

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 JUNE 2017

COMMUNITY SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Colin Slade & Cllr Margaret Squires
Responsible Officer: Simon Newcombe, Public Health and Professional Services Manager

Reason for Report: To provide Scrutiny with oversight of the Community Safety Partnership including an overview the working relationships of partner agencies and delivery of activities against the community safety priorities.

RECOMMENDATION: To acknowledge the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the revised priorities for 2017-18.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: There is a direct relationship between the community well-being priorities within the Corporate Plan the role of the CSP to reduce crime and disorder.

Financial Implications: None directly arising from this report. Funding for the Partnership is outlined in Section 4.0 of this report. An outline of expenditure plans for 2017/18 is provided in Section 6.0 of this report.

Legal Implications: It is a statutory requirement for local authorities to engage with partners, via a CSP, to reduce crime and disorder.

Risk Assessment: Failure to work effectively as a CSP would put the authority at risk of failing to meet its statutory duties and corporate aspirations with regard to crime and disorder.

Equality Impact Assessment: There are no adverse impacts on individuals with protected characteristics. Overall, the aim of the Partnership is to work towards a safer community for all including those most vulnerable to crime and disorder.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership is a statutory function under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 which requires named agencies to work together in order to reduce crime and disorder.
- 1.2 The Partnership is a multi-agency group. The formal structure is detailed in Annexe A.
- 1.3 This report will give an overview of the recent activities coordinated by the CSP, specifically focusing on the Mid Devon area, and the current priorities for 2017-18 based on analytical data.

2.0 Priority Areas

- 2.1 The priorities of the East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership for 2016/2017 are as follows:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse
- Scams and Online Safety
- Substance Misuse
- Crime Prevention
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Day Slavery
- Preventing Violent Extremism

2.2 Additional priorities added for 2017-18 are:

- Hate Crime
- Communications Strategy
- Local Priorities

2.3 These activities are based on the findings within the Devon Strategic Assessment which is commissioned annually by Safer Devon Partnership which is the County Strategic Strategy Group.

3.0 Partnership Structure

3.1 The Partnership has a Steering Group which meets four times a year and is chaired by Chief Inspector Sarah Johns. In Mid Devon we have three local multi-agency Local Advisory Groups (LAGs). These cover each main locality town and meet between 2 and 4 times a year.

3.2 In addition to the LAGs there is an East and Mid Devon Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum which meets quarterly.

3.3 Although attendance at all these groups including the Steering Group can be patchy, in the main it is good despite the severe financial constraints on all agencies which impacts on staffing levels.

3.4 The CSP Steering Group assesses the activities in the Districts that are coordinated by the Community Safety Officers and support staff.

4.0 Partnership Funding

4.1 Last financial year (2016-17) the Community Safety Partnership received £19,000 from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner via the Safer Devon Partnership. This was split equally between East and Mid Devon meaning that Mid Devon received £9,500. Most of the money has been spent on the initiatives/projects listed below and some for room hire for various meetings.

4.2 For 2017-18 funding for Community Safety Partnerships has been increased to £24,000 with £4000 of that being ring-fenced to tackle issues of violent extremism, modern day slavery and child sexual exploitation specifically.

4.3 The Community Safety Support role is partly funded by contributions from Police and Fire Service which is another form of income into the partnership.

5.0 Initiatives funded during 2016-17

- 5.1 **Devon Mediation Service** to enable police and other agencies to make referrals free of charge to alleviate community tensions and escalation of behaviours. During the year 7 referrals made into the service from Mid Devon area resulting in positive intervention to resolve community disputes.
- 5.2 **Child Sexual Exploitation training** - 25 staff from partner agencies received the training. This also included taxi drivers, teaching assistants and Children's Centre staff.
- 5.3 **Graffiti removal kits and liquids** provided to community groups in Tiverton who cleaned high visibility areas.
- 5.4 **Mid Devon Show 2016** – costs towards marquee hire and entry fees paid for Council, Police and Fire Service staff to attend with a joint display stand offering support and advice to the local communities – over 300 conversational engagements were had during the day.
- 5.5 Contribution towards **CSP Annual Conference** where we update agency staff and the public on the CSP priority areas and activities.
- 5.6 **'Last Orders' x 4 theatre Performances at Mid Devon Schools** raised awareness with Year 9s (age 14-15) of alcohol, drug and sexual issues.
- 5.7 **Youth Services summer activities funded** to provide intervention work with young people over the summer break.
- 5.8 **Be Safe cards re-printed and distributed** containing helpline and support services numbers. Used by Street Pastors and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).
- 5.9 **BTheChange** – a contribution was made to this initiative which provides intervention and support for local offenders in custody. 15 individuals from the Mid Devon area engaged in the project.
- 5.10 **Safe Parking** a banner was funded for Duchy School raising awareness with the community and parents about the need to safely park at the school.
- 5.11 A contribution was made to Devon County **Domestic Abuse services**.
- 5.12 A contribution was made to Culm Valley Childrens Centre who were supporting women attending the **Pattern Changing (Domestic Abuse)** courses.
- 5.13 Reprint of **StayOver StaySafe** CSP flyers for campsites.
- 5.14 **A Radio for Tiverton Street Pastors** was funded which is used every weekend to ensure community safety around the town.

