

Report to: Policy & Performance Improvement Committee Meeting - 26 June 2023

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Report Summary	
<b>Report Title</b>	Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership Progress and Performance Update and Review of Priorities.
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To provide an update on the work undertaken by the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership. The report will set out the current performance and explain the choice of priorities for the current year.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Policy & Performance Improvement Committee review the Community Safety Partnership performance and priorities.
<b>Reason for Recommendation</b>	To ensure that the Community Safety Partnership is addressing the right priorities in the right way.

## 1.0 Background

1.1 The existence of a Community Safety Partnership (**CSP**) is a statutory requirement under Section 5 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (“the Act”), as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police & Justice Act 2006. There are a number of ‘Responsible Authorities’ that form the partnership. They are:

- i. The District Council(s)
- ii. The County Council
- iii. The Chief Officer of Police
- iv. The Fire and Rescue Authority
- v. The Clinical Commissioning Group now the Integrated Care Boards

1.2 In the practical process of operating, the CSP needs to create a functioning local partnership that develops and promotes multi-agency working with the aims of reducing crime and disorder, misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and reducing reoffending in its area.

1.3 The Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood CSP (**BNSCSP**) has three layers to its existing structure with a single strategic group (Joint Strategic Group; “the **JSG**”), a single delivery group (Partnership Delivery Group; “the **PDG**”) and a number of operational groups.

- 1.4 The Chair of the JSG represents the CSP at the Nottinghamshire Safer Neighbourhoods Board and this role alternates between the two district councils on a biennial basis. The BNSCSP is administered by the Community Safety Partnership Support Officer, which is shared full-time post based at Castle House in Newark. Other shared posts that service and support the CSP are the Domestic Violence Co-Ordinator and the Partnership Analyst.
- 1.5 The CSP has a well-established schedule of meetings that are administered by the CSP Support Officer. Meeting attendance does vary with attendees fluctuating based primarily on the value that they derive from attendance.
- 1.6 The priorities of the CSP are intelligence led but need to reserve the right to include its own priorities as a matter of local determination for the benefit of the communities it serves. To a certain degree it will always be the case that elected Members and communities themselves will feedback intelligence to the individual organisations that make up the CSP about what is concerning them at any point in time. The CSP needs to be capable of responding to those needs.

## **2.0 Proposal/Options Considered**

- 2.1 Each month the CSP analyst produces a performance report based on all crime and a separate smaller report based on antisocial behaviour. This shows the comparative performance of the Community Safety Partnerships in the county (there are three) and each district. This shows the change in all crime/ASB compared to the same period last year as well as providing some more detailed analysis on the locations and causes of any hot spots.
- 2.2 The performance for Crime for 2022/2023 is shown below

	Performance
Force	6%
County	7%
BNS CSP	5%
NSDC	9%

The performance for ASB for 2022/2023 is shown below

	Performance
Force	-13%
County	-11%
BNS CSP	-5%
NSDC	-2%

- 2.3 The Joint Strategic Group of the CSP is responsible for setting the priorities. This process is informed by a strategic assessment of crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending drawn from the evidence of the previous year.

2.4 The priorities that have been agreed for 2023/2024 are:

- Domestic Violence
- Burglary
- Rural Crime
- Area based work/Town Centre Issues (ASB)
- Gypsy and Travellers (Newark)
- Community Cohesion
- Serious Violent Crime
- Exclusions (Bassetlaw)

2.5 The table below sets out the rationale behind each priority.

Priority	Evidence	Current Structure	Local Concerns/Response
<b>Domestic and Sexual Abuse</b>	<p>A high proportion (approx. 50%) of violence related crimes are linked to domestic abuse.</p> <p>The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a new duty on local authorities.</p>	<p>Countywide structures are in place, with the PCC commissioning DV services and our CSP structure is well established.</p> <p>Intelligence is in place and referral mechanisms well established and well known.</p> <p>OPCC have launched a new Violence against Women and Girls Strategy (VAWG)</p>	<p>We have a possible issue of under reporting of Domestic Abuse and so promotional work continues.</p> <p>Domestic Homicide Reviews have to be organised and signed off at a local level.</p>
<b>Burglary</b> (not specifically mentioned in the P&C Plan but covered under All Crime)	<p>Locally we will experience spikes and are vulnerable to travelling gangs and known individuals so remains a priority at a local level and a Police priority.</p>	<p>Response is led by the Police and partners would be guided by the Police on any 'value added' work that can be done. Well established and tested response techniques are available to the Police.</p>	<p>BNS has some specific vulnerabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High quality/high value residential burglaries (including key thefts for high value cars)</li> <li>Rural burglary in isolated locations</li> <li>ATM thefts in isolated rural sites</li> </ul>
<b>Rural Crime</b> (this is specifically mentioned in the P&C Plan).	<p>BNS is predominantly a rural area and therefore vulnerable to specific crime types not experienced in other areas.</p>	<p>Chief Inspector Steve O'Neill is the county lead on rural crime. The CSP is currently working on a specific rural crime initiative.</p> <p>A project is in place to look at rural crime and the police have recruited a dedicated Rural Crime Officer who is looking at providing</p>	<p>BNS are likely to maintain this as a priority because of the geography of the area which is vulnerable to off road bikes, hare coursing, fuel theft, fly tipping and other such crimes.</p>

