

Blaby District Council
Scrutiny Commission

Date of Meeting 18 March 2020
Title of Report **Blaby and Hinckley & Bosworth Joint Scrutiny**
Report Author Community Services Manager

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To provide Scrutiny Commission with an update as to the priorities, performance, successes and challenges in relation to the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership

2. Recommendation(s) to Scrutiny Commission

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Commission notes the content of this report.

3. Reason for Decision(s) Recommended

- 3.1 This report is the required annual report from the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

4. Matters to consider

4.1 Strategic Overview

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 provides the framework for the establishment of Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's). Membership must include the "Responsible Authorities" as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The responsible authorities on the local Partnership are Blaby District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Probation.

The Community Safety Partnership delivers its work based around the three priorities of the CSP strategy 2017-2020. Action plans and a robust performance management system are in place to ensure delivery of the Community Safety Strategy. The current actions plans are available at Appendix A.

The three priorities were decided on following consultation with our partners, the public and young people:

- Protecting and supporting people
- Reducing offending and reoffending
- Improving community confidence and cohesion

4.2 Key Achievements

4.3 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Award

The CSP was given an award for building public confidence through community safety partnership working. The award was presented at the OPCC's Safer Community Celebration in January 2020 and is in recognition of our outstanding contribution to the delivery of the OPCC's Police and Crime Plan.

4.4 Domestic Abuse

The Partnership works to support victims and secondary victims (children) of domestic abuse through in-house services, and in 2019 this service received a record number of referrals (228). In addition, mental health and well-being courses for victims have been delivered

For White Ribbon Day (International Day for the Eradication of Violence against Women and Families), a 16 day programme of awareness and actions took place across both localities

Our Children's service has received referrals for therapeutic work on a one to one and group basis for 113 children who have been affected by domestic abuse. Performance data collected shows a significant improvement in the health and well-being of the young person (with children self scoring themselves an average of 4.9 pre- intervention and 8.9 post intervention).

Blaby District Council is currently developing a workplace domestic violence policy and Hinckley and Bosworth already has a similar policy in place and has recently delivered training on the policy to all line managers.

4.5 Hate and Prevent

Hate Crime is an area of crime that is under reported and has a significant impact on the victim. The CSP works hard to raise awareness of hate crime and to ensure that people are aware of how to report it.

Prevent is the Home Office programme to tackle extremism and radicalisation. The CSP works closely with the Hate and Prevent countywide delivery group to identify trends and deliver campaigns.

During September and October 2019 Blaby District and Hinckley and Bosworth Council's Elected Members attended Prevent awareness training and the Sophie Lancaster Foundation were commissioned to run "Black Roses" events at secondary schools in both areas to raise awareness of hate crimes and bullying based on the way people dress or look.

4.6 Work with young people

Blaby District Council and the IMPACT team held Knife Crime Assemblies at Brockington College in February 2020, and Hinckley and Bosworth have commissioned Words Over Weapons knife crime workshops that were funded through the CSP.

Streetvibe youth bus was commissioned to work in ASB “hotspot” areas across Hinckley and Bosworth and Blaby districts and the BB19 detached youth workers were out and about in Blaby engaging with young people at risk of being drawn in to ASB.

Leicestershire Police have commissioned a County Lines play and workshop programme which is being rolled out to all secondary schools in Hinckley and Blaby districts during February and March 2020

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service visit all primary schools across the localities to talk about fire and road safety. The partnership have also delivered several interactive Safer Driving and Fatal 4 programmes at Sixth Forms across Hinckley and Bosworth Council ensuring young people received safety messages around drug and alcohol driving, speeding, use of mobile phones and seatbelts.

Safety Crew is a programme of workshop, delivered by staff at Hinckley and Bosworth, for year secondary pupils covering subjects including:

- Healthy Relationships
- Vulnerability & Exploitation
- Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Alcohol and Cannabis
- Littering, dog fouling and recycling

Safety Crew is currently being offered to schools in Blaby for the first time this year.

