

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 24 JULY 2014**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To provide Members with an overview of the Community Safety Partnership's activities over the past year.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 The Flintshire Community Safety Partnership is required to formally report to this committee on an annual basis to provide an overview of activities undertaken over the previous twelve months. This ensures that the Partnership meets its obligations under sections 19 and 20 of the Police & Criminal Justice Act 2006. The legislation came into effect in Wales on 1 October 2009 through the Crime & Disorder (Overview & Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.
- 2.02 Flintshire County Council has a statutory duty under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, and the subsequent amendments by the 2002 and the 2006 Police and Justice Act, to work in partnership with the police, health service, probation and fire service to address the local community safety agenda. Collectively they make up the Community Safety Partnership.
- 2.03 There has been a partnership in existence in Flintshire since 1999. To support the Partnership, the county is served by a core team of local authority and police officers who tackle areas such as domestic abuse, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour, along with the Neighbourhood Wardens.
- 2.04 In recent years the drive to rationalise the work of partnerships has been the catalyst for significant changes in the Flintshire Community Safety Partnership's governance structure. In April 2013 the Partnership merged with the Local Service Board. This has had minimal impact on the operational delivery structure; however at a strategic level it has meant a greater consistency of approach. The statutory duties of the Community Safety Partnership continue to be fulfilled.
- 2.05 Over the past year great progress has also been made in the way community safety partnerships in North Wales have worked together. The establishment

of the North Wales Safer Communities Board in July 2012 has been the most significant development. This Board represents a partnership between all the statutory authorities across the region (as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998), along with the voluntary sector. The overall aim of the Board is to introduce greater consistency in this area of work, whilst allowing opportunities to share expertise and work more effectively and efficiently.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 It is evident that partnership working improves how agencies tackle crime and disorder. The most recent full year figures for crime and disorder illustrate that rates continued to fall. Below is a summary of some of the key findings:

	2013/4	2012/3	% change
All Crime	6,986	7,157	-2.4%
Victim Based Crime	6,438	6,504	-1.0%
Violence with Injury	755	795	-5.0%
Violence without Injury	628	689	-8.9%
Rape	56	54	3.7%
Sexual Offences (exc. Rape)	109	93	17.2%
Burglary Dwelling	328	299	9.7%
Vehicle Crime	502	608	-17.4%
Robbery	24	34	-29.4%
Burglary Other Than Dwelling (BOTD)	715	713	0.3%
Shoplifting	647	621	4.2%
Other Acquisitive	1,219	1,211	0.7%
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,455	1,387	4.9%

- 3.02 The Flintshire Community Safety Partnership has adopted the Safer Communities Board Plan for 2014/7, which became operational in April 2014. The Plan fulfils the statutory requirement for the region's Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan, and replaced the Flintshire and Wrexham Community Safety Plan which came to an end on 31st March 2014.

It reflects the recommendations contained within the regional Strategic Assessment, and also takes into account the findings of the Substance Misuse Needs Assessment.

The North Wales Community Safety Plan accompanies this report, it also contains a summary of the Strategic Assessment.

- 3.03 The key priorities identified within the Community Safety Plan are captured in the table overleaf, along with the outcomes and indicators:

Priority	Outcomes	Indicators
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	People are more confident, and aware, to report domestic abuse and sexual violence offences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of domestic violence incidents reported to North Wales Police Number of sexual offences reported to North Wales Police
	Young people are aware of the nature and implications of sexual violence, and where to access support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well informed young people in relation to sexual violence (monitored via post intervention surveys)
	Deal effectively first time with high risk cases of domestic abuse through successful MARAC intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of cases referred more than once to MARAC
Acquisitive Crime	Identify locally emerging trends in relation to acquisitive crime and develop targeted and appropriate responses to those trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of reported offences of acquisitive crime
	Jointly address those who cause the greatest harm in our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of offences committed by repeat offenders in relation to acquisitive crimes
Anti-Social Behaviour	Support high risk and repeat victims of anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of repeat high risk victims of anti social behaviour
	Providing appropriate interventions to locally identified anti-social behaviour problems in our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents
Substance Misuse	Improving availability and quality of education, prevention and treatment services and related support, with the emphasis on the relationship between alcohol, drugs and crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting the Welsh Government's Key Performance Indicator on substance misuse services

The agencies represented on the Safer Communities Board have undertaken to take forward these priorities within their localities, and report on progress at regular intervals. Where possible a regional or sub-regional approach is encouraged as there are considerable advantages to developing consistent approaches, namely avoiding duplication and encouraging people with different expertise to work together for a common goal.

At the next meeting of the Safer Communities Board a detailed work programme will be considered which will identify opportunities for collaboration.

