

Meeting COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE
Portfolio Area Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods
Date 27 MARCH 2018



THE SOSAFE COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2017/18 AND EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR 2018/19

Author – Sarah Pateman Ext. 2458
 Lead Officer – Rob Gregory Ext. 2568
 Contact Officer – Sarah Pateman Ext. 2458

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To outline the performance to date against the 2017/18 SoSafe Community Safety Action Plan and the emerging priorities for the 2018/19 plan. The Act that we are fulfilling is the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health and Act 2007, which stipulates that each local authority must hold a Crime and Disorder Committee to hold the local Community Safety Partnership, Responsible Authority Group (RAG) to account.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Community Select Committee consider the performance to date and note the outcomes measured against the 2017/18 SoSafe Community Safety Action and the suggested priorities for the 2018/19 Action Plan.

3 BACKGROUND

The agreed priority themes for 2017/18 were as follows:

- Antisocial behaviour (ASB)

- Hate Crime
- Safeguarding
- Violent crime
- Reassurance/public engagement
- Scams and fraud
- Serious / organised crime (SOC) and drugs

3.1 FUNDING ACHIEVED IN 2017

Date Funding Received	Monetary Value and who is delivering the project	How the Funding is used
February 2017	£107,000 (Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse)	A domestic Abuse Safe Space in Stevenage – a successful bid
January 2018	£10,000 (Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse)	Traveller Project – a successful bid
March 2018	£7,706 (Community Safety Fly Tipping Task Force)	To tackle fly tipping in the town
April 2017	£3,000 (Community Safety and SoSafe partners)	Community Reassurance
October 2017	£3,000 (Community Safety)	Community Safety Ambassadors Program – a successful bid

3.2 Annual Strategic Assessment (2018)

The Strategic Assessment is an audit of all crime and disorder that has taken place across the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) over the previous year and seeks to predict the key issues and identify priorities for the partnership by highlighting the risk. This is a key document as it underpins the activity of the CSP. The 2017/18 assessment is due to be presented at RAG on 23 April 2018. Hertfordshire County Council met with Community Safety Managers to improve the Strategic Assessment process and give local authorities the opportunity to influence the risk matrix and the final score for the partnership. Below is a summary of the change in crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) figures for 2017/18 compared to 2016/17.

3.3 Stevenage Crime/ASB Figures 2017-18 (up until end of quarter 3)

- All ASB – 5.4% increase
- All Crime 10.6% increase
- Domestic Abuse 13% increase
- Robbery -17.1% decrease
- Violent Crime -20% decrease
- Theft from a person -26.3% decrease
- Criminal Damage -3.3% decrease

3.4 PRIORITY THEME 1: Anti Social Behaviour

The agreed actions and objectives for ASB against the 2017/18 SoSafe Action Plan included:

Prevent Young people becoming involved in anti-social behaviour The youth partnership meetings have been re-instated and the partnership has regular youth representation from both Youth Connections and YMCA at the Joint Action Group (JAG) meetings. There is also representation at the RAG. Individual young people at risk of ASB have been signposted to projects and away from nuisance. In particular, we have seen a decrease in youth nuisance around the Hyde. The Youth Hub at the Hyde has been instrumental to this and remains an important asset to reducing youth nuisance.

The SoSafe partnership have been targeting known ASB 'hotspots' and focusing intervention activity in these areas; in particular, the area around the Hyde following intervention from YMCA at the Hyde. The table below details the numbers of attendees to the Hyde youth provision, their visits, age and gender;

Number of Individuals attended the Hyde in the 12 month period	226
Number of visits made	1306
Number of Females	118
Number of Males	108
Under age 15	134
Over age 15	92

Reduce street begging and associated ASB in hot spot areas.

A partnership Action Plan was drawn up in July 2017, the plan brought together local partners to have a co-ordinated approach to help identify those individuals that are street homeless/begging or who may have complex needs. Once individuals are identified, referrals are made to partners including the No More Service (NMS), The Haven and Change Grow Live (CGL). Referrals for those individuals with no support are discussed at the Multiple Needs Working Group (MNWG) so that appropriate referrals can be made once their needs are identified. The Multiple Needs Working Group has discussed 17 referrals during 2017, referred by 10 partner agencies.

Reduce environmental ASB and make public areas in Stevenage safer.