Diversity workshops and anti-social behaviour (citizenship) workshops are delivered in primary schools across Hinckley and Bosworth and awareness sessions are also delivered in other educational settings. Year to date the awareness programmes have engaged with 2037 young people.

Premier Kicks youth antisocial behaviour diversionary activity scheme has been set up in a second area in Hinckley and Bosworth.

4.7 Campaigns and Events

The CSP has been part of a variety of community events including:

- Braunstone Town lunch events
- Great Get Together events
- Friends against Scams awareness events
- Community Houses events
- Community Safety advice events
- Modern Slavery pop-up events

Social media is used by the CSP to promote events, national and local campaigns and raise awareness on subjects such as safer internet day, alcohol awareness, domestic abuse and White Ribbon Day, anti-bullying week and local campaigns such as Celebrate Safely, scam awareness, vehicle crime and Ask for Angela,

Three editions of the CSP newsletter have been produced and circulated over

the year. These are distributed widely including to elected members, businesses, VCS organisations, health surgeries and parishes. They are also available on the Council's websites and social media pages.

4.8 999 and 101

There has been a 4% increase in demand for 999 over 2019/20. There has been a rise in 999 demand for 19 consecutive months. Despite this, 999 calls answered within 10 seconds has been consistently above 96% since changes were implemented to the system in November 2019.

101 has seen a 14% decrease in call demand over the same period. This is most likely affected by the introduction of the single on-line home system. Improvements in call answering has also been evident with the percentage of 101 calls being answered within 30 seconds rising to 74% and abandoned call rates falling to 7% since November 2019.

5. Challenges and Opportunities

5.1 Emerging threats

The CSP has increased the amount of work it does in raising awareness of emerging threats targeting vulnerable people. In particular awareness about exploitation issues, including County Lines drug dealing and Modern Slavery; fraud and scams and cyber crime.

This CSP is the County representative on the Modern Slavery Action Group and has hosted 2 pop-up events during a week of intensification actions to mark National Anti-Slavery Day. Several Friends Against Scams sessions have been delivered to community groups to raise awareness of cyber and other types of fraud

5.2 Violence Reduction Network (VRN)

The VRN is funded by the Home Office to tackle the issues of serious violence across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR). The CSP hosted the first of a series of events across the County to introduce the VRN to local stakeholders and to hold workshops to identify the scale of youth violence issues for our CSP and potential areas of influence.

1 school in Blaby District has taken up a place and 1 school in Hinckley and Bosworth has been offered a place on the first wave of the VRN's pioneering Mentors in Violence Prevention programme tackling violence and attitudes to violence in schools as a result of the meeting.

5.3 Domestic Abuse Services recommissioning

County Council are recommissioning domestic abuse services in the County. The CSP took part in the recent consultation and raised concerns around the scale and scope of planned services, the potential affect this could have on increasing demand on our in-house services and the funding available to deliver the planned services to a satisfactory standard. We are awaiting the outcome of the consultation. It is envisaged that the new contracts will be in place from 01 April 2021.

5.4 CSP Strategy 2020-2023

We are required as a CSP to produce a new strategy every 3 years, and in preparation for our new Strategy we have completed a strategic assessment using Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) methodology. This has allowed us to examine crime and antisocial behaviour across both districts in depth, looking at the impact to individuals, communities, businesses, organisations and the environment and calculating volume and frequency and our capacity and knowledge to deal with the issues. The scores from each section have enabled us to rank each of the themes with a risk score.

We are comparing the risk score with the outcomes of the public consultation which was highly successful with over 3,000 responses, in order to set the priority themes for the strategy. An action plan will be developed in order to drill down on specific actions to tackle different areas of concern as identified by the strategic assessment and consultation.

