

## CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10th October 2024
<b>Report Subject</b>	Community Safety Partnership Annual Report
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide Members with an overview of the Community Safety Partnership's activities and progress over the past 12 months.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note and support the contents of the report.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND OF THE FLINTSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP</b>
1.01	The Flintshire Community Safety Partnership is required periodically to formally report its activities to the Council's Scrutiny function. This ensures that the Partnership meets its obligations under sections 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
1.02	Flintshire County Council has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and the subsequent amendments by the Police and Justice Act 2006, to work in partnership with the police, health service, probation, and Fire Service as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

1.03	There has been a partnership in existence in Flintshire since 1999. The Partnership is supported by a small team of local authority and police officers who work on shared priorities, alongside the Neighbourhood Wardens.
1.04	Over the past decade there have been significant changes in the way the local CSP is governed. The Partnership now sits under the auspices of the Public Service Board and discharges its duties through the People are Safe Board. The work of the board is underpinned through the implementation of a local delivery plan.
1.05	The work programme of the People Are Safe Board also reflects the recommendations contained within the regional Strategic Assessment (produced by North Wales Police) and considers the Police and Crime Plan and the work of the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board. Working at a regional level has become increasingly important to ensure a consistent approach. Flintshire is represented on the Safer North Wales Partnership by the Chief Officer for Housing and Communities.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS</b>
2.1	<p>A number of operational groups report into the People are Safe Board, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable Adult Risk Management Tasking Group</li> <li>• Integrated Offender Management Group</li> <li>• Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference</li> <li>• Serious Organised Crime Group</li> </ul> <p>These groups have met throughout the past 12 months. They provide an opportunity for partners to share areas of common concern based on intelligence, such as police data. It should also be noted that partners also work together on various operations throughout the year. A good example of this occurred in recent months with Operation CeCe which focused on illicit tobacco, and has involved Trading Standards, North Wales Police and HMRC.</p>
2.2	Grant funding is also channelled through the CSP, albeit the levels of funding have reduced over the past decade. The most significant grant contributions come through the Substance Misuse Grant and the Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Grant, which are received from the Welsh Government.
2.3	<p>The grant received on behalf of substance misuse services in North Wales is received by Wrexham County Borough Council, and the allocation to Flintshire services is drawn down quarterly in arrears (based on actual spend). Below is a list of those services that were funded in 2023/24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution towards Substance Misuse Treatment and Support Service</li> <li>• Flintshire Sorted (catering for young people)</li> <li>• Accommodation Support (contribution to FCC Housing and Communities)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance Misuse Development Officers (two officers who are hosted by FCC and have a regional remit)</li> <li>• Residential Rehabilitation (Tier 4 services)</li> </ul>
2.4	<p>The grant funding received for VAWDASV services is received by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office on behalf of the region. The funding is then allocated on a county level accordingly. With respect to Flintshire, in 2023/24 it provided funding for the following interventions and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional VAWDASV Team (hosted by FCC and have a regional remit)</li> <li>• Regional Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) provision</li> <li>• Regional Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) provision</li> <li>• Specialist Children's workers in some local providers, including Clwyd Alyn Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Safety Unit for Flintshire</li> <li>• Behaviour change intervention for perpetrators of domestic violence.</li> <li>• Community Advocate for BAME victims of VAWDASV</li> <li>• Schools' intervention focussed on consent, toxic masculinity, and misogyny.</li> </ul>
2.5	<p>Since April 2024 the Community Safety Partnership has also received from the Home Office, funding (which is claimed through the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office) to address serious violent crime.</p> <p>The four projects commissioned for Flintshire consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train the trainer which aim to open dialogues with boys and young men about masculinity</li> <li>• Programme for high schools to increase young people's knowledge, understanding and attitudes around consent.</li> <li>• Multi-agency partnership to develop an intervention programme for children and young people up to the age of 25 that is aimed at equipping professionals to effectively support children and young people at risk of serious violence.</li> <li>• Interventions through Aura to encourage young people to engage with sporting activities and youth clubs to strengthen bonds with existing friends, fostering a sense of belonging and community.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2024/25</b>
3.01	<p>Outlined below are the priorities for 2024/25, along with a summary of the objectives to support their implementation:</p> <p><b><u>Priority Areas</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working in partnership to address Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence</li> <li>• Prevent and deter anti-social behaviour and crime in our neighbourhoods.</li> <li>• Developing partnerships to tackle serious and organised crime.</li> <li>• Protecting our communities</li> </ul>

## **Objectives**

### **Working in partnership to address Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence:**

- 1) Increase awareness and challenge attitudes of violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence across the North Wales population.
- 2) Increased awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal, and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong.
- 3) Increased focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety.
- 4) Make early intervention and prevention a priority.
- 5) Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors.
- 6) Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services across North Wales.

### **Prevent and deter anti-social behaviour and crime in our neighbourhoods:**

- 1) Promote the North Wales Police 'We Don't Buy Crime' message in our communities.
- 2) Increase in positive outcomes as a result of interventions from VARM referrals.
- 3) Street Doctors project to increase awareness of dangers of carrying knives amongst young people.
- 4) Use of Closure Notices and Closure Orders to reduce anti-social behaviour linked to specific premises.

### **Developing partnerships to tackle serious and organised crime:**

- 1) Continue to support the newly formed Operational Stakeholder Group to feed into the Eastern Division Serious Organised Crime Meeting.
- 2) Contribute to the development of plans and threat and harm reduction strategies that are aligned to the four P principles (Prevent, Prepare, Pursue and Protect).