The Fly Tipping Task Group has been instrumental in tackling fly-tipping in the town. The group is made up of partners including representatives from Highways England, Hertfordshire County Council (waste partnership) and the Police. Partners meet on a quarterly basis to plan and review referrals of fly tipping. This year we have purchased two mobile cameras in use to help with the identification and prosecution of those individuals that fly tip. One which has been funded the Herts Waste Partnership. This camera is already being used a Roundmead to tackle the problem.

Focused interventions can also lead to the potential displacement of perpetrators. We have seen an increase in youth nuisance in the town centre around McDonalds' and targeted incidents around Bedwell Community Centre. Through co-operative working at the JAG and with local communities we have been able to target those individuals causing a nuisance. Operation Tanka has been introduced in the town centre during March in addition to a visible Police presence in the town during peak times for youth ASB. The partnership regularly shares information and intelligence on individuals of concern, which has resulted in a number of Community Protection Notices (CPN) and Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW) being served. During 2017, in conjunction with the Police we served approximately 40 Community Protection Notices. Officers have also continued to refer individuals to appropriate projects aimed at reducing ASB, such as Box Cleve¹ and the Fear Project².

SoSafe has continued to work with the Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership this year to utilise mobile CCTV to deter and identify perpetrators of crime and ASB. The Fly tipping Task Group has been working closely with CCTV to help prosecute those individuals who continue to fly-tip. We were successful in securing funding of £7,706.25 from the Waste Partnership Board and the Police and Crime Commissioner. The funds have been used to purchase signage and a CCTV camera.

3.5 PRIORITY THEME 2: Hate Crime

The agreed actions and objectives for Hate Crime included:

Develop understanding of hate crime and trends/patterns for professionals and front line staff.

Hate Crime Awareness and third party reporting training has been delivered to council staff and hate crime data is shared with SoSafe members at JAG.

Develop local reporting pathways for victims of hate crime

We are working co-operatively with the County Community Safety Unit to increase the number of third party reporting centres in Stevenage. The Community Safety Youth Ambassadors have attended training and are working with North Herts College to establish this a third party reporting centre.

¹ Box Cleve operates sporting and educational youth initiatives, centred around amateur (non-contact) boxing. The sessions instil discipline, respect, perseverance, fair-play and fitness, within a safe and controlled environment. Most of the children referred to the programme will have behavioural problems and getting into trouble generally.

² Fire, Education And Reparation (FEAR) is a programme designed to provide reparation for young people who have received court orders for offences such as assault, possession of an offensive weapon, robbery of a phone, possession of cannabis etc. They attend Stevenage Fire Station as part of their community payback hours to learn how to carry out some of the drills and duties of a firefighter. They are also educated on health, fitness and personal awareness.

Co-ordinate a specialised partnership event to raise awareness of the various forms of hate crime and professional services available to victims

The partnership hosted a Hate Crime conference in September 2017 for professionals. The conference was well attended by partner agencies, with 58 delegates.

3.6 PRIORITY THEME 3: Safeguarding

The agreed actions and objectives for safeguarding included:

Minimise the risk of radicalisation and extremism in Stevenage by supporting the Prevent³ agenda. (counter terrorism)

The WRAP training programme has taken place each quarter throughout 2017/18; we have received positive feedback from all of the sessions. Sessions for each quarter for 2018/19 have been booked and we now have four members of the team who can deliver the training.

Improve awareness of safeguarding issues, including Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Slavery and Female Genital Mutilation in the community.

There have been 19 safeguarding training sessions throughout the year; the training is available to SBC staff, members and Partner agencies. Training completed this year includes 8 inductions, 7 level 1 sessions, 3 level 2 sessions and one DSP session.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness packs were sent out to all local hotels and a CSE/Modern slavery partnership action plan has been produced. An event led by the police will be held in May 2018.

Improve public awareness of cyber-crime and how residents can minimise the risk of becoming a victim of online-related crime

The business cyber-crime conference took place at the police HQ in September 2017 and was promoted through partnership communications and through local business networks.

The Community Safety Team attended an open evening at Ashtree School to promote online safety advice for the children and parents.

Improve Older people's personal safety and confidence

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) held an OPALS event in 2017 to deliver key safety advice and information. The event was attended by a number of agencies including Police, Trading Standards, Age UK and Red Cross and received very positive feedback from residents. A third OPALS event will take place in April 2018.

³ Prevent is a core part of the UK's counter-terrorism strategy. It enables local agencies to identify individuals who are most at risk of radicalisation and intervene before any offences are committed.

