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| SUBJECT: | <i>Community Safety Update</i> |
| RELEVANT MEMBER | <i>Councillor Patrick Hogan</i> |
| RESPONSIBLE OFFICER | <i>Martin Holt – Healthy Communities</i> |
| REPORT AUTHOR | <i>Katie Galvin – 01494 732265 Kgalvin@chiltern.gov.uk</i> |
| WARD/S AFFECTED | <i>(All Wards);</i> |

1. Purpose of Report

To update the PAG on the work of the community safety team.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the report.

2. Content of Report

2.1. Community Safety is a term used to describe the process of bringing together organisations and the Community to reduce crime, the fear of crime, tackle anti-social behaviour and improve the quality of life for people in South Bucks District, This report outlines some of the work of the Community Safety team.

2.2. The Community Safety Partnership Plan establishes the priorities for the Council and its partners in reducing crime, the fear of crime, tackle anti-social behaviour in South Bucks. These priorities include;

- Reduce domestic burglary and theft from vehicles
- Vulnerability and safeguarding (including child exploitation, exploitation of people - modern slavery, forced labour, scams and cybercrime)
- Tackling violence in the community and domestic violence and abuse.
- Improving community resilience
- Tackling fear of crime through effective communication

2.3. The community safety team seeks to support the reduction of crime and disorder etc. through ensuring effective communication, workforce development and the coordination of activities across the partnership.

2.4. Partnership activities include;

- supporting case management in relation to the provision of early help for families to enable wider interventions are in place to reduce the risk of harm to children
- liaising with and addressing concerns expressed by communities which may result in community tensions and alerting other partners to risks
- working with partners to raise staff awareness of exploitation in all its forms and to support the awareness of reporting mechanisms or advise on interventions that may be available
- coordinate and manage the Neighbourhood Watch process
- manage the Domestic Homicide Review process as required
- support the provision of information sharing in relation to crime and disorder and the prevention of crime which assist other service delivery
- participate and coordinate the anti-social behaviour interventions as necessary
- assist the police in problem solving to reduce crime and disorder

2.2 Examples of some of this activity include;

- The Community Safety/Communications teams have produced two Christmas themed videos with community safety messages which will be released across our social media channels in November and December. The first one is a Home Alone parody, starring a young girl from a local community theatre group, and the second was created with a Thames Valley Police neighbourhood officer and is based on the 12 Days of Christmas.
- The Community Safety Team has a Twitter account which we share messages on and these are retweeted by the main Chiltern and South Bucks District Council accounts.
- The Community Safety newsletter is also shared across our social media channels and sent to towns and parishes for further distribution. This newsletter is shared with all Councillors and sent out via Thames Valley Alert to Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. The newsletter and previous editions can be found on the website – www.southbucks.gov.uk/community-safety-news
- For Neighbourhood Watch Week, we produced a press release which resulted in local media coverage and two videos for our social media channels which were viewed by more than 5,000 people. The Facebook posts reached more than 10,000 people during the week overall. This resulted in several enquiries for starting new NHW schemes in the following weeks.
- Between April and June 2018, the Community Safety team led on the popular Community Cards scheme. This year, 22 primary schools took part across both Districts. The aims of the scheme were to improve confidence in Police and partners, improve partnership working and reduce crime and disorder by improving

relationships between 11 year olds and staff from participating organisations and ensuing young people were more aware of the services available to them. The two classes that won the sticker collecting initiative spent a day at Legoland, Windsor. A number of individual prizes were also allocated. All prizes including the tickets to Legoland, GLL, The Entertainer and book tokens were donated. The evaluation can be found on the website – www.southbucks.gov.uk/communitycards

- The Community Safety Partnership has agreed to support Community Cards in 2019. The scheme is being refreshed and a number of new stickers will be included. These include First Aid, Scams awareness, Tesco providing a fresh fruit hamper to each class and the District Council Waste team supporting the recycling sticker.
- Working closely with the Police and the Council's Licensing team the team has supported the development of Hotel Watch; aimed at reducing child sexual exploitation. All hotels and B&Bs have been visited and provided with a training and resource pack. Within each pack are storyboards aimed at bar, reception and cleaning staff. Working closely with the Police Cadets, undercover test purchasing operations have taken place to see if staff know what to do if they have concerns. The results have been mixed. A debrief takes place afterwards where further training is offered.
- Modern slavery and human trafficking remains a high priority for the Partnership. In September, the Housing team and Community Safety team supported Operation Ravine – rescuing 6 men from a site in Iver. All 6 are now being supported through the National Referral Mechanism. Housing Standards Officers supported the raid and provided housing support at the Rest Centre. In October the Community Safety team led on a joint visit with HMRC, TVP, Housing Standards and Willow Project (Exploitation victim service across Thames Valley) following concerns of exploitation at a car wash.
- In preparation for Halloween, the team produced the 'no trick or treat/ welcome trick or treaters' posters. These were available to either download or collect from a number of different places including Town and Parish Councils. Working closely with the Neighbourhood teams, vulnerable residents were also visited and offered a poster and reassurance. Eggs and flour posters were also delivered to local shops asking businesses not to sell them to young people.
- The wintertime burglary campaign – Operation Garland is underway. Working in partnership with the police, crime reduction advice is being offered to residents. Using crime data over the past three years, properties at a higher risk of burglary are being visited.
- The team are working closely with L&Q Housing planning a vulnerability and safeguarding training day for their staff. This will include Exploitation (including

modern slavery and county lines – Stronghold), Preventing Violent Extremism, Domestic Abuse and Anti-Social Behaviour – in particular closure orders.

3. Consultation

Not Applicable

4. Options (if any)

Not applicable

5. Corporate Implications

5.1 Financial – the Community safety team has a small budget to allocate towards this work. Working in partnership enables projects to be successful.

5.2 Legal - none

5.3 Crime and Disorder – Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the local authority is listed as a responsible authority to work in partnership with other agencies to reduce crime and disorder.

6 Links to Council Policy Objectives

We will work towards safe, healthy and cohesive communities. – improve community safety.

- Work with partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and to improve community safety.

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| Background Papers: | It is a legal requirement to make available background papers relied on to prepare a report and should be listed at the end of the report (copies of background papers for executive decisions must be provided to Democratic Services). Hyperlinks to papers published online should be used where possible. Where there are no background papers, insert None. |
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