- 5.15 Contribution to **SPACE Youth Services** supporting vulnerable young people in the Tiverton area and providing intervention work over a 4 month period.
- 5.16 **School Safe Parker Scheme in Crediton** raising awareness to pupils, parents and community.
- 5.17 **Alarmed Padlocks for rural communities** prevention of shed breaks and prevention of repeat victims of crime.
- 5.18 **Crime prevention signs and personal alarms** for distribution by local policing teams and partners.
- 5.19 Other work has included raising awareness of **on-line safety and grooming** via sessions at schools across Devon which has upskills around 180 teachers and support assistance, social workers and school nurses. Parents of primary school children are also now receiving sessions as well as the staff. Mid Devon staff have also benefited from this training via the Safeguarding function.

6.0 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 6.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for Mid Devon coordinates the multi-agency responses to resolve problematic anti-social behaviour in the community. This is addressed by a coordinated response managed by the officer.
- 6.2 Mid Devon works to the Peninsula ASB Escalation Process which starts with simple warning letters, if necessary moves onto Acceptable Behaviour Contracts which are voluntary agreements with individuals and then in the worst cases it may involve the necessity to involve the courts.
- 6.2 During the last year (1/4/16 – 31/3/17) 35 youths have been discussed at the monthly youth ASB Meetings, of which 17 remain on the agenda from April 2017. Two multi-agency meetings have been arranged on an ad hoc basis to discuss adults that have come to notice by either the Police or other key professionals.
- 6.3 During the period 1/4/16 – 31/3/17
- 43 Warning Letters were issued, 33 of which were sent to under 18 year olds
 - 18 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts were issued, 15 of which were to those under 18 years
- 6.4 On 13 April 2017 a Civil Injunction was obtained through Exeter Magistrates Court for a young man aged 17 years. Mid Devon District Council's ASB Officer and Legal Team worked very closely with the Tiverton Neighbourhood Policing Team to obtain this injunction. It has been breached several times and process is in place to take this back to court.

7.0 Projects and expenditure plans for 2017-18

- 7.1 'Last Orders' theatre performance planned for Tiverton High School and Cullompton Community college for Year 9s (age 14-15) regarding alcohol issues.
- 7.2 Chelsea's Choice theatre performance planned for Tiverton High School and Cullompton Community College Year 6s (age 11-12) raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation.
- 7.3 Mediation Services – a contribution to enable local referrals by agencies to be made free of charge.
- 7.4 Internet Safety Training for children, staff and parents within Mid Devon Primary School settings.
- 7.5 Argos till roll campaign to raise awareness of Domestic & Sexual Abuse including support line numbers. This will run from Oct 2017 as part of the 16 Days of Action to raises awareness across Devon, and continue over Christmas into early January. This will include Tiverton, Honiton and 2 Exeter stores and is a joint project between the CSP, Exeter CSP and Splitz (DV Services) and Devon Rape Crisis.
- 7.6 Safeguarding information for staff which will include awareness on Modern Slavery, Prevention of terrorism and Child Exploitation is to be released to Mid Devon staff as part of the revised safeguarding plan during the summer of 2017.
- 7.7 A partnership stand is planned for the Mid Devon Show 2017.

8.0 Emerging Issues

- 8.1 During the last couple of years the police have experienced a change in policing numbers and priorities. They have needed to change their focus from 'traditional crimes' within community, such as car crime, criminal damage and theft, including shoplifting to focus on crimes which cause the most harm or where there are vulnerabilities and a greater overall impact on society, such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, modern day slavery and safeguarding. Social Media also causes many issues where both vulnerable children and adults have become victim of on-line grooming, sexting or scams. Much of this work is done out of the view of the general public and is very time consuming.
- 8.2 It may be hard for many members of the community to appreciate, or accept that these types of crimes happen in Mid Devon, or even Devon - but they do - regularly. Some of this crime is linked to drug related criminal gangs that operate out of our force area but their actions and activities are impacting on some members of our communities. This is known as organised crime and is occurring in the East and Mid Devon areas and Exeter City. Partnerships are now starting to get more involved with understanding what this type of crime involves and how it links to modern slavery, child sexual exploitation and drug

crime. We will be working with the police to assist in getting the right messages and advice to staff in partner agencies, and the community, when it is relevant and appropriate to do so.

