

<b>CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL</b>	<b>Cabinet</b> 10 July 2019
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<b>Report title</b>	Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018-2019		
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER		
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Jasbir Jaspal Public Health and Wellbeing		
<b>Key decision</b>	Yes		
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes		
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards		
<b>Accountable Director</b>	John Denley, Director of Public Health		
<b>Originating service</b>	Community Safety		
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Lynsey Kelly	Head of Community Safety	
	Tel	01902 550042	
	Email	Lynsey.Kelly@wolverhampton.gov.uk	
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Public Health Leadership Team	21 May 2019	
	Safer Wolverhampton Delivery Group	29 May 2019	
	Scrutiny Board	11 June 2019	
	Strategic Executive Board	18 June 2019	
	Safer Wolverhampton Partnership	20 June 2019	

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**Recommendation for decision:**

The Cabinet is recommended to:

Endorse the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018 -2019 as approved by the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide a summary of Safer Wolverhampton Partnership progress during 2018-2019 detailed within its annual report (attached at Appendix 1) and seek support for identified areas of future development.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Safer Wolverhampton Partnership is statutorily required to produce an annual report detailing progress against its strategic plan and performance. The annual report also details services which have been commissioned using the annual allocated grant from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), against which it is required to produce quarterly expenditure and outcome reports.
- 2.2 The annual report summarises performance against the 2017-2020 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy, which encompasses the following strategic priorities:
- Reducing Reoffending
  - Reducing Victimisation
  - Violence Prevention

## **Summary of Progress Against Key Strategic Priorities**

### **3.0 Reducing Reoffending**

- 3.1 Wolverhampton's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) led on the delivery of the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy in collaboration with Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) from Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall. The Strategy has been welcomed by the OPCC; and will assist the Black Country in attracting additional resources, strengthen collective capacity and partnership working.
- 3.2 Collaborative work with internal and external partners has taken place throughout the year to improve city image and business confidence by proactively tackling and reducing aggressive begging and rough sleeping. The CSP has worked to address and tackle volume crimes, assisting to reduce vehicle crime, burglary, shoplifting and domestic abuse. This has been achieved by using enforcement action, civil remedies, support and protective measures.

### **4.0 Reducing Victimisation**

- 4.1 2019 saw the final year of the 2016-2019 multi-agency Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. The strategy has provided clear direction shaping the City's approach to driving forward important improvements in tackling the 5 strands of violence against women and girls: domestic abuse, sexual violence, female genital mutilation, honour-based violence and forced marriage. The strategy has been refreshed to form the Tackling Interpersonal Violence Strategy (2019-2022) with stalking and harassment now incorporated into the scope. This will ensure continued delivery against this important agenda.
- 4.2 Confirmation was received in July 2017 that Wolverhampton had been awarded £500,000 from the Violence Against Women and Girls Service Transformation Fund to cover the

three-year period 2017-2020. This allocation has aided 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 to VAWG through mainstream delivery and to build sustainable change over the long term. The General Practitioner (GP) training scheme is highlighted as an area of success, increasing the number of victims referred into Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

- 4.3 Excellent progress was made in the last financial year to address hate related crime; building confidence within communities subjected to hate crime to increase reporting and strengthen cohesion. There are now 16 third party reporting centres in the city, a multi-agency hate crime website and a widespread training has been rolled out. During 2018-2019 385 hate crimes were reported compared to 120 during 2017-2018. As hate crime is underreported this increase is welcomed and suggests that work around this agenda is building trust and confidence and is empowering victims to report the crimes committed against them.

## **5.0 Violence Prevention**

- 5.1 Delivery against the Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence Strategy 2016-2019 continued during 2018-2019. Strong focus was given to providing early intervention and prevention activities for those either at risk of gang involvement or to young people who are already affiliated with gangs or involved in youth violence.
- 5.2 A variety of prevention activity was commissioned to deter young people from committing violent acts and safeguard them from violence and exploitation. Activity included (but not exclusively) peer mentoring in Primary Schools, targeted school holiday activity, outreach support and YOT music project and youth outreach.
- 5.3 In line with other West Midlands areas and the nationally; 2018-2019 presented fresh challenges around youth violence and weapon 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. A violence and exploitation strategy is also in development, laying out a public health approach to tackling exploitation in all its forms based on national best practice.

## **6.0 Statutory Duties**

- 6.1 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 (WRAP) training within the city, utilising its bank of trainers.
- 6.2 Undertaking Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) continues to be a statutory obligation delivered by SWP. A DHR is completed when a death meets specified criteria set by the Home Office; the aim of the review is to identify learning for agencies improve practice and prevent future domestic related deaths. Any DHR completed by Wolverhampton is done so in a timely manner in line with Home Office guidelines. In 2018-2019 one DHR was completed and submitted to the Home Office.

