

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
2 NOVEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rob Hill, Assistant Director Community Safety	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Steve Allen, Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities	
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SAFER PETERBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP BOARD REPORT

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Rob Hill – Assistant Director Community Safety	Deadline date: NA

It is recommended that the Communities Scrutiny Committee:

1. Note the mid-year progress of the work of the Safer Peterborough Partnership
2. Note the ongoing work in response to the recent motion to address Knife Crime
3. Comment and scrutinise the activity of the Safer Peterborough Partnership

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is presented to the Communities Scrutiny Committee at the request of the committee members to provide an update on mid-year progress.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report is being presented to update Communities Scrutiny Committee members on the key activity of the Safer Peterborough Partnership (SPP) Board over the last 6 months. A section is included also to update on the work undertaken in response to a recent motion requesting focus on knife crime.

2.2 This report is for the Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

2. Neighbourhood and Community Support (including cohesion and community safety)

3. TIMESCALES

3.1

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act established partnerships between local authorities, the police and police authorities, fire service, probation service, health authorities, the voluntary sector,

local residents and businesses. In Peterborough, this requirement is discharged through the SPP.

- 4.2 The aim of the SPP is to deliver safer communities as set out in the Act and other relevant legislation. In doing this the partnership develops and delivers plans to tackle crime and disorder and help create safer communities.
- 4.3 The SPP's objective is to improve integrated working to deliver safer communities across partnerships such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Integrated Care System, Safeguarding Boards and other partnership boards such as domestic abuse/sexual violence, substance misuse and the sub-regional housing board.
- 4.4 The SPP Board meets on a quarterly basis and is chaired by the Chief Executive of Cross Keys Homes.

Membership

- Peterborough City Council
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group
- National Probation Service
- Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company
- Head of Adults and Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board

The Partnership is also supported by key local agencies from both the public and voluntary sectors. Registered Social Landlords have a key role to play in addressing crime and disorder and they are represented by Cross Keys Homes.

- 4.5 At the Full Council meeting on 23 June 2021, a motion was passed asking the Partnership to address knife crime in the city. This has been adopted as part of the 'High Harm' focus strand and progress is documented in section 4.8 below.

4.6 SPP Priorities 2020 - 2023

1. High Harm / High Risk Offenders (this now includes focus on Knife Crime through Operation Guardian)
2. Drug Intervention / Operation Spotlight
3. Street Working / Sexual Exploitation

4.7 Problem Solving Group (PSG)

The SPP Board has now fully established the Problem-Solving Group (PSG) to bring together partners to assess and respond proactively to community-based challenges. The overarching aim of the group is to be an operational delivery arm of the SPP Board, managed and coordinated by representatives from the Police and PCC.

The PSG meets monthly to respond to a wide variety of location-based issues. Emerging problems can be referred into this group to direct shared partnership activity most effectively.

4.8 Key Updates: High Harm / High Risk Offenders

Op Luscombe (Begging and ASB in the city)

- A joint operation between Police / Council Enforcement team and Homeless Outreach Teams is underway to tackle begging and ASB in the city

- 3 individuals have received Community Protection Warnings and are now progressing to a Community Protection notice to prevent them from begging
- 2 individuals in breach of their Community Protection Notice are being escalated to a Criminal Behaviour Order which will effectively ban them from the city area
- 10 individuals are being 'case managed' for escalation to the above pathway as they have failed to engage with support teams
- Supportive engagement with individuals is prioritised to divert people away from begging prior to any enforcement activity. Through this activity we were able to support a vulnerable female who was being exploited into begging by a violent partner. This led to his arrest, and we were able to safeguard the female from further harm
- Op Luscombe has been recognised as an area of success and received a Chief Constable's award.
- Building on this success, we are exploring the option of extending the operations to wider areas of the city.

Operation Guardian / Knife Crime response

Operation Guardian has been developed to bring together partners and reduce knife-enabled crime and habitual knife carrying across Peterborough (and Fenland).

- Between 1 January 2020 and 31 March 2021, 1,769 non-domestic abuse-related crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument were recorded in Cambridgeshire. Almost half of these were recorded in Peterborough (40.7 percent) and 8.4 percent in Fenland, equating to nearly 900 offences in just over 12 months.
- Cambridgeshire recorded the 16th highest number of serious offences involving a knife in England and Wales (worked out as the number of offences per 100,000 population between 01 January 2020 and 31 March 2021 recorded by the ONS 2020).
- Cambridgeshire also recorded the sixth highest number of attempted murders involving a knife/sharp instrument during that same period.
- Analysis has shown young people aged 16 to 20 generate the highest volume of knife crime and produce the greatest amount of harm.
- Individuals aged 16 to 20 are significantly more likely to become a victim of knife crime, with 16.9 percent of knife crime victims falling into this age bracket.
- Network analysis has shown about 35 percent of those in the 16 to 20 age group are linked to each other either directly or indirectly via associates. This group incorporates links to four known drug lines.
- Hotspot areas/wards have been identified in Peterborough as the Central Ward, North Ward, Park Ward, Bretton, East Ward, Dogsthorpe and Ravensthorpe.