		packages of funding for target hardening alongside advice and support	
<b>Area Based Work</b> (not specifically mentioned in the P&C Plan)	This area of work is very much led by local intelligence.	Area based work is currently delivered in N&S through the Community Safety team and Community Engagement team. A	N&S has a focus on low level ASB, and local environmental quality in Newark with the recent appointment of wardens and upgrading of CCTV.  The Safer Streets 4 project has focused on this priority, the project ends at the end of September 23
<b>Gypsy Roma and Traveller Community</b> not specifically mentioned in the P&C Plan but Hate Crime and Community Cohesion are.	Newark has the largest GRT community in Notts. The GRT community faces a range of challenges around education, access to services, victimisation and hate crime, and perception from the settled community.  Unauthorised encampments affect the whole of Notts, particularly in the summer months	Land use and planning issues are particularly controversial.  Police resource for the GRT community has been identified.	Concern in N&S around unauthorised development on Tolney Lane and other sites. Public perception that the GRT community are not subject to the same level of enforcement as other sections of society.  Lack of services for the GRT community causing a feeling of disconnect in the community.
<b>Community Cohesion</b> (in the Police and Crime Plan under the heading Supporting victims, survivors, witnesses and communities)	In Nottinghamshire, just under half (48%) of residents consulted via the annual Resident Survey feel that their area is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together.	N&S has developed its Community Engagement team and has developed a number of 'days of action' within communities N&S has recently delivered days of action aligned to the CSG agenda.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of the Eastern European community</li> <li>• GRT Community</li> <li>• New and Emerging Communities</li> <li>• Hate Crime</li> </ul>
<b>Serious Violence Duty</b>	The Serious Violence Duty came into effect on 31 January 2023. It requires specified authorities – local authorities, police, Fire and Rescue Authorities, the Probation Service, Youth Offending Teams, and Integrated Care Boards – to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence.	A Serious Violence Duty Implementation Group is in place across the county with representatives from all district councils, NCC, Police, OPPC, Probation and voluntary organisations to deliver the requirements	Every CSP is required to have the Serious Violence as a priority as part of the legal duty.  Each area is involved in the county delivery groups

2.6 A submission by the CSP for Safer Streets 4 funding was submitted to the Home Office following previous successful rounds of funding. The bid was successful and funding of £750,000 across Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood was provided, which has been focussed on:

- Anti-social behaviour,
- Violence against women and girls
- Perceptions of safety

2.7 The project is due for completion at the end of September 2023. To date the following have been completed:

- 4 CCTV cameras have been replaced in and around the Town Centre improving the picture quality significantly
- 3 new CCTV locations have been identified and these are to be installed in the coming months.
- A lighting scheme has been designed to improve the lighting in the Market Square, Church Walks and the Remembrance gardens, this is now moving at pace with initial phases to begin shortly.
- Three nights of action of have been undertaken highlighting the effects and impacts of mixing cocaine and alcohol linked to violence against women and girls
- A Gym Safe Scheme is being developed to promote a safer experience when exercising, which has received national interest.
- Security doors and information screens have been installed at Tithe Barn and Queens Court
- St Marks Precinct has had new security gates installed
- A large number of environmental actions to improve the feelings of safety have been completed, including bench removals that were a source of ASB, cutting back of vegetation in certain areas, installation of litter bins etc
- Projects to reduce vehicle crime have commenced, target hardening measures and advice
- Promoting ShopWatch to businesses in the Town Centre

### **3.0 BNSCSP Refresh**

3.1 As part of the CSP meetings and following discussions at both Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Councils linked to ASB, a refresh of the CSP is to commence to look at the group, the resources and the priorities moving forward.

3.2 As part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Review set up by this committee in June 2022, a number of recommendations were made, which were presented to the committee in November 2022 and endorsed by the Portfolio Holder and taken to Cabinet for approval in February 2023. There were 17 actions split into the following areas:

- Improve Communications
- Community Protection Officers
- Partnership Working
- The Community Safety Charter
- CCTV

- 3.3 Many of these actions have been completed or are in progress. Linked to these actions was the requirement to develop a Community Safety Strategy. This has been discussed as part of the BNSCSP and agreed that one Community Safety Strategy will be developed with a separate action plan for each area, to set out the individual actions of the council to meet local priorities and joint actions as part of the CSP or wider related groups.
- 3.4 This process will enable a better review of the CSP priorities, linked into the various related groups, boards and sub-groups to ensure a clear process and recognition of both national and county requirements alongside the clear need to focus on local priorities for our specific areas. As a result of this review the current priorities, as set out above, may be subject to change.

#### **4.0 Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

##### **4.1 Financial Implications FIN23-24/1539**

The posts that support the work of the CSP are fully budgeted. Any activities that are undertaken to support the CSP are funded from existing budgets or are subject to bids to a variety of sources.

There are no additional unforeseen financial implications and no direct financial implications to the current budgets or the medium-term financial plan.

#### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

ASB Review Paper Cabinet Report Recommendations - 21 February 2023