

Report to: **West Devon Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **10<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Title: **Community Safety Partnership**

Portfolio Area: **Customer First**

Wards Affected: **All**

Relevant Scrutiny Committee: N/A

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y / N**

Date next steps can be taken:  
(e.g. referral on of recommendation or implementation of substantive decision)

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**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Members identify any issues to be raised at the next Community Safety Partnership meeting**

## **1. Executive summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the opportunity to scrutinise the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) as defined by Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Crime and Disorder (Overview & Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

## 2. Background

South Devon and Dartmoor CSP operates across Teignbridge, South Hams and West Devon and is a statutory partnership.

The CSP works collaboratively across Devon and the Peninsula to tackle issues such as child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, drug misuse, prejudice related crime, preventing violent extremism and domestic violence and abuse.

## 3. Outcomes/outputs

The CSP sets its priorities each March with information from the Devon Strategic Assessment and also the Police and Crime Plan. The CSP also responds to emerging risks.

There is a significant focus on vulnerability and the impact on different types of crime on the victim. The CSP has focused on vulnerability as a key area of work for the last few years.

The outcomes of the CSP are monitored at each meeting through the Local Delivery Plan (LDP) and annually through a performance review with the Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

In 20/21 the CSP received a £25,000 grant of Safer Communities funding from the OPCC via the Safer Devon Partnership. This funding plan is developed alongside the Local Delivery Plan, some of which are listed below.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Achievements across the whole of South Devon and Dartmoor CSP area

Priority	Activity
Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence and Abuse (SVDVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quarterly SVDVA forums are convened with a range of partners</li><li>• Later in life toolkit was created and launched to partner agencies to address SVDVA in the older population</li><li>• Campaign during COVID to encourage reporting</li><li>• Engagement in Domestic Homicide Reviews</li><li>• Toolkit for parents to support vulnerable</li></ul>

	<p>young people in relation to behaviours and gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular engagement with South Devon MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Abuse Conference) to create safety planning for those experiencing domestic abuse in South Devon</li> </ul>
Exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Devon Exploitation Network – 2 monthly meetings of the network are held to raise awareness of current risks. The meetings were increased to monthly meetings during the COVID pandemic</li> <li>• Attendance at the Devon Anti-Slavery Partnership</li> <li>• Attendance at the Devon and Torbay Prevent Partnership</li> <li>• Awareness raising through the Exploitation Prevention Toolkit – delivered training session to 209 attendees from 58 organisations and received extremely positive feedback</li> <li>• Promotion of the Partnership Information Sharing Form</li> <li>• Prevent Training – to 105 front line staff from a wide range of agencies</li> <li>• Into the Counties – approximately 2800 young people saw a theatre performance on county lines and exploitation within our partner secondary schools</li> </ul>
Drug and Alcohol Misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSP involvement in Operation Moorland to address blue, fake Valium tablets which can cause significant harm</li> <li>• Increased awareness of drugs and alcohol issues within a wide range of organisations through county lines presentations</li> <li>• Strongly linked to work around exploitation</li> </ul>
Changes in Youth Culture / Youth Gang Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSP working with WAVE Academy to deliver the Motiv8 programme</li> <li>• Engagement with the Adolescent Safety Framework which reviews contextual safeguarding risks in the individual, peer and school context</li> <li>• Members of Devon Youth Crime Prevention Partnership</li> <li>• Key partner in the Turning Corners project (South Hams and Teignbridge)</li> </ul>

Emerging issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement with agencies to respond to the COVID crisis</li> <li>• Delivery of training to raise awareness of the impact of trauma</li> <li>• Provision of 100 hand held domestic abuse alarms</li> <li>• Supported Suicide Prevention Sessions to Early Years providers across the CSP area</li> <li>• CSP Member briefings as requested at the previous Overview and Scrutiny</li> </ul>
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### **Additional achievements specific to West Devon**

- The CSP worked with Tavistock Youth Café and provided financial support for them to work in a counselling and mentoring capacity with three young people in Tavistock who were involved in county lines and exploitation. Since this time, the young people continue to engage with the Youth Café in a group setting and have disengaged with concerning activities previously seen.
- The CSP continues to facilitate and chair local meetings in Tavistock and Okehampton and works with county, borough and town councillors in addition to Street Pastors, the West Devon Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour officer and Police to raise and problem solve community safety concerns. Issues such as graffiti and drug litter have been addressed in addition to wider concerns such as modern slavery and county lines which have been brought to the group and escalated through the CSP to the correct partner agencies.
- Tavistock College, Okehampton College and Mount Kelly College all work closely with the CSP in West Devon. The CSP facilitates and chairs quarterly schools meetings, where safeguarding leads and deputy heads attend in addition to Youth Intervention Officers from the Police, Community Safety office, Police Problem Solver, Youth Services and School Pastors. Local trends and concerns are brought for discussion at the meeting, which now includes Launceston College and Callington College as many students who live in West Devon attend these Cornish schools.
- Strengthening our links to the schools in West Devon as highlighted above included one of the projects that the CSP has been involved in this year. "Into the Counties" is a presentation, acted by a theatre company which was commissioned by the CSP. The theatre company presented a production on county lines, exploitation and drugs. The session was followed up with a one hour question and answer session where the actors stayed "in role" and students were

able to ask questions. Feedback from these sessions were extremely positive from the colleges.

