



## AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Democratic Services

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14 March 2017

### ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee will be held at **6.30 pm** on **Wednesday 22 March 2017** 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 and B Foster

Contact Officer for meeting arrangements: Craig Saunders; [csaunders@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](mailto:csaunders@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk);

### AGENDA

#### 1. APOLOGIES

#### 2. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

Any changes will be reported at the meeting.

#### 3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 December, 2016, copy attached as an appendix.

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests.

#### 5. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE / STRATEGY 2017-2020 (Pages 9 - 14)

To consider the attached report (appendices to follow).

Contact Officer: Will Rysdale (01296) 585561

#### 6. WORK PROGRAMME

To consider the future work programme. Meetings are scheduled as follows:-

- 13 June 2017: VAHT Annual Update, Sustainable Travel Plan, Local Climate Impacts, Assessment of Open Space, Sports and Recreation needs in Aylesbury Vale (this last item is a VALP supporting document, so there is the possibility that it will be deferred).
- 20 September 2017: No items as yet.
- 2 November 2017: No items as yet.

Contact Officers: Craig Saunders (01296) 585043 / Chris Ward (01296) 585807

## ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

20 DECEMBER 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Winn (Chairman); Councillors S Jenkins (Vice-Chairman), C Adams, M Bateman, A Bond, S Cole, B Everitt, B Foster, N Glover (In place of S Chapple) and S Lambert (In place of P Agoro). Councillor Sir Beville Stanier attended also).

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors P Agoro, S Chapple and A Cole.

### 1. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November, 2016, be approved as a correct record.

### 2. CARBON AND ENERGY REPORT

The Committee received a report updating Members on progress made on carbon, renewables and energy in the four years since the previous report of 14 November 2012. It detailed the Council's achievements in terms of savings delivered, discussed the commencement of the Council's consultancy deliveries through its trading arm Novae Consulting Limited and later Incgen Ltd and introduced the Bucks Energy Strategy.

The report was also timely as the UK Government had reaffirmed its commitment to carbon reduction targets and would launch new plans to address weakness in transport and the housing sector low-carbon policy in the New Year. Local Government would have an important role to play in these areas.

Members were informed that carbon reduction aimed at reducing the effects of climate change had two major strands, specifically Mitigation and Adaptation.

Adaptation (often termed climate resilience) concerned itself with adapting to a world with a changing climate. This area of work tended to look at actions that can be pre-planned to allow for business as usual in a future with more frequently occurring and extreme weather conditions and events caused by the increases in global average temperatures. More detail on adaptation was provided at Appendix 2 to the Committee report.

Mitigation was the act of installing measures and changing behaviours towards reducing energy use and consequently the amount of carbon emitted.

An update piece of work on adaptation was awaiting completion in early January 2017 following research and interviews in August and September 2016. This had been conducted for AVDC by a University of Manchester student at no cost and would cover the period from the point at which the last LCLIP ended (March 2008) to date.

Although Central Government policy had recently stalled, the role of energy efficiency continued to be recognised, "reducing emissions and energy bills, improving competitiveness and asset values for business and make buildings more suitable for low-carbon heating in future" – *Committee on Climate Change October 2016*. The Committee report detailed in tabular form the energy reduction/generation projects delivered by class leading AVDC, demonstrating in-house activity in this area since the last report. In total, 19 projects over the 4 years period had cost £375,000 to implement

and were producing savings of £115,000 per annum (average return on investment of 3.27 years)

Taken alongside other measures installed and managed since 2008, the savings to the council amount to over two million kilograms of carbon dioxide reduced alongside a financial saving in 2016 of over £200,000. Overall, this represented class-leading cost reduction performance within the public sector.

The Council operated a Salix Finance Plan setting out the next four years of projects. Salix was a 0% loan agreed by the Council in 2008 which the Council matched to create a ring-fenced fund for energy efficiency measures amounting to £280,000. A regularly updated four year plan ensured that projects were managed proactively and avoided the need for reactive responses to plant failure and asset management. Available spend in any one year depended on committed project spend. The fund was managed nationally by our *Not for Profit* partner Salix Finance. The plan adjusted to meet the needs of the Council and included a large number of projects; some of the larger of which were set out in Appendix 4 to the Committee report. These included the Waitrose multi-storey car park, the High Street offices, projects at The Gateway offices, the Pembroke Road Waste depot, Aylesbury Waterside theatre and the Hawkslade Community Centre.

