

# Scrutiny Committee

19 April 2016

## Safer Chorley and South Ribble Community Safety Partnership

### Progress Report



**Lead Member: Councillor Michael Green**

**Lead Officer: Mark Gaffney**

## **Safer Chorley and South Ribble Partnership - Progress Report**

### **1. Background**

This report provides members of the Scrutiny Committee with an update on the progress of the partnership and also progress against the key actions.

### **2. Progress**

#### **a) Overall Position**

The partnership is making good progress and achieving good levels of performance.

#### **b) Areas of Significant Progress/Achievement**

- Stable 'All crime' figures 2015/16.
- Multi agency meetings continue to contribute significantly to local issues.
- Embedding the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 reforms including the Community Triggers.
- Implementation of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Regular ongoing meetings with the Leader, Cabinet Member, Chief Executive, Director and Senior Police Officers.
- High levels of resident confidence in a safe borough.

#### **c) Areas for Further Action/Monitoring**

- Reduced external funding for Community Safety activity.
- Maintaining an effective service with reduced resources.

### **3. Progress against Key Actions/Projects**

#### **3.1 Crime Figures**

The end of year overall crime figure for 2015/16 has shown a slight increase of + 0.1% compared to the previous year. However, there were some notable reductions in key areas:

- Alcohol related crime + 0.3%
- Domestic abuse - 4.4%
- All burglary - 12.3%
- All theft – 7.3%

The overall crime figure has remained relatively stable since 2012/13, the earliest data available through the Crime Objectives Results Analysis (CORA) database.

As a comparator for this period, the end of year figures for 2015/16 compared to 2012/13, show the overall crime figure as reduced by – 9.1% which includes:

- Alcohol related crime – 5.5%

- Domestic abuse – 26%
- All burglary – 18.1%
- All theft – 17.1%

## **Domestic Abuse**

### **3.2 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)**

A MARAC covering South Ribble and Chorley is held each month with statutory and voluntary agencies to share up to date information and agree action plans to reduce risk of harm for very high risk victims of domestic abuse. Between January 2015 and December 2015 there were 317 cases which included 289 children managed, covering the partnership area of both boroughs.

### **3.3 The Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) Service**

During 2015/16 the joint LCC Domestic Abuse Commission has enabled the IDVA service to accept referrals for both medium and high risk victims of domestic abuse. The service supports victims by acting as advocate/advisor for both criminal and civil court processes and will also both challenge and support other agencies to fulfil their responsibilities. IDVAs also act as the voice of the victim at MARAC.

The Council and other partners contributed to the funding of the Lancashire County Council commission of domestic abuse services to enable a consistent level of service across the county.

The commissioned services are designed to meet the needs of women, children and young people, and men who live with domestic abuse, who are at high or medium risk of harm.

The IDVA service is able to enhance service delivery by providing a regular drop in service at Chorley & South Ribble Hospital for those who may have presented at the hospital with injuries but have not reported to the Police.

The joint commission also enabled the commission of a Domestic Abuse Prevention Service (Perpetrator Support) which came in to action on the 1 December 2015 and is delivered by Relate Lancashire, which is working in partnership with Relate Greater Manchester South, an organisation that currently delivers a perpetrator support service. The aim of this service is to provide specialist preventative support to perpetrators of domestic abuse. This support will reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse whilst increasing perpetrator and offender knowledge of the negative impact domestic abuse has on victims and children and young people.

The introduction of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) saw an increase in referrals to the MARAC and IDVA service, as the co-located partner agencies are in a better position to work together to identify individuals who are at risk of harm.

Between April 2015 and December 2015 there have been 260 'High' and 637 'Medium' level referrals to the IDVA Service.

### 3.4 Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC)

The SDVC continues to operate from Preston Magistrates Court for South Ribble. A Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) forms part of a coordinated response to tackling domestic abuse.

### 3.5 The Sanctuary Scheme

The Sanctuary scheme works in partnership with the registered social landlords and provides an option for victims of domestic abuse to remain in their own homes who would otherwise have to move house and leave everything and everyone behind at a time when they need their support networks the most. This is done by providing additional security to their property to help them feel safer and reduce the need for them to uproot their family and move away. The service is delivered across both South Ribble and Chorley.

