

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**20 JULY 2020**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

**Cabinet Member(s):** Cllr Dennis Knowles, Community Well Being  
**Responsible Officer:** Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for Public Health and Regulatory Services

**Reason for Report:** To ensure Scrutiny has oversight of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and has the opportunity to review the activities of the partnership during 2019-20.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To note the progress of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in delivering activities against the partnerships priorities and action plan for 2019-20.

**Financial Implications:** There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report aside from highlighting potential ad-hoc costs arising from Domestic Homicide Review responsibilities as set out below. The majority of funding for the Partnership is provided by external grant and a summary of this is outlined in Section 3.0 of the report and in detail against project expenditure in Annex 1.

The CSP are legally responsible for the delivery of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. Until 2017, this activity was absorbed at County level without any direct financial contribution by local CSPs. They will continue to be coordinated and delivered on a county basis through the Safer Devon Partnership, however all Devon CSPs agreed to contribute towards the costs. Further details of this are also provided in Section 3.6 of the report.

*Approved by Finance: yes/no – Group Manager for Financial Services*

**Legal Implications:** The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 makes it a statutory requirement for the police and local authorities to engage with partners to form a community safety partnership for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder. The 1998 Act places a legal responsibility on the partnership to consult with the community on the priorities it has set and to inform them of progress against the action plan. The Act also requires the partnership to carry out a Strategic Assessment of the area which is used to inform the partnership priorities and is now responsible for conducting Domestic Homicide Reviews.

**Risk Assessment:** There is a risk to the Council if it does not engage with the partnership in respect of failing to meet statutory duties.

**Equality Impact Assessment:** All CSP Plans from 2018 onwards include an EIA for consideration before adoption and implementation. Accordingly, any equality considerations arising from the plan approach were agreed at the time the plan was most recently updated and approved..

**Relationship to Corporate Plan:** The priorities of the CSP and the activities undertaken as part of the action plan compliment the ambitions of the Corporate Plan. In particular this activity contributes to the priority of Community. The CSP

works directly with the wider community, youth groups and local partners to ensure the district is a safe place to live, work and visit.

**Impact on Climate Change:** None directly arising from the report. The partnership undertakes the majority of its work remotely through electronic communications which limits officer travel and physical meetings.

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 The East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has been formed in order to meet our statutory duties under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and is a multi-agency group working together to reduce crime and disorder.

1.2 The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires the local authority to put in place a method of scrutinising the manner in which the partnership functions. Every local authority must have in place a committee with the power to review and scrutinise the actions of the CSP and make recommendations about how it functions. The East and Mid Devon CSP is scrutinised through each Council's Scrutiny Committee and this report forms part of that annual oversight.

1.3 Based on this responsibility, the principal purpose of this report is for the Scrutiny Committee to look back at the activities that have been undertaken by the partnership in 2019-20 and review these against the action plan.

1.4 The formal operating structure of the partnership was reviewed in 2018 and changed to adopt a two tier meeting structure in order to better engage with partner agencies, however at the February 2020 meeting of the combined CSP Board and the CSP Operational Delivery Group it was agreed to revert to a merged meeting of all partner agencies that would meet four times per year. The role of chairing the partnership can be met by any of the statutory partners within the partnership and most recently this function has been carried out by East Devon District Council but from April 2020 will be taken over by Devon & Cornwall Police.

1.5 The statutory CSP partners are:

- Devon and Cornwall Police
- Devon County Council
- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
- Probation Service
- East Devon District Council
- Mid Devon District Council
- NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group'

## 2.0 Priority areas 2019-20

2.1 Based on information from the Devon Strategic Assessment (DSA) commissioned by Safer Devon Partnership, the CSP has been focusing activities and opportunities under three broad headings:

- Exploitation and Vulnerability (typically hidden crime)
- Anti-social Behaviour (more overt crime and disorder)

