

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CRIME AND DISORDER) GWYNEDD LOCAL AUTHORITY

DATE: 13 DECEMBER 2018

REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR NIA JEFFREYS
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SUBJECT: ANNUAL UPDATE BY THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
(GWYNEDD AND ANGLESEY)

1.00	PURPOSE OF THE REPORT
1.01	To provide an overview to Members of the activities of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership (CSP) during the 2017/18 year, and developments for 2018/19
2.00	BACKGROUND
2.01	The Community Safety Partnership is required to formally report to this committee each year to present an overview of activities. This ensures that the Partnership delivers its obligations in accordance with sections 19 and 20 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2006. The committee's duty is to scrutinise the Partnership's work, rather than the work of individual members (bodies).
2.02	There is a statutory duty on Local Authorities in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and subsequent amendments because of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2002 and 2006, to work in partnership with the Police, the Health service, the Probation Service and the Fire and Rescue Service , to address the local community safety agenda. These are the main agencies that make up the Community Safety Partnership. The Partnership has a duty to deal with - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and Disorder • Substance Misuse • Reducing reoffending • Delivering a strategic assessment to identify priorities (work that is now undertaken on a regional basis) • Putting plans in place to deal with these priorities (a plan now exists on a regional and local basis)
2.03	A partnership has existed in Anglesey and in Gwynedd since 1998. However, it has operated as a two-county Partnership for the past five and a half years.
3.00	THE PARTNERSHIP'S PRIORITIES/DOCUMENTS FOR SCRUTINY
3.01	The partnership works to an annual plan, which is based on a three-year regional plan. The 2017/18 end of year performance report and 2018/19 plan, are attached (appendices 1,2)
3.02	Seven priorities attract the Partnership's attention. Here are the priorities for 2017/18 and 2018/19. These priorities are based on a strategic assessment. They are -

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing victim based crimes (acquisitive crimes only) • Reducing Antisocial Behaviour • Supporting vulnerable people to prevent them becoming victims of crime • Raising confidence to report incidents of domestic abuse • Raising confidence to report sexual abuse • Addressing substance misuse in the area • Reducing Re-offending
4.00	MAIN MESSAGES DERIVING FROM THE ACTIVITY OF 2017/18
	<p>The Partnership's end of year report is attached. The report shows the situation in relation to the above-mentioned priorities, namely -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim Based Crime has increased in Gwynedd by 13.3% in the first half of 2018/19. Analysis has evidenced that this is an increase in crime recording effectiveness rather than an increase in offending; these changes have had a particular impact on the number of recorded Violence and Sexual offences. Changes in the recording of incidents of stalking and harassment have also contributed to an increase across the force area. Prior to April 2018 these incidents would only have been recorded when they were the principal offence; however, they are now being recorded for all cases. For instance, if someone reported being assaulted and disclosed that it was part of an ongoing harassment case only the assault would have been recorded. Since April 2018 both the assault AND the harassment are being recorded as separate crimes. Gwynedd is slightly above the average compared to its Most Similar Group (MSG) and is anticipated to remain stable. • Gwynedd has experienced a reduction of 6.3% in Acquisitive Crime, including residential burglary, in 2018/19 when compared to the same period the previous year. In comparison to its MSG, acquisitive crime in Gwynedd is slightly below the average. It was noted that there had been an increase in business related burglaries and offences of theft from motor vehicles in August 2018 within the Caernarfon Town area, therefore an operational order was prepared and a plain clothes operation began during peak hours and targeted the areas/streets that had been identified as hotspot areas. • The number of repeat victims of crime (3 or more in 12 months) continues to increase in Gwynedd in 2018/19 when compared to the same period the previous year. This pattern is evident across North Wales as a whole. Force wide, over 70 percent of repeat victims are victims of violence; as changes in recording processes have had a significant impact on violent crime levels, it has resulted in more repeat victims being identified. • Antisocial behaviour reported to North Wales Police is highly seasonal with a significantly higher number of incidents reported during summer months when compared to winter months. Recorded ASB levels in Gwynedd are