The Self and Well Scheme through HFRS has seen an increase in visits to vulnerable adults in their homes.

There have been five silver street meets during 2017. The partnership has engaged with 130 people:

April 2017	Bragbury End	25
May 2017	Hampson Park	19
June 2017	Bedwell	26
July 2017	Timebridge Centre	40
October 2017	Broadwater	20

Review crime incident data linked to specific premises and jointly tackle licensed premises

During Alcohol Awareness week in November 2017, a partnership event was held at Stevenage Leisure Park. Staff from HFRS, Police and the Community Safety team attended, speaking to members of the public about drink drive limits and alcohol safety.

Support victims of domestic abuse and empower them with the skills and knowledge to live their lives free from abuse

SADA⁴ and the SoSafe partnership have undertaken a number of activities this year to raise awareness of domestic abuse (DA) and reporting pathways for both victims and professionals. This included an event during the 16 Days of Action where 15,000 bus tickets were printed with SADA information and issued on buses in and around Stevenage. A children's Christmas Party was held for the families of DA victims and an engagement event was held in the Town Centre. The service offered advice to 45 victims, survivors and their families in 2017, 28 referrals were accepted to the Safe Space since July 2017, there were 78 referrals to the SADA multi agency panel meeting, 51 people received intensive support and there are 12 regular attendees to the SADA Forum. We are currently running the second You and Me Mum course which has 8 attendees at Wellfield Court, the course runs for 10 weeks.

SADA has been successful in securing funding from Hertfordshire County Council and the government. During 2017, SADA secured £121,600 in external funding.

The Partnership continues to promote the work of SADA. A communications plan has been produced to showcase the service and the work of the volunteers this has helped it to receive recognition from the media and showcase the commitment of the volunteers from the SADA DA Forum.

Identify and disrupt domestic abuse perpetrators

The partnership has been working co-operatively to identify repeat/high risk offenders through JAG and discusses exceptional cases through professional meetings.

⁴ Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse

The Change Project continues to be well-attended in Stevenage; to help secure the project we contributed £5,000. The chair of the SADA forum is working as a volunteer to help to run the sessions and we have an ex-offender who is waiting for training.

Support is also offered through the No More Service to both victims and perpetrators who have complex needs

Minimise serious life threatening risk to victims of domestic abuse

A number of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) and their processes have been reviewed and a process for handling and attending DHRs has been agreed by the SADA Board and implemented.

3.7 PRIORITY THEME 4: Reassurance/Public Engagement

The agreed actions and objectives for Reassurance/Public Engagement included;

Carry out proactive crime prevention campaigns/targeted operations in response to emerging crimes and seasonal trends

There have been a number of events and campaigns during 2017/18:

- Silver Street Meets
- Domestic Abuse Awareness events
- Various police operations
- Partnership Surgeries with residents
- Quarterly PSPO events
- Personal Safety Day Event
- Operation Night Owl
- Faith Leaders' Coffee Morning

Actively promote Neighbourhood Watch (including OWL messaging)

21% of Stevenage residents 7,427 households have signed up to Neighbourhood Watch. In the last twelve months 1,910 households signed up to the scheme.

Improve SoSafe communications

Communications plans have been introduced for Community Safety and Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse.

Regular communications meetings are held and shared with partner agencies.

3.8 PRIORITY THEME 5: Scams and Fraud

The agreed actions and objectives for Scams/Fraud Engagement included:

Develop local intelligence relating to scams and fraud and target intervention accordingly and improve fraud awareness for frontline professionals

Fraud awareness sessions have now been embedded as part of the induction programme for new SBC and Shared Anti Fraud Service (SAFS) staff and SAFS have been delivering document fraud awareness training.

- There have been two blue badge fraud prosecutions in 2017/18
- Two events have been held at SBC; one for staff and the other for members of the public, delivered by Trading Standards
- There have been two Wellbeing Days arranged by Housing and associated partners

3.9 PRIORITY THEME 6: Serious /Organised crime and drugs (SOC)

The agreed actions and objectives for Serious/Organised Crime and drugs included:

Develop a multi-agency approach to disrupting SOC at a district level and encourage

We attend Multiple Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) meetings, Police Prolific Persistent Offender (PPO) meetings and Multiple Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) on a regular basis.

There have been a number of police operations and targeted interventions around drug misuse following co-operative working with partners and residents. Stevenage individuals are discussed during the closed session at JAG meetings, at which stage partners will discuss any opportunities for intervention activity.