The Council had renewed and updated its Carbon Management Plan in 2014 to include new targets following the exceeding of the 22% Council agreed 5 year reduction target (to 2013) in 4 years, a full one year ahead of schedule. The Council's target now stood at reducing carbon emission by 2.5% per annum. This placed the Council in line with the UK Governments 34% target to be met by 2020 and amongst the top Public Sector performers in its field. The Council's 2016 data was not yet available but the carbon reduction rate achieved as at April 2015 was 27% from the 2008 baseline. This was a total of 5,681.3 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted, a reduction from the 2008 baseline of 2,072 tonnes or a little over 2 million kg of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Following the installation of dual vehicle chargers in 2012 at no cost to the Council, a bid had been submitted for funding a further 3 *Rapid* chargers. This had allowed three additional chargers to be installed in the Gateway (beside the post room) in June 2015. These had allowed the Council to increase use and availability of its electric car fleet and streamline use with re-charge to 80% capacity could now be delivered in 30 minutes (as opposed to 4 hours with standard chargers). This had led to a further improvement on the Council's saving in the first 12 months (2014/15) of £90,000 on car travel implemented by the Sustainability Team. The second year savings for the scheme against the same baseline year was showing a saving of £104,254.

Over the past 3 years the Sustainability Team had helped a number of external organisations and businesses to reduce their energy costs/carbon emissions. This has also generated consultancy income of £26,000 for the Council.

Members were informed that a County wide Energy Strategy was being put together and was attached as Appendices 1a and 1b to the Committee report. The Bucks Affordable Warmth Strategy was also currently under review and being updated.

The Council continued to work in partnership with NEF in Milton Keynes beyond the conclusion of the Government's Green Deal. Work including assisting with necessary fuel poverty activities, dissemination of advice, grants and loans to householders living in hard to treat properties (for example with no cavity wall). At the time of the last housing stock condition survey 6,317 (10.9%) private sector households in the Vale were living in fuel poverty (the equivalent national average at the time was 11.1%). However rates were above average in some areas, particularly in the private rented sector (14.4%) and for inter-war housing (21.2%).

The report also detailed the work that the Council was doing, some of it in partnership with the National Energy Foundation (NEF), on fuel poverty and affordable warmth. The work of NEF had a huge overlap with statutory private sector housing enforcement work and the Council's housing grants programme. Environmental Health officers routinely directed customers to NEF and also used them as a source of expertise for advice on fuel poverty where they come across vulnerable tenants during housing interventions.

Excess cold hazards in housing was one of the most common housing enforcement issues and was an area where risks to health were most significant. The Private Sector Housing Regeneration Policy had been approved by Cabinet in February 2016 and referenced the roles of NEF and the Council to fulfil our fuel poverty obligations. NEF provided invaluable and very cost effective way for AVDC to deal with fuel poverty, insulation enquiries and helped to ensure that we are able to offer available schemes as and when they come to the energy market for the benefit of our residents.

The Sustainability work of the Council and the staff have been recognised through a number of awards received over the past 4 years and these were mentioned in the Committee report. In addition, Mr Alan Asbury of the Sustainability Team had been awarded Sustainability Manager of the Year in December 2012 by the National Public Sector Sustainability Journal.

As the Council's business to business trading arm Incgen expanded, there would be further opportunities to provide energy related services to businesses, especially on the "demand side response" which allowed companies to trade surplus power when the grid demands. The Council's relationship with Enterprise Rent a Car was developing towards a partnership to look at the roll out of an Aylesbury centric car club scheme. Further discussions were also planned with Aylesbury Vale Estates to assess opportunities for the Council estate in the future.

Members requested further information and were informed:-

- (i) on the current position regarding solar power generated locally going into the National Grid. If all 120 MW of local solar power was fed into the grid at one time and during low national demand, it then caused an imbalance which had to be managed.
- (ii) that it might be possible for the Council to operate hydrogen fuelled cars in the future. Currently there were only 3 hydrogen filling stations in the UK, all located in London.
- (iii) that solar panels were being phased down in some areas, as the feed-in tariffs had been reduced which in some cases had adversely impacted on payback periods.
- (iv) that housing developers could still be more proactive to provide energy efficiency measures as a part of new developments. For example, solar panels installed on roofs, connected to an electric vehicle charging point at the side of houses to allow for optimisation of a future smart grid.
- (v) that it was likely the Council would receive more applications in the future for solar farms. Solar farms were favoured by most local people, compared to wind generated power, and pension funds were also more likely to invest in them. Wind delivered power at different periods of the day/night and year and as such it was important to recognise it as important to the energy mix so as to avoid excess power generation at times of limited demand.

