

SUMMARY



Report For:	Improvement & Review Commission
Meeting Date:	11 September 2019
Part:	Part 1 - Open

Title of Report:	WYCOMBE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN – 2019/2020 UPDATE
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What is the Commission being asked to do?	The Commission is requested to note and support the updated Wycombe Community Safety Partnership priorities and actions for 2019/2020
Executive Summary	The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan (Appendix A) sets out the aims and objectives for the Partnership for the period from April 2017 to March 2020. The Plan explains the structure and system for conducting business and the contribution and commitment of partners. The plan is forward looking with a focus on community and tackling the issues that matter most to residents, businesses and visitors. The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership regards the Plan as a living document that will build upon successes and identify areas where there is a need to focus resources and expertise.
Sustainable Community Strategy/Council Priorities - Implications	The Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan will support the following WDC Priorities: Place - remove obstacles to enjoyment by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour People - Support community resilience - Engage with and include young people - Tackle extremism - Support residents to help each other through individual and local groups Risk: N/A Equalities: N/A Health & Safety: N/A
Monitoring Officer/ S.151 Officer Comments	Monitoring Officer: The legal basis for the plan deriving from the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 is set out in this report as are related requirements for discharging crime and disorder overview and scrutiny arrangements set out in The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, in conjunction with Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

	S.151 Officer: Any financial implications for implementing the plan are contained within the existing budget provision.
Consultees:	N/A
Options:	N/A
Next Steps:	The Partnership Delivery Plans for 2019/2020 will be monitored via the Wycombe Community Safety Strategy group meetings.
Background Papers:	The Wycombe Community Safety Plan 2017-2020 is held by Community Services Team and published on the Council's website.
Abbreviations:	BCC – Buckinghamshire County Council YOS – Youth Offending Service CSP – Community Safety Partnership TVP – Thames Valley Police WDC – Wycombe District Council PSPO – Public Spaces Protection Order HWBIDCo – High Wycombe Business Improvement District Company DROP – Desborough Road Outreach Programme

Appendices to this report are as follows:

[Appendix A - Wycombe Community Safety Partnership plan](#)

Background and Issues

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.

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 Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, in conjunction with Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, sets out the requirements for discharging crime and disorder overview and scrutiny arrangements. Every local authority is required to have a designated crime and disorder Overview and Scrutiny Committee with power to make recommendations regarding the functioning of their local Community Safety Partnership. Wycombe District Council uses the Improvement and Review Commission for this purpose.

Wycombe Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities 2017 - 2020

The Community Safety Partnership has agreed the following four priorities until 31st March 2020. Each priority has a delivery plan, with details of the key actions for each during 2019/2020 included below.

Priority 1 – Tackling anti-social behaviour and crime

Crime and anti-social behaviour continue to be a priority concern for the 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.

Year three actions:

- 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:

- 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 (DROPE), 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.

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:

- 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 to prevent becoming 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 into 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:

- 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.

The future of the Community Safety Partnership

As part the wider work currently underway to plan for the transition to Buckinghamshire Council on 1st April 2020, there is a Community Safety Workstream which includes the Community Safety Managers for the District and County Councils. Part of the remit of this workstream is to look at the Community Safety Partnership, and what needs to be put in place for Buckinghamshire Council.

Currently Wycombe and Aylesbury each have their own CSP; Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils have one CSP for both districts; in effect, the existing CSPs mirror the local policing areas.

The Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board sits as the County Strategy Group. It leads the Strategic Assessment for the county, public annual consultation on the strategic partnership priorities, monitoring progress against the priorities, and the dispersal and monitoring of the annual Community Safety Grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner. This group is currently chaired by Thames Valley Police with administrative support from the community engagement and safety team at the county council. There is also a Partnership Coordinating Group which sits at tactical level and reviews partnership reports, action plans, oversees the process for awarding the Community Safety Grant, the annual consultation about the strategic priorities and oversees process for the strategic assessment.

Each CSP develops their own community safety partnership plan with priorities that are a combination of those from the strategic plan, prevalence of issues locally and those based on consultation with their local communities. They also monitor and report on the progress against their community safety plan. Arrangements for chairing the CSP differ between areas, being chaired by the police or the local authority.

The Community Safety Workstream is running a workshop in September for the members of each of the CSPs across Bucks. The aim of the workshop is look at best practice and discuss the options for a potential new structure of Community Safety Partnership governance.

In order to not lose sight of local issues, WDC is working closely with TVP to set up a local operational community safety partnership meeting which will have a wider selection of agencies coming together to problem solve local problems.

Conclusions

The Commission is asked to support the Wycombe Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2017-2020, and the actions outlined for 2019-2020.

Next Steps

The Partnership Delivery Plans for 2019/2020 will be monitored via the Wycombe Community Safety Strategy group meetings.

Background Papers

The Wycombe Community Safety Plan 2017-2020 is held by Community Services Team and published on the Council's website.