	<p>lower in 2018/19 when compared to the previous year. Repeat victims, locations and high-risk vulnerable victims are referred for review to a monthly multi-agency tasking group. Caernarfon has been identified as a hotspot area for ASB, which has primarily been youth related. An operation has been run to tackle this along with diversionary activities, which have been offered to youths over the summer period. An evaluation of the project has identified that it was a success as the number of ASB related incidents in Caernarfon over the Summer period this year was lower than last year, with the most success being in the wards of Menai, Cadnant and Seiont. These wards were causing the highest demand prior to the operation and activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hate Crime in Gwynedd has increased in the first half of 2018/19, when compared to the same period for 2017/18, with 71 offences being recorded year-to-date in comparison to 66 for the previous year. • With a national focus on crime recording integrity, changes in the recording of victim based crime have had a particular impact on domestic related offences. As a result, reports of Domestic Crime being identified in Gwynedd have increased. Repeat victims of DA in Gwynedd however are lower in 2018/19 when compared to previous year. • Recorded levels of High Risk Sexual Violence in Gwynedd have decreased by 14.7% in comparison to the previous year. In comparison to its Most Similar Group, sexual violence in Gwynedd is above average. • Repeat offenders are people aged over 18 who have committed an offence on three or more occasions in 12 months, therefore the value for each month is a snapshot of the previous 12 months. The number of repeat offenders in Gwynedd remains stable, with a slight decrease in comparison to the previous year.
5.00	MAIN SUCCESSES DURING 2017/18
5.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 34 actions in the 2017/18 plan, at the end of the year, 33 were green (achieved), and one was amber (work done but not completed). • The one amber action was pertinent to the completion of the Gwynedd Domestic Homicide review (DHR). This action was revised in the current plan (new DHR) as the completion of a DHR can rarely be achieved within a 12-month period. • The partnership has also revised the performance measures it uses within the plan, we believe the new measures will give a clearer and more accurate picture. • The partnership has seen a change in the way that Anti-Social Behaviour is being tackled. The Police have led on new multi-agency groups, in order to offer more early intervention. This includes a group which meets weekly,

consisting of all housing related services, both statutory and third sector, the Police and other partners.

- A successful campaign was held in November at Ysbyty Gwynedd to raise awareness of domestic abuse amongst the public - in line with the National White Ribbon Campaign
- A campaign was held to raise awareness of crime, substance misuse, sexual abuse and keeping safe for students in Bangor during Freshers week
- The Partnership spent the grants in full in 2017/18 and we anticipate the same in this financial year
- In relation to the situation pertaining to Domestic Homicide reviews, the two County partnership is currently leading on two (both in Gwynedd) one has recently been submitted to the Home Office Quality Assurance panel.
- An operational group in Anglesey – called Vulnerable And Risk Management meeting (VARM), is currently being evaluated. The panel, which, has representation from Social Care, Health and the Police, work together to meet the needs of individuals with possible mental health issues, which cause a high demand for services. We are now working to a possible pilot of the same structure in Gwynedd, probably in Meirionnydd.
- The requirements of the new Welsh Government Act on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) continue to develop. In terms of the new statutory requirements, we have already –
 - Appointed a new regional Advisor
 - Established a regional Board to oversee the development of a new regional strategy and commissioning process
 - Started on the process of reorganisation for the supporting team for this agenda. The future team will be a regional resource, as opposed to the local co-ordinators we currently have in place.
 - Developed a regional VAWDASV strategy, which has been accepted by Welsh Government, and recently agreed by the Cabinet
- One of the main requirements of the Wales VAWDASV Act is the roll out of the National Training framework. This required all Local Authority staff to receive training at specific levels on Domestic Abuse. This is not an easy task, and is proving to be challenging
- Discussions have begun within some services, to identify potential champions and applicants who are qualified to deliver and undertake Groups 2 and 3 (respectively) of the National Training Framework
- The new two County substance misuse service for children and young people has been establishing itself over this period, the team of 5, is now in place – and building on networks and joint working across the two Counties. The partnership has also been successful in retaining money from the, now, regional grant for VAWDASV, to commission a further 12 months of the