- (vi) that the Sustainability team was investigating the position regarding income from business rates payable by the new Energy from Waste (EfW) plant at Calvert and other local decentralised energy generating plants.. The EfW plant was also generating a massive amount of heat that was not being used so it would also make sense to investigate how this heat might be better utilised. The Sustainability team were in ongoing discussions with the County Council over Heat Mapping and alternative uses for this heat.
- (vii) that the Sustainability team was working with the Aylesbury Waterside theatre on demand response initiatives and working with the National Grid to receive payments (which were then shared) for turning down motors and pumps at the theatre at certain times.
- (viii) that Sustainability team within Incgen Ltd was talking with utilities, housing associations and other organisations regarding the requirement, from 1 April 2018, for any properties rented out in the private rented sector to normally have a minimum energy performance rating of E on an Energy Performance Certificate.
- (ix) that AVDC was looking at the feasibility of brokering bulk buying energy initiatives that could offer better energy pricing to both local people and the Council.
- (x) that the LED re-lamping, dimming and controls installed at the Friarscroft multi-storey car park had a payback period of 4.31 years but the lamps should have a lifespan on current operation of 18-20 years.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Sustainability and Energy Manager be thanked for attending and briefing Members on carbon, renewables and energy.
- (2) That the progress made by AVDC over the last four years on carbon, renewables and energy be noted.

### **3. AVDC AND THE BUCKS WASTE PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee received a presentation from the Service Manager, Recycling, Waste and Community Spaces on the waste strategy for Buckinghamshire including information on household waste and combined recycling rates.

The Bucks Waste Strategy sought, as a partnership, to work together to deliver the best value, most customer-focused waste and recycling service, incorporating prevention, reuse, collection and disposal. Some of the key data presented included:-

- Total household waste arising was increasing at 0.4% above housing growth and equated to every household in Bucks producing an extra 4.5kgs of waste (1129.80kgs per household in 2013/14 to 1134.09 per household in 2015/16). This was 4,056 tonnes extra total waste.
- District-wide, 56.5% of waste was now composted or recycled. This compared to 45% in 2010/11. (The UK average recycling rate was 44.9%, against a UK target of 50% and a Bucks Waste Partnership (BWP) target of 60%).
- For AVDC, approximately 53% of waste was recycled or composted which compared to 20% in 2011/12.
- that fly-tipping continued to be an issue. Following illegal dumping in Slapton and Aston Clinton, one main group had been summonsed by the police for 8 offences. (Similar data on flytipping on the other Districts was also provided).

- that residual waste tonnage trends were increasing by 1.3% over the last 2 years, while food waste tonnage trends were decreasing by 7% over the same period.
- an explanation of how dry recycling and food waste was collected and then disposed of. It was explained that it cost four times the price to send food waste to the EfW facility compared to sending it for anaerobic digestion (AD).
- that residents could assist with rubbish disposal by placing the correct rubbish in the correct bins (e.g. 47% of households placed recyclable items in the general rubbish bin, 47% placed non-recyclable items in their recycling, 35-41% did not take food out of its wrapping before placing it in the food waste collection or used the general rubbish bin.)

Fly-tipping clearances from public land were usually done by Districts and disposal was paid by the County. There had been significant spikes in clearances total noted and combatted during 2016 by massively increasing surveillance work. Work would continue to promote deterrence against dumping including through the media and to encourage witnesses to report instances.

Members were informed that DCLG had awarded the BWP £889,000 and funding for a recycling reward scheme. A new Project Manager was overseeing the Recycling project implementation over a two year period (September 2016 to August 2018) and would be working with commercial partners, members of the partnership and residents.

It was also explained that the average UK household disposed of £700 of food each year that could have been eaten but was thrown away. The Fighting Food Waste Programme aimed to reduce this waste through:-

- identifying and setting our food waste recycling.
- increasing food waste participation in Buckinghamshire County households from 25% to 40%.
- reducing food waste tonnage per head by 15%.
- increasing awareness of various ways of food preparation and preservation, using Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW) campaign tools, by 25%.