At a local level the LSB have agreed that the People are Safe Board adopts these regional priorities, and reports to both the LSB and Safer Communities Board on progress or challenges.

3.04 In terms of local delivery the operational work of the Community Safety Partnership is overseen by the 'People are Safe' Board, which comes under the auspices of the LSB.

3.05 **Overview of local activities in 2013/4**

The next section outlines the activities undertaken locally during 2013/4, under the auspices of the People are Safe Board. These aims are contained within the Single Integrated Plan, and are reported to the LSB.

The aims of the People are Safe Board have been to:

- Address the inappropriate availability & misuse of alcohol in our communities
- Reduce alcohol related harm including injuries
- Prevent & manage alcohol related anti-social behaviour and address environmental crime
- Improving Services for vulnerable people with a focus on those suffering domestic abuse, missing people and restorative approaches (ESVP) related anti-social behaviour & address environmental crime

Achievements realised in 2013/4:

1. Signed up to the North Wales Community Safety Plan, 2014/7
2. All secondary schools in Flintshire have received theatrical performances from the 'Cat's Paw' theatre company whose aim it is to raise greater awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence amongst young people in year 9. A further breakdown of figures follows:
 - Overall number of secondary schools receiving performances in 2013/4: 12
 - Overall number of performances delivered in 2013/4: 22
 - Number of schools accessing performances in Q4: 5 schools
 - Estimated increase awareness of pupils (full report will be prepared by the end of school year): 90%

3. Performed as an effective Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), addressing the support needs of high risk victims of domestic abuse.
4. Adopted intelligence led approach to identify crime and disorder trends through the monthly Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime Tasking Groups.
5. Contributed to the development of the North Wales Substance Misuse Needs Assessment.
6. Monitored and reviewed the performance of the Substance Misuse Action Plan Fund and the Youth Crime Prevention Fund, amounting to in excess of £900k in 2013/4.
7. Introduction of domestic abuse workplace policy for Flintshire County Council employees.

What went well:

1. Effective partnership working on a local and regional level, strategically and operationally.
2. In July 2013 the Flintshire Community Safety Partnership was formally subsumed within the LSB. The statutory duties of the Community Safety Partnership will now be discharged through the work of the LSB, however the 'People are Safe' delivery board, which sits under the LSB, has been delegated to oversee the work of the Partnership.
3. A successful Christmas campaign was also launched to promote a safe drinking message, encouraging revellers of the county to 'know their limits' and behave responsibly over the festive season.
4. As part of the Council Plan's commitment to promote 'safer communities' all secondary schools have welcomed the 'Cat's Paw' Theatre Company, to deliver interactive performances around the subject areas of domestic abuse and sexual violence. It was delivered in an age appropriate manner, and very positive feedback has been received from all schools.
5. For the second consecutive year the community safety team co-ordinated very successful events in Deeside College and Northop College in support of the White Ribbon campaign in relation to domestic violence. Partner agencies were involved and information was provided for students and college staff. Some young people felt able to raise issues about their own personal circumstances and were given specific guidance and details of access to professional support.
6. Task and finish groups, and operations, emanating from the ASB Tasking group to deal with specific issues that required a multi-agency approach, for example:

- Working with Cheshire services (mental health team) with regard to a vulnerable Flintshire resident based in Saltney.
- Developing specific action plans with regard to specific issues in towns such as Flint, Buckley and Connah's Quay

What didn't go so well

Substance Misuse services saw a slight increase in waiting between referral and treatment. The Welsh Government's KPI is for 80% of service users to receive treatment within 20 days. Flintshire figure for 2013/4 was 67.08%. In part this may be attributed to the low numbers of actuals which skews percentages, and also there have been a number of staffing difficulties experienced.

The number of completed treatments for Flintshire stood at 69.53%, which is slightly under the KPI set by the Welsh Government. However Flintshire's performance is significantly better than the rest of North Wales

Our evidence for this is:

Achievement Measures	2013/14 Milestones & Performance	Performance RAG
Completion of North Wales Community Safety Plan	Action Completed	GREEN
Implementation of Flintshire County Council's Domestic Abuse Workplace Policy for employees	Action Completed	GREEN
Fewer high risk repeat victims of domestic abuse	28%	GREEN
Numbers of schools accessing Cats Paw Theatre Productions	100%	GREEN
Percentage of young people reporting increased awareness following Performances of Cats Paw Production	90%	GREEN
Incidence of Victim Based Crime	1% Reduction	GREEN
Incidence of Anti-Social Behaviour	6.3% Reduction	GREEN
Achieve a waiting time of less than 20 days from referral to treatment (KPI 2)	67.08%	RED
Treatment Completes (KPI 6)	69.53%	AMBER

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 To note the contents of the report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None as a result of this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 i. North Wales Community Safety Plan, 2014/7

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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