5.5 Funding

There is potential for change to the community safety funding landscape. The CSP is reliant on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Partnership Locality Fund and diversionary activity funding. There will be a new Police and Crime plan which sets out priorities for the OPCC and associated funding over 3 years following the election. The CSP has requested clarification on the funding allocation for 2020/21.

5.6 Changes to Police operating model

The force will be moving to a new model on March 11 2020. The new model is Target Operating Model (TOM) and has been designed to meet future resource and demand. It will see more officers based in communities responding to and investigating incidents. The key changes will see a move from eight to nine Neighbourhood Policing Areas (NPAs), the creation of a new Neighbourhood Patrol Officer (NPO) role, locally based CID units and an increase in the number of Sergeants.

There has been no change to the boundary of the Blaby and Hinckley NPA or to the current Inspector and Deputy but there will be a change in personnel on the different beats. The new model is a positive step for the force, not least as it gives our NPA a greater pool of officers focused on our local priorities.

5.7 New Serious Violence Duty

There is to be a new 'public health duty' that covers public bodies such as the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services. It will ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime. It will also allow them to target their interventions to prevent and stop violence altogether.

In addition, the government will amend the Crime and Disorder Act to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for CSPs, by making sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

6. **Performance**

6.1

The effectiveness of the CSP is measured against the partnership action plans and performance indicators around crime and antisocial behaviour figures. Data is both quantitative and qualitative in nature. The most recently updated Action Plan is attached at Appendix A.

6.2

The table below shows Police data which compares current year to date information with the last 3 years.

	Hinckley and Bosworth - no. of incidents				3 Year trend	Blaby - no. of incidents				3 Year trend
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 to date		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 to date	
Total Crime	3724	4711	4716	3337	↑	1083	1386	1388	920	↑
Violent Crime	810	1151	1422	1009	↑	215	279	356	256	↑
Domestic Abuse	365	583	718	427	↑	127	136	226	138	↑
Domestic Burglary	251	381	274	215	↔	76	184	95	92	↔
Burglary Other (non dwelling)	287	215	155	121	↓	102	39	26	51	↓
Vehicle Crime – Theft from	448	628	448	331	↓	144	256	258	126	↑
Vehicle Crime – Theft of	136	132	146	95	↔	21	28	33	28	↑
Anti-Social Behaviour	437	488	298	207	↓	192	145	119	64	↓
Hate Crime	46	49	66	43	↔	13	21	7	4	↓

Fig.1 – 3 year incident data to December 2019 (provided by the PCC)

6.3

Points to note

6.4

Domestic abuse is showing as a rising trend in reports over the last 3 years which has been viewed as good performance as our domestic abuse campaigns are about encouraging reporting of abuse. Year to date figures however suggest a reversal of this trend with lower numbers reported. As there has been an increase in the numbers of people requesting outreach support, this reduction in reported incidents should be viewed with caution.

6.5

Theft from motor vehicle includes a high number of stolen number plates which are recorded as theft from motor vehicle. Theft from vehicles at motorway services and from hotels in the area has also contributed and has led to targeted campaigns such as Hotel Watch. Although the trend was increasing in Blaby, it is worth noting that figures in Blaby are significantly lower in 2019/20 and Hinckley and Bosworth has seen a steady reduction since July 2017. Theft of motor vehicles is a rising trend in Blaby but remained steady in Hinckley and Bosworth.

6.6

ASB reports to the police reflect national trend data and have reduced. However, both areas report a continuing high volume of ASB reported directly to the Council.

6.7

The fall in the number of hate crimes reported is of concern as hate crime is under reported. Hate Crime is now a standing item on Tactical Group agendas where Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP) data is used to identify trends and areas for targeted work.

7.

Other significant issues

7.1

In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Inequalities and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

8.

What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

8.1

There are no costs associated with this report.

9. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

9.1

There are no risks associated with this report.

10. Other options considered

10.1

There are no alternative options to consider.

11. Other significant issues

11.1

In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

12. Appendix

12.1

Appendix A – CSP Strategy Action Plan

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