A '4Ps' plan has been produced to provide a short, medium and long-term strategy in response to this. Each strand has specific elements:

- **Prepare:** Planning to reduce the impact of knife crime (on victims and communities)
- **Prevent:** Stopping people engaging in knife crime
- **Protect:** Increasing protection against knife crime
- **Pursue:** Prosecuting knife-carrying criminals

Specific aims from the 4Ps plan:

- Comprehensive and transparent media engagement – publicising the operation and its successes, but also carefully publicising the extent of the problem to achieve public support
- Use of community leads/partners to enhance messaging to support police and engage with the public
- Educate parents re behavioural changes to use parental influence and encourage surrenders of weapons
- Internal communications focusing on knife crime, recoveries, good news, positive impact of stop and search

- Increased use of social media to promote activity using #o and #OpGuardian to make habitual knife carrying unacceptable within our communities
- Publicise 'two strikes' legislation for possession of knives (Section 28 of and Schedule 5 to the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015)
- Engage local and national media on the strategic and operational work
- Promote social change to make knife carrying socially unacceptable and use our communities to amplify this message
- Publicise locations and the number of surrenders at knife bins to enhance community confidence
- Promote the use of Crimestoppers to gather information from the community
- Encourage the use of online reporting to encourage younger members of the community to report knife crime
- Increase engagement with Schools, Colleges, Pupil Referral Units (including pupils, teachers, and parents). Encourage collaboration and enhanced engagement to reduce knife crime
- Overlay and assess all partner data, to fully understand the extent of knife crime in Cambs (utilising hospital data, data from schools and other partners)
- Develop two-way flow of information / intelligence sharing with partners, ensuring agreements in place with NHS, GPs re timely sharing of information pertaining to Knife Injury Victims (KIVs)
- Working with partners to take a comprehensive approach to offending, identifying potential causes (such as abuse, drugs, alcohol) and use targeted interventions
- Multi-agency referral pathway for people at risk or involved in knife crime for early intervention
- Use of voluntary organisation for interventions and diversion activity at key locations such as schools, hospitals, prisons, custody
- Focus on looked after children to maximise safeguarding in relation to knife enable crime, working with partners to develop a better understanding of children in care homes and how we can divert them

Whilst new, the OP Guardian initiative was officially launched on 18th October and over the coming months will see targeted activity to implement the aims outlined above. A full progress update will be provided to committee in the end of year report.

4.9 **Key Updates: Drug Intervention - Operation Spotlight**

The working group continues under the 4 P's model and using the following objectives:

- **PREPARE** - To work in partnership to understand the scale and impact of drug supply and drug related serious street-based violence in Peterborough and be responsive to it
- **PROTECT** – To work in partnership to identify those at risk of drug related crime or those vulnerable due to being involved in drug supply and drug related serious street-based violence.
- **PREVENT** – To work in partnership to support and divert individuals away from involvement in drug supply and drug related serious street-based violence.
- **PURSUE** – To robustly and tenaciously target those high-risk offenders involved in drug supply and drug related serious street-based violence.

The group continue to discuss and provide oversight for operational matters, good practice, learning and information sharing across the partnership group and good progress is being made in line with the agreed delivery plan. Highlights of recent discussions include:

- Introduction of the cuckooing toolkits across partnerships
- Educational work with landlords around persons vulnerable to exploitation / cuckooing.
- Identification of locations to roll out Naloxone training to locations to protect the vulnerable

- An intensification period in May 2021 ran for two weeks alongside the Countrywide National County Lines Week of Action. Plans are being drawn up for an additional two intensification periods throughout the remainder of the year

4.10 **Key Updates: Street sex working and street exploitation**

A tactical project board has been established to focus on three strands: Protecting Victims, Disrupting Offenders, and Supporting Communities.

This board is responsible for the co-ordination and support of the work streams, for example by identifying funding opportunities, co-ordinating communications strategies, and procuring and undertaking academic research.

