

TITLE: Community Safety Partnership Update

FOR CONSIDERATION BY: Wokingham Borough Wellbeing Board
Thursday 10th October 2019

WARD: None Specific

KEY OFFICER Graham Ebers, Deputy Chief Executive

Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority/priorities most progressed through the report	
Key outcomes achieved against the Strategy priority/priorities	The aim of the Wokingham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is to reduce crime, disorder, substance misuse, and anti-social behaviour. Raising awareness and increasing reporting of hidden crimes. The partnership's statutory bodies include the Police, the Local Authority, the Probation Service, Health, Fire and Rescue and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. These organisations work together to progress the work of the CSP strategy and respond to emerging themes.

Reason for consideration by Health and Wellbeing Board	For Information
What (if any) public engagement has been carried out?	None
State the financial implications of the decision	None

<p>RECOMMENDATION To note the report</p>
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT</p> <p>Priority One: Addressing Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued review of current Berkshire Women's Aid contracted services • Community Safety Partnership manager to Chair Wokingham DA subgroup next meeting 22nd October • Local domestic abuse needs assessment • A refresh of the domestic abuse strategy and action plan • Understand the demand for services and monitor the impact of the MATAC process. <p>Priority Two: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Harmful Misuse and Organised Crime</p>

- Work with schools to consider additional support to target those who may be less willing to engage in interventions.
- Projects to engage girls as exclusion and challenging behaviours are increasing
- Identify those children on the cusp of exclusion
- Community Alcohol Partnership Implementation meeting with necessary local partners.

Priority Four: Empower and enable the resilience of local communities

- Meeting of key agencies to discuss hotspot locations across the borough for unauthorised encampments to implement target hardening measures.

Background

Progress against current priorities

Priority One: Addressing Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)

The Wokingham Domestic Abuse Strategy aims to support children, adults and families within Wokingham Borough. Work includes; needs of victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse; men and boys are included in all work.

Wokingham's main domestic abuse provider is Berkshire Women's Aid (BWA). They are funded to provide a range of services for people affected by domestic violence. This includes outreach, a family support programme, one to one support for victims, and a helpline and refuge provision. BWA work very closely with children's services in Wokingham to ensure that children who are identified as being at risk of domestic violence are supported. Support services provided include;

A 'pilot' legal drop in clinic for victims of domestic abuse is held monthly.

Police led MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference), which ensures that high risk victims are identified supported and referred to appropriate support.

Victim support is offered by a range of council services and other workers including Housing Officers, Social Workers, and Probation Officers etc.

Over the summer BWA capacity issues resulted in service closure for a period of approximately 6 weeks. The critical issues with BWA referrals that resulted in local referrals being closed has been addressed in the short term and referrals are now open and running as is expected.

A local needs assessment of Domestic abuse is being scoped.

Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination (MATAC)

The MATAC will replace the DARIM in Wokingham where the medium and low risk repeat D.A. offenders are reviewed. The model has been adopted from Northumberland where they have seen a 60% reduction in repeat domestic abuse incidents by implementing the same model.

Police will work with target perpetrators to reduce the repeat offences of domestic abuse as previously there has been focus on supporting victims of domestic abuse but not the perpetrator. Identified perpetrators will be referred into the MATAC process where key partners will agree a bespoke set of interventions using a domestic abuse 'toolkit'. This can include targeting and disrupting perpetrators and or supporting them to address their behaviour. Victims of D.A. will continue to receive the same support.

D.A. training for multi-agency professionals is delivered by Berkshire Women's Aid.

Tough Love an Alter Ego performance planned to be delivered to secondary schools in Wokingham as a way to prevent young people being coerced into abusive relationships by the recognising the signs and making the right choice of partner.

Behind Closed Doors has been commissioned, this is a training performance for multi-agency professionals for them to understand the lived experience of those people living and witnessing domestic abuse.

Children living with domestic abuse are supported in groups in schools by Berkshire Women's Aid.

Victim and perpetrator Choices group work is a six week programme devised by BWA and provides women with the opportunity to engage in working promoting understanding of domestic abuse. The programme aims to empower women to develop their understanding of domestic abuse and move forward from their experiences in a safe and secure group setting. There is a perpetrator Family Choices course which has seen a significant increase in referrals.

Next steps and future developments

Continued regular review of current BWA contracted services
CSP manager to Chair Wokingham DA subgroup next meeting 22nd October
Local DA needs assessment
A refresh of the domestic violence strategy and action plan
Outcomes based reporting
Understand the demand for services and monitor the impact of the MATAC process.

