

# Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel

12 June 2018

**Time** 6.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Scrutiny

**Venue** Committee Room 3 - 3rd Floor - Civic Centre

## Membership

**Chair** Cllr Linda Leach (Lab)  
**Vice-chair** Cllr Simon Bennett (Con)

### Labour

Cllr Rupinderjit Kaur  
Cllr Welcome Koussoukama  
Cllr Asha Mattu  
Cllr Barbara McGarrity  
Cllr Anwen Muston  
Cllr Susan Roberts MBE  
Cllr Zee Russell

### Conservative

Cllr Sohail Khan

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

## Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

**Contact** Earl Piggott Smith  
**Tel/Email** 01902 551251 email:earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk  
**Address** Democratic Services, Civic Centre, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, St Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

Copies of other agendas and reports are available from:

**Website** <http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/>  
**Email** [democratic.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Tel** 01902 555046

Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

# Agenda

## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
1	<b>Apologies</b>
2	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
3	<b>Matters arising</b>
4	<b>Minutes of previous meetings</b> (Pages 3 - 8)
5	<b>Adults and Safer City Scrutiny - Draft Work Programme</b> (Pages 9 - 10) [Martin Stevens, Scrutiny Officer, to present the draft scrutiny panel's work programme]
6	<b>Modern Slavery - Update Report</b> (Pages 11 - 16) [Karen Samuels, Head of Community Safety, to present report]
7	<b>Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Performance Update</b> (Pages 17 - 26) [Karen Samuels, Head of Community Safety, to present report]

## Attendance

### Members of the Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Barry Findlay  
Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre  
Cllr Linda Leach (Chair)  
Cllr Lynne Moran  
Cllr Anwen Muston  
Cllr Rita Potter  
Cllr Tersaim Singh

### Witnesses

Hannah Pawley - Graduate Management Trainee CWC  
Rachel King – Head of Youth Offending CWC  
Carla Jordan – National Probation Service

### Employees

Julia Cleary	Systems and Scrutiny Manager
Lynsey Kelly	Community Safety Manager
David Watts	Director of Adult Services
Earl Piggott-Smith	Scrutiny Officer

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## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

- 1 Apologies**  
Apologies for absence were received from the following:  
  
Cllr Pat Patten
- 2 Declarations of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest recorded for the meeting.
- 3 Minutes of previous meetings**  
That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4 Matters arising**  
There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5 **Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel - work programme**

Earl Piggott-Smith, Scrutiny Officer, presented the work programme report and invited panel comments. Cllr Leach advised the panel that David Jamieson, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, had accepted an invitation to attend a future meeting of the panel. A date will be confirmed asap.

The panel were advised to submit questions to the Scrutiny Officer in advance of the meeting and these will then to be collated and sent to Police and Crime Commissioner to include in the report to panel.

The panel discussed the idea of having a public meeting to get the views of issues of concern and these will help inform possible lines of enquiry in preparation for the meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Chair invited panel members to contact the Scrutiny Officer if they would be interested in arranging a visit to talk to members of the Adult Safeguarding Team.

Julia Cleary, Scrutiny and Systems Manager, outlined new plans to deal with the issue of delayed reports and explained that she will be meeting with senior management team regularly to update them on the work programme. In addition, all reports will have to be submitted to modern.gov which will create automatic dates for tasks to be completed, which can be monitored. The Scrutiny and Systems Manager explained the importance of member led scrutiny in suggesting agenda topics and in shaping the content of reports.

The Scrutiny and Systems Manager explained changes to the annual scrutiny work planning event. A council wide briefing session will be held in 18 June 2018 for Directors to brief Councillors on the key priorities of the Council. A separate event will be held with only non-executive Councillors to discuss possible agenda topics for each of their panels. The Scrutiny and Systems Manager commented on the positive responses to reviews completed during the year and set out ideas for further raising the profile of scrutiny work across the Council. The Scrutiny and Systems Manager commented on the importance of scrutiny in supporting the work of the Council and the expectation that the plans will lead to reports being submitted on time to the panel in the future.

The panel discussed the importance of having the time to read reports before panel meetings. The Scrutiny and Systems Manager commented on the role of panel members in helping to shape the content of report so that they provide answers to their questions. This could include panel members commenting on draft reports. The Scrutiny and Systems Manager commented on work planned to change the culture so that scrutiny in Wolverhampton can move forward.

