

HOMES & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

14 SEPTEMBER 2020

BASSETLAW & NEWARK AND SHERWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PROGRESS AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2019/20 AND REVIEW OF PRIORITIES FOR 2020/21

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider the progress and performance of the CSP priorities for 2019/20 and to review and refresh the priorities for 2020/21.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 An in depth review of the CSP priorities was undertaken in early 2019 and it was agreed that the following priorities would be adopted for 2019/20

The priorities are:

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

- 2.2 The priorities were developed following as assessment of crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending, that was drawn from evidence from the previous 12-month period. Local intelligence was also used to inform the review.
- 2.3 The Partnership Delivery Group (PDG) as tasked with delivering the strategic priorities and action plan developed by the Joint Strategic Group (JSG).
- 2.4 The work of the Operational Groups are directed by the PDG based on the Partnership priorities identified by the JSG.

3.0 Severity Profile

- 3.1 In 2018 The Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) agreed to develop an alternative approach to identifying priorities across the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). This involved the development of localised partnership profiles based upon severity scores, as opposed to only volume crime data. This was to address those crime types that are deemed riskier and more harmful to our communities. The OPCC subsequently funded three police researchers to undertake this work in 2019, who have since been developing the 'products' that are aimed at informing local partnership planning responses. Two geographical priority areas were identified per district/borough based on a severity assessment in 2018.
- 3.2 The areas identified in BNS are:

Bassetlaw:

Worksop South and Worksop North

Newark and Sherwood

Newark (Castle, Bridge and Magnus and Devon wards)

Bilsthorpe, Lowdham and Villages (Lowdham, Dover Beck, Rainworth South and Blidworth, Farnsfield, Bilsthorpe, Rainworth North and Rufford and Trent (part of) wards.

- 3.3 The 'Crime Severity Score' is designed to reflect the relative harm of offending, rather than how many crimes there are. All of the profiles produced identified the same top four priorities. These were:

Violence with injury (no breakdown for domestic, NTE or gang/youth related)
Rape and sexual offences (no breakdown for offender known or not known)
Residential burglary
ASB*

*Anti-social behaviour (ASB) was included in each profile despite there being no data, as it is recognised as an issue across the board. This became the fifth priority on each profile and the fourth priority varied.

- 3.4 The severity report also identified what it termed 'Other issues', these were:

Other Theft" (Worksop South, North and Newark)
Robbery of Personal Property" (Worksop South and Newark)
Vehicle Crime" (Worksop North)
Violence without Injury" (Newark)

- 3.5 The expectation from the OPCC was for the severity profiles to set the priorities for annual community safety action planning. However, the CSPs also have local policing priorities to consider, as well as those of the SNB.

- 3.6 Funding for CSP comes via the OPCC and for 2020/21 it has been agreed by the Safer Nottinghamshire Board that the funding allocation is to be based upon severity. Therefore, the applications needed to reflect a response to severity priorities, regardless of other local priorities.

4.0 Local Policing Priorities

- 4.1 Every quarter the local authority and the police meet to agree on the local policing priorities for the forthcoming 3 months. The discussion is supported by local authority data, local crime data and the OPCCs crime survey. This process began in October 2019

- 4.2 The priorities identified in Newark and Sherwood for 2019/20 have been:

October 2019 Vehicle Crime
January 2020 Vehicle crime
March 2020 ASB
July 2020 ASB

5.0 Performance in 2019/20

- 5.1 Set out in the table in Appendix One are the projects and achievements delivered by the Community Safety Partnership in 2019/2020. These are in the main delivered by the police or the local authority and one of the challenges that remains in the engagement of other partners at a local level who consider 'Community Safety' a police/council issue.
- 5.2 The table aims to show the links between the CSP priorities and those identified in the severity profile and via the local policing priorities process.

6.0 Proposals

- 6.1 The SNB are currently considering how the usefulness of the Severity Profiles might be improved with the information within them being more focused and timelier. However, they are seen as the priorities that CSPs should work towards in producing action plans and funding bids for the CSP activities.
- 6.2 The severity profile priorities are wide ranging and it is possible, as can be seen by the table in appendix one, for more local priorities to be developed that meet both local need and address the severity profile priorities.
- 6.3 There is already strong link between the severity profiles to priorities already in place for N&S and Bassetlaw. However, the severity profile highlighted ASB as a priority and the increase in ASB being seen at the moment due to the COVID 19 lockdown does suggest that ASB should be identified in its own right as a priority for the CSP.
- 6.4 It is also proposed that the local priorities, exclusions for Bassetlaw and Gypsy and Traveller Community for N&S remain as these are still seen as important local issues. The Rural Crime priority links across number of issues in the partnership area and this is proposed to remain.
- 6.5 The police response locally has been amended in light of Covid -19 and therefore it is proposed that the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector be invited to the next meeting to give an update on the policing of Newark and Sherwood.

7.0 Equalities Implications

- 7.1 It is considered that there are no adverse equalities implications arising from this report. It should be noted that local priority for NSDC is the Tolney Lane area. The CSP recognises the specific characteristics of the people living in that area.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 None from this report. All actions are met from existing budgets.

9.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives

- 9.1 The Safer Streets Initiative will align with the Community plan theme to 'Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and increase feelings of safety in our communities.'

9.2 The actions proposed will assist in the delivery of this element of the Community Plan.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that:

a) Members are asked to note the performance of the BNSCSP; and

b) Approve the following priorities for 2020/21

Domestic Violence

Burglary

Rural Crime

Area based work/Town Centre Issues

Gypsy and Travellers (Newark)

Community Cohesion

Knife Crime

Exclusions (Bassetlaw)

Anti-Social Behaviour

(c) That the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector be invited to the next meeting of the Committee to give an update on the policing of Newark and Sherwood.

Reason for Recommendations

To update members on work of the CSP

Background Papers

Nil

For further information please contact Alan Batty on Ext 5467

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