

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL and MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee	REPORT NUMBER: JOS/21/25
FROM: Cllr Derek Davis- Babergh Cabinet Member for Communities & Chair of the Western Suffolk CSP Cllr Sarah Mansel – Lead WSCSP member for Mid Suffolk and Vice Chair of the Western Suffolk CSP	DATE OF MEETING: 21/03/2022
OFFICER: Vicky Moseley – Corporate Manager Communities	KEY DECISION REF NO. Item No.

REVIEW OF WESTERN SUFFOLK COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (WSCSP)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on current work and projects completed during 2021/2022 by the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership (WSCSP). Members will have a greater understanding of the work of the partnership, how the current priorities are being tackled and the breadth of joint working with the partners of the WSCSP. The report highlights the fact that Western Suffolk continues to be a safe place in which to live, work and explore.
- 1.2 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act requires every local authority to designate a committee to review and scrutinise the activities of crime and disorder partnerships and the activities of its partners. The committee may examine the activities of partners but only in so far as these relate to the partnership.

2. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 None.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To review and scrutinise the community safety activity of the WSCSP
- 3.2 That the Committee note the contents of this report.

REASON FOR DECISION

For the committee to fulfil its statutory duties under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Regulations 2009

4. KEY INFORMATION

- 4.1 Community safety requires various agencies working together within the local community to tackle persistent crime and disorder issues that affect the quality of life of local residents. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on responsible authorities to implement strategies to reduce the levels of crime and disorder in the area in which they operate. This

involves working in partnership with a wide range of agencies, such as the probation service, fire service and health authority, and the local voluntary sector and business community, as well as local community groups.

- 4.2 It is acknowledged that the previous two years has been a challenging time for all the partners, but the partnership has continued to meet virtually. Since the start of the Covid 19 Pandemic the WSCSP has evolved to support the statutory and voluntary partners deal with the issues that emerged during this time.
- 4.3 The WSCSP Action Plan (Appendix 1) sets out how it will address local priorities to reduce crime and disorder across the districts and all the activities ongoing or completed to date.
- 4.4 The WSCSP is made up of statutory representatives from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, West Suffolk Council, Suffolk Police, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and Ipswich and East CCG, National Probation Service and the Elected Members from Babergh, Mid Suffolk and West Suffolk District Councils and Suffolk County Council.
- 4.5 Registered Social Landlords and Youth Offending Service are co-opted as additional non statutory members.
- 4.6 The WSCSP meets quarterly throughout the year and its aims are:
- To work collaboratively to prevent and reduce crime, disorder, and the fear of crime, following an evidence-based approach, to promote the sharing of good practice and divert people away from crime and anti-social behaviour.
 - To promote a wider understanding of the contributions and responsibilities of individual agencies and develop a shared commitment to partnership working.
 - To encourage and support collaborative partnerships between local communities, statutory and non-statutory organisations.
 - To support non-statutory, voluntary and community groups in accessing funding to deliver community safety projects that address the strategic priorities across the Western Suffolk CSP area.
- 4.7 Over the past year the WSCSP discharged its statutory duties by:
- Carrying out an assessment of crime and disorder in the area (Strategic Assessment)
 - Continuing to deliver actions against the three-year plan and action plan to reflect the priorities of the Partnership; and
 - Carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- 4.8 The WSCSP covers a huge geographical area, it is the largest CSP in Suffolk and has the largest population. It is made up of West Suffolk Council area as well as Babergh & Mid Suffolk.
- 4.9 As mentioned above, before formulating an action plan, the partnership must carry out a review of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder in the area. This review is called a Strategic Assessment and is an in-depth analysis of crime, anti-social behaviour and other partnership data over a one-year period that feeds into the priorities for the forthcoming financial year.
- 4.10 At its last meeting in December 2021 the WSCSP voted Cllr Derek Davis as Chair of the WSCSP and Cllr Sarah Mansel as Vice Chair.

5. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2020 - 23

- 5.1 The purpose of the Strategic Assessment is to assist the Partnership in understanding the patterns and trends relating to crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and community safety issues affecting the WSCSP area and to help identify which priorities to focus on in the coming years.
- 5.2 By identifying the local issues which are of most concern, cause the greatest harm and are most likely to occur, informs the development and revision of the WSCSP Action Plan and allows the partnership to better understand and meet the challenges faced.
- 5.3 During early 2021/22 a Strategic Assessment was completed for the WSCSP identifying areas which the partnership could focus its work, to add value, to ongoing community safety work in the Western area.
- 5.4 This assessment set out an evidence base for decision making and recommendations for prioritising activity
- 5.5 The priorities identified are not the only priorities which are addressed by the partnership and allows for emerging issues to be prioritised when there is a clearly evidenced need.
- 5.6 Based on the outcomes of partnership discussions the following priorities remained the focus for the WSCSP during 2021/22 with the addition of Modern Slavery.

WSCSP Priorities:

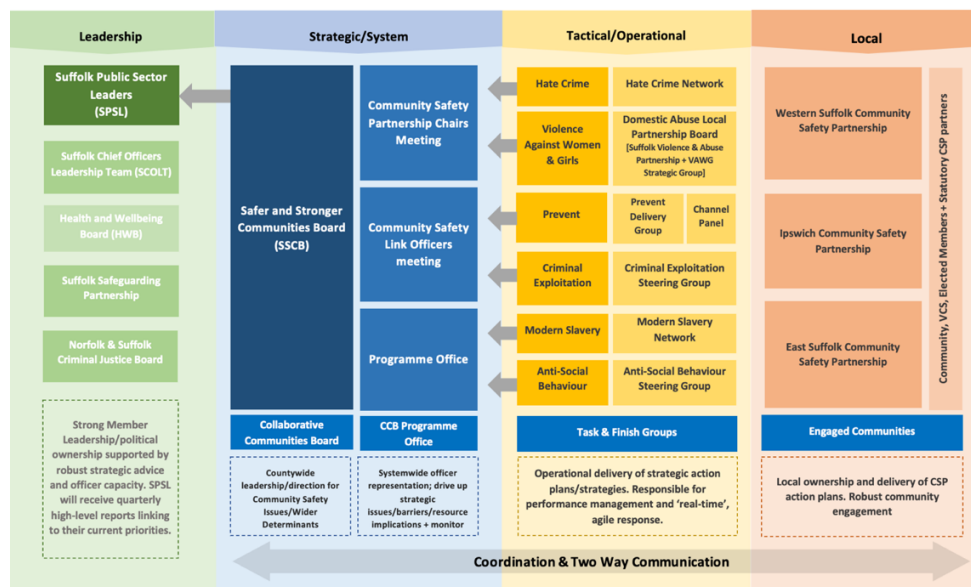
- **Criminal Exploitation:** including supporting victims, engaging with communities, agreeing an awareness and training programme, tackling drug dealing and supply, safeguarding vulnerable adults at risk and young people being criminally exploited.
 - **Violence against Women and Girls:** This priority includes actions to address domestic abuse, sexual violence, modern day slavery and sexual exploitation.
 - **Hate Crime:** including the identification and support for victims of hate crime, working with partners to raise awareness and continue to build confidence in our communities to report hate crime incidences.
 - **Prevent:** as part of the Government's CONTEST strategy to counter terrorism, "prevent" aims to raise awareness within our communities to stop people being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support at an early stage.
 - **Modern Slavery:** Modern slavery is a serious crime being committed across the UK in which victims are exploited for someone else's gain. It can take many forms including trafficking of people, forced labour and servitude.
- 5.7 In addition to the above 5 priority areas that comprise the CSP action plan, the partnership maintains a close focus on Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Homicide reviews

- **ASB:** ensuring that CSP continues to monitor ASB activity across the Western Area and works collectively on community safety initiatives to support sustainable and safer communities.
- **Domestic Homicide reviews:** ensuring the WSCSP continues to carry out effective reviews, develop appropriate action plans and shares learning across organisations in Suffolk.

6. SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES BOARD

- 6.1 The Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) oversees a wide range of community safety priorities for Suffolk, which are delivered through a multi-agency governance structure, as detailed below.
- 6.2 The Board's aim is to provide strategic direction and leadership on wider issues and determinants arising from the following agreed priorities:
- Violence Against Women and Girls
 - Criminal Exploitation
 - Modern Slavery
 - Hate Crime
 - Preventing Radicalisation
 - Anti-social Behaviour
- 6.3 The board has several key responsibilities, including:
- Receive exception reports on successes, opportunities, and progress
 - Unblock system barriers
 - Harness / unlock system capacity and resources
 - Provide leadership and direction to tackle the wide determinant issues or causal issues such as health, education, and housing
- 6.4 The Safer Stronger Communities Board meets quarterly, and membership is made up of senior elected members and officer roles, from a range of organisations including County, District and Borough councils, Suffolk Police, Police and Crime Commissioner, Community Safety Partnerships (CSOs), Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership, Norfolk and Suffolk Criminal Justice Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups. It is supported by a programme office that oversees the delivery of issues that present the greatest threat, risk, and harm to Suffolk residents, and reports regularly to Suffolk Public Sector Leaders and Community Safety Partnerships.
- 6.5 The WSCSP is a member of the SSCB and information is fed up and down through the structure below

Safer and Stronger Communities Governance



6.6 Suffolk County Council Community Safety Team undertakes a Strategic Assessment for each CSP in Suffolk every three years as part of the statutory duties under the crime and disorder Act 1998 and is refreshed annually. The Last Strategic Assessment was undertaken 2020-2021 and as a result of the identified priorities, WSCSP developed they're current action plan.

6.7 For all the priority areas of work there is a county wide strategy, action plan and set of working groups that feed into the Safer Stronger Communities Board.

7. THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER PLAN 2022 - 25

7.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner for Suffolk has published his second Police and Crime Plan following consultation. The Plan gives the Constabulary the clarity it needs to take the PCC's vision forward and gives the public a clear picture of the PCC's objectives to make the County a safer place in which to live, work, travel and invest.

7.2 The Police and Crime Plan outlines a number of priorities areas to be delivered over the next three years structured around the following four key objectives.

- **Objective 1:** An efficient and effective police force for Suffolk
- **Objective 2:** Provide services which effectively support victims of crime and invest in initiatives which reduce crime and disorder
- **Objective 3:** Engage with communities to understand their views about policing and crime and keep them informed and updated about the work of the PCC and the Constabulary
- **Objective 4:** Work in partnership to improve criminal justice outcomes and enhance community safety

7.3 The above objectives reflect the key responsibilities for the PCC and will be supported by areas of focused activity.

7.4 Some national agendas are critical to the period of this plan and will directly impact local policing such as: Violence against Women and Girls, referred to nationally as an epidemic,

has received strengthened attention. There are expectations on how partners (including the police and voluntary sector) support victims of sexual and domestic abuse and how agencies consider public perception of safety, including what more can be done to help women and girls feel safe. Further joined up working is required from partners across the criminal justice system to support victims properly.

- 7.5 The Home Office has provided additional government funding for police officers in Suffolk. This investment is aimed at cutting neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) linked to drugs, amenity and community, drug supply and county lines and restoring confidence.
- 7.6 Allied to the uplift in police officers, the government has set out national policing priorities to track the impact of its investment. Chief Constables and PCCs will be expected to monitor progress to support the Government's Beating Crime Plan. The national policing priorities are:
- Reduce murder and other homicides
 - Reduce serious violence
 - Disrupt drug supply and County Lines
 - Reduce neighbourhood crime
 - Tackle cyber crime
 - Improve satisfaction among victims - with a particular focus on victims of domestic abuse
- 7.7 The WSCSP has supported many of the PCC priorities through the delivery of projects and campaigns as part of its action plan.