Protecting Victims Strand:

- Monthly Victims Meetings continue to provide opportunities for good problem solving. The Chair reports that partners are actively engaging in reducing the vulnerabilities that women face in the community and other areas of their lives.
- The Victims meeting is currently overseeing the risk/resilience and outcomes for 36 women with 16 deemed as high/very high risk.
- Where acute needs have been identified outside of these meetings, an escalation processes have enabled good problem solving, for example working with Housing to identify an agreed way forward. These cases are escalated to the Single Person Homelessness Task & Target meeting (held bi-weekly).
- Empowering Women Everywhere (E.W.E.) Housing Project – a property to house vulnerable workers has been developed. The aim is to provide secure housing and reduce the risk of continued exploitation. We are currently undertaking recruitment campaign for management and safety of the residents in the property which should be operational before Christmas.

Disrupting Offenders Strand:

- A number of 'out of court disposals' have been issued to kerb crawlers

Communities Strand:

- We are establishing a new Neighbourhood watch scheme to expand community support and joint working in an area subject to elevated levels of street working.
- Monthly engagement sessions with residents / Council and Police leads have been implemented to discuss the issue and to drive forward joint activity.
- A detailed assessment has been completed of public spaces that attract sex working. Target hardening initiatives are underway including:
 - Advance works underway to install new CCTV cameras in hotspot areas
 - The Council have worked with landowners to install fencing to secure a disused area of land
 - Activity to remove of graffiti; litter clear up and general tidy up of overgrown trees and planted areas.
- Safer Streets 3 (SS3) bid – We have successfully secured £471K funding from the Government for SS3. The funding will be used to support and improve CCTV coverage over the Christmas/New Year period, recruit taxi marshals to support lone women and/or vulnerable persons, digital media campaign(s) to target offenders and development of a bespoke training package. A project manager has been appointed.

4.11 **Key Updates: Location-based Issues**

- Alderman's Drive Peterborough - extensive ASB taking place at the location with multiple demands on police and council services. The PSG co-ordinated the issuing of ASB contracts to be issued to offenders. This has led to a significant reduction in complaints.
- Central Park Peterborough – Drug use and youth ASB in the park. Coordination through

the PSG led to joint working by PCC and the police resulting in community penalty notices being issued and several arrests. As a result, calls for service have been reduced.

- Huntly Road – Extensive ASB being generated at one address. Joint working with council & police resulted in the issuing of a Community Protection warning. The main subject of the ASB was eventually prosecuted resulting in the service of a 12-month alcohol treatment order and the provision of support for mental ill health.
- Millfield Area – several problems have been impacting upon the community within Millfield and as such there has been excellent joint working between Cross Keys Homes, PCC's Environmental Health and Cambridgeshire constabulary to tackle these under Operation Siphon. Days of action resulted in the following:
 - 9 counts of fly-tipping were resolved within 24-hour period by environmental officers and 15 parking tickets issued by enforcement officers
 - 1 warrant was executed at an address – 2 offensive weapons seized
 - 1 person arrested for drugs offences
 - 2 cars seized for no insurance
 - 12 drivers stopped and advised due to manner and speed of driving
 - A person being 'cuckooed' was identified and is now being supported. The exploiter was arrested for breaching his CPN (community protection notice), prohibiting him from returning to this area.
- Hammonds Drive Peterborough – an individual was causing significant concerns for the residents - ASB causing harassment alarm and distress. After a joint investigation, the subject was prosecuted, and a Community Behaviour Order has been obtained, significantly reducing ASB within the area.

4.12 Other notable PSG updates:

- A **Youth PSG** meeting structure has now been agreed by PSG partners and will commence in November 2021. This will fold into the existing PSG meeting structure but will form a stand-alone section at the beginning of each PSG meeting.
- **Safer Streets (2) bid.** Funding has been secured from the Home Office and has been used to install extra street lighting and an additional CCTV camera in a high crime location. Surplus funding from a previous bid has been repurposed and will be used to install additional cameras and general cleaning up including fly tipping.

4.13 Update on the work of the SPP Board, in response to Covid-19

The SPP leads the community response to COVID-19, supported by the SPP Delivery Group. Over the last 6 months, the SPPDG members have focussed on several key initiatives and activity including:

- The Peterborough Hub continues to offer support to vulnerable residents across Peterborough. The team supports residents with a variety of issues including enquiries relating to Test and Trace and self-isolation, supply of food parcels, support to people who are financially struggling from benefit changes/delays and fuel poverty. The team has also supported with shopping for the elderly, people who have needed help following discharge from hospital, women referred by the Women's Resource Centre and dealing with enquiries relating to Covid certificates for travelling purposes.
- The County Hub took over the day-to-day management of the Peterborough Hub on 20 September 2021 as the current Hub Navigator in Peterborough takes up an interim role supporting vaccine uptake in the city.
- A countywide Tackling Financial Vulnerability group has been looking at what data could be shared to support people who are struggling at an earlier stage before their problems escalate. The group are working on mapping cheaper tariffs within the utility sector and have made strong links with Anglian Water who now sit on the group.
- A food poverty working group has been established to develop a countywide food strategy. Focus areas have been agreed including food poverty and inequality, recognition of economic status and finance standing in terms of accessing food support,