Members requested further information and were informed:-

- (i) that the Council did not have a planning policy specifically relating to waste disposal units incorporated into new properties.
- (ii) that it was important to have regular communications with people to ensure that they recycled and disposed of their household and food waste correctly. Some research would be undertaken in early 2017 to try to ascertain why
- (iii) that while clearer labelling by manufacturers would make recycling easier, this was not helped by the 320 different types of refuse collection systems that operated across the UK. The Government was looking to harmonise the collections systems to 4 different types, one of which fitted with the system currently used by AVDC.
- (iv) on the detection work and latest cameras that were being deployed to identify and reduce instances of fly tipping. Experience had shown that as the cost of disposing of waste had increased, the size of flytippings had also increased.
- (v) that the whole recycling process worked more smoothly if materials recycled by households were not contaminated. Nationally, 14% of household recyclates contained contaminants. The percentage rate for AVDC recyclates had risen

from 3% to 11.6% (for the last quarter). Increased efforts would be made over the coming months to assist in reducing the contaminant rate.

- (vi) that AVDC disposed of food waste through a contractor at Westcott. It would cost approximately 4 times the amount to dispose of the same waste via the EfW plant at Calvert.
- (vii) that people could check a Register of waste carriers, brokers and dealers electronically on the Environment Agency's website.
- (viii) that AVDC had no jurisdiction regarding the disposal of waste and, at the request of the County Council, separated food waste from household waste. It was explained the UK legislation on the disposal of waste concentrated on reducing tonnages of waste, rather than reducing carbon metrics or the amount of nitrous oxide that the waste might generate.
- (ix) that the Council was able to charge for the collection of offensive waste which included such things as clinical waste. It would be possible to charge for a service such as nappy / dog poo disposal, subject to a business case, but 3 nappy recycling facilities had opened and subsequently closed in the UK in the last 10 years due to being uneconomical. As such, it was still more economical to dispose of this sort of waste at EfW.
- (x) that the Council provided new residents to the Vale with a resident's pack with useful information including on waste and recycling. The funding received from the DCLG would also enable the Council to fund a Projects Officer post. Part of the DCLG monies would also be used to survey people and to use this customer insight to help improve people's behaviour regarding waste/recycling disposal.
- (xi) on the position regarding Houses in multiple occupation and refuse/recycling bins.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Service Manager, Recycling, Waste and Community Spaces be thanked for attending and presenting to Members on the waste strategy for Buckinghamshire.
- (2) That Members were supportive of the work being done by AVDC to support the Bucks Waste Strategy, including on providing a customer-focused waste and recycling service, and on reducing fly tipping.

#### **4. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered their future work programme as submitted to the meeting. In addition to the scheduled agenda items Member commented that they would also like to review the operation of the Horticultural / Street Cleansing contract and to receive a report regarding littering.

RESOLVED –

That the current work programme be noted.



## COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE & ANNUAL PLAN 2017-18

### 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 (AVCSP<sup>1</sup>) Plan in 2016/17, 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 (if longer than 2 pages)

- 3.1 Total recorded crime in 2016/17 is currently showing an increase of 4.4% (286 crimes, year to date) compared to the same period in 2015/16. An increase was anticipated due to the changes in Home Office crime recording practice in April 2015 and the fact that crime rates had been generally falling year on year to relatively low levels.
- 3.2 The report provides information about activities completed to date from the AVCSP 2016/17 action plan such as the Purple Flag<sup>2</sup> Renewal and work to roll out the “Chelsea’s Choice” drama, as well as forthcoming activities.
- 3.3 The AVCSP is currently developing the new Strategy for 2017-20 and the Annual Plan for 2017/18. A Strategic Assessment identifies priorities for the partnership based on the crime and disorder risks, and a public consultation has also helped inform us of residents’ priorities.
- 3.4 This report provides an update on use of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) legislation, as well as updates on new initiatives around community-based solutions to ASB.
- 3.5 CCTV continues to be a valuable tool in the reduction and detection of crime and disorder. The final outcome of the ongoing Thames Valley Police review is awaited.
- 3.6 A number of new duties were implemented during 2015 which are Community Safety related, such as the Prevent duty and the duty to report Modern Day Slavery.

### 4 Supporting information

- 4.1 Crime has generally been falling in the Vale for the last few years and the Community Safety Partnership did not set numerical targets in the 2016/17 plan as it was felt unlikely that crime would continue to fall. This has been borne out. From 1st April 2016 to the end of December 2016 overall crime has increased by 4.4% 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 a new norm is being established. In order to

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<sup>1</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> For information about Purple Flag visit [https://www.atcm.org/programmes/purple\\_flag/WelcometoPurpleFlag](https://www.atcm.org/programmes/purple_flag/WelcometoPurpleFlag)

provide some context, the table below also shows the percentage change for the same categories, over the same time period, for the Thames Valley area.