- Community Resilience (forward looking/building prevention)
- 2.2 The seven areas of high level threat across the county include the following work streams that have been incorporated in the three broader themes:
- Dangerous Drug Networks – County Lines
  - Child Sexual Exploitation
  - Domestic Abuse (including sexual violence)
  - Problem Drinkers
  - Problem Drug Use
  - Modern Day Slavery
  - Terrorist incident (including radicalisation and extremism)
- 2.3 Our approach starts from the principle that prevention is better (and usually cheaper) than a cure. A three-tier approach is used as set out below. Our wider services and interventions are often focussed on the primary tier and link to the work of the CSP at the secondary and tertiary level.
- primary prevention (preventing the problem in the first place)
  - secondary prevention (intervening early when the problem starts to emerge)
  - tertiary prevention (making sure an on-going problem is well managed to avoid crises and reduce impacts)

### **3.0 Partnership funding and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)**

- 3.1 In the financial year 2019-20 the Community Safety Partnership was awarded a £25,000 grant from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). This was split equally between East and Mid Devon (£12,500 each).
- 3.2 The grant funding is conditional on the partnership having an agreed spending plan with the OPCC which is aligned to the priorities of the partnership.
- 3.3 In accordance with the funding agreement, the grant for 2019-20 was spent on the activities detailed in Annex 1.
- 3.4 In addition to the OPCC grant as set out above, MDDC provide an annual budget of £4,750 to support CSP activities in the district.
- 3.5 A DHR is a multi-agency review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a person to whom they were related or with whom they were, or had been, in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as themselves; with a view to identifying lessons to be learnt from the death.
- 3.6 In June 2019 all Devon Districts signed up to an updated Memorandum of Agreement to support DCC in on-going delivery of DHRs. This includes an agreement for Partners to continue to make an annual contribution, which will be reviewed annually. This agreement includes other statutory partners, so lessening the financial impact on district authorities. This was taken from the £4750 annual budget to support CSP activities.

3.7 Mid This A new spending plan for 2020-21 against a total OPCC grant of £12,500 for Devon has been agreed by the CSP at the meeting held on 23 April 2020. will look towards a change of focus on those priority areas through a trauma based approach. 2020-21 will act as a transitional year to move into trauma informed interventions. This has subsequently been approved by the Office of Police & Crime Commissioner. It should be noted however that it might be necessary to adapt and develop some areas due to the current Covid-19 response and emerging issues within the community safety area of work.

3.8 The OPCC has given a clear indication to CSPs that funding processes from 2021-22 will change, and grants will no longer be 'guaranteed' to CSPs. It is most likely that specific projects will need to seek grant funding, supported by the CSP, with funds being held by the project lead organisation.

3.9 The elections for a new Police & Crime Commissioner were due to take place in May 2020 but have been delayed due to the Covid-19 response, but this is likely to have further impact on the funding mechanisms for CSPs should a new PCC come into post.

#### **4.0 Activities and outcomes for 2019-20**

4.1 Annex 1 provides details of the projects funded during the year and the resulting outcomes.

4.2 These outcomes highlight the added value of the CSP activities in addressing the key crime and disorder priorities locally.

#### **5.0 Adopting a trauma informed approach to priority areas 2020-21**

5.1 The revised CSP priorities for 2020-21 are based on the evidence given in the Safer Devon Partnership (SDP) Strategic Assessment, which was refreshed in 2019. This gave clear indications that the biggest areas of concern are hidden risk, harm and exploitation alongside emerging issues.

5.2 The CSP has therefore adopted the following priorities moving forward:

- Domestic Violence & Abuse and Sexual Offences
- Extra-familial Youth Risk and Vulnerability
- Problem Alcohol & Drug
- Exploitation (including Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking, and Radicalisation & Extremism)
- Violent Crime

5.3 As resources across all partner agencies become more stretched our approach will be to commit to putting our energy into areas where we can add best value. We will introduce and adopt a 'Trauma Informed' approach across the partner agencies. This approach encourages practitioners and staff to recognise that many service users and community members have experienced some form of traumatic event that they are living with day to day, and may impact on their life choices, activities and actions.