The panel discussed the need for training and support to newly elected councillors on developing their questioning skills. The panel commented that during induction sessions that it is important that members are clear about the role of scrutiny and advice on how to prepare for scrutiny meetings.

The panel discussed a request for the date of panel meeting on 25 September 2018 to be changed. The Scrutiny Officer explained that a report Calendar of Meetings 2018-2019 listing dates of meetings was approved by Council at a meeting in 13

December 2017. The Scrutiny Officer agreed to discuss the request for a date change with Democratic Services Manager. The issue will also need to be discussed with members of the Adults and Safer City panel about any change in the meeting schedule at the first meeting of the year.

6 **Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy**

Lynsey Kelly, Community Safety Manager, introduced the report and welcomed representatives from Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company who were involved in drafting the strategy document to the meeting. The Community Safety Manager outlined the background to the drafting of the consultation document and the overarching priorities of the organisations involved in working together to develop a joint strategy. The aim of the strategy is to reduce re-offending rates across the Black Country region.

The Community Safety Manager explained that a separate action plan for each Black Country area involved will be drafted to meet local needs. The local plans while allowing for variations but will be expected to support the delivery of the overarching priorities detailed draft consultation document. The public consultation is due to end on 8 May 2018.

The Community Safety Manager outlined the work done to consult with different community groups about the plans. The Community Safety Manager explained that a full equalities assessment will be completed before a final draft is published.

The panel discussed the identified outcomes listed in para 3.3 of the report and whether they should more Wolverhampton specific so that the public can assess the progress made and also the inclusion of key milestones. The Community Safety Manager explained that there would be a separate local action plan for Wolverhampton but agreed to discuss the issue with Board about making the suggested change to the outcomes. Any changes to the draft strategy would however need to be agreed by representatives of the other local authorities involved in the partnership.

The panel queried whether the plan was compliant with the Council's public-sector equality duty and the groups consulted about the draft strategy. The panel suggested a wide range of groups should be encouraged to respond to the consultation. The Community Safety Manager explained that WVSC had been invited to share the draft consultation document with organisations on its distribution database to get wider range of views on the plans.

The panel suggested that the reference to a 'whole family' approach in the strategy document should be changed to a whole community approach to reflect important work of other agencies and people that can have on reducing the risk of a person re-offending following their release from prison by offering different kinds of support. The Community Safety Manager agreed to propose this change to Board when they next meet to discuss responses to the public consultation.

The panel discussed the issues detailed in Appendix A of the report which list the risk factors that leads to young people getting involved in crime has been extensively researched and documented and the solutions are known – it was important to accept the need for organisations to be properly funded so that the necessary

services are provided otherwise only limited progress would be made in achieving the desired outcomes of the strategy.

The panel commented on the impact of national policy changes following major changes in the structure of the probation responsibilities and there was concern this had contributed to the increase in re-offending rates. The panel commented on the wider costs to society of not providing offenders with the necessary support to reduce the risk of them re-offending after their release from prison.

Carla Jordan, National Probation Service, accepted the point about the challenges facing the organisation in supporting vulnerable young people to change behaviour when in prison or when discharged without proper support such as suitable accommodation.

Carla Jordan highlighted the problem of supporting people with drug addiction as an example of where repeat offenders are given short custodial sentences but without drug treatment orders being granted. As a result, it is difficult for the Probation Service to make a lasting impact in tackling the causes that led to offending behaviour and provide the necessary support needed to prevent it in the time available - this situation is made more challenging by limitations of sentencing options following changes introduced by Government. The Government expects the service to meet the national target of completing 95% of pre-sentence reports within timescales set by the courts. This is a challenge for the service as it very difficult to get mental health assessments completed in time available or arrange for a proper diagnosis of their condition; if there are concerns about the health and wellbeing an offender.

The panel discussed the issue of persistent offenders and what can be done to prevent them re-offending again when released. The panel discussed the issue of limited housing options for offenders and the poor quality of the current offer. David Watts, Director of Adult Services, advised the panel that Government introduced changes to homeless legislation which places a legal duty on councils to give people meaningful support to try to resolve their homelessness, as well as introducing measures to prevent people becoming homeless in the first place. Ex-offenders have been highlighted as a key group at risk of being homeless and finding a suitable home for ex-offenders is a key part of the strategy.