9.0 The CSP Priorities and Action Plan for 2017-18 is attached as **Annex A** which contains more information about the CSP activities.

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Circulation of the Report:

Cabinet leads for Public Health and Community Well-being – Cllr Margaret Squires and Cllr Colin Slade

Leadership Team

Scrutiny Committee

List of Background Papers:

None

ANNEXE A

East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-18



East & Mid Devon Community
Safety Partnership

Aim - The Community Safety Partnership (CSP), will work together to make both East and Mid Devon safe places in which to live, work and visit.

Identifying Priorities 2017-18

The CSP uses analytical data gathered within the Devon Strategic Assessment and the Devon and Cornwall Peninsula Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment to help identify key trends and hotspots of crime and disorder. It was acknowledged within both reports that crime in general is falling year on year but there are different types of crime coming to the fore such as cyber-crime and fraud, and others where recent media exposure has increased public confidence to report, such as domestic and sexual crimes.

In addition to the above analytical reports the CSP has taken into account feedback from members of the public via various forms of consultation such as the Annual Conference and Local Action Group meetings.

As a result of assessment and consultation our priorities for the 12 months will be as follows:-

- **Domestic, family and sexual abuse**
- **Alcohol and Substance misuse**
- **Anti-social behaviour**
- **On-line Safety & Scams**
- **Child Sexual Exploitation**
- **Modern Day Slavery**
- **Crime Prevention, including rural crime and Prevent (anti-extremism and radicalisation)**

The CSP will be looking to provide initiatives, interventions, training, and safety messages in order to raise public and professional awareness and thereby the prevention of crimes relating to these priority areas.

The Local Action Groups (LAGs) and the thematic groups will tailor their own action plans to localised activities in these key areas.

All communities across East and Mid Devon will continue to receive a high standard of support from agencies within the CSP, and will be encouraged to contribute in order to achieve these objectives.

An overview of the CSP

Objective

Agencies will work in partnership to reduce incidents of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour whilst improving public confidence to report incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour and knowledge of crime prevention measures to improve resilience.

About the CSP

The structure of the Partnership is similar to that of most others and meets the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 *“to work together to reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime locally, in order to improve quality of life and to create a safer living and working environment”*.

Members of the Partnership Steering Group from statutory agencies include:

- Chief Executive of East Devon District Council
- Chief Executive of Mid Devon District Council
- Police Commander for Exeter, East and Mid Devon
- Safer Devon Partnership’s Lead Officer
- Senior Officer from NEW Clinical Commissioning Group
- Senior Officer from Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Company
- Senior Officer from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service

Other agencies and elected members from both councils are also invited to attend in order to forge and maintain good local working relationships.

The Steering Group meets every 3 months to monitor, oversee and support the work of the Action and Thematic Groups.

Local & Thematic Action Groups

Each main town in East & Mid Devon has a geographically based Local Action Group (LAG), which is responsible for the town and its rural communities. In East Devon there are four namely, Axe Valley (Axminster and Seaton), Honiton, Exmouth and finally Sidmouth and Ottery St Mary. In Mid Devon there are three namely Exe (Tiverton), Creedy (Crediton), and Culm, (Cullompton).

LAGs which are unique to East and Mid Devon in the Devon and Cornwall area were established to tackle crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and community safety issues within those localities. They comprise local officers, some of which are from the statutory organisations mentioned above, but also may include elected members and representatives from the voluntary and business sectors.

In addition there are two thematic groups that look to address issues of domestic and sexual abuse, and keeping safe on-line. Each of the LAGs and thematic groups has objectives and action plans which link directly to the Partnership Plan.

Funding

The CSP receives a small amount of funding from the Safer Devon Partnership and this is distributed to the LAGs and theme groups in order to support local work. Often it is not the large expensive projects that prove to be the most beneficial to local areas but smaller sums can ‘seed fund’ a project or help support a local initiative.