8. **PROGRESS AGAINST PRIORITIES**

Hate Crime

- 8.1 Hate crime can take many forms such as physical abuse, verbal abuse, emotional and psychological abuse, sexual abuse and financial abuse. It can range from non-verbal intimidation to physical violence. We know that rates of reported hate crime is significantly under-reported and we know the significant impact this type of crime can have on a victim.
- 8.2 Encouraging people to report hate crime and encouraging people to seek help has been a priority for Suffolk and the WSCSP for some time. Working in partnership we have looked to increase visibility of what hate crime is and ensure there are effective routes for reporting and seeking support – this has been achieved through our Hate Crime Network and through representation on the Engaged Communities Group.
- 8.3 Hope Awards: The HOPE Awards were created by Suffolk Police and Suffolk County Council to celebrate the contribution young people make in Suffolk and to formally recognise all the outstanding things they do in the community.
- 8.4 In the first year of operation these awards have been hugely impressive with participating schools and the amazing examples of kindness, determination and teamwork expressed through the nominations.
- 8.5 Hate Crime Awareness Week: Every year partners across Suffolk come together for a dedicated week of action to raise awareness of hate crime, the affects it has and how victims can report and seek help. Previous focus of the campaigns supported by the WSCSP has been on upskilling front line officers, raising awareness amongst young people and the creation of the Hope Awards. #NoHateInSuffolk

Prevent

- 8.6 Prevent is about stopping people from being radicalised and becoming terrorists supporting terrorism. At the heart of Prevent is safeguarding children and adults and providing early intervention to protect and divert people away from being drawn into terrorist activity. Safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding from other forms of harm.
- 8.7 Suffolk has a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 placed a duty on specified agencies to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". Local authorities are included in this duty.
- 8.9 Suffolk Police have quarterly internal 'Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels' established in each of their policing areas and have enabled learning points which had led to offering focused support to organisations tailored to the protected characteristics. Findings from panels will regularly be shared with investigating officers.
- 8.10 Police Officers also have access to an 'Aide Memoir' which provides quick access to Support Organisations to refer victims to.
- 8.11 For National Hate Crime Awareness Week (October 9th – 16th October) the WSCSP supported a joint press release focussed on bystander approach to witnessing hate crime within the community and practical steps people can take. Education packs were also delivered within schools. The WSCSP Action Plan includes further details.
- 8.12 Suffolk has a multi-agency Prevent Delivery Group which brings together a whole range of agencies to work together to meet the Prevent Duty - they have a 3 year Prevent Delivery Group Strategy in place.

Violence Against Women and Girls

- 8.13 Domestic abuse, or domestic violence, is defined across Government as any incident of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of their gender or sexuality. Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse and sexual violence. It can occur in both heterosexual and LGBTQ+ relationships, and can affect anyone, young or old, any ethnicity or sexual identity, any religion and social background.
- 8.14 We are fortunate to have strong partnerships across Suffolk that work together to address several key community safety issues which cause the greatest risk, threat and harm. Specifically, our priority to tackle VAWG is underpinned by robust governance that brings together the voice of victims and survivors, practitioners, service providers, decision makers and elected members. Those partnerships include:
- Safer & Stronger Communities Board (SSCB)**
- 8.15 The SSCB is responsible for providing strategic direction and leadership on wider issues and determinants arising from agreed priorities. Members include Chief Officers and Elected members from Suffolk County Council, District & Borough Councils, Police, Police & Crime Commissioner, Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership, Community Safety Partnerships, Health, Probation and Criminal Justice Board.

Violence Against Women & Girls Steering Group

- 8.16 The VAWG Steering Group is responsible for co-ordinating and developing quality services to effectively meet the needs of Suffolk residents. This includes direct service provision for victims-survivors, perpetrators, and their children, holding abusers to account and reducing the prevalence of VAWG. Membership includes strategic managers from Adult and Children Safeguarding, Community Safety & Public Health, Police, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Probation, Health, Voluntary & Community Sector.

Suffolk Violence & Abuse Partnership (SVAP)

- 8.17 The SVAP is an information sharing network established to strengthen collaboration and encourage innovation across the Suffolk system. Membership includes 180+ interested individuals with a personal or organisational interest in Violence Against Women and Girls, including; victim/survivors; voluntary and community sector providers; academics; military; volunteers; By and For services; and elected members.