- food nutrition, stability, and climate change.
- Financial advice/support is available at the Peterborough Food Bank through a partnership with the Citizens Advice Bureau.
 - Members of the SPPDG are now linked into the Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough group (TWIP). TWIP has approximately 40 members, employability specialists and includes the Princes Trust, REED and organisations who are more supportive socially, working with e.g., young people not in employment, education or training and children receiving social services care. At the meetings, members update each other on opportunities generally and for certain groups. They look at levels of worklessness and levels of need and try to match.
 - The No Resource to Public Funds (NRPF) working group was established to monitor the potential impact of legislation changes to those who will no longer be eligible for assistance / housing support. The group has developed a multi-agency NRPF protocol and SWAY training package:
<https://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/home/covid-19/e-learning-during-covid-19/>
 - The Wonder Women project was launched in a number of areas across Peterborough with a range of workshops providing opportunities for women to voice what they want and have funding to introduce further activities.
 - The Think Communities Fund launched in September offering community organisations the opportunity to bid for £500-£5000 for community activity, delivered in partnership with the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. Several workshops have been delivered to promote the fund and support to apply. Deadline for applications was 1st November 2021.
 - The Think Communities Place Team has supported local litter picks working with young people on the National Citizenship Scheme and linking to the Wombles.
 - The Light Project has been working with Cross Keys Homes, Longhurst, Thomas Deacon Academy and the council's housing team to ensure that when families go into temporary accommodation, schools are made aware and linked together. The Head of the Thomas Deacon Academy is leading on this with schools and is at a stage where this can be mainstreamed across the city.
 - An Enhanced Community Support Group has been providing support to vulnerable communities in respect of Covid, with an emphasis on improving compliance, prevention and vaccination confidence and provides a voice for those groups to influence place-based priorities relevant to the needs of those residents.
 - Community outreach teams have worked with Youth Inspired to support young people to comply with restrictions.
 - Delivery of an Alcohol and Drug Awareness Campaign for Peterborough as the city comes out of lockdown, helping people to consider their changing relationship with substances and promote availability of support services. Feedback on the campaign:
 - Messages were seen on social media platforms hosted by the Council (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) a total of 65,000 times during the week.
 - Facebook was the platform most viewed with 40,000 out of the 65,000 views
 - A total of 58 shares took place which would have reached additional people with more views for which no data is available but would have been extra exposure
 - How Are You (HAY) Peterborough is part of the Peterborough Community Mental Health Exemplar. Key activity includes:
 - Public Health: In April, The Peterborough Exemplar Steering group approved a Public Health consultant and Data Analyst role within the project. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health Inequalities Strategy, published by the Health Inequalities task and finish group (Ford, 2020), identified “stark inequalities in the social determinants of health, risk factors, health care provision and clinical outcomes across socio-economic, disadvantaged and inclusion health groups” across the county, and suggested a strategy to tackle these inequalities. The Strategy explicitly says that we need more specialist Public Health intelligence

about both existing mental health provision and in developing indicators of mental health need before we can start to address inequalities. These new roles will make this possible.

- Investment in Mental Health Care for Minority Ethnic Groups: a fund was launched to support those experiencing severe mental illness within minority ethnic groups in the city which has resulted in the identification of 9 projects ready to be formally signed off.
- Physical Health Checks - the number of people with a severe mental illness (SMI) who are accessing physical health and lifestyle services (such as [Healthy You](#)) has increased. This is thanks to the support of the Specialist Health Care Assistants (SHCAs) who provide physical health checks for this group. They are offering additional appointments after the physical health check to support people with referral and access to this support. Further information about [Healthy You](#), including their [Eastern European Health Trainers](#), can be found on the [H.A.Y. Peterborough website](#).

Moving forwards, the SPP Delivery Group members have agreed to focus on 4 key priorities:

- Food and fuel poverty
- Mental health
- Employment
- Support to young people

Members also acknowledged that substance misuse overlaps all these priorities and will continue to be a key focus for the group.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Not applicable

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 The Scrutiny Committee is expected to review the information contained within this report and respond / provide feedback accordingly.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Scrutiny Committee members to feel assured that appropriate progress is being made on the SPP priorities.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The Scrutiny Committee must be kept informed of progress against the priorities identified and meeting outcomes.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

Legal Implications

9.2 There are no significant implications within this category.

Equalities Implications

9.3 There are no significant implications within this category.

Rural Implications

9.4 There are no significant implications within this category.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 N/A

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