	<p>Caring Dads programme. A voluntary course, which aims to improve the attitudes and behaviour of problem fathers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this period, the partnership sought to undertake a process of consultation with the public, to seek their view on crime and disorder matters, and most importantly to see how safe our citizens feel in our communities. Of the 987 who responded to the questionnaire 94% felt safe or relatively safe during the daytime, and 77% at night. The main worry for residents was the lack of Police on the streets, followed by drug and alcohol issues in the community. An additional 48 young people (under 25) were asked the same questions, and they responded as above at 88% and 61% (appendix 3) • Emerging, as a significant challenge to North Wales, as in most other areas across the UK in recent times, has been the County Lines agenda (organised drug gangs). There is a significant threat to North Wales from such gangs, coming from the Manchester and Merseyside areas and establishing drug dealing operations. Much awareness raising has taken place over the last few months, and a two County Organised Crime Gangs group has been set up, led by the Police. • The 7 designated public place orders (DPPO) which existed in Gwynedd have now been through the appropriate channels to be changed into Public Space protection orders (PSPO) these orders are in place to assist the Police in dealing with alcohol related antisocial behaviour. We are currently in the early stages of considering a new PSPO for areas within Bangor. • The capital investment for improving the Craig Hyfryd building in Holyhead, where substance misuse provision is based, has been approved by Welsh Government. We are currently awaiting the Health Board to sign off for the development to go forwards. We are also in discussion with Health and other partners, as regards the possibility of being part of the health centre development in Bangor, under the regeneration plans, but we are in the very early stages of this development as yet.
6.00	THE MAIN MILESTONES DURING 2018/19/20
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sadly, the partnership is conducting two Domestic Homicide Reviews at present, resulting from two deaths in Gwynedd, one in July of 2016 has recently been submitted to the Home Office. The other having taken place in July 2017 is still at a critical stage. The Partnership has a statutory duty to undertake this review. There will be a certain level of commitment and support resources taken up with this activity during the course of this year again.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking the process of considering a new Public Space Protection Order for Bangor, along with partner agencies, applying due diligence to the process before it goes to Cabinet for decision • During this period, Welsh Government commissioned a further review into community safety on a whole of Wales basis. The main findings have been shared with partners locally, however we still await a detailed plan of the Welsh Governments new strategy on this for Wales. The aim is to have a blueprint for justice matters in Wales • Continue to work on the transformation of the VAWDASV agenda onto a regional footing. • Use the local MARAC (multi agency risk assessment conferences –looking at domestic abuse cases) steering group as a conduit to feed into the Regional MARAC review process. Making sure that lessons from the DHR, where pertinent, also feed into that review. • Implementation of the attached plan. Some of the main developments are – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitating increased awareness of <i>scams</i> between the Anglesey adult social care service and the trading standards service ○ Work with the Police to identify ways of evidencing the need for continued PSPO’s (put in place by the LA) ○ Assess the effectiveness of our new outcome measure ○ Ensure that the local MARAC (Multiagency risk assessment conference – dealing with domestic abuse victims) is fully engaged and contributes to the North Wales MARAC review, which is being led by the Police. • Facilitating a targeted Domestic Abuse awareness session for workers who deliver support for over 16 year olds through the Gwynedd Social care service
7.00	RECOMMENDATIONS
7.01	To note the contents of the report and attached documents, and state whether or not the Scrutiny Committee supports the priorities and future direction of the work
8.00	APPENDICES
8.01	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2017/18 End of Year report 2. 2018/19 Action Plan 3. Snapshot of public consultation 2017/18