

# Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017 – 2020

**Updated April 2019** 

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#### Introduction from the Chief Executive and Chair

This is the Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Three Year Partnership Plan. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002, Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and Police and Crime Act 2009 requires that the District Council, County Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, NHS Bucks and Probation Service jointly develop and implement a strategy to tackle crime and disorder, including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, as well as the misuse of drugs and to prevent reoffending within Wycombe District.

In Wycombe District we are fully committed to working in partnership with a large number of statutory agencies, voluntary organisations and the business community. Involvement of the local community is also essential and community spirit will continue to be harnessed into making Wycombe District a safe place to live, work and visit.

This Plan is effective for three years, from April 2017 – March 2020 and it aligns with other planning cycles. It will be revised annually thus reflecting any new issues emerging from annual strategic assessments. Set out within this document is how the Plan was arrived at, what the strategic priorities are and why they have been chosen.

The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan is a living working document. The priorities represent a real but realistic challenge for the lead agencies, and other groups and organisations participating alongside them. However, members of the Community Safety Partnership are confident it will achieve the aim to reduce crime and disorder to ensure that Wycombe District is a safe place for people to live, work and visit.

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Karen Satterford Chief Executive, Wycombe District Council

Rose Sewell

Elaine Jewell Chair of Wycombe Community Safety Partnership

#### Wycombe – setting the scene

Wycombe District is located in the Metropolitan Greenbelt in south-east Buckinghamshire. Its main town, High Wycombe, lies 29 miles north-west of London, 26 miles south-east of Oxford and 10 miles north of Maidenhead. The district has an area of approximately 125 square miles being bordered on the west by Oxfordshire and on the south by the River Thames which is the county boundary of Berkshire.

Wycombe is one of the largest District Councils in terms of its population of 174,800. The district is one of considerable contrast and character which includes the urban environment of High Wycombe, the smaller towns of Marlow, Princes Risborough, Bourne End and Flackwell Heath, rural settlements and the scenic countryside of the Chilterns and the Thames Valley.

Wycombe's population is ageing, in line with national trends, with 27,196 residents over the age of 65. The District has an ethnically diverse population: 20,528 residents are from Asian backgrounds, primarily Pakistani heritage; 5,934 are from Black African Caribbean backgrounds; 139,477 are from various white backgrounds; and the balance are from other ethnic or mixed backgrounds.

When surveyed, residents generally feel Wycombe is an area where people from different backgrounds get on well together. Although crime levels are comparatively low in Wycombe they have been rising across all crime types over the last two years. Anti-social behaviour remains a key area of concern for local residents.

Office of National Statistics data to July 2018 shows that Wycombe's economy outperforms the national average with higher rates of employment, higher skilled workers, more people employed in higher paying managerial, professional and technical sectors.

The average house price in Wycombe is £380,000, compared to £235,995 nationally (ONS, 2018). There are long waiting lists for social housing with all but the highest priority candidates waiting for one or more years to be offered social housing. High Wycombe has a community of rough sleepers, numbering 17 in 2017 (MHCLG). A lack of affordable housing can lead to financial hardship and stress, overcrowding and in the most severe cases homelessness.

We have a large and increasing ethnic minority population, with around 13,000 of our residents (7.6% of the population) having family ties to Pakistan. People of African Caribbean origin form the second largest ethnic minority community (2%). High Wycombe town is home to the largest St Vincentian population outside of Caribbean. The Muslim faith community is the second largest in the south-east, with 15,000 (nearly 9%) people describing themselves as being Muslim in the 2011 census.

The health of people in Wycombe district is generally better than average for England. Life expectancy is higher than the England average<sup>i</sup>, although there are health inequalities by area and gender. For example, life expectancy for men is 82.1 years, but this is 7.3 years lower in the most deprived areas of our district. Over the past ten years, deaths from all causes have decreased and are lower than the average in England. Residents have relatively healthy lifestyles compared to the national average in terms of eating healthily and being physically active.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mid-year population estimates from ONS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Claimant count for November 2016 from ONS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Public Health England Profiles (September 2016)

#### Statutory Requirements

According to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, every local authority must have a Community Safety Partnership. The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership is responsible for delivering the Partnership Plan.

The following are members of the Partnership:

- Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC)
- Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service (YOS)
- Chiltern Clinical Commissioning Group
- National Probation Service
- Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
- Thames Valley Police (TVP)
- Wycombe District Council (WDC)

The partnership also works with other organisations from the statutory, voluntary and business sectors to deliver projects, but there are too many to list here.

