

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| REPORT TO: | Safeguarding, Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (fulfilling its function as Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee) |
| REPORT NO: | COGC/37/19s |
| DATE: | 11 th September 2019 |
| LEAD MEMBER: | N/A |
| CONTACT OFFICER: | Suzanne Price (Tel: 292179) |
| SUBJECT: | Community Safety Partnership Performance Report |
| WARD: | All Wards |

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To allow the Committee, acting as the Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee to review and / or scrutinise decisions by the Wrexham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions by Responsible Authorities.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides the background to local authority scrutiny of crime and disorder under Sections 19 and 20 of the Police Justice Act 2006.
- 2.2 The committee considered the Quarter 2 performance of the CSP at its November 2018 meeting and a summary of the key issues raised by Members is contained in paragraph 4.8.
- 2.3 The CSP 2018/19 year end performance reports are attached as **Appendices 3a and 3b**.
- 2.4 Paragraph 4.15 explains that the CSP's priorities are under review and that a new Plan will be in place for 2020/21.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Scrutiny Committee:

- (i) Consider and make recommendations as appropriate to the CSP in relation to 2018/19 performance;**
- (ii) In accordance with the Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Protocol, agree the means and timescales for receiving a response from the CSP on any recommendations it makes in relation to (i) above.**

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To enable members to scrutinise the work and performance of the Community Safety Partnership in order to fulfil the statutory requirement for scrutiny of crime and disorder.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Legislative basis for Crime & Disorder Scrutiny

4.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires that local areas have a Community Safety Partnership. Sections 19 and 20 of the Police Justice Act 2006 (as amended) require every County and County Borough in Wales to ensure that it has an Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the power to:

- Review or scrutinise decisions made or action taken in connection with the discharge by the Responsible Authorities of their crime and disorder functions
- Make reports or recommendations to the local authority in connection with the discharge of these functions

4.2 In this context, 'Responsible Authorities' means the bodies and persons defined in Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998: authorities responsible for crime and disorder strategies in relation to the local authority's area. In Wrexham, these responsible authorities are:

- North Wales Police
- Wrexham County Borough Council
- Wales Probation Service (North Wales Area)
- Community Rehabilitation Company (Wales)
- North Wales Fire & Rescue Service
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

4.3 'Crime and Disorder functions' means functions conferred by or under Section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 which refers to the formulation and implementation of strategies for the reduction of crime and disorder. These are

- (a) A strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
 - (b) A strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
 - (c) A strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area.
- 4.4 The Welsh Government's Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime & Disorder Matters requires that the Scrutiny Committee meet to consider crime and disorder functions 'as the committee considers appropriate, but not less than once per year' and that Responsible Authorities and Co-operating persons and bodies provide information to the Committee when requested.

Crime & Disorder Scrutiny in Wrexham

- 4.5 Wrexham Council has allocated responsibility for crime and disorder scrutiny to this Committee, which, in accordance with the legislation, has the power to review and scrutinise those strategies which the responsible authorities are required to formulate and implement in accordance with the Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 4.6 A Protocol for Crime and Disorder Scrutiny has been agreed between this Committee and the CSP and is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 4.7 The committee last considered crime and disorder matters at its meeting in November 2018. At that time, the report presented Quarter 2 performance against the 2018/19 Delivery Plan.
- 4.8 The minute of the meeting can be accessed via the following link:
<http://moderngov.wrexham.gov.uk/documents/g4271/Printed%20minutes%2021st-Nov-2018%2016.00%20Safeguarding%20Communities%20and%20Wellbeing%200Scrutiny%20CommitteeCri.pdf?T=1>

Key issues raised by Members at this time included:

- Queries regarding the increase in the reported incidence of domestic violence, and
- Acknowledgement of the continued good work being undertaken by Cat's Paw Theatre Company in increasing young people's awareness of healthy relationships and elements of Child Sexual Exploitation within the Council's secondary schools (Priority 1);
- Reduction in the recorded levels of anti-social behaviour. However incidents of anti-social behaviour, particularly arson and the use of off-road motorbikes, are still prevalent in many areas within the County Borough (Priority 2) and many instances of low-level anti-social behaviour may go unrecorded within communities due to the length of time taken for operators to answer 101 calls (Priority 5);
- A baseline for levels of alcohol-related violence in Wrexham town centre was being established (Priority 3);

- Queries as to the number of instances of Modern Slavery within Wrexham (North Wales Police advised that this was a ‘hidden crime’ not encountered on a regular basis, but requiring a multi-agency approach and cross-organisational working to tackle) (Priority 4).

The committee noted the performance report and made no recommendations to the CSP.

4.9 This committee has previously undertaken crime and disorder scrutiny twice a year – 6 and 12 month performance reports. At the committee work programme workshop in July, Members agreed to undertake scrutiny at year end only. The year-end report will include the priorities and Delivery Plan for the coming year.