- 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 particular those of Violent Crime. The Strategic Assessment highlighted an increase in reporting of violent crime involving young people outside of school hours.
- 4.3 A series of burglaries to homes and outbuildings, especially focussed along the eastern and northern borders of the Vale, accounted for an increase in this particular crime type. At the time of writing, a considerable amount of work in partnership with police, AVDC Planning, and others, has led to the disruption of a number of Organised Crime Groups who are suspected of being responsible. This has brought the rate of incidents down considerably.
- 4.4 Whilst Racially and Religiously Aggravated offences are down overall, offences relating to religion have seen a small increase. This increase was not necessarily due to the Brexit vote, as incidents of Hate Crime increased by only two reports in the month following the referendum. It is recognised that Hate Crime is, however, still significantly under-reported. Homophobic crime is also greatly under reported so increases in this type of crime could be interpreted as being a positive indication of increasing confidence in victims.

| Crime Type                                     | Crime figures <sup>3</sup><br>(ytd April – Dec 2016)<br>Aylesbury Vale | % change compared<br>with 2014/15<br>Aylesbury Vale | % change in crime<br>figures across Thames<br>Valley |
|--|--|---|--|
| All Crime<br>(excluding fraud)                 | 6804 (up 286)  | 4.4% increase                                       | 6.4% increase  |
| Violent Crime                                  | 1685 (up 143)  | 9.3% increase                                       | 7.9% increase  |
| Robbery  | 35 (up 5)  | 12.9% increase                                      | 4.8% increase  |
| Burglary (homes)                               | 273 (up 83)  | 43.7% increase                                      | 10.3% increase                                       |
| Racially or<br>Religiously<br>Aggravated Crime | 46 (down 18)   | 28% reduction                                       | 2.6% reduction                                       |
| Homophobic crime                               | 15 (up 2)  | 15% increase  | 0.9% reduction                                       |
| Vehicle Crime                                  | 700 (down 9)   | 1.3% reduction                                      | 9.6% increase  |

<sup>3</sup> Year to date figures supplied by Thames Valley Police, sourced 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

## 5 **Update On The Community Safety Plan 2016/17**

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 draft strategy (2017-2020) has two key priorities:

- **Supporting communities and town centres to become safer, more resilient and cohesive places to live and work.**
- **Work closer in partnership to cut crimes that are of most concern to the public and to protect the most vulnerable members of our community.**

- 5.1 The Annual Plan for 2017/18 is in draft form, to be ratified at the next meeting of the Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017. It will be published at:

<http://www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk/section/communitysafety-partnership-news-and-events>

Aylesbury town centre has held Purple Flag status since 2010. This award recognises the partnership working together to make town centres safer places for visitors and residents. The Community Safety Team have assisted in the submission of our annual renewal application. This led to the successful outcome of Aylesbury town centre being accredited Purple flag status in December 2016.

The Community Safety Team continue to take key roles in the CSE Awareness Raising sub-group, to the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Board, as well as playing a partnership role on the county-wide substance misuse action groups. These are identifying tactical and operational activities to reduce the supply, prevent misuse and protect vulnerable individuals from drugs and alcohol misuse.

Community Safety officers have supported Thames Valley Police in crime reduction and engagement events throughout the Vale, especially in the rural areas, offering advice on keeping homes safe and offering tool and other property marking equipment.

National campaigns in relation to security and personal safety have been supported and social media employed to focus messages on key demographics, for example the "White Ribbon" campaign aimed at the reduction of male violence against women and girls.

## 6 **Examples of upcoming projects/initiatives for 2017/18 include:**

In the light of review and restructure in our key partner agencies there is increasing need to work ever more closely. Whilst resources are shrinking, the responsible authorities identified within the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 should not be seen to be retreating; instead, identifying innovative ways to tackle Crime and Disorder and supporting our communities to be more resilient. Within AVDC, Community Safety has been highlighted as a priority by our partners and residents and so the CSP has undertaken a review of its membership and adopted a problem-solving, demand reduction operating model. The Strategy and Annual Plan has been designed to introduce tangible actions to employ these key principles, focusing on early intervention and prevention of crime and disorder, whilst empowering communities to be

more resilient. Emergency Planning and Resilience have now been aligned with the Community Safety sector within AVDC.

The Community Safety discipline will continue to focus activity on acquisitive crimes, such as burglary to homes, and supporting a multi-agency approach to raise awareness of home and personal security.