Reports on performance of partnership work go to the Wycombe Community Safety Strategy Group. This Group sets up action groups to drive work on the priorities within the Partnership Plan and delivers on projects; is represented on the Buckinghamshire Safer and Stronger Partnership Board; and contributes to the Safer Bucks Plan.

The Community Safety Partnership Plan outlines the Partnership's priorities, which are determined by the Thames Valley Police Force Strategic Assessment, which is a statutory data analysis requirement to help the police and Community Safety Partnerships decide on their priorities and inform their Partnership Plans.

The overall purpose of the Partnership Plan is to 'add value' to the work already being carried out by the separate partner organisations.

# Our Achievements during 2018/19

As a result of the last Partnership Plan significant steps were taken to address crime and disorder issues. A few examples of activities undertaken in relation to the priorities from the last Plan are highlighted below.

### Priority one: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime

- A multi-agency Street Community Group has been established which includes both statutory and non-statutory organisations who come together to see how they support those begging or living on the streets, and how they can safeguard the wider community.
- The Street Community Group has also launched its communications campaign, which includes an information leaflet for the public explaining the partnership work and encouraging people to give money to support charities rather than people begging. A webpage where people can find out further information has been developed and articles are going in Wycombe District Times and via social media about begging and how people can help the street community.
- Partners continue to regularly support Pub Watch and Shop Watch meetings and share information and guidance.
- A partnership campaign around spring crime and garden security was undertaken, through social media and Thames Valley Alert.
- Cocooning packs have been revised and materials are included on property marking and services available etc.
- The Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order has be varied so that alcohol can be taken from people found drinking on the streets.

# Priority Two: Safeguarding our communities

- The regular monthly MARAC meetings have changed to weekly meetings
- A new Countywide DV Strategy and Action Plan has been developed.
- WDC community safety web pages have been updated, and include information on HBV, FGM, hate crime and Prevent.
- The Partnership agencies have supported national loan shark awareness campaigns through social media.
- Training materials were produced for on-licensed premises, which includes information on their safeguarding responsibilities. The training was undertaken during 2018.
- WDC licensing have funded a safeguarding training package for taxi and private hire license holders on issues such as CSE, slavery and dementia as a mandatory condition of their license.
- The Willow Project have received PCC funding to be the exploitation victim support service across the Thames Valley, and rolled out extensive training to staff.
- New training materials were produced for Hotel Watch members on raising awareness of slavery both as guests and as potential staff (from 'agency providers').

#### Priority Three: Working together to address Child Exploitation

• All safeguarding leads at all schools in Wycombe LPA have met with the new Safeguarding Sgt/PC. All schools have been able to communicate their needs in

terms of safeguarding packages. A bespoke training package for each school will be created.

- A multi-agency group has been established, the Wycombe Child Exploitation & Missing Partnership, which identifies and safeguards vulnerable children and has strengthened relations with school safeguarding leads.
- The Hotel Watch scheme has been utilised to assist with finding a high risk missing young person.
- Test purchase operations have been undertaken in Hotels within the district. An undercover police officer and an underage police cadet try to purchase drinks and a room. Where premises fail to perform the required checks, or raise concerns with the police, further work is undertaken with that premise.

## Priority Four: Building community resilience

- The Safe Place scheme continues to grow in business membership particularly in the rural areas.
- TVP and WDC continue to regularly meet with NHW to discuss the success of their scheme and opportunities for partnership working.
- Marlow Neighbourhood Policing Team completed their Cop Cards project for 2018 and are awarding the prizes.
- WDC supported World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and the Dementia Awareness Days in June, through displays in reception and via social media.
- PCC funding was awarded to the Street Association Scheme for 2018/19 and another scheme was rolled out within Wycombe.
- Scam awareness materials are shared through the Street Association Project.

# Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities 2017 - 2020

The Community Safety Partnership has agreed the following four priorities for three years. Each priority has a delivery plan, and details of the key activities for each during 2019/20 are included below.

#### Priority 1 – Tackling anti-social behaviour and crime

Crime and anti-social behaviour continue to be a priority concerns for residents of the district. The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership understands that certain crimes occur in peaks and troughs throughout the year, so we need to continue to plan for these peaks and make every effort to limit any increases during these periods.

Anti-social behaviour can degrade the local environment and have an adverse effect on communities and directly influences people's perceptions of fear of crime. Anti-social behaviour includes criminal damage, underage/anti-social drinking, noise, graffiti and harassment.