5.4 We plan 2020-2021 as a transition year to becoming more aligned to the trauma lead work where getting to root causes and preventative work becomes core business, rather than the current method of responding to urgent symptomatic issues which are the product of trauma. Annex 2 gives some more information about the way the CSP proposes to use the 'trauma lens' for future working.

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**Circulation of the Report:**

Cabinet member for Community Well Being – Cllr Dennis Knowles  
Leadership Team  
Members of Scrutiny Committee  
Financial Services  
Legal Services

**List of Background Papers:**

Community Safety Plan for 2018-21 available at  
<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/community-safety/>

Public Health England/College of Policing – *Public health approaches in policy. A discussion paper* (PHE 2019) available at  
<https://www.college.police.uk/What-we-do/Support/uniformed-policing-faculty/Documents/Public%20Health%20Approaches.pdf>

# Annex 1

## East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Priorities and Action Plan for 2019-20

Project/Service/Pilot subject of spend	Amount allocated £	Outcomes	Comments (including any underspend)
<b>Junior Life Skills 2019 Room Hire Costs Refreshment Contribution</b>	£550	Mid Devon police officers coordinated a multiagency event over a four day period where schools are invited to attend bringing all year 6 students. This resulted in over 500 children having input from police and fire services and other agencies on important safety and wellbeing topics.	A new project to rejuvenate Junior Life Skills has been underway which now includes bespoke lesson plans that enhance the activity day offered to schools in coming years.
<b>Safer Internet Day</b>	£600	Cullompton Community College held an event that engaged all students, staff and parents across the campus relating to on-line safety, cyber bullying, anti-social behaviour and building personal on-line resilience.	
<b>DYS Space Summer Youth Activities</b>	£1000	Based from Tiverton Youth Centre, DYS Space offered a variety of activities over the summer holiday period to vulnerable young people at most risk. Some have experienced domestic abuse, substance misuse and even county lines within their home environment. This gave an opportunity for engagement in positive activities with support from experienced youth workers.	
<b>Devon Mediation</b>	£500	Provided intervention services for neighbours experiencing issues with others that is impacting on their day to day living experiences. Prevention of escalation to criminal activity and other agency interventions.	8 households in Mid Devon took up this service during the year. The average cost per referral is around £400, so this shows excellent value for money.
<b>Extremism Presentation to one Secondary School in Mid Devon</b>	£594	Purchase of a specialist speaker who gave a school assembly presentation to a Mid Devon Secondary school on the issue of radicalisation and extremism due to concerns about some student activity in this area. This was police lead.	
<b>Re-development of Junior Life Skills (JLS) for 2020 onwards. Lesson Plans for Year 6's</b>	£3300	JLS has been revised to bring it up to date with the new DfE requirements, and will now be covering important topic areas of <b>Personal Safety, Making Safe Choices</b> and <b>Emotional Wellbeing</b> . Jigsaw PHSE Ltd have developed six lesson plans for Year 6 students in primary schools that complement the JLS Activity Day that students will attend. Lesson plans will be re-usable year on year.	This is a project undertaken to build on existing contact with schools. It was intended that the 'new version' of JLS would be launched during the summer term 2020 but due to Covid-19 it has been delayed until 2021.
<b>Knife Crime Project Work Police lead</b>	£2550	Police Youth Intervention Officers are working with schools to develop interventions and information to pupils about the carrying knives. Anecdotal evidence points to more young people in Devon starting to carry knives in order to feel safer. This work will be presented in the form of a theatre presentation in Autumn 2020 with police input into schools and 1-1 or small group work that support vulnerable individuals or groups.	OPCC have agreed to this work to be carried forward into the 2020-21 financial year due to unforeseen delays in getting the project started sooner. This is most likely to progress during Autumn term 2020.