CSP performance

4.10 The Delivery Plan performance report 2018/19 (Q4) is attached at **Appendix 3a**. The Delivery Plan has given each action a ‘RAG’ (Red / Amber / Green) status. A comparison with the RAG status reported at Quarters 2 and 4 is provided below. The figures in brackets indicate the comparison with Q2 (as reported in the November 2018 report).

| 2018/19 – Quarter 4 Performance (figure in brackets indicates position at Q2) | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Red | Amber | Green | Not reporting |
| Priority 1: Reduce Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) | | | |
| - (-) | 2 (2) | 4 (4) | - (-) |
| Priority 2: Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour | | | |
| - (-) | 4 (6) | 2 (0) | - (-) |
| Priority 3: Reduce the harm that substance misuse causes to communities, families and individuals | | | |
| - (-) | 2 (2) | 4 (4) | - (-) |
| Priority 4: Develop our Community resilience by focusing on Modern Slavery, PREVENT, Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring | | | |
| - (-) | 2 (3) | 2 (0) | - (1) |
| Priority 5: Engage with our communities to provide reassurance and increase public confidence | | | |
| - (-) | 2 (1) | 2 (2) | 1 (2) |

4.11 Appendix 3b presents further information relating to the performance of crime related measures referenced in the performance report in the form of Statistical Process Control (SPC) Charts. These charts will also be available to view as a presentation during the meeting.

- 4.11 SPC Charts are provided by North Wales Police. They show changes over time, with a central line for the average, an upper line for the upper control limit and a lower line for the lower control limit. These lines are determined from historical data. Using SPC Charts enables the CSP to consider current performance within a wider contextual analysis of data from April 2012 onwards. **Appendix 2** offers a reminder of how to use and interpret SPC Charts.
- 4.12 The SPC narrative often makes reference to Wrexham's 'Most Similar Group' or MSG. MSGs are groups of local areas that have been found to be the most similar to each other using statistical methods, based on demographic, economic and social characteristics which relate to crime. Areas within the same MSG will generally have reasonably comparable levels of crime. MSGs are designed to help make fairer and more meaningful comparisons between areas. Community Safety Partnerships operate in very different environments and face different challenges and it is more meaningful to compare an area with the other areas which share similar socio-economic characteristics. More detail about MSGs and Wrexham's performance within its MSG can be found <https://www.police.uk/north-wales/WRW24/performance/compare-your-area/>
- 4.13 The committee is invited to consider the performance information for 2018/19 and make recommendations to the CSP.
- 4.14 In accordance with the 'Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Protocol', the CSP Chair will report the Committee's comments and recommendations to its next meeting on 30th September 2019 and will provide a response to the Committee in accordance with a timescale to be agreed - see Recommendation 3.1 (ii).
- 4.15 The Committee was also due to receive and consider the 2019/20 Priorities and Delivery Plan. The CSP has provided the following update:

The Community Safety Partnership Plan is in the process of being reviewed for 2020 in line with existing and emerging priorities. With regard to this year's plan, as our current priorities in the main remain unchanged from the plan and performance framework developed for 2018/19, we continue to work to these priorities during 2019/20, reviewing the objectives to reflect current actions where appropriate. Our aim is to do a full review of the CSP plan (in collaboration with partner agencies) in readiness for April 2020. It is our intention to include public views in the development of the plan, to ensure we are engaging with communities to develop appropriate actions. We intend that the CSP plan is developed to be in effect for 2020 and beyond.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **Policy Framework** –The Safeguarding, Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, acting in its capacity as the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, is aligned with the Council’s Wellbeing objective ‘Working with our partners to make Wrexham a safe place where people feel included’.

5.2 **Budget** - This is a performance report and there are no direct budget implications.

5.3 **Legal** –The Local Authority is required to have a scrutiny committee with the powers to scrutinise the crime and disorder function of Responsible Authorities.

This is a performance report and there are no direct legal implications.

5.4 **Staffing** – This is a performance report and there are no direct staffing implications.

5.5 **Equality / Human Rights** – Members are advised of their duty to consider the full Equality Impact Assessment which is available at <http://vmwinsqld/equalityisalive/Menu.aspx> report number [EIA00101/2017]. Members of the public can request a copy of the full Equality Impact Assessment from the Contact Officer named in the header box of this report. A summary of the EIA is attached at **Appendix 4**.

5.6 **Risks** – This is a performance report and there are no risks directly arising from its consideration.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Not applicable – this is a performance report.

7. EVALUATION OF OPTIONS

7.1 Not applicable – this is a performance report.

| BACKGROUND PAPERS | LOCATION | WEBSITE INFO. |
|---|--------------|---|
| Report to SCWSC 21 st November 2018 – Community Safety Partnership Performance | WCBC website | http://moderngov.wrexham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=174&Mid=4271 |