The panel discussed if the current Council housing offer is properly meeting the needs of ex-offenders. The Director of Adult Services agreed to make enquiries about the implications of the changes for Wolverhampton and report the findings to the panel when received.

The panel discussed concerns about the care of prisoners and the pressures on prison staff.

Rachel King, Head of Youth Offending, CWC, commented on the work done with families of young offenders to build relationships that reduce the risk of them offending. The Head of Offending commented on the funded projects and the work of the community reference group who work directly with young people considered to be at risk of re-offending.

The panel thanked the witnesses for their evidence.

Resolved:

1. The panel comments on the draft Black Country Re-offending Strategy to be included in the consultation response.
2. The panel approved the draft strategy proposal but would welcome a response to the suggestion to develop outcomes and performance measures for Wolverhampton.
3. The Director of Adult Services to report to a future meeting about the implications of the Homelessness Reduction Act with reference to Council response to meeting the housing needs of ex-offenders.
4. The Community Safety Manager to provide the panel to receive a report on the response to consultation document from the Community Safety Board meeting in June 2018 before it is approved.
5. The panel agreed to receive a final draft of the Black Country Re-Offending Strategy report at the panel meeting on 27 September 2018.

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**Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel – Draft Work Programme 2018/19**

The Panel will have responsibility for scrutiny functions as they relate to: -

Older people assessment and care management, Financial support services, Libraries and community hubs, Independent living centre, Commissioning older people, Carers support and All age disabilities (disabilities).

Cabinet Member for Adults – Cllr Sandra Samuels

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Lead Report Author</b>	<b>Specific Questions for Scrutiny to consider</b>
12.06.2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report</li> <li>• Modern Slavery - update report</li> </ul>	Karen Samuels	
25.09.2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wolverhampton Adult Education Service - briefing about the current education offer</li> <li>• Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations from the Scrutiny Review of the Adult Mental Health Commissioning</li> </ul>	Joanne Keatley, Head of Service  Earl Piggott-Smith	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The West Midlands Police and Crime Plan 2016-20</li> </ul>	David Jamieson, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner	
27.11.2018	TBC		

29.01.2019	TBC		
26.03.2019	TBC		

# Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel

12 June 2018

<b>Report title</b>	Modern Slavery Update	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Hazel Malcolm Public Health and Wellbeing	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	John Denley, Director of Public Health	
<b>Originating service</b>	Community Safety	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Karen Samuels Tel Email	Head of Community Safety 01902 551341 Karen.ssamuels@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	People Leadership Team Strategic Executive Board	21 May 2018 22 May 2018

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The scrutiny panel is recommended to:

1. Comment on progress to develop and implement proposals to tackle modern slavery in Wolverhampton

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide a progress update on steps to develop the Council and partnership response to modern slavery in Wolverhampton.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The term modern slavery encompasses human trafficking, slavery, domestic servitude and forced or compulsory labour and is defined within the Modern Slavery Act 2015 which categorises these acts as offences. These crimes include holding a person in a position of slavery, servitude forced or compulsory labour, or facilitating their travel with the intention of exploiting them soon after.
- 2.2 Although human trafficking often involves an international cross-border element, it is also possible to be a victim of human trafficking within a country; if a person is moved from one part of the country to another and to be a victim even if consent has been given to be moved.
- 2.3 There are several broad categories of exploitation linked to human trafficking, including:
- Sexual exploitation
  - Forced labour
  - Domestic servitude
  - Organ harvesting
  - Child related crimes such as child sexual exploitation, forced begging, illegal drug cultivation, organised theft, related benefit frauds etc
  - Forced marriage and illegal adoption (if other constituent elements are present)
- 2.4 The National Referral Mechanism is a framework for signposting victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate protection and support and is the method through which victims are referred/reported for support. The Act places a requirement on Local Authorities to identify potential victims of modern slavery and report identified cases to fulfil its 'duty to notify' requirements.
- 2.5 Whilst current legislation does not outline a requirement for partnership working, the West Midlands Metropolitan area does benefit from some degree of strategic coordination through a West Midlands Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Board.
- 2.6 Each of the seven local authority areas are developing local partnerships to drive delivery. At a local authority level, governance is provided through Safer Wolverhampton Partnership with strong links to Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards.
- 2.7 City wide coordinated delivery is currently driven by Wolverhampton Anti-Slavery Partnership, a multi-agency forum with representation across statutory, voluntary and faith sector.