Domestic Abuse Partnership Board

- 8.18 The DAPB functions are undertaken by both the VAWG Steering Group and SVAP as above and are responsible for assessing the scale and nature of need, preparing and publishing a domestic abuse accommodation strategy, commissioning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on progress.

Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and Action Plan

- 8.19 This strategy sets out the key high-level ambitions for Suffolk from 2022-25, co-produced with victims, practitioners and decision makers. It reflects on the success during the lifetime of the last strategy, outlines new, robust governance arrangements, is cognisant of other key strategies and documents that are aligned/connected to VAWG and most importantly, provides a strategic direction for the next phase of this strategy which is to develop an action plan that will drive forward change through effective partnership working.

Suffolk Safe Accommodation Strategy

- 8.20 Under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, upper tier local authorities have a requirement to undertake a Needs Assessment and publish a Safe Accommodation Strategy. The strategy for Suffolk was consulted on from 26 October to 13 December 2021 and was published on 5 January 2022.

- 8.21 The strategy sets out how Suffolk County Council and CSPs and other partners propose to meet the needs for domestic abuse accommodation and associated support services across the council over the next 3 years.

- 8.22 Housing Solutions have been awarded £32,619 in Babergh and £31,832 in Mid Suffolk from the MHCLG Domestic Abuse New Burdens Funding, and will help with supporting victims of DA.

- 8.23 B&MSDC has also been awarded £90k to fund a Domestic Abuse Link Worker who started at the Councils on 1st March 2022 following a previous role as the Domestic Abuse Locality Lead with Anglia Care Trust.

Domestic Abuse Champions

- 8.24 Many organisations struggle to support people experiencing Domestic Abuse and are sometimes not confident enough to talk to someone about it or encourage them to disclose. Our Domestic Abuse Champions offer consistent information, advice and support which is helping to bring lasting positive changes for victims across Suffolk. Reaching victims as early as possible will prevent further harm.

- 8.25 Suffolk County Council with support from CSPs has set up a Network of Champions across the County with over 700 already trained. The Champions are provided with free training to

have the skills to spread awareness to other colleagues and act as the 'Go to Person' for Information between their own agency and local support services.

- 8.26 Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council have a number of Domestic Abuse Champions who have developed into a working group and will lead on developing projects and initiatives that will support the WSCSP priority but also contribute to the County wide VAWG Strategy and Action plan.
- 8.27 The Police also has a VAWG Delivery Plan for the Western area of Suffolk which is discussed at monthly Western Area Local Management Meetings. Progress has been made in areas of Domestic Abuse including promotion of positive action, use of orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Notice/Domestic Violence Protection Order/SPO and 'voice of the child'
- 8.28 Each locality has Night-time economy plans with specific focus on VAWG including 'Operation Lester' in response to the incidents of 'spiking'.

Modern Slavery

- 8.29 Modern slavery is a serious crime being committed across the UK in which victims are exploited for someone else's gain. It can take many forms including trafficking of people, forced labour and servitude. Victims are often hidden away, may be unable to leave their situation, or may not come forward because of fear or shame.
- 8.30 A new Modern Slavery Network was formed in June 2021 and aims to share best practice across the Suffolk System, share data and information, develop training and awareness raising campaigns and communicate to wider partners about developments from central government. Much of the activities delivered in the WSCSP area is set out in the action plan, but greater detail is included in the county wide Modern Slavery Network Action Plan.
- 8.31 The Modern Slavery Network is also working closely to support and link into two other priorities of the SSCB and WSCSP;
- Violence Against Women and Girls (including exploitation through prostitution) and
 - Criminal Exploitation (including trafficking, forced or compulsory labour through organised crime relating to drug markets),

Both of which have strong synergies with Modern Slavery. This reduces duplication but also strengthens the system responding to issues through greater partnership working.

