisance or disorder to communities (including licensed premises).

The closure order can be issued for a 24 hour period by councils or police (a superintendent can extend this initial period to 48 hours where necessary). An extended period of closure can be made upon application to the magistrates court within 48 hours of the original notice being served.

Lead officer for more information contact Kay Aitken, Community Safety Manager.

Community Trigger

The community trigger gives victims and communities the right to require agencies to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour if they feel it has previously been ignored. The process starts with a review of their case, if the locally defined threshold is met. A victim or third party acting on behalf of the victim (i.e. MP or Councillor) can activate this process.

The basic procedure for a trigger involves:

- A victim, or third party, making an application to use the Trigger,
- The ASB co-ordinator will decide whether the threshold has been met,
- If yes, then relevant bodies share information about the case, review what previous actions have been taken and consider if further information is needed,. Where further action can be taken a plan is agreed and activity monitored.

Aylesbury Vale Community Safety Partnership (AVCSP) has worked with other CSPs within the Thames Valley region to set a suitable threshold for a trigger and has adopted the Home Office suggestion. In Aylesbury Vale, a trigger can be enacted where the individual has reported 3 related incidents of ASB in the previous 6 month period, or where 5 reports have been made in the previous 6 months by a collective group in a locality about a related issue.

Having a community trigger procedure is a statutory duty for district councils, Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) and registered social landlords (RSLs). A process for completing reviews for the Vale was adopted by AVCSP in October 2014 and this is now live and published on our website at <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/community-living/community-safety/anti-social-behaviour/community-trigger/>

Lead officer for more information contact Joanne Loftus, ASB co-ordinator.

Community Remedy

This gives victims of low-level crime and anti-social behaviour a say in the punishment of offenders that would replace the need for court action. This means that victims will get justice quickly, and the offender has to face immediate and meaningful consequences for their actions.

This provision is a duty for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and is enacted by the local investigating Police Officer. The Thames Valley PCC has undertaken consultation on the proposed sanctions and a full list will available soon.

The Home Office Guidance is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/anti-social-behaviour-crime-and-policing-bill-anti-social-behaviour>.

Lead officer for more information contact Kay Aitken, Community Safety Manager.

For more information contact

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Or Lyndsey Hone

Environmental Health and Licensing Manager on 01296 585152

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ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

11 February 2015

Item	Contact Officer	2015										2016		
		A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	
Five Ways to Wellbeing and Mental Health Update												X		
Encouraging the use of parks and open spaces												X		

23 MARCH 2015

Item	Contact Officer	2015										2016		
		A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	
Right to Buy Policy	Will Rysdale												X	
VAHT Update	Will Rysdale												X	
Aylesbury Homelessness Action Group	Will Rysdale												X	

In addition to the items currently on scheduled to be considered by the Environment and Living Committee, Members have asked that the following items be added to the work programme:

- Adoption of the riverine corridor in Fairford Leys
- An update report of the response to the flooding on the Willows Development
- The policy and maintenance programme for trees in the Vale
- Private rented accommodation