Priority Two: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Harmful Misuse and Organised Crime

Instances of Anti-Social Behaviour have been of concern across the Borough during the start of 2018 and the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Thames Valley Police have been working together to address this. This priority will aim to address the causes of ASB and the CSP Problem Solving Task Group will be tasked with managing geographical areas and individuals of concern on a multiagency level.

Nationally and locally, the rates of serious organised crime; specifically county line dealing has had a direct bearing on the increased crime levels in the area. The councils Anti- Social Behaviour Post has been vacant since May 2019, Steps to secure mainstream funding for this post are being expedited to ensure future continuity of service provision. Interim arrangements are being put in place for next 6 months it is likely that this will be in the format of a secondment from Thames Valley Police.

Police, Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), CSP, Anti-Social Behaviour Group, schools and Problem Solving Task Group are working collaboratively to reduce incidents. In a bid to safeguard children from exploitation and anti-social behaviour the following initiatives have been commissioned.

KICKS PROJECT - aims to engage hard to reach young people aged 11-19years, all sessions are free. Sessions are football based from 1st April 2018 to 13th January 2019 worked with 328 unique participants; on average each group reaches 26 young people.

POSITIVE PATHWAYS - delivered to 5 Wokingham schools to working with years 6, 7 and 8 where children may be involved or at risk of involvement with County Lines.

Schools refer children to the programme and only those children who will positively engage with the project are accepted.

A youth diversion and provision workshop took place on Monday 16th Sept. A number of locations were identified as not having the required provision locally to divert young people from becoming engaged in ASB and low level crime.

Community Alcohol Partnerships (CAP)

- CAP is a national scheme, part funded by retailers, Work is carried out in identified CAP areas- presently there are two-Thatcham and TTC (Theale Tilehurst and Calcot), plan is for one in **Woodley**.
- CAP/ Proceeds of Crime funding is provided for 2 officers to provide support in the CAP areas. Plan is to provide a CAP area in Wokingham by early 2020.
- The objective is; to reduce harm caused by drinking alcohol-both to the individual and others that may be adversely affected by others drinking- examples of action plan items include Selling to those underage, binge drinking, risky behaviour, targeted interventions, drink driving, antisocial behaviour and alcohol related litter.
- Identification of CAP area-needs assessment using following data: Public Health alcohol related hospital admissions, GP survey reports, schools survey data and TPO data, close working with partnership organisations-SMART, Public Health and Wellbeing, Police, SCAS, Schools, Hospitals, Youth Services. Provision of an action plan following baseline surveys in the areas identified as CAP areas. Infographics are provided on these results.
- Baseline survey for 1. residents 2. Young People and 3. retailers selling alcohol.

Next Steps

- Work with schools to consider additional support to target those who may be less willing to engage.
- Projects to engage girls as exclusion and challenging behaviours are increasing
- Identify those children on the cusp of exclusion
- CAP Implementation meeting with necessary local partners.

Priority Three - Reduce and prevent exploitation and address the needs of vulnerable victims and offenders

Wokingham victims are more likely to be young, under 19 and be victims of violence, theft or harassment. A small number of victims have a disproportionate impact on public services and a number of repeat victims are known to other support services such as Local Authority, Police and Health Services.

Safer Places

This is a national initiative and will be relaunched at the end of February with new logo's, flyers and information. Volunteers promote the scheme in Wokingham.

The CSP have funded the Safer Places Scheme to give people a safe place to go if they feel unsafe; people can ask for help and they will be offered somewhere quiet to sit. They can also phone a person for help, be assisted in returning home, or call the police if necessary.

<http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/community-and-safety/community-safety/find-a-safe-place/>

The CLICK Project. - school drama specialists AlterEgo delivering the ‘click’ project as prevention to exploitation; aimed at Year’s 5 & 6 to help them learn about online risk and healthy online behaviour and relationships.

Priority Four: Empower and enable the resilience of local communities

The focus of this priority is the relationship with the wider Wokingham Community. In addition to reducing crime, substance misuse and disorder, central government guidance states Community Safety Strategies should work to reduce the fear of crime, improve community cohesion, build the relationship with the voluntary and community sector and support community engagement.

Unauthorised Encampments

The partnership considered analysis with respect of unauthorised Encampments across the borough. To date this year since April there have been 14 unauthorised encampments across the borough. These have resulted in several costs to a range of agencies associated with damage caused to fencing, gates and land. Clean up costs and costs in officers both local authority and TVP to investigate reports of entry on to land and associated damage. It was agreed that target hardening measures need to be considered to reduce future incidents.

Next steps:

- Meeting of key agencies to discuss hotspot locations and target hardening measures.

Partner Implications
None

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2
None

List of Background Papers
None

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