



Committee and Date

Communities Overview
Committee

22 January 2018

2.00 pm

Shropshire Community Safety Partnership

Responsible Officer Andrew Gough – Safer Communities

e-mail: Andrew.gough@shropshire.gov.uk

1. Introduction

Every three years the Shropshire Community Safety Partnership is required to produce a strategy to help tackle crime and improve community safety. This strategy is based upon an assessment of available crime data which assists in the identification of the key priorities for the Partnership. The Partnership examines the types of crimes that have occurred and where and identify if these crimes have increased or decreased so that we can recognise emerging trends and prepare to manage them. The strategy aims to provide a framework within which decisions concerning the investment of available resources can be made and so determine the best course of action to ensure that crime is controlled.

The partnership recognises that during the lifetime of this Strategy issues might change and different community concerns could surface. The partnership will use data, information and community based reports to ensure it maintains a good understanding of the issues which need to be addressed within Shropshire.

This strategy does not wish to replicate the strategies of West Mercia Police Force and the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, but it does aim to ensure that the priorities of each strategy are complementary to one another and, wherever they can be, aligned. Additionally, the Partnership will seek to learn from evidence of good practice established elsewhere by liaising with other Community Safety Partnerships.

The Strategy will be reviewed annually as part of the Strategic Assessment and priorities will be revised to ensure the strategy remains flexible and adapts to local need.

The Vision of the Partnership

The Shropshire Community Safety Partnership and its members are committed to maintaining and delivering safer and stronger communities and the continued development of Shropshire, making it a place that people want to live, work and visit.

The Mission Statement of the Partnership

The Shropshire Community Safety Partnership will work together for the benefit of everyone who lives, studies, works, visits, and socialises in Shropshire and its towns, in order to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and improve feelings of safety.

The Shropshire Community Safety Partnership is made up of a number of agencies. These include:

- Shropshire Council
- West Mercia Police
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
- National Probation Service
- Warwickshire and West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company
- Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Representatives from key partners in the voluntary sector
- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Shropshire Community Safety Partnership structure is reviewed regularly to ensure that agencies are able to tackle the priorities identified for the County. The Board oversees a number of strategic groups which deliver programmes of work for the partnership.

2. Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2017-2020

Our priorities for 2017 – 2020:

Reducing offending and re-offending

Analysis of recorded crime figures shows that young men, particularly those aged between 15 and 20 years, in comparison to the overall population structure, are overrepresented as offenders for most crime types. The Partnership will therefore maintain its focus on the Integrated Offender Management approach and further develop its programme of support for young people, particularly those young people often described as being “on the edge of the criminal justice system”. The Partnership wants to improve the outcomes and life chances for younger people and reduce the cost of crime to the public. Repeat offenders are more likely to be defendants in theft, theft from vehicles and criminal damage. It is important to note that the likelihood of re-offending increases with the number of previous convictions and a criminal history is likely to affect the chances of employment which, in turn, may be a trigger for re-offending

Vulnerable Victims: Domestic Violence, Hate Crime, Repeat ASB and Child Sexual Exploitation

Domestic abuse

There has been an increase in the level of reporting of this crime. However, domestic abuse is an underreported crime and: “even if it were possible to put

a figure on individual offences, and hence calculate a domestic abuse 'rate', this would not be a particularly telling reflection of the number of people at risk." Only one (1) offence in 2015-16 was allocated the category 're-victimisation'. However, this may not be a true picture as data mapping suggests repeated reports of abuse at the same location.

There are a number of services and projects operating within Shropshire that help to tackle the issue of domestic abuse. These include: Shropshire Domestic Abuse Services and the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates. The overall aim is to reduce the number of people who are victims of domestic abuse.

Hate crime

This crime can be motivated by disability, gender identity, race, religion or faith and sexual orientation. The overall purpose is to reduce hate crime and its impact on the people and communities of Shropshire. Hate crime is not recorded as a specific 'crime type', instead a marker is applied to offences which enables some analysis to take place.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The overall intention is to protect children and young people from sexual exploitation. This includes the emerging threat of "sexploitation" and "sextortion" whereby young people (predominantly young men) are encouraged to transfer sexual images on-line and are then subjected to fraud.