- 2.8 The hidden nature of modern slavery, the inability of some victims to recognise their own victimisation and the changing operations of organised crime groups means the prevalence of modern slavery is not known. There were 11 cases of modern slavery (minors) submitted to the National Referral Mechanism from Wolverhampton from Jan – Dec 2017 compared to six cases the previous year; all were minors. These cases related to county lines/drugs and child sexual exploitation. West Midlands Police are working through a backlog of referrals received from the National Crime Agency, so available data provides an indicative rather than a definitive picture.
- 2.9 The CWC introduced a byelaw in December 2017 under Sections 18 and 20 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 introducing prohibitions on the employment of children. These measures support steps to safeguard children and young people from domestic servitude or forced labour.
- 2.10 A report presented to Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel on 19 September 2017 outlined both the partnership and CWC proposals for tackling modern slavery in the city. A brief update against the key themes of delivery is provided below:

### 3.0 Summary of Progress – Partnership Delivery Plan

Area of Focus (Identified Sept 2017)	Progress Update
Raise awareness through development of Communications Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications plan in place and in process of refresh to factor in training offer</li> <li>• Aide Memoir in development covering indicators of modern slavery, care pathway, intelligence submissions and key contacts</li> <li>• Communications plan to align with CWC/Police communications teams</li> </ul>
Development of comprehensive training package for roll out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A national training package has been launched (tier1 - 4)</li> <li>• Train the trainer session scheduled 4/5 June. Key services identified for roll out which is scheduled for summer 2018</li> <li>• Integration into safeguarding boards training programme (Learning &amp; Development Committee 25 July 2018)</li> </ul>
Clarify and simplify the referral route and care pathway for victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care pathway in development with CWC Head of Safeguarding (links to other safeguarding measures e.g CSE/county lines)</li> <li>• West Midlands minimum standards in development with local variation</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoping work commenced on development of Black Country reception centre for potential victims</li> </ul>
Clarify the support offer for victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit of partners undertaken to capture summary of provision</li> <li>Links established to national sub-contracted provider (Black Country Women's Aid)</li> </ul>
Strengthen data capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Police developed and promoted use of intelligence log for data capture.</li> </ul>
Develop arrangements to identify, disrupt and dismantle organised crime groups (OCGs) linked to modern slavery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Country organised crime forum established – meets bi-monthly to identify organised crime groups and coordinate tactics</li> </ul>
Strengthen links to the business community to address labour exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion scheduled with Wolverhampton Business Crime Reduction Forum Sept 2018 once training, communication materials are in place. Wider dissemination to be agreed</li> </ul>

#### **4.0 Strengthening City of Wolverhampton Council's Approach.**

4.1 The Modern Slavery Act 2015, outlined a number of responsibilities for local authorities in relation to modern slavery.

4.2 The CWC has also committed to developing a modern slavery improvement plan to strengthen the corporate response. Meetings are being held with key service leads to agree actions for finalisation of Council plan. Discussions have been held so far with Safeguarding, Procurement, People's lead (covering Adults and Children's Services), Workforce Development. Proposed implementation includes:

- Leading development of a modern slavery multi-agency pledge against slavery to raise awareness and commitment
- Identifying contracts posing a higher risk of modern slavery being perpetrated. Scope auditing options for these contracts
- Applying minimum standards within CWC contracts (to include sub contracts)
- Strengthen due diligence checks on contracts prior to award
- Tiered training offer to be rolled out summer 2018 to frontline staff and councillors to include refresh of e-learning, designated teams' completion of training (tiers 3 and 4), update of Councillors' induction information; offer of daytime and evening briefings for Councillors;

- Corporate communications to accompany training roll out and care pathway development
- Development of modern slavery briefings for Managers' to roll out within teams.