At the same time, partners will work together to tackle some of the highest priority crimes, such as organised drug dealing gangs who exploit the vulnerable by employing the “County Lines”<sup>4</sup> model. Initiatives such as the Vulnerable Tenancy Group will seek to support those at risk of losing their homes through being exploited by criminal gangs. We will work together with organisations, including the Institute Of Community Safety, to gain a greater understanding of the landscape of organised crime and gang activity in the Vale. This will support our work with the police to disrupt and dismantle such organisations.

Anti-Social Behaviour, along with crime is often the symptom of complex issues within families and communities. We will be working with the Police Crime Commissioner, housing providers and the police on a project to support communities to address ASB issues and to aid their resolution, using Community Based Resolution . This voluntary method of intervention has been highly successful in other areas of the country and it is hoped that this pilot will replicate the success within the Vale. Alongside this initiative the Community Safety Team are reviewing AVDC’s ASB policy, along with those of our partner housing providers to ensure effective and efficient interventions are in place to deal with those residents that display less social responsibility.

## **7 Annual plan 2017/18**

7.1 The new Community Safety Annual Plan for 2017/18 has been drafted . The recent strategic assessment<sup>5</sup> (2014-2015) identified that the two priorities of the current strategy are still valid. A summary of key points around these areas are:

(i) Violent crime accounts for 24.8% of all reported crime in Aylesbury Vale. An increase of 9.3% on the previous year. Some of this is related to the night time economy which is referenced in point two below. A proportion of this relates to younger victims outside of school hours. Further analytical work will take place to provide the partnership with more information around violent crime, such as high risk locations, times or dates.

(ii) 5% of all crime in Buckinghamshire takes place in Aylesbury town centre. The most frequent crime being public order followed by shoplifting and violence. The majority of offenders in the Night Time Economy being male between the age of 18-24.

(iii) Other areas of crime include CSE, “County Lines” model of drug dealing and other forms of exploitation such as Modern Day Slavery. Work is continuing to help the partnership understand the scale of these crimes in the Vale, and across Buckinghamshire. Whilst the number of victims of these

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<sup>4</sup> County Lines typically involves an urban criminal gang travelling to smaller locations to sell heroin and crack cocaine. The group will use a single telephone number for customers ordering drugs, operated from outside the area, which becomes their ‘brand’.

<sup>5</sup> CSP’s have a duty to conduct annual reviews of crime, known as strategic assessments, to help identify priorities for action.

types of offences is low, they have a high impact on the victims and the local community.

- 7.3 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 2017/18.

## **8 Update on the Antisocial Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014.**

- 8.1 Reducing ASB incidents is one of the AVCSP's objectives. From 1st April 2016 to end of February 2017 incidents of ASB have decreased by 18%, overall.
- 8.2 A partnership approach continues to be taken towards tackling ASB. A co-located team working from AVDC offices or Aylesbury police station is staffed by the AVDC ASB Officer and a police constable. They work with partners, giving tactical advice to neighbourhood police teams, local housing providers and other partners to deal with incidents of ASB. Through the multi-agency Tactical Advisory Group, priority cases are discussed and recommendations made around utilising ASB powers as well as lower level sanctions to disrupt ASB activity. In 2016/17 there were three requests for a review of ASB cases where the applicant considered that no action was being taken (otherwise known as the Community Trigger). These resulted in recommendations being made and the relevant grievances being resolved.

## **9 Other information**

- 9.1 Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) were appointed following the first Police Crime Commissioner 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

- 9.2 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 guidance 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. All members of the CSP are represented at the Bucks Prevent

Network meetings where actions from the county Prevent Action Plan are discussed and implemented. The Workshop to Raise Awareness about PREVENT (WRAP) has been rolled out to AVDC staff. 40% of all AVDC staff are now WRAP trained (over 90% of all frontline staff and managers covered). The training programme continues.

## **10 Resource Implications**

- 10.1 In the unfortunate event of a Homicide resulting from Domestic Violence it falls to the CSP for the area, and ultimately the District Authority to commission a Domestic Homicide Review. This requires engagement of a suitably accredited independent chair and typically attracts an average cost of £5,000. This authority currently has one review open, with a second potentially identified. This raises questions around the sustainability around single-agency funding for such work.

Contact Officer  
Background Documents

Chris Oliver - Community Safety Advisor ext. 5005  
AVCSP Annual Plan 2016/17 AVCSP Strategy 2017-20  
& Annual Plan 2017/18