

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

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2019

REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR DAFYDD MEURIG
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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 2018-19 year, and developments for 2019-20
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 since 2013-14
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 2018-19 end of year performance report and 2019 -20 plan, are attached (appendices 1,2)
3.02	Seven priorities attract the Partnership's attention. Here are the priorities for 2018-19 and 2019-20. 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 2018-19
	<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"> • In 2018/19, Gwynedd saw increases in Victim Based Crime of 13.5%. Analysis evidenced that these increases were due to improvements in crime recording effectiveness, which came into effect in April 2018, rather than an increase in offending. There are again increases in Gwynedd this year-to-date; however, the levels of victim-based crime have stabilised over the last few months. The level of victim-based crime in Gwynedd in comparison to its Most Similar Groups (MSG) is slightly above the average. • Gwynedd has experienced a small increase of 4.7% in Acquisitive Crime, including residential burglary, in the first half of 2019/20 when compared to the same period the previous year. In comparison to its MSG, acquisitive crime in Gwynedd is below the average. • There was a spate of burglary residential crimes in Penygroes during August 2019 where several sheds/garages were targeted. A male has been charged with 8 of the 10 reported incidents. • The number of repeat victims of crime (3 or more in 12 months) continues to increase in Gwynedd in 2019/20 when compared to the same period the previous year. This pattern is again in evidence across North Wales as a whole. Changes in crime recording processes have had a significant impact on violent crime levels, which 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 lower in 2019/20 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. • There has been a lot of work around ASB particularly over the summer months with the Dreamscheme in Caernarfon funded by youth services, Crimebeat, CCG and PACT. Because of the diversionary activities that the youths took part in via Dreamscheme, there has been a decrease in ASB in the Caernarfon area, which

	<p>had previously increased and was placing a lot of demand on the Police and it has given the youths a chance to give something back to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have had recent issues at Tan y Fynwent in Bangor with groups of up to 40 youths congregating in the area, climbing on bus stop roofs, being verbally abusive towards members of the public and causing issues for bus drivers. Dispersal orders have been put in place, which prohibits any person given a dispersal notice from entering the location of the dispersal authority area for a period of 48 hours. Work here is ongoing. • Hate Crime in Gwynedd has increased in the first half of 2019/20, when compared to the same period for 2018/19, with 86 offences being recorded year-to-date in comparison to 68 for the previous year. Race related hate crimes have seen the largest increase in terms of volumes in Gwynedd in 2019/20. • Reports of Domestic Crime in Gwynedd have decreased in the first half of 2019/20. Repeat victims of DA in Gwynedd however have seen an increase in 2019/20 when compared to the previous year. Again, changes in crime recording processes have resulted in more repeat victims being identified. • Recorded levels of High Risk Sexual Violence in Gwynedd have increased in the first half of 2019/20 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 2018-19
5.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 40 actions in the 2018/19 plan, at the end of the year, 37 were green (achieved), and one was amber (work done but not completed), and two were red (incomplete) • The one amber action was pertinent to the identification of a new building in Bangor, for Substance Misuse services to work from. This was not achieved, and the work continues to identify appropriate premises. • The two red actions were in relation to (1) the Welsh Governments requirements to roll out the National Training Framework for domestic abuse within all Local Authorities. In Anglesey, this work has progressed well, although not without difficulties, as has been the case in most Local Authorities. Gwynedd LA has also found the implementation of this training to be challenging, although work continues, and every effort is being made to overcome the obstacles. (2) The second relates to work required to monitor the efficiency of public places protection orders (PSPO), which was

not achieved this year, but is now a piece of work being undertaken with the Police (see future milestones).

- The partnership has been using the new performance measures, which were developed at the end of last year.
- During the Christmas holiday period, the Partnership were successful in gaining additional grant monies from the North Wales Area Planning Board (substance misuse) to fund additional metal detectors (for knives etc.) body cameras and funding for the Street pastors in Bangor, to assist the Police during this busy period.
- In relation to the situation pertaining to Domestic Homicide reviews (DHR) the two County partnership is currently leading on one (in Gwynedd). Since the last reporting period, one DHR has been completed, and accepted by the Home Office, although not published because of ongoing safeguarding concerns. Since they became a statutory obligation in 2012, Gwynedd has undertaken 3 reviews, Anglesey have had none to date. Throughout North Wales there have been 8.
- An operational group in Anglesey – called Vulnerable and risk management meeting (VARM), continues to operate in Anglesey, although the final version of the evaluation is still awaited. We are now working to a possible pilot of the same structure in Gwynedd.
- The requirements of the new Welsh Government Act on Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV), has already led to
 - Appointment of a new regional Advisor
 - Establishment of a regional Board to oversee the development of a new regional strategy and commissioning process
 - Developed a regional VAWDASV strategy, which has been accepted by Welsh Government.
 - This year saw the local co-ordinator working in Anglesey and Gwynedd move to work within the regional team.
- The new two County substance misuse service for children and young people has been establishing itself over this period, and since last reporting, the final member of the team has been appointed.
- The partnership has also been successful in retaining money from the, now, regional grant for VAWDASV, to commission a further 12 months of the Caring dads programme. A voluntary course, which aims to improve the attitudes and behaviour of ‘problem’ fathers.
- Emerging as a significant challenge to North Wales, as in many other areas 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. Over this reporting period, both Local Authorities has been