4.3 CWC service leads are being invited to contribute to the plan, which is due to be finalised at the end of June 2018.

4.4 Local Government Association Guidance produced and launched in Feb 2018 provides a helpful summary of the implications of modern slavery for Councils, with practical suggestions as to areas for strengthening practise. A link to the guidance can be found here. <http://www.saferwolverhampton.org.uk/documents/Modern-slavery-Guidance.pdf>

## 5.0 Ongoing Operational Delivery - Examples

- Police and Immigration Enforcement-led operations have been conducted with support from partners, focused upon Car Washes and nail bars.
- A steering group formed of Police, Community Safety, Planning and Private Sector Housing teams are working to identify and map the Houses of Multiple Occupation within the city. Alongside this, multi-agency housing visits have been carried out across the city.
- Since November 2017, there have been 19 crimes reported within Wolverhampton related to Modern Slavery, and 25 intelligence submissions. In addition, in Quarter 3 of the 2017-2018, four referrals were made by the CWC to the National Referral Mechanism, all four being referred in via the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.

## 6.0 Next Steps

Key Area of Delivery	Timescale
Train the Trainers delivered	4/5 June 2018
Completion of CWC Modern Slavery Plan	End June 2018
Care pathway revised	July 2018
Communications Plan finalised	July 2018
Roll out of national training programme	August 2018 onwards

## 7.0 Issues for Scrutiny Consideration

- 7.1 There is no additional resource for delivery of the modern slavery approaches outlined within this report; the focus is therefore primarily on improving mainstream practice and coordination of voluntary, community and faith sector support.
- 7.2 Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider whether any further proportionate steps could be progressed to raise awareness and aid delivery of the CWC and partnership modern slavery approaches.

## **8.0 Financial implications**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications relating to this report. Any costs arising from actions detailed in this report will be met from existing budgets.  
[SB/18052018/X]

## **9.0 Legal implications**

- 9.1 The stated actions will ensure the Council complies with its obligations in accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The proposals outlined within this report are in support of the byelaw introduced under Sections 18 (2) and 20 (2) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 introducing prohibitions on the employment of children.  
[RB/15052018/I]

## **10.0 Equalities implications**

- 10.1 Proposals contained within this report will strengthen both the Council and City response to modern slavery and support some of the most vulnerable and marginalised individuals who have been subjected to modern slavery or human trafficking. As the nature of this abuse is largely hidden, the protected characteristics of victim profiles are not yet fully understood.
- 10.2 An initial equalities screening has been undertaken; it is recognised that nationally, victims from Albania, Vietnam and UK are the most commonly reported potential victims; 59 % of victims were females with the peak age of victims aged between 15-24 years. Delivery and targeting of communications and engagement is therefore tailored to reflect varying need and the communications and training offer are kept under regular review to reflect the changing victim profile.

## **11.0 Environmental implications**

- 11.1 There are no environmental implications.

## **12.0 Human resources implications**

- 12.1 There are no human resources implications.

## **13.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 13.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications.

## **14.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 14.1 Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel – Wolverhampton’s Approach to Tackling Modern Slavery 19 September 2017.
- 14.2 Local Government Association. Modern Slavery: A Council Guide  
<http://www.saferwolverhampton.org.uk/documents/Modern-slavery-Guidance.pdf>



# Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel

12 June 2018

<b>Report title</b>	Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy 2017-2020 – Progress Update	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Paul Sweet Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Mark Taylor, Strategic Director, People	
<b>Originating service</b>	Community Safety, Public Health	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Karen Samuels Tel Email	Head of Community Safety 01902 551341 Karen.samuels@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	People Leadership Team Strategic Executive Board	21 May 2018 22 May 2018

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## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Scrutiny Panel is recommended to:

1. Comment on progress achieved to date in delivering the City's Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy 2017-2020.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide a summary of Safer Wolverhampton Partnership progress during 2017-2018 towards delivering outcomes detailed in the Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy 2017-2020.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 As part of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, responsibility is placed on Local Authorities and the Police in England and Wales to work together in auditing crime and disorder and producing and delivering strategies to reduce local crime and disorder.
- 2.2 Following a period of priority setting and extensive consultation with councillors, communities and partners, the strategic priorities for tackling crime and improving community safety were agreed and reflected in the 2017-2020 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy.
- 2.3 The following strategic priorities were detailed in the strategy:
- Reducing reoffending
  - Reducing victimisation
  - Violence prevention

## **3.0 Summary of Progress Against Strategic Priorities – Reducing reoffending**

- 3.1 A Black Country Strategic Group has been developed to reduce the number of local meetings and to allow the Black Country areas to share best practice and work collaboratively to reduce reoffending.
- 3.2 Black Country Strategic Group membership:
- Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and Sandwell Community Safety Partnerships
  - Community Rehabilitation Company
  - Black Country court representatives
  - West Midlands Police
  - National Probation Service
- 3.3 Work has begun on a Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy which will complement and align with the Black Country Strategic Group. SWP are leading on this work in close collaboration with the other Black Country community safety partnerships. Local action plans will be developed to retain appropriate responses and any local variations.

