

Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership (WSCSP)

Multi-Agency Working Groups

Safe and Strong Communities Group (SSCG)

Chaired by Ian Gallin, (Chief Executive for West Suffolk Councils), the multi-agency group identified four key workstreams on which to focus as they are considered to be the greatest threat, risk and harm to our communities. The four workstreams are:

- I. Domestic abuse
- II. Youth violence and gangs
- III. Sexual exploitation and
- IV. Cyber crime

Work on each of these four workstreams has been progressing, commencing with a deep-dive exercise to establish the current position for each workstream.

- I. Domestic abuse – an action plan has been produced and four areas of work were identified;
 1. Commissioning
 2. Training
 3. Awareness raising and
 4. One front door to access services for victims and professionals

Work is progressing in each of these areas.

- II. Youth violence and gangs – the University of Suffolk has been commissioned to produce a threat assessment for youth gang and violence in Ipswich, followed by the West and then the East with final assessment being completed by September 2017.
- III. Sexual exploitation – the deep dive identifies that work is fully embedded for safeguarding children, however, gaps were identified for adults. This will be the focus of future work, led by the Safeguarding Adults Board.
- IV. Cybercrime – the deep dive identified work which is now fully embedded and led by the Police cybercrime unit and the Safeguarding Boards.

Mid Suffolk Information Sharing Group

The Mid Suffolk Information Sharing Group is a multi-agency operational group which has been in existence for a number of years and meets bi-monthly in the Mid Suffolk District area.

Membership of the group includes: BMSDC Communities, BMSDC Housing and BMSDC Environmental Protection Officers, Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Suffolk Family Focus, SCC Adults Social Care, SCC Children and Young People's Services, SCC Early Help, Catch 22 mediation service, Suffolk Youth Offending Service and a number of housing associations.

Appendix 2

The group addresses referrals of anti-social behaviour (individuals/families/locations), we also discuss referrals relating to vulnerable people, homelessness, mental health and substance misuse including drugs. These meetings focus on 'task and finish' solutions to issues within the Mid Suffolk District that need a joined-up approach. For cases involving vulnerable people, a multi-agency approach is taken with regards to supporting them and identifying and tackling those that are responsible.

Mid Suffolk information successes include a MSDC family causing anti-social behaviour receiving additional support from the Early Help team and an injunction preventing an individual with mental health issues who was causing anti-social behaviour in the community and a potential fire risk to his neighbours from returning to his flat.

Mid Suffolk Domestic Abuse Forum

Mid Suffolk Domestic Abuse Forum is a multi-agency working group which raises awareness of domestic abuse and domestic violence and provides funding support for the delivery of domestic abuse programmes across Mid Suffolk.

The group meets quarterly and membership includes: BMSDC Communities Officer (Chair), Suffolk Police, Suffolk County Council Partnerships and Localities, SCC CYP Early Help, Victim Support, Bury Women's Aid, Home Start Suffolk, Children's Centres, Citizens Advice, Schools, Colchester Army Welfare Officer, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and MSDC District Councillors.

The Forum raises awareness of domestic abuse and domestic violence through campaigns including the annual national White Ribbon Campaign which is part of a global movement to stop male violence against women and girls.

The Forum has provided funding for the delivery of programmes to address domestic abuse. This includes funding for 2 Family Support Practitioners to deliver the Helping Hands programme which is a preventative education programme, created by the Women's Aid Federation Northern Ireland in 2000, for children and young people. The programme aims to increase children's understanding of feeling safe and to explore and promote behaviours which will contribute to a safe environment and help those with low confidence and self-esteem as a result of their experience of domestic violence.