	<p>involved in a multiagency effort to develop a County Lines needs assessment for the region. 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capital investment for improving the Craig Hyfryd building in Holyhead, where substance misuse provision is based, has been approved by Welsh Government. Since the last reporting period, planning permission has been granted for the alterations, and work will continue to upgrade during the coming months. • A new family worker for substance misuse and mental health, based in Anglesey children’s services has now been appointed since the last report. A similar post has been in place in Gwynedd for some years. • In Gwynedd, work has been taking place to prepare for the implementation of the ACE (adverse childhood experiences) training which will start in September. This work is led by the Police. We are able to use the experience from Anglesey, where Children’s services have been working alongside the Police to develop the ACE programme of training and support, mainly for Police staff, but also some LA staff and others. Much has been done to improve the quality of reporting of safeguarding issues by the Police into the Children’s services, as well as work to Improve early intervention and joint working models. The work continues. • During the past year, we have worked within the two LA’s to transition the Partnership’s last grant, (Youth offending) as required by Welsh Government into the new Flexible Funding programme. This means, that the partnership no longer receives any direct funding in terms of grant monies. In addition, since the last reporting period, the Community safety team that supports this work has been reduced to one member of staff. Discussions are ongoing in terms of replacing the project and monitoring role, following the departure of the post holder in December 2018. The Domestic abuse co-ordinator has moved to a regional post, as per the conditions of the funding grant. This sees the local team, reduced from 7 members in 2014 to one currently.
6.00	THE MAIN MILESTONES DURING 2019-20
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sadly, the partnership is conducting a Domestic Homicide reviews at present, resulting from a death in Gwynedd, in July of 2017. We hope to have the review completed and sent to the Home Office soon. There will be a certain level of commitment required and time taken up with this activity during the course of this year by the support officer again. • During this coming period, the Partnership will be engaging with the two County Public Service Board in order to establish how contact and reporting frameworks between the partnerships will work in the future.

- The regional Safer Communities Board has been leading on a rationalisation of regional groups plan, this work is ongoing, but may mean a significant change in the way regional work is undertaken in the future in relation to some Community Safety work streams.
- Undertake the legal process of considering, and possibly implementing a new public spaces protection order in Bangor – including undertaking a public consultation.
- One of the actions which remains incomplete from the last plan, is the review of our PSPO's, of which there are 4 in Anglesey and 7 in Gwynedd. These orders are put in place by Local Authorities and are designed to reduce antisocial behaviour. They are initially meant to be in place for three years, although they can be extended, as is the case with the existing orders. However, because of the change in legislation in 2014, which altered the nature of the orders in 2017, all the existing orders will come to an end in October 2020 (except the more recent order in Bangor). To ensure the orders are reviewed in terms of their evidence base and effectiveness, we are working with the Police to identify appropriate data, so that informed decisions can be made about the PSPO's next year.
- During the last few years Welsh Government have commissioned a further review into community safety on a whole of Wales basis. The progress reports of all the work plans associated with this development, are shared with partnership members on a regular basis. To date there have been no additional funding opportunities identified. The aim is to have a blueprint for justice matters in Wales
- We will be strengthening the response of the LA's Prevent duty (radicalisation) this includes the development of a risk based assessment borne out of the regional Counter terrorism Local Profile. It will be a two County plan. Both Counties are fortunately very low level risk areas.
- Working with the Police, disseminate information about safety awareness, and alcohol awareness on fresher's week in Bangor.
- A joint venture between Community safety and Public protection in both Counties has led to the White Ribbon campaign (end violence against women) being supported by licenced taxi drivers.
- We 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. For the coming period, this may mean moving to a regional MARAC steering process, this is being proffered as the most efficient way forward by the regional Board, and we are awaiting detail of the new process.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both Local Authorities will take part in the Police led work on developing community profiles, with a view to assisting with efficient resource allocation. • Implementation of the attached plan. Some of the main development are – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raising awareness and monitoring of knife sales to underage people. ○ Contributing towards the work of the Police in terms of developing community profiles ○ Work with the Police to identify ways of evidencing the need for continued PSPO's (put in place by the LA) ○ Ensure that the local MARAC (Multiagency risk assessment conference – dealing with domestic abuse victims) is appropriately merged into the new model for a regional group, if this is the final decision. ○ Introducing the ACE model into Gwynedd, working with Police partners to identify opportunities to improve safeguarding and early intervention. ○ Work with partners on developing the new Integrated Offender management work in the region
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. 2018-19 End of Year report 2. 2019-20 Action Plan