## **4.0 Summary of Progress Against Strategic Priorities – Reducing Victimisation**

### **4.1 Violence Against Women and Girls**

- 4.2 The 2016-2019 multi-agency Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy is providing clear direction to the City's approach to driving forward important improvements in tackling the five strands of violence against women and girls: domestic abuse, sexual violence, female genital mutilation, honour based violence and forced marriage.
- 4.3 During 2017-2018, 651 high risk cases were discussed at multi-agency risk assessment conference, 234 of which were repeat cases (equates to 36%, a marginal decrease from 2016-2017). There were 241 early non-police referrals during 2017-2018, equating to 37%. This is a 6% increase from early non- police referrals during 2016-2017.
- 4.4 Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum training plan has been refreshed and expanded to encompass hidden crimes including honour based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Sessions are provided to organisations across the city to improve understanding, capacity and skills of frontline managers.
- 4.5 2017-2018 saw a successful Orange the World campaign to raise awareness of violence against women and girls, involving over 100 organisations. Eight awareness raising sessions have taken place at the Refugee and Migrant Centre, engaging directly with newly emerging communities.
- 4.6 Violence Against Women and Girls Service Transformation Fund**
- 4.7 The Home Office launched its Violence Against Women and Girls(VAWG) Service Transformation Fund in December 2016 with an aim to aid, promote and embed the best local practice and ensure that early intervention and prevention became the norm. Confirmation was received in July 2017 that Wolverhampton's submission had been successful. An allocation of £500,000 has been awarded to cover the three-year period 2017-2020.
- 4.8 The allocation will aid implementation of the 2016-2019 violence against women and girls action plan by addressing identified unmet need within the City, whilst building on the positive work already undertaken to integrate an improved response through mainstream delivery and to build sustainable change over the long term. The key work strands are:
- Behaviour change and accountability
  - Safer homes scheme
  - GP training and support
  - Building sustainable change
- 4.9 Business Crime**
- 4.10 Safer Wolverhampton Partnership contributed to a combined funding pot which enabled Wolverhampton Business Crime Reduction Group to continue their work to reduce business crime in the City. Wolverhampton Business Crime Reduction Group work with owners of small and medium enterprises to raise awareness and build resilience, helping them to protect themselves from becoming victims of crime.

- 4.11 Wolverhampton Business Crime Reduction Group have built solid partnerships with West Midlands Fire Service and West Midlands Police to deliver business crime reviews to help local businesses keep their properties safe and secure. 13 estates were visited during 2017-2018.
- 4.12 Activities during 2017-2018 included:
- Business crime reviews at locations where crime has taken place
  - Helping prevent offending and reoffending by offering training skills programmes
  - Cyber Crime awareness sessions, strengthening online security by providing training for 40 businesses
  - The development of 21 Business Watch Groups with 742 businesses across the City of Wolverhampton
  - Reducing victimisation of businesses with target hardening visits and fire safety inspections in partnership with WM Fire Service
  - Increasing communication between local businesses, the police and other statutory organisations.

## **5.0 Summary of Progress Against Strategic Priorities – Violence Prevention**

### **5.1 Youth Offending Team**

- 5.2 During 2017-2018, the Youth Offending Team continued to utilise part of the Police and Crime Commissioner grant to part fund staffing to deliver bespoke Community Resolution Workshops for young people.
- 5.3 Young people apprehended by the police for low level offending who are on the cusp of entering the Youth Justice system are offered a brief assessment and intervention workshop which is designed to divert them from further offending and signpost them to appropriate services required.
- 5.4 During 2017-2018:
- 70 ONSET and ASSETPLUS assessments were undertaken on pre-court young people, (21% increase from 55 in 2016-2017). This allows targeted interventions to address their propensity for further offending and any safeguarding/wellbeing concerns.
  - 75 young people took part in Community Resolution Workshops at The Way YouthZone (17% decrease from 90 in 2016-2017)

### **5.5 Preventing gang involvement and youth violence**

- 5.6 Delivery against the Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence Strategy 2016-2019 has continued with a strong focus on providing early intervention and prevention activities to those either at risk of gang involvement or to young people who are already affiliated with gangs or involved in youth violence.
- 5.7 The Gangs Steering Group continued to grow its membership during 2017-2018. Strong partnerships have formed with Early Help and social care, who are now working

closely with the police and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership to identify young people of concern so that interventions are targeted at those who are most in need of support.