#### Year three actions include:

- To implement and review the Street Warden pilot predominantly focusing on High Wycombe town centre.
- The town centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) comes to an end in February 2020. This Order prohibits drinking alcohol in a designated public place (where a person has been asked to hand over the alcohol). This Order will be reviewed and a consultation will be undertaken to agree a refreshed PSPO from February 2020 onwards.
- Utilise the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 legislation to take action against people who aggressively beg and harass members of the public in the town centre,
- The Street Community Partnership, which consists of various partner agencies who work with people who are found begging, are rough sleeping or have drug/alcohol problems, will continue to raise awareness of the problems associated with giving money to people who beg. Awareness raising campaigns will encourage people to give money to the support agencies who are available within Wycombe who can provide real help to these vulnerable people.
- WDC, TVP and HWBIDCo to work together to tackle shoplifting, whilst safeguarding young people who may be the victims of criminal exploitation.

#### Priority 2 – Safeguarding adults

Domestic abuse is a very under-reported crime and it is believed that those who are brave enough to come forward represent only the tip of the iceberg in terms of those who experience it. Consequently, organisations find it difficult to measure the true extent of domestic abuse in the district as they are not able to get a full picture.

Modern slavery is a term introduced in the UK in 2013, to describe all offences previously described as human trafficking, slavery, forced labour and domestic servitude. Human trafficking is the movement or recruitment of people by deception or coercion with the purpose of exploiting them.

Exploitation can take place in a number of ways, including:

criminal exploitation

- domestic servitude
- labour exploitation
- sexual exploitation

Victims are forced to work against their will in many different settings, including brothels, cannabis farms, nail bars, car washes, agriculture and even within people's homes.

#### Year three actions include:

- To include information on domestic violence and abuse in publications and through social media to signpost victims to the support agencies in both the district and nationally.
- To continue the Desborough Road Outreach Project (DROP), which provides safeguarding and health support to local sex workers. This initiative was initially set up towards the end of 2018, but has been very successful, and all the agencies involved are keen to continue the good work.
- Multi-agency work to safeguard individuals who are the victims of cuckooing. 'Cuckooing' is when professional criminals target the homes of vulnerable adults so they can use the property for drug-dealing and other criminal activities.
- Bring together relevant agencies to support people who hoard ensuring their safety along with the safety of the local community.
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner has funded the Willow Project as the exploitation victim support service for the Thames Valley. The Willow Project is dedicated to identifying and supporting those who are or have been affected by any form of exploitation through raising awareness, offering support and empowerment. Wycombe Community Safety Partnership will work with the Willow Project to support those individuals who are assessed as having been exploited or deemed as a high risk or highly vulnerable to being exploited.
- To undertake partnership operations to susceptible or suspected locations of modern slavery

# Priority 3 – Safeguarding children

Every year thousands of children are the victims of modern day slavery. These children may have been forced to cross international borders, have been groomed into 'county lines' drug trafficking or have faced exploitation in their own communities.

Through training and changes in legislation big progress had been made in how professionals and wider society understand and respond to child sexual exploitation. Yet in recent years, new forms of exploitation have been uncovered and we need to learn the same lessons as we had to with child sexual exploitation, in order to stop treating children as criminals and give them the help they need.

Last year a record number of children were referred to the National Referral Mechanism to be recognised as child victims of trafficking, a 66% rise on 2016 numbers – with the greatest rise in labour exploitation including county lines.

As professionals we are constantly challenging the language we hear about these young people. Language has power, and how young people are described can determine how services respond to them. If a child is branded a 'criminal', then a route of prosecution and criminalisation may follow, however if the same child is recognised as a victim, then a safeguarding and vulnerability response kicks into action.

Disrupting all types of child exploitation requires a multi-agency response, professionals from a range of agencies need to come together to safeguard children at risk, disrupt networks of child exploitation through joint intelligence sharing and offering positive activities for young people to get involved in.

### Year three actions include:

- Roll out of the PCC funded, Thames Valley wide Early Intervention project, including the professional gang training, the Year 7 school production to raise awareness of grooming, and exploitation, and knife crime workshops for young people.
- Detached Youth Work provided via the Early Intervention Project funding to support young people at the point of custody and other key teachable moments.
- Raise awareness of Female Genital Mutilation and where people can access support.
- Specialist mentoring service to be provided by Reach Every Generation for vulnerable young people identified at risk of or involved in criminal exploitation, grooming, serious youth violence and gangs.
- Following on from the successful test purchase operations with Hotels and licensed premises during 2018/19, to continue test purchases during 2019/20.