<b>Street &amp; School Pastors Cullompton</b>	£1450	The funding provided has enabled additional volunteers to be trained and services retained. The Street Pastors provide support during the late evenings and early hours to those using late night venues in the town, offering support and advice to get them home safely. The School Pastors volunteer to support the school children at going home time and are highly respected and valued by Cullompton Community College, pupils and parents.	
<b>Self-Help Guides for Service Users Devon Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Support Services</b>	£613	This amount covers a reprint of a self-help booklet for victims whilst they wait for 1-1 support. The service is so well used there is unfortunately a wait list which can be up to nine months depending on the severity of the case. All cases are triaged on referral.	
<b>Conversation Workshops Domestic Violence &amp; Abuse &amp; Mental Health</b>	£1343	This funding will cover the cost of venues in East & Mid Devon in order that Splitz Domestic Abuse Services can hold engagement events and workshops with practitioners and develop better understanding of the links between DVA and mental health issues and look to develop better strategies and professional practice to address these issues.	OPCC have agreed this funding can be used to secure venues for delivery of events during 2020-21.
<b>Total</b>	£12,500		

# Annex 2

## East & Mid Devon CSP

### Trauma Informed Action Planning

#### 2020 Onwards

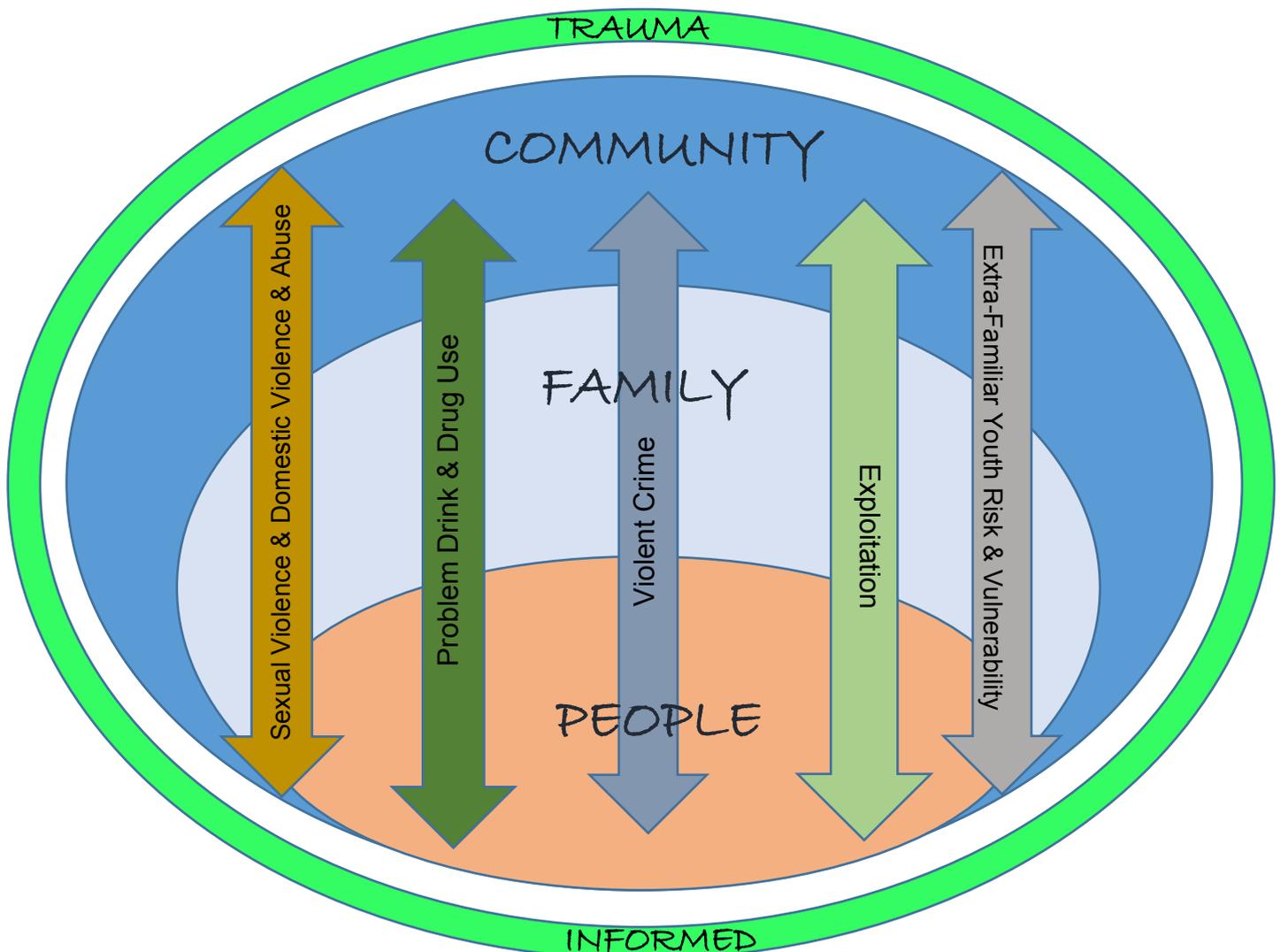


### Community Safety & the Lens of Trauma / Adversity

East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership; delivering safer Communities, building Community Resilience and improving lives. We focus on reducing violence, abuse and exploitation through prevention, early intervention and the reduction of re-offending.

We are committed to:

- The use and understanding of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs)/Trauma lens to focus on how harm happens/safety is compromised within relationships (individual or family) and in the community
- Developing Person Centred Approaches to Community Safety in line with the Strategic Assessment Priorities.
- Equitable, timely and evidence based interventions



The East & Mid Devon CSP Priorities for 2020-21 are based on the evidence given in the Safer Devon Partnership (SDP) Strategic Assessment, which was refreshed in 2019. This gave clear indications that the following areas are the biggest areas of risk based on analysis of hidden risk, harm and exploitation alongside emerging issues of concern. East & Mid Devon risks are clearly mirrored within the report, matching the key areas. We therefore propose to adopt the following priorities:-