- 5.8 This is in line with other West Midlands areas and the national picture, 2017-2018 presented fresh challenges around youth violence and gang related violence. In response, specialist partner agencies have been commissioned to deliver services in specifically identified locations where both gang activity and youth violence are prevalent.
- 5.9 The Community Reference Group was re-commissioned to provide the critical call out mediation service in 2017-2018. The service, which is deployed in response to escalating gang and youth violence tensions, provides support to individuals who have been directly involved as well as the wider family and community; this has proved to be invaluable in providing community reassurance and reducing the risk of further incidents, including retaliations. The local knowledge they have along with the trust of the community means that they are best placed to deliver the service effectively and respond promptly as soon as they are deployed.
- 5.10 Additional projects commissioned include:
- School mentoring programme
  - Girls Allowed project (funded by comic relief)
  - Preventing violence project
  - Family intervention project

### **5.11 Prevent and Cohesion**

- 5.12 Delivery of Wolverhampton's response to the Prevent duty is both a statutory and priority area for the partnership. Wolverhampton continues to be considered a low risk area, and as such does not receive Home Office funding. Despite this, Safer Wolverhampton Partnership continues to promote workshops to raise awareness of Prevent training within the City, utilising its bank of trainers.
- 5.13 All schools in the city have now received workshops to raise awareness of Prevent training and Prevent e-learning has been made compulsory for all council employees. 2017-2018 has also seen substantive engagement with the health and housing sectors.
- 5.14 Channel Panel and Contest Board continue to run and are well attended by partner agencies. Contest is organised around four principle work streams, which remain as: pursue, prevent, protect and prepare.
- 5.15 SWP has a robust approach to monitoring community tensions across the city:
- A standardised form is circulated monthly to community leaders requesting that they provide details of tensions that they are aware of.
  - The City has a dedicated Community Cohesion Forum, formed of statutory agencies, community groups and organisations, councillors and the faith sector.
  - Both Community Cohesion and Prevent agendas link with the Safeguarding Boards, acknowledging that both form part of a larger Safeguarding agenda within the city.

5.16 SWP worked with statutory partners, alongside the third and faith sectors to develop a Faith Covenant for Wolverhampton. The Covenant, an initiative created by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Faith and Society, reinforces the City's commitment by local authorities, partners and the faith sector to cooperate on issues across the city.

## 6.0 Domestic Homicide Reviews

6.1 During 2017-2018 Safer Wolverhampton Partnership received two notifications of domestic violence related deaths in Wolverhampton that could meet the criteria for undertaking a Domestic Homicide Review. Neither were undertaken as a full Domestic Homicide Review. One had no agency contact with Wolverhampton and therefore there was deemed to be no possible learning. This was supported by the Home Office. The other case was reviewed in Birmingham as the victim was a resident there.

## 7.0 Performance Summary

7.1 2017-2018 saw 21,225 offences in Wolverhampton. This is a 13.6% upturn in total recorded crime since 2016-2017, equating to 2541 offences. This is synonymous across the West Midlands, with Wolverhampton sustaining one of the lowest increases. Vehicle crime, business crime, violent offences and robbery were all contributing factors, as well as a small increase in traditionally hidden crimes such as violence against women and girls and modern slavery which can be viewed as a reflection of local efforts to increase confidence in reporting.

7.2 Key headlines include:

Crime type	2016-2017	2017-2018	Comments
Business Crime	4,256	4,954	Business crime and vehicle crime accounted for 7,403 offences, compared with 6,146 offences in 2016-2017. This equates to 49% of the total recorded crime increase over the 12-month period.
Vehicle Crime	1,890	2,449	
Robbery	389	423	This equates to a 9% increase. However, those with an offender aged 10-24 years old reduced by 40%
Violent crime with a knife or bladed weapon	191	221	This equates to a 16.5% increase, the 4 <sup>th</sup> lowest increase across the West Midlands
Violent crimes committed with use of a firearm	37	63	This increase is in line with the West Midlands and national trend.