## Priority 4 – Building community resilience

A large part of the work of the Community Safety Partnership is to educate and inform the public – for example explaining how not to become a victim of crime, or explaining where specific help can be obtained for a certain issue (such as domestic abuse, or cybercrime) etc.

It is important, in these more challenging financial times, to build community resilience through the work of the Partnership. Together we need to enhance the personal and collective capacity of the community to anticipate risk, limit its impact and help them to bounce back rapidly.

#### Year three actions include:

- Neighbourhood Watch to provide road signs, door sticker and information leaflets to its members to tackle crime.
- To ensure effective communication particularly with the elderly and vulnerable to raise awareness of scams and people can stay safe.
- The Street Association scheme to continue to roll out to other areas, and the toolkit to be promoted to Parish Councils and local community groups.

#### Appendix A

#### **Glossary of Terms**

Anti social behaviour (ASB) 'Acting in an anti social manner ... that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress'. Covers a wide range of selfish and unacceptable activity that can blight the quality of community life.

**Anti-Social Behaviour Team** - A partnership between Thames Valley Police and Wycombe District, working together to tackle anti-social behaviour within the District.

**Buckinghamshire Safer and Stronger Partnership Board** County-level group to help coordinate the work of the district community safety partnerships (this recognises that community safety issues do not always respect district borders and may sometimes be better organised at a county level).

**Child Sexual Exploitation** is illegal activity by people who have power over young people and use it to sexually abuse them. This can involve a broad range of exploitative activity, from seemingly 'consensual' relationships and informal exchanges of sex for attention, accommodation, gifts or cigarettes, through to very serious organised crime.

**Community Plan** Produced by the local strategic partnership, it sets a long-term, vision for an area across all services and informs the priorities in the **local area agreement** 

**Community Safety Agreement** A document prepared by the Buckinghamshire Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership setting out how the district level Community Safety Partnerships will cooperate to deliver their priorities.

**Community Safety Partnership (CSP)** The local name for the crime and disorder reduction partnership introduced by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Its purpose is to bring together **responsible authorities** to work with other local organisations to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime and disorder including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment as well as the misuse of drugs.

**Criminal damage** Where a person 'who without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another, intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or damaged'. It includes damage to property e.g. broken windows and car wing mirrors.

**Domestic abuse** 'Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults, who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality'.

**Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)** A legal requirement to undertake a partnership review following a domestic homicide with the intention of learning lessons to improve the way partners deal with domestic incidents and improved outcomes for domestic abuse victims.

**Hate Crime** A Hate Crime or Incident is any behaviour that you or someone else thinks was caused by hostility, prejudice or hatred of: Disability (including physical, hearing and visual impairments, mental health problems and learning disabilities); Gender identity (people who are transgender, transsexual or transvestite); Race, skin colour, nationality, ethnicity or heritage; Religion, faith or belief (including people without a religious belief); Sexual orientation (people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or heterosexual)

**Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)** Non-statutory, multi agency partnerships which bring together the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so they can work more effectively.

**Police and Crime Commissioner** - This is an elected post and started in November 2012. The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) will aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their force area.

**Property Related Crime** All crime where items are stolen including burglary and attempted burglary, robbery and theft including the theft of and from vehicles and the theft of pedal cycles.

**Responsible authorities** The responsible authorities are the police, police authorities, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities and primary care trusts.

**Sexual crime** Sexual crime includes a range of offences such as sexual harassment and paedophilia. Some sexual crimes involve violent assaults such as rape.

**Stakeholder** Organisations that have a direct interest in a service being provided and may be able to be involved in the delivery by contributing resources such as funding, knowledge, skills etc.

Wycombe Partnership The local strategic partnership for Wycombe.

Youth Offending Service (YOS) A Countywide service dealing with young offenders

## Appendix B Glossary of Acronyms

- ABC Acceptable Behaviour Contract
- **ANPR** Automatic Number Plate Recognition
- ASB Anti Social Behaviour
- ASBI Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction
- CBO Community Behaviour Order
- **CE Child Exploitation**
- **CPN -** Community Protection Notice
- **CSE -** Child Sexual Exploitation
- CSF Community Safety Fund
- **CSP** Community Safety Partnership
- CAMHS Child and Adult Mental Health Service
- Econ Economic
- DAAT Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- **DHR Domestic Homicide Review**
- **DPPO -** Drinking in Public Places Order
- **DVA** Domestic Violence and Abuse
- FGM Female Genital Mutilation
- FPN Fixed Penalty Notice
- **GMAP** Gangs Multi Agency Partnership
- HBV Honour Based Violence
- **IOM Integrated Offender Management**
- LGBT Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
- LSP Local Strategic Partnership
- MAPPA Multi Agency Public Protection Assessment
- MARAC Multi Agency Risk Assessment Committee
- MHT Mental Health Team