- Domestic Violence & Abuse and Sexual Offences
- Extra-familial Youth Risk and Vulnerability
- Problem Alcohol & Drug
- Exploitation (including Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking and Radicalisation & Extremism)
- Violent Crime

As resources across all partner agencies become more stretched our approach to addressing these key areas will remain committed to putting our energy into areas where we can add best value. We will introduce and adopt a 'Trauma Informed' approach across the partner agencies. This approach encourages practitioners and staff to recognise that many service users and community members have experienced some form of traumatic event that they are living with day to day, and may impact on their life choices, activities and actions.

We recognise that ACEs can have a massive, potentially detrimental effect on many children who, as a result, may experience less opportunity than others as they reach adulthood. There is clear correlation between ACEs and mental health issues, addiction, and vulnerability. We have an opportunity to recognise those links and put in place working practices and support that reduce the risk to individuals, family members and the wider community.

We will aim to look for ways to introduce support to children and young people in order that they are supported through trauma they may experience and not put at a disadvantaged as a result. For adults who have experienced childhood trauma we will look to offer an improved, more positive experience when engaging with professional staff from the CSP agencies.

Work over the coming year will include:

- Training and awareness raising for staff and practitioners on the Trauma Informed approach
- Raising awareness of ACEs and the lifelong legacy with staff and community leaders
- Resilience building for children and young people
- Explore and support nurturing and supportive provision for young people who are experiencing ACEs/Trauma
- Support positive ways to 'close the loop' in the negative cycles trauma can bring to families
- Analysing and responding to the new responsibility for Local Authorities around Violent Crime
- We recognise that the transition year from primary to secondary education can be very challenging and will look to support young people and families through this process.
- Remaining aware and vigilant of emerging threats and local priorities within our communities, and responding in a positive, proactive way.