Stronger Communities and Public Reassurance:

In the national and regional context, Shropshire is one of the safest places to live, work and visit. A key challenge for the Partnership is to ensure that any reductions seen in crime and disorder are translated into feelings of safety and confidence in towns, villages and communities across the County.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The overall purpose is to reduce anti-social behaviour and its impact across Shropshire. The number of Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) incidents, including ASB incidents involving young people, has been decreasing in recent years (it fell by 9% between 2014 and 2015). However, there are different categories of anti-social behaviour and the frequency of these incidents has not declined equally across these categories. ASB incidents categorised as 'personal' appear to be falling at the slowest rate.

Alcohol, health and violence against the person – a cross cutting theme

Problematic drug and alcohol use has a significant impact on the life chances and outcomes for individuals, their families and the communities in which they live. Additionally, the link between drug use and crime is well established. It is estimated by the Home Office that the cost of drug related crime is approximately £13.9 billion per year and that offenders who use heroin, crack and cocaine commit between one-third and one-half of all acquisitive crime. National estimates suggest that alcohol is a contributory factor in 44% of all violent crimes. The overall aim is to understand the impact of alcohol

consumption has on the community with a particular emphasis on addressing the violence and harm to health caused by alcohol consumption.

Prevent

The lead for PREVENT sits with the Shropshire Community Safety Partnership. The Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015 set out the duty on local authorities and partners to develop local panels to provide support for vulnerable people who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism. Shropshire, as you would expect, has a lower level of vulnerability and risk than many other parts of West Mercia. Shropshire is most vulnerable to:

- a. Lone Actors (individuals undertaking activity on their own)
- b. Community tensions resulting in isolation of either individuals or groups;
- c. Public order incidents/community tensions resulting from domestic extremism.

3. Public Health Outcome Indicators

The Community Safety Partnership has agreed to use Public Health Outcome Indicators to measure the delivery of the strategy. Set out below are the headline description for the Public Health Outcome Framework (PHOF) indicators that pertain to the DAAT and Community Safety Partnership. These indicators will be reported on a quarterly basis to the CSP Board.

- 1.04 First time entrants to the youth justice system
- 1.11 Domestic abuse
- 1.12 Violent crime (including sexual violence)
- 1.12i Age-standardised rate of emergency hospital admissions for violence per 100,000 population
- 1.12ii Rate of violence against the person offences based on police recorded crime data, per 1,000 population
- 1.12iii Rate of sexual offences based on police recorded crime data, per 1,000 population
- 1.13 Levels of offending and re-offending
- 1.13i Re-offending levels - The percentage of offenders who re-offend from a rolling 12 month cohort
- 1.13ii Re-offending levels - The average number of re-offences committed per offender from a rolling 12 month cohort
- 1.13iii- First time offenders- The number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system as a rate per 100,000 of the population
- 2.15 Drug and alcohol treatment completion and drug deaths
- 2.15i Number of users of opiates that left drug treatment successfully (free of drug(s) of dependence) who do not then re-present to treatment again within 6 months as a proportion of the total number of opiate users in treatment.
- 2.15ii Number of users of non-opiates that left drug treatment successfully (free of drug(s) of dependence) who do not then re-

present to treatment again within 6 months as a proportion of the total number of non-opiate users in treatment

- 2.15iii Number of alcohol only clients that left substance misuse treatment successfully who do not then re-present to treatment within 6 months as a proportion of the total number of alcohol only clients in treatment
- 2.16 Adults with substance misuse treatment need who successfully engage in community-based structured treatment following release from prison
- 2.18 Alcohol-related admissions to hospital

4. Conclusion

Crime, disorder and substance and alcohol misuse have a direct impact on both individuals and communities in Shropshire. The Shropshire Community Safety Partnership aims to ensure that crime is tackled effectively.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr Lee Chapman

Local Members:

All Members

Appendices

Appendix A - Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2017 - 2020