



Committee and Date

Economy and Environment

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Item

Public



Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2024/25

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1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This report fulfils the Community Safety Partnerships statutory duty to produce a needs assessment and its duty for committee to review and scrutinise decisions made and actions undertaken by the Responsible Authorities for Community Safety in Shropshire. The report outlines the key actions and achievements realised by Shropshire's Community Safety Partnership during the 2024-25 period. It also provides an overview of the strategic plans and priorities that are currently being developed for the forthcoming year, 2025-26.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) Annual Report provides an opportunity to review the delivery against our priorities and consider how agencies have worked together to keep the people of Shropshire safe.

2.2 The report provides an opportunity to feedback to the public and partners on the decisions that have been made and actions taken by the Responsible Authorities for Community Safety.

2.3 The Community Safety Priorities for the period covered in this report are:

- Reducing reoffending
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Tackling hate crime, community tensions and extremism
- Domestic abuse
- Violence reduction
- Tackling Anti-social behaviour

2.4 This year has been the beginning of a transition for the Community Safety Partnership in Shropshire. In July 2024 the Partnership had its Board separated from being a joined one with Adults and Children's Safeguarding. Sub-groups were then established to deliver specific pieces of work that focused on the agreed priorities. Whilst this was a year of change, there were several achievements to be celebrated:

2.5 There was a 9.3% reduction in all crime seen across Shropshire, violence with injury crime saw a decrease of 12.7%, serious violence by 4.3%, hate crime 5.5%, anti-social behaviour 9.7% and domestic abuse offences 16.5% (domestic abuse incidents saw a reduction of 8.3%).

2.6 A local Action Plan with five priority areas based on the Counter Terrorism Local profile was developed and monitored by the Prevent Board. There was a particular focus on education and awareness raising of the risks posed. Prevent Training was rolled out to all schools. In March 2025 an updated Counter Terrorism Local Profile was presented to local partners which allows them to understand local risk and revisit the Action Plan accordingly.

2.7 The Serious Violence Duty was embedded within Shropshire, with a West Mercia wide definition of serious violence and a strategy developed. Shropshire's CSP along with other regional partners part funded two projects and in addition funded a third locally to support young people and prevent them from becoming involved in serious violence. These projects were successful in their aims and have been recommissioned for a second year.

2.8 To help tackle anti-social behaviour and other community cohesion problems, locality meetings were set up in 5 market towns in Shropshire. These were multi-agency meetings where professionals could come together and discuss concerns about people, places and problems so they could address these collectively.

2.9 Schools were offered hate crime sessions by a Youth Engagement Officer and a process for reporting hate incidents was determined and monitored by the Education Inclusion Service. Updates were also made to the SSCP website to ensure that there was up to date resources and information for people with concerns about hate crime [Hate Crime and Hate Crime — Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership](#).

2.10 A Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment was undertaken and this will form the basis of the Domestic Abuse Strategy. Likewise, based on the Needs Assessment previously undertaken there is a Drug and Alcohol comprehensive Action Plan that local partners are working together to achieve.

2.11 An independent diagnostic review of case reviews in Shropshire was positive about the processes in place for Domestic Homicide Reviews and those who oversee these.

2.12 One Domestic Homicide Review was fully published in this period and the learning from another was also published. Two reviews were sent to the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel. Work was on going with two Domestic Homicide Reviews which had been referred to the Partnership in the previous year and we received one further referral.

2.13 The Community Safety Partnership received six referrals for Anti-social Behaviour Case Reviews during the year. Four of these requests did not progress to review. Of the two that did, action plans were developed and monitored. All referrals related to concerns about the behaviour of neighbours.

2.14 As we horizon scan for 2025-26 it is necessary to plan for the potential requirement to implement Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews (currently being piloted in some parts of England and Wales). It is also important to ensure that learning from case reviews is fully embedded into practice and therefore new and innovative approaches are required to support this.

2.15 As the new Board structure is in place and new priorities are set for the coming years (2025-2028) it is important to examine the requirements that will be needed to support the CSP moving forward.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. That the committee considers and notes the content of the report.
- 3.2. That the committee consider priorities proposed for 2025 - 2028 and how these will positively impact the lives of residents in Shropshire.

Report

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 4.1. Supporting the CSP functions within the Business Unit – in order to successfully achieve the priority outcomes of the CSP there needs to be appropriate support for the Community Safety Partnership and its statutory functions. This role is currently shared between the Business Manager and a Development Officer in the Business Unit who also supports Adult Safeguarding. These arrangements are under review to consider suitable resourcing and funding from partners across the partnership to discharge the statutory duties, with additional funding being sought.
- 4.2. Implementation of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews - Statutory Case Reviews are labour intensive for the Business Unit but also for partners that are involved. Agencies will need to prepare for the demands of these reviews once implemented. As yet it is unknown if there will be any Government funding attached to the implementation.

<i>Risk</i>	<i>Mitigation</i>
Supporting the CSP functions	The SSCP is funded through a multi-agency budget detailed within the annual report.
Implementation of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews.	Process is in place to ensure consistent implementation, and this will be reviewed by the partnership to examine the impact of the reviews and identified learning.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The Community Safety Partnerships is funded through a multi-agency budget, to which the local authority contributes. In addition, there is grant funding through the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and additional grant funding for implementation of newly introduced statutory duties such as the Serious Violence Duty.
- 5.2. It is not known what the grant funding for 2025/26 will be from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Shropshire or if there will be continued grant funding for the Serious Violence Duty.

6. Background

- 6.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 made it a requirement for there to be a Community Safety Partnership in place to tackle crime and disorder in local areas. Its duties included conducting strategic assessments of local need, creating a strategy to reduce crime and disorder (which should address anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending) and reporting on its progress.

- 6.2 Legislative updates and changes since 1998 mean that there are an abundance of statutory duties that the Community Safety Partnership are required to fulfil, these include:
- Annual Strategic Assessment and publication of Strategies
 - Tackling anti-social behaviour
 - Alignment with PCC Crime objectives
 - Serious Violence Duty
 - Multi-agency data sharing and analysis
 - Domestic Abuse Act: Comprehensive support for victims, co-ordination of Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences, Community Awareness and Training
 - Prevent Duty
 - Targeting Organised crime and child exploitation
 - Community engagement
 - Domestic Homicide Reviews
 - Reducing crime and disorder
 - Tackling drugs and alcohol misuse

7. Additional Information

- 7.1 [shropshire-safeguarding-community-partnership-annual-report-2023-2024.pdf](#)
- 7.2 [Community Safety Practice — Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership](#)

8. Conclusions

- 8.1 2024/25 has been a year of change for the Community Safety Partnership, whilst change can be unsettling, partners have strived to continue to drive forward activity and meet statutory duties.
- 8.2 As we move into 2025 and beyond the Community Safety Partnership has an operating model to ensure accountability and scrutiny in order for it to achieve its priority outcomes.
- 8.3 Each of the priorities for 2025 - 2028 were chosen based on local intelligence and data.

Appendices

- Appendix A Shropshire CSP Annual Report 2024/25
- Appendix B CSP Strategy