Modern Slavery Strategy and Action Plan

- 8.32 This strategy sets out the key high-level ambitions for Suffolk, co-produced with practitioners and decision makers. It reflects on our current systems in place to mitigate risk and harm to those that are exploited. The strategy sets out four key priorities:
- Identifying Victims
 - Supporting Victims/Survivors
 - Preventing Exploitation
 - Protection & Enforcement
- 8.33 The strategy is supported by an Action Plan that is currently being developed by the Suffolk Modern Slavery Network. Many of the activities developed as part of the action plan will also form part of the WSCSP action plan but will also be developed at a more local level for B&MSDC specifically.

- 8.34 BMSDC recognises that it is well placed to be at the forefront of the fight against modern slavery and part of the District Councils' role is to develop and publish its Modern Slavery Statement.
- 8.35 The purpose of the Statement is to report on the Councils action to identify, assess risk and take mitigating steps to prevent the occurrence of modern slavery, human trafficking and other human rights abuses.
- 8.36 The Police have a number of operations running in the West currently in support of the Modern Slavery priority and include:
- Operation Sistine - Revolves around the operation of Brothels in the West Suffolk area, which were run by a single person. Both premises (Haverhill and Newmarket) had Chinese females working within. None of the females have engaged as victims. Significant progress has been made and a case is being prepared for Court
 - Operation Ascent - To identify people using Adult Sex Worker sites to advertise their services. The Operation is very much focused on Safeguarding. The workers are visited by police officers on the basis of checking their safety, they are working of their own volition, and are signposted to any support agencies. The officers will also assess community impact during the visit. Follow up visits will now be undertaken by a member of the Police Modern Slavery and Vulnerable Communities Team
 - Responsible Car wash Scheme - Home office funded project where car washes are inspected for various aspects of their operation including health and safety, accounts, fire regulations and welfare of staff. The group will write a report that can be shared with partners for consideration of any further actions. The pilot project will then award a 'Responsible Car Wash Scheme' approved status and publicise this. Billboards will be displayed in the town. The work is designed to provide members of public an informed choice about where they get their cars washed.

Various car wash sites have been visited in Sudbury and we are waiting for initial report. The car washes will be revisited.

Criminal Exploitation

- 8.37 Criminal Exploitation is a lesser-known type of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking that involves recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, women or men through the use of force, coercion, abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation.
- 8.38 In Suffolk we have a system-wide work programme to tackle Criminal Exploitation. The work programme, which is supported by data and evidence, has nine priorities:
- Leadership
 - Prevention and Education
 - Intervention and Exit
 - Innovation and Learning
 - Community Response
 - Enforcement
 - Safeguarding Adolescence

- Transitional Safeguarding

8.39 This work is managed via a multi-agency action plan which is overseen by a Criminal Exploitation steering group.

Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation Panels

8.40 Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) panels were introduced in June 2021. There are three MACE panels across Suffolk with the objectives of protecting young people from harm due to exploitation and to disrupt perpetrators.

Criminal Exploitation Hubs

8.41 Criminal Exploitation Hubs were launched in May 2021 and build on the success of the Suffolk Gangs Against Exploitation Team. Working with key partners, voluntary groups, communities, children, and families to support, disrupt and empower children and communities from the risk of exploitation.

8.42 The CE Hubs are now working across a range of locations and include direct work with young people and the community. The approximate number of outreach sessions delivered at quarter 3 reporting was 63. The outreach areas are directed through police intelligence and MACE panels.

8.43 In addition, throughout the year a significant number of initiatives have been developed to support professionals and practitioners to spot the signs of exploitation and include:

- Postcards developed by Suffolk Police and shared with our Licensing Teams to Support Taxi Drivers know what to do if they have concerns about a young person in their cab
- Hotel Back and front of House staff Posters - supporting hotel staff to look out for signs of exploitation
- #lookcloser – which included a week long programme of learning based on the Prevention Programme, The Children’s Society and CSP partners to tackle child exploitation and harm
- Grab Bag Leaflet Campaign
- Operation Strobe - Focused specifically on CSE offences, supporting victims and pursuing perpetrators. The operation is used when there is an ‘emerging threat’.

