

REPORT TO: CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE GWYNEDD LOCAL AUTHORITY

DATE: 4TH MARCH 2014

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SUBJECT: ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To provide Members with an overview of the Anglesey and Gwynedd Community Safety Partnership's (CSP) activities over the past year.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Community Safety Partnership is required to formally report to this committee on an annual basis to provide an overview of activities undertaken over the previous twelve months. This ensures that the Partnership meets its obligations under sections 19 and 20 of the Police & Criminal Justice Act 2006. The legislation came into effect in Wales on 1 October 2009 through the Crime & Disorder (Overview & Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

The committee duty is to scrutinise the work of the Partnership, and not that of the individual members.

2.02 **Local Authorities** have a statutory duty under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, and the subsequent amendments by the 2002 and the 2006 Police and Justice Act, to work in partnership with the **Police, Health service, Probation and Fire/rescue service** to address the local community safety agenda. Collectively they make up the Community Safety Partnership. The Partnership has a duty to tackle –

- Crime and Disorder
- Substance Misuse
- Reduce re-offending
- Undertake a strategic assessment to identify priorities (now undertaken on a regional basis)
- Have plans in place to tackle these priority issues (a plan now exists on a regional and local basis)

2.03 There has been a partnership in existence in both Anglesey and Gwynedd since 1999. To support their work, the Partnership is served by a core team of local authority and Police officers. The support teams both within the Local Authorities and the Police have decreased in capacity, and now work on a two County basis.

3.00 **PARTNERSHIP RESTRUCTURE**

3.01 Since 2012/13, Anglesey and Gwynedd have undertaken a partnership rationalisation process. The main change has been that of merging the two Counties into one Partnership structure, the Local Service Boards (LSB) were also merged, and became a two County Board, and also became the statutory CSP. Since then, the latter decision has been reversed, and the CSP re-established as a statutory group sitting under the LSB.

3.02 Over the past year great progress has also been made in the way Community Safety Partnerships in North Wales have worked together. The establishment of the North Wales Safer Communities Board (SCB) in July 2012 has been the most significant regional development. This Board represents a partnership between all the statutory authorities across the region (as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998), along with the voluntary sector, Welsh Government, and the Police Commissioner. The overall aim of the Board is to introduce greater consistency in this area of work, whilst allowing opportunities to share expertise and work more effectively and efficiently. Work is ongoing in relation to establish the status and function of this Board, and whether or not in time it will become the statutory CSP for the region, this is currently under discussion.

3.03 In addition, this current year has been a transition year for the Substance Misuse agenda. Having developed a North Wales Area planning Boards (APB) for substance Misuse under the guidance of the Welsh Government, we are now working to transform the current structures to fit with those which will be required by the Welsh Government by April of next year. The main changes are –

- The development of a regional Board, which will be required to discharge the statutory function of CSP's on a regional level, the APB has already been established (this may mean that in the future there will be no local Substance misuse action teams (SMAT))
- The development of a regional substance misuse commissioning strategy for North Wales, this work is in progress
- The transition of the substance misuse fund into a regional grant as of April this year, instead of a County based grant. The grant for North Wales was increased this year due to a change in the funding formula
- The requirement to have a regional banker/host for the grant. In North Wales, the banker is Wrexham Local Authority, they will

receive the grant from April of next year onwards and hold all the contracts with providers across the region

- A reorganisation of the current resources (funded from the grant) which support the current structures, to enable support of the new regional structures. The new structure is yet to be agreed, however, it is accepted that there will be fewer coordinators in place for the future, and they will not be working on a local basis.

4.00 CONSIDERATIONS

4.01 It is evident that partnership working improves how agencies tackle crime and disorder. Rates of recorded crime continued to fall. Below is a summary of some of the key findings:

There are fewer recorded crimes in Anglesey and Gwynedd now than 4 years ago

There are fewer recorded crimes in Gwynedd now than 4 years ago

Comparing the 9 months between April and December in 2010/11 to 2013/14;

In Gwynedd there were 756 fewer recorded crimes, a 14% reduction.

This has been contributed to in the last 9 months by;

- 49 less violence with injury crimes, a 9% reduction.
- 19 fewer non domestic burglaries, 6% reduction.
- 355 fewer incidents of criminal damage and arson, a 30% reduction.
- 178 fewer incidents of public disorder, a 42% reduction.
- 53 fewer incidents of vehicle crime, a 17% reduction.

4.02 The Community Safety Partnership's Strategic Plan is now a regional plan, the first North Wales plan is currently in draft form – priority areas are shown in the table below

4.03 North Wales Strategic assessment priorities –

- Rape & Serious Sexual Offences
- Burglary Dwelling
- Domestic Abuse
- Alcohol related violence with Injury
- Organised Crime Groups causing the greatest harm

It was agreed the following are also significant, and need attention –

- Shoplifting
- Theft from a Motor Vehicle

4.05 North Wales plan priority areas -

Priority	Outcomes	Performance Indicators
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	<p>People are more confident, and aware, to report domestic abuse and sexual violence offences</p> <p>Young people are aware of the nature and implications of sexual violence, and where to access support</p> <p>Deal effectively first time with high risk cases of domestic abuse through successful MARAC intervention</p>	<p>Number of domestic violence incidents reported to North Wales Police</p> <p>Number of sexual offences reported to North Wales Police</p> <p>Well informed young people in relation to sexual violence (monitored via post intervention surveys)</p> <p>Number of cases referred more than once to MARAC</p>
Acquisitive Crime	<p>Identify locally emerging trends in relation to acquisitive crime and develop targeted and appropriate responses to those trends</p> <p>Jointly address those who cause the greatest harm in our communities</p>	<p>Number of reported offences of acquisitive crime</p> <p>Number of offences committed by repeat offenders in relation to acquisitive crimes</p>
Anti-Social Behaviour	<p>Support high risk and repeat victims of antisocial behaviour</p> <p>Providing appropriate interventions to locally identified anti-social behaviour problems in our communities</p>	<p>Number of repeat high risk victims of Anti Social Behaviour</p> <p>Number of reported anti-social behaviour incidents</p>
Substance Misuse	<p>Improving availability and quality of education, prevention and</p>	<p>Meeting the Welsh Government's Key Performance Indicators</p>

	treatment services and related support, with the emphasis on the relationship between alcohol, drugs and crime	on substance misuse services
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5.00 **2013/14 ACTIVITIES**