- MK Milton Keynes
- **NAG** Neighbourhood Action Group
- PCC Police and Crime Commissioner
- PCSO Police Community Support Officer
- **PPO** Priority and Prolific Offender
- **PSPO -** Public Spaces Protection Order
- TVCRC Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
- WDC Wycombe District Council
- YOS Youth Offending Service

# <u>Appendix C</u>

# Risk Register/ Risk Log

Ref	Risk Description/ Impact	Risk Likelihood	Risk Impact/ Severity	Risk Mitigation Recommended Preventative Actions:	Owner of the Risk
	A Risk is any event likely to adversely affect the ability of the project to achieve the defined objectives Add a brief description of the risk identified and its likely impact on the project (e.g. scope, resources, deliverables, timescales and/or budgets)	Describe and rate the likelihood of the risk eventuating (i.e. Low, Medium or High)	Describe and rate the impact on the project if the risk eventuates (i.e. Low, Medium or High)	Add a brief description of any actions that should be taken to prevent the risk from eventuating Recommended Contingent Actions: Add a brief description of any actions that should be taken, in the event that the risk happens, to minimize its impact on the project	Which partner will have responsibility for managing and monitoring the risk?
1	Staffing/ resources – key staff could change/ move on within all our partner agencies	Medium	Medium	Preventative Actions: Ensure progress on projects is documented, contact lists stored Contingent Actions: Ensure a handover takes place	Individual Managers of each organisation
2	Funding/ finance – The Partnership will no longer receive direct funding as all Community Safety funds will go to the Police and Crime Commissioner	Medium	Medium	<b>Preventative Actions:</b> To be more proactive to identify alternative funding <b>Contingent Actions:</b> Review the funding situation to identify possible cuts to projects. Also make appropriate representations and cases for funding to the PCC	Community Safety Partnership through the Community Safety Team Leader
3	Legislation changes – could change the partnership's focus	Medium	Low	<ul> <li>Preventative Actions: ensure the partnership is kept informed of relevant White Papers that may influence the agenda.</li> <li>Contingent Actions: inform the partnership of new changes; ensure training/ new skills are provided to members of the partnership. Seek advice from</li> </ul>	Community Safety Partnership through the Community Safety Team Leader

Ref	Risk Description/ Impact	Risk Likelihood	Risk Impact/ Severity	Risk Mitigation Recommended Preventative Actions:	Owner of the Risk
				relevant legal departments	
4	Change of political leadership at District Council level – may have different priorities/ focus	Low	Low	<ul> <li>Preventative Actions: Ensure all Councillors are kept informed of the work of the partnership and included in community engagement work.</li> <li>Contingent Actions: work with the new Council Leader to promote the work of the partnership.</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team Leader
5	Change of government – may have different priorities/ focus	Medium	Medium	Preventative Actions: Unable to prevent Contingent Actions: inform the partnership of new changes; ensure training/ new skills are provided to members of the partnership.	Community Safety Team Leader
6	Move to a unitary Council by April 2020	High	Medium	<ul> <li>Preventative Action: Continue close working with all Community Safety Teams across Bucks during 2019/20.</li> <li>Contingent Actions: work with the new unitary Council to ensure local community safety priorities are included in the new Council work plans.</li> </ul>	Community Safety Managers
7	Agency buy-in – organisations could change their priorities/ targets during the time of the partnership plan or lose resources/ staff/ funding that means they need to re-focus.	Medium	Medium	<ul> <li>Preventative Actions: ensure strategic level buy-in.</li> <li>Ensure all organisations are aware of the importance of the partnership plan and offer training to staff where necessary.</li> <li>Contingent Actions: look at targets/ priorities to see if there is a need to re-prioritise with fewer resources/ funding/ staff.</li> </ul>	Individual Managers of each organisation and Community Safety Partnership
8	A crime that was not originally a priority increases and needs to be addressed.	Low	Low	Preventative Actions: Ensure the partnership regularly monitors partnership data (especially police and fire) to identify new trends. Contingent Actions: Take steps to reduce the crime before it gets out of control.	Community Safety Partnership through the Community Safety Team Leader

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Public Health England Profiles (September 2016)