- The CSP works closely with Devon County Council REACH (Reducing Exploitation and Absence from Care of Home) team, part of the Childrens Social Care. The CSP has chaired community meetings as part of the new Adolescent Safety Framework (ASF) where an issue in the community has been flagged by Devon County Council. The meeting is held with strategic local partners and reported back into the new framework. Further meetings were held and wider partners from another county were involved to assist in the issues that were raised and explored by the community meeting. The framework has now stepped down in this area and community issues have been addressed and mostly resolved or are underway now as part of a wider problem solving plan.
- The CSP has facilitated and chaired meeting in West Devon concerning reports of exploitation in the Learning Disability Community. Multi-agency meetings have included the LD Social Care team, Independent Living Team, Police and the landlord of the premises. Appropriate training and resources have been made available to residents, security concerns have been highlighted and addressed and potential perpetrators have been dealt with accordingly. The situation is receiving ongoing monitoring with partner agencies.
- The CSP attends multi-agency meetings for community members held at Tavistock College with specific themes of the meeting around safeguarding, mental health and community youth engagement. The CSP has funded resource materials including Run, Hide, Tell – a campaign raising awareness of what to do in an extremist attack.
- The CSP continues to attend North and West Devon Missing and Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings facilitated by Devon Children and Young People's Service, also North and West Devon Tactical Tasking meetings and Tactical Incident Management meetings chaired by Devon and Cornwall Police.

### **Achievements in Anti-Social Behaviour – West Devon**

- Over the last year there have been 21 referrals into the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) escalation process. Of these, 2 have been escalated to the second stage letter. They both refer to young people causing issues within Okehampton. The ASB officer and the Police Youth Intervention Officer are working with the Youth Offending Team to address this behaviour.
- There have been 2 Community Trigger activations within West Devon. Both relate to long running neighbour disputes.

**Activation A** concerned how the Police had responded to a number of calls. A review meeting to discuss the Police response was convened. The result of the review meeting was that the Police had taken all possible action to resolve the issue. This information was relayed back to the party activating the Trigger. The decision was later appealed and presented to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC). The OPCC are currently conducting that review.

**Activation B** again related to how the Police had responded to a number of calls and a crime. The two parties involved are tenants of the same landlord. The findings of the review meeting was that the Police had taken all appropriate action. The person who raised the Community Trigger has been made aware of this decision.

- A Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) was issued to a male who was sleeping in a toilet. This order was later varied to include toilets in another location. Despite extensive multi-agency working with the Police and WDBC Housing Department, the male was arrested for breaching the order and has subsequently served a custodial sentence. WDBC Housing team continue to try to engage with him to find him suitable housing.
- Following extensive multi-agency working between the Police, the ASB Officer and LiveWest, LiveWest obtained an ASB Injunction in relation to a West Devon resident. The Injunction related to playing extremely loud music and visitors to the address causing anti-social behaviour and negative impact on the local community.
- A further Civil Injunction was obtained against another male in West Devon. This male had previously been served a Community Protection Notice in relation to harassment and ASB which was breached and a Fixed Penalty was subsequently issued. The Injunction reflects the conditions on the CPN and is the result of extensive working between WDBC and West Devon Neighbourhood Policing Team.
- There is continued, positive engagement with partner agencies at the monthly ASB meetings where individuals causing ASB are discussed with regular attendance by Police, Registered Social Landlords & West Devon Borough Council and Community Mental Health Team. At this meeting vulnerable adults are also discussed to ensure that all agencies are aware and that appropriate support is being offered.

#### **4. Options available and consideration of risk**

The CSP continues to be intelligence led and directed by the findings of the Devon Strategic Assessment. This document guides the CSP to understand the threat, risk and harm that our communities face.

The CSP produces a local delivery plan in March of each year which also sets the context of the CSP spending plan. However, due to the nature of Community Safety work, the CSP retains flexibility in delivery and strategic priorities in response to emerging issues.

## 5. Proposed Way Forward

The main considerations for members include –

- The CSP will continue to engage all statutory partners in the development of the Local Delivery Plan which sets out the work of the CSP directed by the Devon and Peninsula Strategic Assessments.

## 6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance		<p>The CSP works under several sections of legislation including –</p> <p>Crime and Disorder Act 1998            Police Reform Act 2002            Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003            Police and Justice Act 2006            Policing and Crime Act 2009            Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004).            Anti-Social Behaviour , Crime &amp; Policing Act 2014</p> <p>New legislation expected:  <i>Domestic Abuse Bill</i>  <i>Serious Violence Bill</i></p>
Financial		<p>2020/21 income to the CSP included a £25,000 grant of Safer Communities funding from the Police Crime Commissioner via the Safer Devon Partnership and contributions from agencies and income to support specific projects.</p> <p>West Devon Borough Council costs for 2020/21:</p> <p>Total contribution <span style="float: right;">£16679</span></p>
Risk		<p>The report is for information and as such there is no risk associated with decisions to set out.</p>

Supporting Corporate Strategy		Communities, Wellbeing and Homes
Climate Change – Carbon / Biodiversity Impact		No direct carbon/biodiversity impact arising from the recommendations
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		The CSP addresses issues including hate crime and specific crimes relating to vulnerable members of the community such as distraction burglary.
Safeguarding		CSP staff engage in a number of safeguarding forums and promote effective safeguarding practice in their work. This links to internal Council safeguarding. The Community Safety Specialist is also the Safeguarding Specialist at WDBC.
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		The report details the many implications on Community Safety of West Devon Borough Council’s engagement in the CSP.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		The CSP works closely with public health and other partners on health and wellbeing issues including alcohol, licensing and mental health.
Other implications		

<b>Process checklist</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Portfolio Holder briefed	<b>Yes/No</b>
SLT Rep briefed	<b>Yes/No</b>
Relevant Exec Director sign off (draft)	<b>Yes/No</b>
Data protection issues considered	<b>Yes/No</b>
If exempt information, public (part 1) report also drafted. (Cabinet/Scrutiny)	<b>Yes/No</b>