Modern Slavery offences*	8	32	This increase reflects local efforts to increase confidence in reporting
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\*Recorded offences may also reflect data transfer/investigation delays between National Crime Agency and West Midlands Police.

7.3 The SWP Annual Report is currently in development and will be presented to SWP Board for approval at its meeting on 19 July 2018. This can be circulated to scrutiny panel following SWP approval.

## 8.0 Future Developments

8.1 The partnership will face new challenges over the next 12 months. The grant issued by the Police and Crime Commissioner has been reduced for the third year running, resulting in a streamlined programme of commissioning to meet Safer Wolverhampton Partnership strategic priorities. The Police and Crime Commissioner has announced that the way that funding is distributed and services commissioned will significantly change.

8.2 Some services, including funding for Youth Offending Teams, will be funded directly by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner; it is anticipated that moving forward more services and programmes will be commissioned this way. From 2020 the West Midlands Mayor will subsume the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Information regards these changes is currently limited, however it causes more uncertainty for Community Safety Partnerships from 2020 onwards.

8.3 2017-2020 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy identifies the following areas of focus for 2018-2019:

### 8.4 Reducing Reoffending

- Implement a Black Country wide Reducing Reoffending strategy
- Improve recovery rates for offenders & those at risk of substance misuse problems
- Improve city image and business confidence by tackling aggressive begging and rough sleeping
- Address drug dealing amongst individuals, with a particular focus on New Psychoactive Substances
- Identify young people at risk of offending at an early stage and provide interventions, considering a 'whole family' approach
- Reduce volume crime with focus on vehicle crime, burglary, shoplifting and DA

### 8.5 Reducing Victimisation

- Develop interventions to deter young people from committing violent acts
- Provide early interventions to deter young people from carrying bladed weapons
- Provide critical call out mediation services to reduce tensions and escalations of violence
- Apply available legislative tools and powers to increase the effective management of offenders

- Delivery of Domestic Abuse perpetrator programmes inside and outside of the criminal justice system

## **8.6 Violence Prevention**

- Engage with identified communities to break the cycle of cultural acceptance of domestic related abuse and vulnerability
- Build confidence within communities subjected to hate crime to increase reporting and strengthen cohesion
- Work with partners to strengthen and integrate the collective response to domestic abuse
- Increase understanding of modern slavery and build confidence of victims to report issues and access support
- Targeted engagement with businesses to reduce the risk of business victimisation

## **9.0 Financial Implications**

- 9.1 Implementation of the Community Safety Strategy will be largely delivered through existing mainstream partner resources. Wolverhampton's grant allocation of £229,000 in 2018-2019 will be used to support the programme, the full cost of which would be met from within the grant resources available. Subject to agreement from the Police and Crime Commissioner, the anticipated carry forward of £15,000 will be added to the 2018-2019 programme.
- 9.2 The PCC allocation, when received, is ringfenced for Community Safety use by Safer Wolverhampton Partnership in line with conditions of grant. The grant is received by the City of Wolverhampton Council as accountable body for Safer Wolverhampton Partnership.  
[SB/18052018/O]

## **10.0 Legal implications**

- 10.1 Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 require the Council and other responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area. Subsequent revisions to the Act (Police and Justice Act 2006) places a duty on Community Safety Partnerships to prepare strategic assessments with the purpose of informing the partnership plan revisions.
- 10.2 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (amended) requires the Council along with the other Responsible Authorities to exercise their functions with due regard to do all that they reasonably can by way of preventing crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending in the locality. All aspects of this requirement are featured within the strategy.  
[RB/18052018/V]



## **11.0 Equalities implications**

- 11.1 Delivery detailed within the Annual Report is reflected in the 2017-2020 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy, Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence Strategy which have been subject to full equality analyses. Delivery strengthens the City's efforts to further equalities and actively addresses disproportionality associated with certain crimes.
- 11.2 As an update report of the issues and actions described in the overall strategy and its associated equality analyses there are no new equalities issues that have arisen between the adoption of the strategy and this update report.

## **12.0 Environmental implications**

- 12.1 There are no environmental implications within this report.

## **13.0 Human resources implications**

- 13.1 There are no human resource implications within this report.

## **14.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 14.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications for the Council's property portfolio.

## **15.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 15.1 There are no background papers.

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