### **Protecting Our Communities:**

- 1) Raise awareness of current scams and doorstep crime using social media and talks to community groups.
- 2) Working in partnership to deliver Operation Cece to tackle the supply of illicit tobacco in our communities. Operation Cece is a national operation funded by HMRC to disrupt the supply of illicit tobacco.
- 3) Working in partnership to tackle the supply of illegal vapes and vapes to under aged people.
- 4) Use the partnerships brought together in the Integrated Offender Management meetings to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the community by identifying and managing persistent offenders.

	<p>5) Flintshire County Council Neighbourhood Wardens will continue to provide target hardening and home safe measures, along with crime prevention advice to both victims of crime and the vulnerable in the county.</p> <p>In support of each of the above priorities, cognisance will be taken of the need to adopt a partnership approach in addressing the part played by the misuse of illicit, proscribed drugs and alcohol. Substances misuse will often exacerbate offending behaviour or be a significant causal factor.</p>
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<b>4.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
4.01	The time of officers across Flintshire County Council to attend multi-agency meetings and share intelligence, where appropriate.
4.02	Any grant funding received requires evidence of expenditure. Welsh Government and the Home Office will only provide funding for interventions and/or services that have been undertaken.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>	
5.01	<p>Impact assessment is not required as this is a report on progress and is for information only.</p> <p>Risks are listed under each priority area of the People are Safe Plan.</p>	
5.02	<b>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact, as outlined in the Flintshire Well-Being Plan</b>	
	Long-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a clear long term vision to make the communities of Flintshire safer by working in partnership</li> <li>• There is a clear focus on vulnerability and tackling organised crime</li> </ul>
	Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The early identification of victims by a wide range of agencies, the focus on victim support and pursuing those who cause harm will help make Flintshire a safer place to live and a hostile environment for criminals to operate.</li> <li>• Monthly multi-agency meetings to support this agenda.</li> </ul>
	Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The objectives of this group fit in well with the Well-Being Plan with a wide range of partners actively involved.</li> </ul>

	Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working together as a partnership and with our communities is at the centre of this plan</li> <li>The sharing of intelligence and a joined-up response to incidents is critical to our success</li> </ul>
	Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions in this plan will lead to a greater understanding of community needs</li> <li>Encouraging partners become the eyes and ears of local communities to enable us all to make people feel safe - both at home and elsewhere</li> </ul>
<b>Well-being Goals Impact</b>		
	Prosperous Wales	Positive: The aspiration of making the county a safer place to live, work and visit.
	Resilient Wales	Neutral
	Healthier Wales	Positive: Reduction in substance misuse, reduction in crime, reduction in incidents of domestic abuse, increased likelihood of physical activity outside of the home, improved mental health by tackling fear of crime
	More equal Wales	Positive: Promotion of community cohesion.
	Cohesive Wales	Positive: Promotion of community cohesion.
	Vibrant Wales	Neutral
	Globally responsible Wales	Neutral
<b>6.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>	
6.01	None because of this report.	

<b>7.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
7.01	The most significant risk relates to grant funding as there is often no certainty beyond the short or medium term.

<b>8.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
8.01	None

<b>9.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
9.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Sian Jones, Community and Business Protection Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702132  <b>E-mail:</b> sian-jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

<b>10.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
10.01	<p><b><u>MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)</u></b></p> <p>A MARAC, or multi-agency risk assessment conference, is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, probation, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.</p> <p>After sharing all relevant information about a victim, representatives discuss options for increasing safety for the victim and turn these options into a co-ordinated action plan. The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim.</p>
10.02	<p><b><u>National Training Framework</u></b></p> <p>The National Training Framework for violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence outlines the Welsh Government's requirements for training on these subjects across the public service and specialist third sector.</p> <p>The Framework is made up of six levels. Officers employed by the 'responsible authorities' (as defined by statute) will be required to undertake training in relation to domestic abuse and sexual violence.</p>
10.03	<p><b><u>Public Services Board (PSB)</u></b></p> <p>The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 established statutory PSBs, which replaces the voluntary Local Service Boards in each local authority area. The role of the board is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area</li> <li>• set objectives that are designed to maximise the PSBs contribution to the well-being goals.</li> </ul> <p>Each PSB must prepare and publish a plan setting out its objectives and the steps it will take to meet them. This is called a Local Well-being Plan. It must state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• why the PSB feels their objectives will contribute within their local area to achieving the well-being goals</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how it has had regard to the assessment of Local Well-being in setting its objectives and steps to take.</li> </ul>
10.04	<p><b><u>Safer Communities Board (now known as the Safer North Wales Partnership)</u></b></p> <p>The aim of the Safer North Wales Partnership is to provide strategic direction for the exercise of the Community Safety functions across the region. The Board promotes consistency of policy objectives, and the shared use of expertise and resources across the region.</p> <p>The objectives of the SCB include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing bureaucracy and formality through streamlining strategic and operational functions.</li> <li>• Identifying shared and/or common priorities</li> <li>• Acting as a lobbying group to influence the Welsh Government, Home Office and Local Policing Body.</li> <li>• Establishing a common and consistent framework for strategic, tactical and operational delivery at regional, sub-regional and local levels.</li> <li>• Facilitating and encouraging regional working in the interests of public value.</li> </ul> <p>Providing a more efficient and consistent service in contributing to reducing crime and disorder and improving the criminal justice services in North Wales.</p>
10.05	<p><b><u>County Lines</u></b></p> <p>A law enforcement term used for the tactic Organised Crime Gangs have been using to operate their illegal business across the UK.</p>
10.06	<p><b><u>Onyx Team</u></b></p> <p>A specialist team tackling Child Sexual Exploitation.</p>