## **7.0 Future Development**

- 7.1 Moving forward into 2019-2020 SWP will continue to tackle some of the most challenging community safety issues in Wolverhampton. Interventions with people who may be vulnerable to violence and exploitation continue to be a high priority and will be guided by the implementation of the Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy which will take a public health approach to violence and combat the issues holistically. The wide scope of this strategy means that it will have joint governance arrangements with Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards, strengthening the partnership approach across the city in responding to these issues. This will be aided by the £110,000 allocated from the Early Intervention Fund by the OPCC to Wolverhampton for in year spend.
- 7.2 2018-2019 will see the implementation of the Tackling Interpersonal Violence Strategy (2019-2022) which includes provision for violence against women and girls in Wolverhampton. Action plans and performance frameworks will be updated to ensure that they align with the new strategy outcomes. Particular early areas of focus for 2018-2019 will be community engagement, generating referrals for the DVPP and embedding the new area of stalking and harassment.
- 7.3 The 2017-2020 Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy identifies the following priorities for 2019-2020:

### **7.4 Reducing Reoffending**

- a. Improve pathways for offenders to access employment and housing in Wolverhampton
- b. Establish a Reducing Reoffending action plan for Wolverhampton to ensure delivery against the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy
- c. Improve city image and business confidence by continuing to work in partnership to tackle and reduce aggressive begging and rough sleeping across all areas of Wolverhampton
- d. Identify young people who are vulnerable to support them at the earliest possible stage; providing interventions to address their attitudes and behaviours whilst considering a 'Contextual Safeguarding' approach
- e. Reduce serious acquisitive crime and all forms of violence, including domestic abuse
- f. Improve recovery rates for offenders and those at risk of offending who have substance misuse problems including New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

### **7.5 Reducing Victimisation**

- a. Develop interventions to deter young people from committing violent acts and reduce the number of young people committing knife related crime or being exploited (including; county lines, child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and modern slavery)
- b. Provide mediation services for the community by the community, to reduce tensions and escalation of violence

- c. Apply available legislative tools and powers to increase the effective management of offenders
- d. Continue to promote and deliver a behaviour change programme to reduce the harm from domestic abuse perpetrators
- e. Increase the use of out of court disposals, specifically restorative justice

## **7.6 Violence Prevention**

- a. Implement a violence and exploitation strategy for Wolverhampton and review governance arrangements in collaboration with key stakeholders and partners
- b. Maintain engagement with communities to break the cycle of cultural acceptance of domestic related abuse and vulnerability
- c. Continue to work in partnership to reduce violence and exploitation
- d. Continue to work with communities to increase reporting and recognising hate crime and to strengthen cohesion
- e. Continue to work with partners to strengthen and integrate the collective response to domestic abuse
- f. Work with Education partners to identify the earliest opportunity to intervene to prevent the exploitation of young people, including Delivery of Domestic Abuse programmes in school settings
- g. Increase understanding of modern slavery and build confidence of victims to report issues and access support

## **8.0 Evaluation of alternative options**

- 8.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory requirement on all Community Safety Partnerships to publish an annual report. There are no alternative options available to consider.

## **9.0 Reason for decision**

- 9.1 There is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for the all Community Safety Partnerships to publish an annual report detailing their annual delivery against priorities.

## **10.0 Financial Implications**

- 10.1 Implementation of the Community Safety Strategy will be largely delivered through existing mainstream partner resources. Wolverhampton's PCC grant allocation of £114,250 in 2019-2020 will be used to support the programme along with £110,000 of Early Youth Intervention Fund allocation.

- 10.2 The PCC allocation is ringfenced for Community Safety use by SWP in line with the conditions of the grant. The grant is received by the City of Wolverhampton Council as accountable body for SWP.

[MI/05062019/J]

### **11.0 Legal implications**

- 11.1 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.

- 11.2 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.

[TS/04062019/R]

### **12.0 Equalities implications**

- 12.1 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.

- 12.2 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.

### **13.0 Environmental implications**

- 13.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

### **14.0 Human resources implications**

- 14.1 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

### **15.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 15.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications arising from this report.

### **16.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

- 16.1 The annual report demonstrates how the work of the partnership takes a public health approach to tackling some of the most serious community safety issues. Many of the priorities can impact on the wider determinates of health; as such SWP work closely with

Public Health Colleagues to ensure that a joined up approach is taken to addressing both Public Health and Community Safety Issues.

## **17.0 Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018-2019