

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

# Cabinet Meeting

## 14 September 2016

<b>Report title</b>	Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report		
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER		
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Paul Sweet Public Health and Well Being		
<b>Key decision</b>	No		
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes		
<b>Wards affected</b>	All		
<b>Accountable director</b>	Ros Jervis, Service Director		
<b>Originating service</b>	Public Health		
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Karen Samuels	Head of Community Safety	
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Strategic Executive Board	28 June 2016	
	Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel	11 July 2016	

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Endorse the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2015-16 and support identified areas for development.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide a summary of Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) progress during 2015-16 detailed within its annual report (attached as Appendix A) and seek support for identified areas for future development.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) is statutorily required to produce an annual report detailing progress against its strategic plan and performance. The annual report also details services commissioned using the annual allocated grant from the Office for Policing and Crime (OFFC) against which it is required to produce quarterly expenditure and outcome reports.
- 2.2 The Crime Reduction and Community Safety Strategy 2014-2017 encompasses the following strategic priorities:

- Reducing Re-offending
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Gangs and Youth Violence
- Substance Misuse

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

### **3.1 Reducing Re-offending**

- 3.1.1 Wolverhampton's Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme is well established and has been aided by the appointment of a Reducing Reoffending Coordinator. During 2015-16 the following was delivered against this priority:
- The development of a co-located multi-agency team delivering support pathways on a surgery basis.
  - The successful delivery of the city's Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) to manage the most serious offenders.
  - Effective management of Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs) which are a small number of individuals who commit high volume crime.
  - Successful transition of probation services following government transformation.
  - Innovative Youth Offending Team (YOT) engagement of young people on the cusp of offending.
  - Delivery of Youth Inclusion Support Panel delivering against youth crime prevention.
  - Exceptional YOT Full Joint Inspection outcome resulting in an extremely positive with a comparatively high score against other local authorities.

### **3.2 Violence Against Women and Girls**

- 3.2.1 A key focus for 2015-16 was the development of a refreshed VAWG Strategy covering domestic violence (DV), sexual violence (SV), female genital mutilation (FGM), honour-

based violence (HBV) and forced marriage (FM). SWP funded a number of posts to support delivery in the city. Key successes for the year includes:

- Support and assistance to victims through the criminal justice system.
- 530 perpetrators brought to justice through Wolverhampton's specialist DV court.
- An increase in MARAC referrals of 3.7% with 620 cases referred for specialist case management support.
- Improved frontline practice across agencies resulting in increased referrals.
- Training delivered to 14 organisations reaching over 200 staff.

### **3.3 Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence**

- 3.3.1 The refreshed Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence strategy document was developed and launched during 2015-16 with an increased focus placed on early intervention and prevention of youths being drawn into this culture. A summary of provision has included:
- 3.3.2 Case management of individuals at risk/involved has continued through the year. Effective delivery of specialist commissioned intervention services covering:
- Critical incident provision
  - Women and girls at risk through gang associations
  - Individuals identified as medium/high risk from gang involvement
- 3.3.3 The critical incident call out service which is funded by SWP was utilised twice over the past 12 months to address gang related incidents. The service saw successful outcomes; preventing any further incidents or retaliation from other gang nominals and providing community reassurance.
- 3.3.4 The Gangs Community Reference Group continues to be proactive in providing important feedback on the effectiveness of this approach and a confidential forum, especially at times of heightened tensions.
- 3.3.5 SWP has provided funding to train community members to build capacity and develop skilled community mediators for deployment during critical incidents. The view is that they will be more aware of local issues and tensions and are able to provide a service which will better meet the community's needs.

### **3.4 Substance Misuse**

- 3.4.1 Recovery Near You is the contracted provider of the service. A consistent upward trend was seen during 2015-16 for successful drug programme treatments for non-opiates drugs, whilst completions for those on Opiates drugs remain static. Wolverhampton however, is only 1.32% below from the top quartile range for Opiate user completions, which equates to approximately 15 successful treatments annually. Successful alcohol completions continue to increase at 45.2% which is greater than the national average which sits at 39.2%.