East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Priorities and Action Plan for 2017/18

Priorities	Activity	Aims	Measures and Progress
Anti-Social Behaviour	<p>Early identification, early intervention, targeted activity and Identify persistent and resistant cases</p> <p>Promote and support multi agency working</p> <p>Use of ASB powers/legislation</p> <p>Use of mediation</p> <p>Promote Learn 2 Live and the Honest Truth re anti-social driving</p>	<p>Reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour</p> <p>Number of successful outcomes</p> <p>Reduced fear of crime</p>	<p>Number of cases</p> <p>Number of case conferences held and attended</p> <p>Number of times powers used</p> <p>Number of times mediation used</p> <p>Number of events held and number of pupils in attendance at Learn 2 Live</p>
Alcohol and Substance Misuse	<p>Promote 'Last Orders' productions in schools</p> <p>Share ARID data and review as appropriate</p> <p>Reprint and distribute 'Be Safe' Cards</p> <p>Attendance at SDP Drug and Alcohol Group</p> <p>Support harm reduction messages</p> <p>Deliver 'Bite Size, workshops for practitioners</p> <p>Provide secure sharps boxes where required and train staff re the emptying procedures</p> <p>Support Street Pastors in Mid Devon and Nightshift at Exmouth</p>	<p>Reduction in alcohol and drug related incidents</p>	<p>Number of plays performed and number of pupils in attendance</p> <p>Where distributed</p> <p>Number of meetings attended</p> <p>Messages sent</p> <p>Number of workshops held and number of attendees</p> <p>Number and location of boxes and number of staff trained</p> <p>numbers of persons assisted.</p> <p>Numbers of staff trained re various issues</p>

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	Attendance/support for DSVF forum and support DSVF forum priorities Support national campaigns and local activity e.g. November awareness Week and 16 days of action Use till receipts to advertise SPLITZ services Deliver 'Bite Size, workshops for practitioners	Increased reporting of domestic and sexual abuse offences Increased awareness of the issues	Number of meetings attended Link to priorities Number of campaigns supported and detail local inputs. Number of till receipts issued at Argos shops in Tiverton and Honiton Number of workshops held and number of attendees
Child Sexual Exploitation	Promote 'Chelsea's Choice' production in local schools Awareness raising Social media and Internet Safety group Promote and instigate training for Taxi drivers and similar workers Joint agency working and initiatives Promote the 'Be Curious' campaign	Increased reporting of child sexual exploitation	Number of plays performed and number of pupils in attendance Detail inputs Detail work carried out Number of taxi staff attending training Detail inputs Where promoted
Modern Day Slavery	Raising awareness of modern slavery Promote and instigate training for key staff Promote the 'Be Curious' campaign	Increased reporting of modern day slavery	Detail work carried out Number of staff attending training Where promoted
Crime Prevention	Purchase of crime prevention equipment e.g. rape alarms, padlock alarms. Multi Agency working Use of Community messaging	Early identification of crime trends Reduction in crime Reduced fear of crime	Detail equipment purchased Detail work carried out Number of messages sent

Scams and Online Safety	Continue with INFORM meetings Inputs into schools re internet safety Inputs on scams awareness to various groups Link with national campaigns	Reduce number of scams offences Reduce number of offences re internet Raise Awareness of the issues	Number of INFORM meetings held Number of school inputs and number of pupils attending Number of inputs to various groups Details of local work undertaken re national campaigns
Hate crime and Extremism	Reporting mechanisms in place Support national and local awareness campaigns Promote the 'Be Curious' campaign	Increased reporting Training delivered Number of staff attending training	Detail the mechanisms Detail campaigns supported Where promoted
Communication Strategy	Raise on-line and social media profile of CSP Celebrate partnership working and our successes Increase awareness raising Use the Pin Point system where appropriate	Increased use of social media	Detail work carried out Detail work carried out Detail where and how raised Number of times Pin Point used
Local Priorities	Continue to manage Local Action Groups (LAGS) across both districts and through these tackle local issues	Positively impact on local issues	Number of LAGs held in each district and detail local issues tackled

- **ASB** – has a direct impact on the quality of life, can adversely affect communities, increases people's fear of crime. The impact can be disproportionate to the offending act (e.g. graffiti, criminal damage, drinking, fly posters, harassment)
- **Alcohol and Substance Abuse** – can have long lasting consequences on people's lives; can lead to increases in other areas such as ASB and domestic violence and sexual offences
- **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence** – under reported and ruins lives.
- **Hate and extremism** – increases community tensions, adversely affects individuals and communities. Can lead to violent crime and in extreme cases acts of terrorism.
- **Communication Strategy** – Increase awareness through effective on-line and social media use. Maximum effect for minimum outlay and effort.