## Crime Reduction

### 3.6 Multi Agency Meetings

A number of multi-agency meetings and groups are in place to support crime reduction. These include:

**MATAC** (Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination) supports the Councils approach to neighbourhood working/management and aims to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour issues at a local level. It focuses on information sharing and the tackling of local issues, problematic households/individuals and problem solving. The MATAC is made up of officers from a range of partners who can all contribute towards community safety and dealing with local crime and nuisance.

**ASBRAC** (Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference) provides support for high risk victims of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and manages the risk of harm.

**Divert** meetings are an early action approach to work intensively with young offenders locally identified as being on the 'cusp' of becoming problematic offenders.

**Revolution** multi-agency pathway weekly meetings and monthly manager meetings are held to discuss the **Revolution Cohorts**. The cohorts consist of offender categories such as the Domestic Abuse Perpetrators cohort and the High Impact Acquisitive Crime cohort. The overriding principal of the Revolution approach is to break the cycle of offending by persons who pose the most significant risk to our community

### 3.7 Operations

Several operations are held during the year to target anti-social behaviour and other current seasonal issues including the following operations:

- **Churchill** - Targeting general Leyland town centre ASB.
- **Whistler** - Targeting pedal cycle thefts.
- **Hamper** - Plain clothes operation targeting insecure vehicles and buildings and raising awareness of low security and target hardening.
- **Blue jay** - Targeting drugs related criminal activity.
- **Stig** - Targeting metal theft.
- **Gambia** - Targeting persistent domestic violence offenders.
- **Bright Sparx** - High visibility presence over bonfire period.

- **Shepherd** - High visibility presence along with crime prevention advice over Christmas period.
- **Nightsafe** - Additional officers on a Friday and Saturday evenings to give presence at key times.
- **Rogue Trader** - Working with trading standards, licensing, HMRC, visiting businesses, encouraging safe trader scheme and visiting vulnerable people.
- **Cuerden Valley** - Targeting reported sexual activity and drug use in the car park.

### **3.8 Multi Agency Vehicle Check Operations**

These operations are held during the year and are supported by a number of agencies which often include teams from the Council, Police and trading standards and address common driving offences, nuisance and anti-social driving, benefit fraud, drink driving, Licensing issues and scrap theft.

### **3.9 Police and Crime Commissioner Funded Projects**

The grant funding provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner has enabled a number of specific projects to be delivered tackling cycle safety, shed and garage break ins, drug and alcohol outreach service, positive alcohol and personal safety messages.

### **4.0 Funding Position**

External funding to support the Community Safety Partnership has reduced significantly. However, the Police and Crime Commissioner provided £10,000 in grant funding which was used to fund the above projects.

For 2015/16 Cabinet contributed £9k funding for IDVA and wider Domestic Abuse services and £44,000 to part fund four PCSOs (Police and Community Support Officers). This funding commitment has been maintained for 2016/17.

### **5.0 Safer Chorley and South Ribble Community Safety Partnership Annual Conference**

The Community Safety Partnership Conference was held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and was attended by around 60 representatives including staff, councillors and partner agencies. The conference was held to discuss the key priorities for our area and help inform the Community Safety Action Plan for 2016/17.

### **6.0 Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014**

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced the provision of reformed tools and powers. The council has managed 61 Anti-Social Behaviour reports since April 2014 and has issued 1 Community Protection Notice Warning Letters.

### **7.0 Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015**

Earlier this year a new Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 was introduced and part of this Act places a duty on Local Authorities to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. In order for the Council to fulfil this duty an action plan has been developed to reduce the risk. Part of this action plan involves training for officers to recognise radicalisation and extremism and to develop internal policies to prevent extremism. A Counter Terrorism Local Plan (CTLP) has been produced. The CTLP outlines the potential risk and known threats that together, represent the current impact of extremism.

A Counter Terrorism Strategy Board (Contest) and Prevent Board are established to lead this area of work.

### **8.0 Customer Survey**

The Council's corporate survey highlighted 92% of residents with confidence in South Ribble being a safe place to live.

### **9.0 Conclusion**

It is considered that the Community Safety Partnership is making good progress and achieving good levels of performance.