In addition to progress against strategic priorities, SWP Board has also delivered against its statutory functions and safeguarding priorities:

### **3.5 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)**

- 3.5.1 During 2015-16 SWP received notification from West Midlands Police's Public Protection Unit of two domestic violence related deaths in Wolverhampton that could meet the criteria of undertaking a DHR. One went on to be completed as a DHR and the other is currently on-going as a Safeguarding Adult Review.
- 3.5.2 A joint learning event was held with Children and Adult's Safeguarding in March 2016 with other key partners to disseminate learning and best practice recommendations to over 200 frontline practitioners and managers throughout the city. The event was supported and attended by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and safeguarding toolkits were produced with the financial support of the PCC and disseminated across all West Midlands authorities as a prompt for improved practice.

### **3.6 Prevent**

- 3.6.1 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 was introduced in July 2015 and introduced a requirement for public sector agencies to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism'. Wolverhampton is deemed an area of low risk, but is in a strong position to respond to the new requirements. Achievements during 2015-16 included:
- Development of a Contest Board to coordinate the city's multi-agency response
  - of a multi-agency bank of 45 Prevent trainers for city-wide deployment
  - 700 individuals trained to raise awareness, identify individuals at risk and increased confidence in use of the referral and support pathway.
  - Completion of training for 89% of the city's schools.

### **4.0 Performance Summary**

- 4.1 Overall performance for 2015-16 has been extremely positive. Whilst there was a 3% increase (509 additional crimes) in total recorded crime over the year, which was the second lowest increase in the West Midlands, this was in the main a reflection of local efforts to increase confidence in reporting under-reported and 'hidden' crimes associated with VAWG and is an encouraging sign. A summary breakdown of performance shows:
- Public confidence policing in Wolverhampton is the highest in the Force.
  - Youth-related ASB has reduced (13%) and satisfaction with service responses for both crime and ASB have increased.
  - Domestic burglaries have reduced by 3%
  - Violence offences against young people have increased, although the number of young robbery victims has reduced significantly
  - Reductions in reoffending rates for both youths and adults, higher than West Midlands and national averages

- 4.2 A presentation on progress has been delivered to Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel on 14 July; this was positively received and prompted discussions about specific aspects of delivery within the current Crime Reduction and Community Safety Strategy.

## 5.0 Allocation of Expenditure

- 5.1 A summary of the 2015-16 allocation (£493,000) is detailed below; this has been reduced by 25% for 2016-17 (£369,000) across the West Midlands.

Commissioned Activity	Allocation
Delivery of VAWG Strategy	£214,000
Gangs and Youth Violence specialist commissioning	£44,000
Youth Crime prevention	£66,000
Reducing re-offending	£35,000
Domestic Homicide Reviews	£27,000
Neighbourhoods	£7,500
Infrastructure	£99,000

## 6.0 Areas for Future Development

A number of challenges and areas of development have been identified for 2016-17.

- 6.1 Grant funding from the PCC for all West Midlands authorities have been reduced by 25% from 2016-17, resulting in a streamlined commissioning programme for the coming year. Collaborative working across West Midlands Local Authority areas may go some way towards mitigating the impact of this position, with a focus on identifying efficiencies, service improvements and improved value for money.
- 6.2 A review of neighbourhood engagement is underway to identify improvements in engagement practices and increase opportunities for widening participation.
- 6.3 A refreshed Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy 2017-19 will be developed following the review of SWP's strategic priorities held in June 2016. The following strategic priorities will feature within the new strategy:
- Reducing Reoffending
  - Violence Prevention
  - Reducing Victimisation

## 7.0 Financial implications

- 7.1 Commissioned services delivering against the Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy 2014-17 are funded from an allocated annual grant from the PCC. The 2015-16 allocation (£493,000) has been reduced by 25% for 2016-17 (£369,000),

however planned delivery within both the current and future strategy will remain within the available resources. [GS/31082016/X]

## **8.0 Legal implications**

- 8.1 Development of this Annual Report fulfils a statutory requirement of SWP detailed in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.[TS/24062016/A]

## **9.0 Equalities implications**

- 9.1 Delivery detailed within the Annual Report is reflected in the 2014-17 Crime Reduction, Community Safety and Drugs Strategy, Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and Preventing Gang Involvement and Youth Violence Strategy which have been subject to equality analyses. Delivery strengthens the city's efforts to further equalities and actively addresses disproportionality associated with certain crimes.
- 9.2 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. As such there are no new equalities issues to consider in approving this report.

## **10.0 Environmental implications**

- 10.1 There are no environmental implications within this report.

## **11.0 Human resources implications**

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

## **12.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 12.1 There are no corporate landlord implications for the Council's property portfolio.

## **13.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 13.1 There are no background papers.