

WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

23 March 2023

Report Title	West Northants Community Safety Partnership Strategy
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Contributors/Checkers/Approvers		
Other Director/SME	Stuart Timmiss, Executive Director of Place and Economy, West Northants Council	13 March 2023

List of Appendices

None

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To update the Board on the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) priorities and outcomes that are aligned to the Live Your Best Life ambitions, specifically, that people feel safe in their homes and when out and about and that our communities are accepted and valued simply for who they are.

2. Executive Summary

- 1.2. The report outlines the vision, identified partners, priorities, outcomes and delivery of West Northants Community Safety Partnership Strategy.

3. Recommendations

- 3 Members note the content of the report and feel assured that West Northants Community Safety Partnership are delivering against two of the Live Your Best Life ambitions; that people feel safe in their homes and when out and about and that our communities are accepted and valued simply for who they are.

4 Report Background

- 4.1 The West Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership is well established, with a clear governance structure to deliver our statutory responsibilities as a collective to reduce crime and disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- 4.2 The CSP's vision is to make West Northamptonshire safer for our communities, businesses and visitors, by working in partnership to reduce the risk and harm of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. Working together we want to create a place where people feel safe and supported and the diversity of our community is valued.
- 4.3 The responsible authorities for the CSP include:

1. West Northants Council
2. Northamptonshire Police
3. Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
4. Probation Service
5. Integrated Care Board

Other delivery partners of the CSP operations and activities include:

6. Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation (NHS) Trust
7. Office of the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
8. Youth Offending Service
9. Voluntary and Community and Faith Sector Organisations
10. Registered Housing Providers
11. Northamptonshire Children's Trust

5 Issues and Choices

- 5.1 The partnership has utilised the Police's annual Strategic Assessment, community profiles and engagement with the community to help refresh the priorities for the partnership.
- 5.2 The Assessment collates considerable information and data, detailing levels of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour that enables the Community Safety Partnership to consider the current position and any changing circumstances or emerging issues that could necessitate different approaches or interventions. The current volume of crime, level of harm and community concern, the impact on our communities and victims and how much added value can the partnership give is also taken into consideration.
- 5.3 The current priorities that have been agreed are informed by the various existing strategies and priorities, including our Domestic Abuse Strategy, Anti-Poverty Strategy, the emerging Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the priorities of both the Children's Partnership and the Adult Safeguarding Board and the ten live your best life ambitions, specifically, that people feel safe in their homes and when out and that our communities are accepted and valued simply for who they are. The priorities are also considered alongside both existing and emerging national priorities and policing priorities

included in both Northamptonshire Police's Control Strategy the Police Fire Crime Commissioner's Policing and Crime Plan and the newly established Combatting Drugs Partnership.

5.4 The current strategic priorities and agreed outcomes for the CSP include:

1. Work with our communities to ensure our neighbourhoods are safe spaces for everyone

- Support and influence the place-based approaches to our priority neighbourhoods and vulnerable locations
- Increased partnership outreach promoting wellbeing and safety in our communities
- Environmental improvements that design out crime will be delivered
- Focus on early intervention and utilise the powers and legislation available to us as a partnership to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour, youth violence, exploitation, and serious organised crime leading to improved victim satisfaction
- Improved awareness and reporting for hate crime
- Our protected and seldom heard communities engaged, ensuring a sense of belonging and improved community cohesion
- Safer Roads for use by all through supporting communities in the implementation of localised interventions

2. Target those causing the greatest harm, tackling the causes of crime through prevention and early intervention

- Increased Early Intervention and Youth Offer - Diverting young people from opportunities to commit crime
- Improved education and awareness amongst young people in relation to online abuse, gangs, knife crime, criminal and sexual exploitation and hate crime
- improved understanding across the partnership of Serious Organised Crime and gang related activity

3. Reduce incidents of serious violence including domestic abuse, sexual offences and knife crime.

- Reduce the number of high risk victims and offenders through referral, education and prosecution.
- The Serious Violence duty will be delivered, including the development of a strategic needs assessment, strategy and action plan
- The Domestic Abuse Strategy and action plan will be delivered
- Improved public confidence in reporting violence, particularly for those disproportionately affected, i.e. women and girls.
- Identify and target organised crime groups that cause harm to our communities by disrupting and dismantling them and bringing offenders to justice

4. Protecting vulnerable people, safeguarding those at risk of exploitation

- Develop and embed contextual safeguarding to ensure victims and their families get the right support when they need it most
- Dismantled drug supply chains and effective treatment and recovery services through the delivery of the 10 year drug strategy, working closely with the Combatting Drugs Partnership.
- Reduced opportunity for violent extremism through the delivery of the Prevent and Protect duties

6 Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

6.1.1 There are no resources or financial implications arising from the proposals.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

6.3 Risk

6.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 We have established a strong Community Engagement Network. This exists via Town and Parish Council liaison, community leaders, community forums, community engagement events, VCSE assembly, VCS and faith organisations and neighbourhood working groups. The need for local people to be given an opportunity to voice their views and opinions is important in achieving longer-term change and improving community safety.