Anti-Social Behaviour

8.44 Antisocial behaviour is defined as 'behaviour by a person which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to persons not of the same household. There are three main categories for antisocial behaviour, depending on how many people are affected:

- Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person’s actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

8.45 Suffolk has a countywide steering group for ASB including an action plan that brings consistency of response across all districts and borough areas. In recent months we have established a robust community trigger process for those who have reported ongoing ASB but feel that no action has been taken to resolve it.

- 8.46 It should be noted that our districts are safe places to live and is demonstrated in the overall crime stats shared in Appendix 2, however, we do recognise that some of our communities are not immune from crime and disorder, including anti-social and other behaviour affecting the local community. Tackling issues when they arise, collaboratively and professionally remains a key priority for the partnership.
- 8.47 Effective partnership working on community safety is key to sustainable and safer communities and is crucial in effectively tackling the range of issues that ASB involves. In order to respond to the needs of victims and witnesses in an effective way, agencies must work together to identify their areas of expertise and to give a rounded solution to the problems our communities face.
- 8.48 ASB which is not assessed as high risk, can be referred by members of the community, Police or Councillors. This information is passed to our Community Safety Team at B&MSDC and partners to resolve issues, support victims and investigate the use of our enforcement powers in the first instance. We recognise the need for adopting early, low level intervention in anti-social behaviour cases, as mild cases can often escalate if not addressed.
- 8.49 Our two ASB 'professionals' Panel focus on high risk, repeat and/or vulnerable victims and each case is managed through the shared case management system and data sharing protocol. From time to time high risk ASB incidents occur and it is imperative that both our partnership ASB arrangements and internal ASB arrangements are fit for purpose, well understood and effectively delivered.
- 8.50 Significant focus has been given to B&MSDC ASB arrangements during the last 20 months because of the Stella Maris review and has led to many developments including the implementation of the E-CINs case management software, and the on-going development of a Council-wide ASB Policy. The districts and partners work in this space is well presented in a previous report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September 2021 (Appendix 3)
- 8.51 We are confident that E-CINs will help us log and better manage our ASB cases, improving joint working both between Council teams, and with partner agencies. Several higher-level cases have already been uploaded onto the system, and some 'super-users' identified within our teams who will support their colleagues adopt to the new ways of working. E-CINs, if adopted widely enough, will improve communication, reduce silo-working, and produce much better outcomes for victims of ASB.
- 8.52 Alongside E-CINs the Councils have been developing a Council-wide ASB Policy and accompanying procedures including a very clear escalation process to manage high risk ASB cases. Previously our ASB Policy has only referred to Council housing, but this initiative should enable us to deliver a tenure-neutral service. The Policy, and its many associated documents, have recently been reviewed and updated.
- 8.53 A new ASB process initiated across the whole of the Suffolk Constabulary was launched on 27/10/21 with the aim of making improvements to the handling of ASB from receipt of call to outcome. Work is still ongoing and is due to be evaluated but significant improvements have already been realised.

CCTV

- 8.54 Following the Babergh Cabinet Meeting of July 2020 BMSDC which agreed to replacing the CCTV cameras for both Hadleigh and Sudbury, roll out has now been completed for each town. In Sudbury there is 18 PTZ (Pan, Zoom, Tilt) cameras and 10 'static' view cameras in place and, in Hadleigh we have 8 PTZ cameras installed and one deployable camera.

- 8.55 A CCTV Operation Group has since been formed, which receives a data analysis report for each town to show the diversity of types of crimes captured. The reports will be produced annually and assessed by the Group in more detail and will demonstrate the value of the scheme. So far 96 incidents have been recorded across both towns leading to 43 arrests being made.
- 8.56 A deployable mobile CCTV camera has also been placed in a 'hot-spot' area in Hamilton Road, Sudbury due to the persistent vandalism to the bus shelters there. Since the deployment there has been no further incidents recorded so the deterrent value appears significant here and this is being monitored over a 3-month period.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