During the past 18 months, the Partnership has been subjected to a significant amount of restructuring, both on a regional and local basis. All the grant funds received by the CSP have been subjected to changes. The supporting resources have been reduced, and some regional restructuring processes are still to be completed. However, The CSP is committed to undertaking the most effective and manageable activity in order to meet statutory obligations. Listed below are the main activities.

5.01 **Regional Activities and Progress**

The North Wales Safer Communities Board has now been established, CSP managers, Local members and Local Authority Directors, represent Local Authorities on the Board, the following has been agreed -

- i. Approval of a North Wales Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment for 2013
- ii. Agreement and approval to produce a regional Community Safety Strategic Plan, draft attached
- iii. Strategic oversight of the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board for (substance misuse)
- iv. Co-ordinated response to the Welsh Government's 10,000 Safer Lives Initiative –which relates to domestic abuse
- v. Consistency of approach to regionally commissioned grants, namely the Youth Crime Prevention Fund and Substance Misuse Action Plan Fund –both of which are now regional grants
- vi. Membership and participation of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), which enables the required relationship between CSP's and PCC's.
- vii. Recommendation of a Commissioning Framework for the PCC

All actions have been completed, or are progressing to plan.

5.02 **Local Activities and Progress**

At a local level some of the key milestones have been as follows:

- i. Restructured the CSP support structures, moving to a two County

- structure.
- ii. Leading the development of a regional Community Safety Plan, and local action plan
 - iii. Review of all former CSP sub groups, in order to assess if our reduced resources are being used in the most effective way
 - iv. Co-ordinating the regional response to the 10,000 Safer Lives initiative –which relates to domestic abuse developments
 - v. Obtaining formal approval of funding for the following grants: Community Safety Fund, Substance Misuse Action Plan Fund, Domestic Abuse Services Grant and the Youth Crime prevention Fund for 2013/14, and preparing for the new regional grant structure
 - vi. Working jointly with the Safeguarding children Board, both in relation to the launch of practice guidance, but also in relation to the Domestic Homicide Review in Gwynedd, (the first in Wales)
 - vii. Established a two County group to take forward the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) function
 - viii. Further delivery of training to multi agency groups around the use of the CAADA (national accreditation) ‘Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment Risk Assessment’ tool for Domestic Abuse.
 - ix. Commissioning specific ‘recovery’ initiatives in relation to local substance misuse services in Anglesey and Gwynedd (which are at the forefront of such development in North Wales)
 - x. Supporting a local substance misuse service user support group in Anglesey and Gwynedd (AGRO)
 - xi. Contribute to the new two County LSB plan
 - xii. Awareness campaign to target older people misusing alcohol in Anglesey and Gwynedd
 - xiii. Taken part in the Welsh Government review of domestic abuse services
 - xiv. Undertaken a Domestic Homicide review (not yet completed) since it became a responsibility for CSP’s in 2011 (first in Wales)
 - xv. Moved to a ‘process system control’ method of monitoring priority areas, so that Partnerships are able to operate in a strategic manner
 - xvi. Have put in place a domestic abuse workplace policy in Gwynedd Local Authority
 - xvii. Reviewed the initiatives funded with the police Commissioner fund (prior to this year came to us from the Home Office), which has decreased year on year.

All actions have been completed, or are progressing to plan.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- 5.03
 - i. Complete the review of subgroups, so that the CSP becomes as effective and resilient as it can be for the future
 - ii. Continued support and input into the work of the North Wales Safer

- Communities Board, and respond effectively to the changes that may yet come to fruition in terms of Partnership structures
- iii. Continued support and input into the North Wales Community Safety Plan
 - iv. Work effectively within the new regional structures, to both safeguard local need when required, and identify opportunities on a regional basis when appropriate
 - v. Facilitate and respond to the next three year review of the local domestic abuse MARAC (Multi agency risk assessment conference, for victims) structures in both Counties, which began in December
 - vi. Implementing the regional work programme for the 10,000 Safer Lives initiatives
 - vii. Work with the APB restructuring process, to ensure that we are able to meet both regional and local needs within the new support structure, and manage effectively the changes to existing posts
 - viii. Review links with Licensing and Trading standard services, to ensure effective processes for test purchasing etc
 - ix. Respond to the outcome of the Welsh Government review on domestic abuse services in Wales
 - x. Work with the Police Commissioners office to review and progress the work of the Anti Social Coordinator(s) work, which is funded from the Commissioners fund.
 - xi. Contributing to the LSB Integrated plan, and deliver update reports as required
 - xii. Develop regional expenditure plans for the Youth Crime Prevention Fund, which has also become a regional fund, to ensure best use of available resources locally
 - xiii. Participating in the Integrated Offender Management Strategy Group for North Wales

6.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.01 To note the contents of the report.