6.4.2 The partnership regularly asks the community to identify what their greatest community safety concern is in their neighbourhood. These results are analysed every three months and used to set the locally identified priorities and inform the strategic priorities for the partnership.

6.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

6.5.1 In meeting the statutory responsibilities under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, an update report from West Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is provided annually. The report focuses on the levels of CSP performance, progress against current priorities and activity undertaken. A Performance report was considered at Overview and Scrutiny in February 2023.

6.6 Climate Impact

6.6.1 No impact.

6.7 Community Impact

6.7.1 The CSP continues to work closely with partner agencies, including the Police, the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, East Midlands Ambulance Service, Youth Offending Service, the Fire Service, University of Northampton, Housing Providers, Probation Service, Health and Community and Voluntary and Faith Organisations to deliver activities that will tackle our strategic priorities and deliver improved outcomes for our communities across West Northants.

6.7.2 Some examples of activity delivered by the partnership over the last 12 months include:

- **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence** Board set up, Needs Assessment completed to identify gaps in support, especially for those who are in specialist domestic abuse accommodation, Domestic Abuse Strategy and Action Plan developed, to meet our statutory duties in relation to the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- Dedicated Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Coordinator role created, to ensure the delivery of the Strategy.
- Domestic abuse training has been provided across the services within West Northamptonshire to ensure all employees have the skills to respond quickly and appropriately to domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- 16 Days of activism annual campaign delivered
- Hate Crime Week of Action delivered, including engagement stands in high footfall areas in Northampton and Daventry, ward visits from Northampton Partnership Homes and the Northampton Partnership Homes Daphne bus; Information sent to schools for them to take part in a hate crime activity whereby they learn about what a hate crime is
- **School engagement** - Community Safety-Young Peoples Animation went live at the start of October and is being used by more than 70 primary schools across the West. The programme covers Fire and water safety, Knife crime and gangs, Personal safety and crime prevention, Child exploitation and Online safety, Hate crime, Road and Rail safety and Mental health.
- 'I'm Still Me' LGBTQ training conference delivered with over 40 school staff signing up to take part in the event.
- We continue to work with Northampton International Academy to address some community safety issues alongside partners from Education and Youth Offending service. Safety Mapping workshops were completed in partnership with Free 2 Talk (F2T) in October and engaged with 130 pupils across several sessions. A report was produced by F2T which has been incorporated into the multi-agency action plan with the school to support ongoing improvement including the delivery of one of four youth justice fund projects led by Free 2 Talk, engaging young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system early on.
- **Community engagement** – 60 engagement events, bringing our communities together held throughout the year, including Holocaust Memorial Day, International Women's Day, Ukraine Independence Day, Srebrenica, International Youth Day, International Day for People with Disabilities and Pride.
- Community and engagement newsletter – issued bi-weekly through our community engagement network, providing community safety messages and campaigns, guidance and details of events
- **Safer Roads** - The Road Joint Action Group has considered 36 new problem localities during the year, with issues such as road layout at accident hotspots, speeding, HGVs in restricted areas and parking.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** - Our Anti-Social Behaviour Officers are working in partnership with the local policing team, in tackling Anti-Social behaviour, serious organised crime and youth violence.
- 41 CPW's (Community Protection Warning Letters) have been issued – 24 for neighbour disputes, 4 for verbal abuse and threatening behaviour, 7 for youth nuisance, 3 for street drinking & being drunk in public, 1 for urinating/defecating in public, 1 for nuisance phone calls/ ringing the police unnecessarily and being verbally abusive and

- threatening, and 1 for entering the grounds of a primary school and causing alarm and distress to children and staff.
- 12 CPNs (Community Protection Notices) have been issued – 6 for youth nuisance, 1 for a neighbour dispute, 1 for urinating/defecating in public, 3 for street drinking and being drunk in public, and 1 for verbal abuse and threatening behaviour.
 - 2 CBOs (Criminal Behaviour Orders) were issued on 2 individuals who were the prolific ringleaders of a large group of youths in a specific neighbourhood, causing harassment, alarm and distress to local residents. Since the CBO's were granted there has been a huge reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour in this area of Northampton.
 - Supported the first national Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week.
 - **Knife Crime** – Two-week campaign against violence with the visit of the Knife Angel in May. Activities included different agencies at the Angel delivering themed sessions (including youth services and domestic abuse agencies). Two well attended major bleed control sessions were held at the Guildhall, along with an introduction to Trauma Informed Practice, 3 sessions for parents on what to look out if their child was getting involved with gangs, an anti-violence day at Daventry and an anti-violence march followed by entertainment on the Market Square.
 - Promoted and supported Police with a number of knife amnesty events.
 - Purchase of knife amnesty bins
 - Knife arch and additional policing resources jointly funded with the Office of the Police and Fire Crime Commissioner and deployed in the night-time economy
 - Supported Police Operation Sceptre Week of Action against Knife Crime including a re-launch of the Knife Angel section of the Explore Northampton app, updated with new videos, information for both young people and parents and links to relevant websites. The links include the map of bleed packs across the county funded and developed by charity Off The Streets, work also included highlighting to staff the kinds of blades that are now illegal to own, particularly important to Officers who may be going into people's homes.
 - **Vulnerability** - Target hardening of properties of vulnerable residents, that have been victims of Anti-Social behaviour, hate crime or domestic abuse.
 - Continuous promotion and development of the Good Neighbour Schemes across the West, working in partnership with Northamptonshire ACRE to help alleviate social isolation and loneliness.
 - Promotion of Action for Happiness Network and Happy Cafes
 - 100 Warm Welcoming Spaces - partner working group evolved into an advisory board to help with the cost-of-living crisis, working with parish and town councils and partners in the voluntary and community sector to create a network of Warm Spaces, a group of non-judgemental, safe and welcoming places where people in West Northamptonshire can come together to stay warm. Many support organisations involved including partnership working with Northants Fire Service on home fire safety visit packs.
 - **Safer Streets** - Two new CCTV cameras installed at ASB hotspots in Towcester linked back to Omega One control room
 - Safer Streets 3 Home Office funding bid, brought £513k into Northampton town centre specifically to improve safety of Women and Girls. The funding supported 20 specific projects, including:

1. Environmental improvements £291,488 – CCTV coverage of the Racecourse, ANPR in the car park, improved lighting, fencing, trimming of shrubbery and crown lifting.
 2. Capable guardianship - £112,000 – University of Northampton student safety schemes and Park Watch schemes.
 3. Education & Awareness - £109,722 – security packs for students and the community, bystander programmes delivered by Suzy Lamplugh Trust, community engagement events, drama and animation production, improvements to the Safer Route with new lamppost flags and campaign materials targeted at students.
- Delivered bike marking and personal safety awareness pop ups in parks under Safer Streets 3, in Northampton town centre and at Northampton hospital with a focus around the topic of violence against women and girls.
 - Creation of the It Only Takes One campaign, creating a range of resources to challenge violence and harassment, all available on a website including information on the Safer Nights Out van, Shout Up project and the Safer Route.
 - Op Push in Northampton town centre, where officers and neighbourhood wardens stopped cyclists and scooter users on Abington street, to issue fixed penalty notices and confiscate illegal scooters.
 - Work continues to deliver the Safer Streets 4 bid in Blackthorn & Bellinge. A new CCTV camera has been installed in a crime and ASB hot spot area of Spinneyside Walk in Blackthorn which coincided with the start of the police Operation Revive tackling gangs and crime across Northampton East and Kings Heath. Reinstatement of CCTV in Bellinge and Blackthorn around the shopping areas is imminent. Lighting upgrade to LED for specific underpasses is also imminent.
 - Some adjustments have been made to the aspects of the town centre Safer Streets bid being delivered by the council and progress is being made. A full consultation on the Public Space Protection Order to gate Francis Jetty has been completed and is currently awaiting planning permission. Exploratory land searches for a future periodic road closure have been arranged and orders raised for works to install over 20 new lanterns, across an estate adjacent to the busy evening economy, alongside the removal of shrubbery to improve visibility. These works were identified and prioritised following partnership working with Northampton Partnership Homes and Northants Police.
 - Street Pastor Scheme continues to operate in Northampton Town Centre, on bank holidays and pay weekends.
 - Purple Flag reaccreditation scheme for the Town Centre achieved.
 - **The Well Northants project** is taking a community-based approach to address health inequalities in West Northamptonshire focusing on those who are most vulnerable. We aim to build resilience within local communities so that people are empowered to take action together on health and the social determinants of health. And reduce the health inequalities faced by those who are most disadvantaged or excluded. The Well Northants communities are St David's, Blackthorn and Kings Heath in Northampton and Southbrook in Daventry. During the year community development workers have been meeting people, visiting community groups and hosting world café events to understand local priorities. The priorities have been reviewed by local communities and developed into local action plans for delivery. As part of our targeted inclusion work, we

have engaged with specific communities (Sex workers and Gypsy Romany Travellers) and have started to map community needs and build actions plans to address needs.

- **Focus on our high crime, priority areas** continues:
- Developed focused neighbourhood working groups in priority areas:
- Northampton East (with smaller task & finish groups as required), Bouverie, St. David's & Kingsthorpe, Briar Hill and Castle. Action plans have been developed through these groups that include ASB targeted enforcement around fly tipping, burglaries, car crime, theft, gang and Knife crime. Partnerships established with the schools and there is an identified focus on contextual safeguarding. Some of the activity delivered through these groups include:
 - 21 partnership engagement events, working with Northampton Partnership Homes and Northamptonshire Police held.
 - 18 bike marking events held, these have involved the distribution of bicycle crime prevention packs to residents and the marking of several 100's of bikes.
 - Continue to encourage target communities to report, whether that be to the police or anonymously to Crimestoppers or Fearless.
 - Violence and Vulnerability Review carried out for Blackthorn and Kings Heath.

6.7.3 The CSP Strategy will be published on our website, the strategy will be a live document and activities, performance and progress will be updated at least quarterly. A partnership e-bulletin will be created every 4-6 weeks.

7 Background Papers

None