- 8.57 A DHR is a 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 he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death. Intimate personal relationships include relationships between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. This can also include suicide.
- 8.58 The purpose of conducting a DHR is to establish what lessons are to be learned from the domestic homicide, regarding the way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims.
- 8.59 This includes:
- Identifying clearly what those lessons are both within and between agencies, how and within what timescales they will be acted on, and what is expected to change as a result.
 - Applying the lessons to service responses including changes to policies and procedures as appropriate.
 - Preventing domestic violence homicide and improving service responses for all domestic violence victims and their children, through improved intra and inter-agency working. The rationale for the review process is to ensure agencies are responding appropriately to victims of domestic violence by offering and putting in place appropriate support mechanisms, procedures, resources, and interventions with an aim to avoid future incidents of domestic homicide and violence. The review also assesses whether agencies have sufficient and robust procedures and protocols in place, which were understood and adhered to by their staff.
- 8.60 A DHR Review Panel is led by an independent chair and reviews each agency's involvement in the case and makes recommendations to the WSCSP to improve responses in the future. The panel will also consider information from the victim's family, friends, and work colleagues.
- 8.61 During 2021/22 the WSCSP had 3 active cases. One in Mid Suffolk and two in West Suffolk. The action plan developed in response to the Mid Suffolk DHR is almost complete and will now be incorporated into the wider action Plan. The further two DHRs are still ongoing and will be reviewed quarterly by the WSCSP.
- 8.62 A review of all historic DHRs is currently being undertaken to capture all lessons learnt, to ensure responses and activities undertaken in response to a DHR are embedded within the

relevant organisations and shared with practitioners to develop confidence and experience within the CSP and responsible authorities.

9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 As stated above the purpose of this report is to provide the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on current work and projects completed and ongoing during 2021/2022 by the WSCSP.
- 9.2 The WSCSP Action Plan demonstrates the significant amount of work that has taken place over the past year in support of its five priority areas and development and delivery of:
 - Awareness Raising activities and initiatives,
 - Increased levels of communications and campaigns.
 - Delivery of key projects, strategy development and e-learning packages
 - Community Resilience initiatives
- 9.3 Members will hopefully now have a greater understanding of the work of the partnership, how the current priorities are being tackled and the breadth of joint working with the partners of the CSP. The report highlights the fact that Western Suffolk continues to be a safe place in which to live, work and explore.
- 9.4 A refresh of the Strategic Assessment is currently taking place for 2022/23, and although it is unlikely that this will significantly affect the current priorities of the CSP it will most likely influence the activities agreed and developed in the action plan to deliver the priorities.
- 9.5 With an increased focus on the VAWG priority both nationally and locally, Overview and Scrutiny may wish to review the work planned for priority area during 2022/23.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

11. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Community Safety Partnerships were created in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which gave local authorities and the police new responsibilities to work in partnership with other organisations and the community to draw up strategies to reduce crime and disorder.

12. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 12.1 This report does not link directly to the Council's Corporate / Significant Business Risks however there is an operational Risk:

Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Measures
The Statutory requirements of the Community Safety continues to	Highly Probable	Significant	Regularly review the Partnerships budgets, funding

<p>increase. This, together with the rising need to tackle County-wide issues places significant additional pressures on Partnerships in terms of resources and capacity.</p> <p>Risk to our communities around any reduction in partnership working, including appropriate information sharing in relation to community safety. This may arise due to loss of resources, return to silo working practices and non-engagement of partners.</p>	Unlikely	Significant	<p>allocation and capacity.</p> <p>Seek alternative funding streams to ensure the Partnership is enabled to fulfil its statutory duties.</p> <p>This can be mitigated by the continued commitment of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Councillors to support Partnership working and to embed this into all areas of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council activities.</p>
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13. CONSULTATIONS

13.1 A range of consultations with relevant WSCSP partners and other partners relating to wide ranging community safety issues.

14. EQUALITY ANALYSIS

14.1 The content of this report is such that there are no equality issues arising from this report although the review itself may consider any equality impacts.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

15.1 None

16. APPENDICES

Title	Location
Western Suffolk Community Safety Action Plan 2021/22	Appendix 1
ASB Crime Stats for Babergh and Mid Suffolk	Appendix 2
O & S Review of ASB	Appendix 3

17. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

17.1 The Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2022 – 2025 published by the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner.

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