Partnership Action Plans have been introduced to help target hot-spot crime areas and have helped to build up intelligence in these areas.

4. REVIEW FINDINGS

Review of 2017/18 Action Plan

The 2017/18 Community Safety Action Plan had a total of 42 expected outcomes. Out of those outcomes, 41 have been completed (99%); the only outstanding action is on-going training for frontline staff around Fraud Awareness. We plan to work with colleagues in safeguarding to consider this as part of the rolling programme of safeguarding awareness for staff.

The SoSafe Community Safety Partnership continues to work collaboratively towards shared goals to prevent and reduce crime and ASB in Stevenage. The partnership continues to operate in a difficult financial environment, there is recognition that a number of existing activities are having a positive impact

but are reliant on time-limited funding. Decisions on the future of some of these services will need to be considered through the current Communities and Neighbourhoods Business Review.

Significant activities have been undertaken through the partnership this year. SoSafe remains committed to building on this progress, to continue making Stevenage a safer place for residents and visitors. Both RAG and JAG have developed strong working relationships through innovation and imagination. SoSafe partners are passionate about creating safer environments for our communities in Stevenage.

Moving forward SoSafe is committed to developing new strategies and using recognised best practice aimed at tackling crime and disorder. Along with the Community Safety Strategy 2018/21 the partnership intends to focus on outcomes and the impact this has on the town. The partnership will also aim to develop professional networks with local schools and health practitioners in order to provide additional opportunities for the partnership. SoSafe is committed to ensuring that messages and 'good news stories' are reaching communities, in order to provide reassurance and promote the proactive work that the partnership are doing to improve community safety in Stevenage. There will also be further opportunities to work with local communities through the Co-operative Neighbourhood Management programme to drive improvements by working directly with local residents.

4.1 Action plan process 2017/18

Priorities for the forthcoming year are developed predominantly through the Annual Strategic Assessment. The assessment provides an overview of the risk associated with a variety of crime types, backed up by relevant data, and is provided to local authorities in Hertfordshire from the County Community Safety Unit (CCSU).

When planning for the forthcoming year, the partnership has also taken into account:

- Current and emerging issues
- Data from crime/ASB results for 2017/18
- A survey of SoSafe partners to ascertain priority areas
- Stevenage residents' survey
- The overarching aims of the SoSafe Community Safety Strategy 2018

The partnership also has due regard to:

- Relevant county strategies (domestic abuse, drugs and alcohol, hate crime, etc.)
- BeNCH CRC Reducing Reoffending Strategy
- Changes in legislation and Home Office guidance
- Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Police and Crime Plan.

The action plan provides details about how the priorities are addressed by SoSafe. It records actions that are conducted through partnership working, which are documented through JAG. The plan does not record the work of individual agencies in tackling priorities.

The action plan is updated quarterly by the Community Safety Team in collaboration with the lead officers for each action. It is a 'live' document and is assessed regularly by JAG in light of shifting priorities and emerging issues. RAG receives quarterly updates on progress against the plan; and as the community safety grant provider, the PCC receives twice yearly reports.

Partners are encouraged to maintain a key focus on SMART⁵ actions to ensure that the action plan can realistically be achieved within the time and resourcing boundaries available.

The action plan for 2018/19 is currently in the draft stage and scheduled for completion by April, when it will be signed and authorised by RAG.

4.2 Priorities for 2018/19

Following the production of the draft SoSafe Community Safety Strategy for 2018-2021 the 2018/19 action plan has been developed through our findings from JAG and a partnership workshop to finalise ideas and suggest actions to feed into the agreed priority themes. This will ensure that activities are SMART and outcomes are measurable and focused. Outcomes may refer to qualitative or quantitative data; or personal outcomes and achievements for agencies.

The partnership workshop took place on 27 February 2017; the action plan is being formulated and will be shared with partners at the next JAG meeting on the 27 March 2017 to be ratified by RAG on the 23 April 2018. The recommended priorities are:

- Tackling Anti Social Behaviour and youth nuisance
- Safeguarding of vulnerable people including domestic abuse and Hate Crime
- Drug and alcohol-related crime and disorder
- Modern Slavery and Sexual exploitation
- Knife Crime
- Fraud and Scams

The finalised action plan will receive sign off at the April RAG meeting on the 23 April 2018 and will then been shared with relevant partners and officers.

⁵ SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) in Hertfordshire no longer receive allocated funds from the PCC's Office. The pre-allocated process was replaced with a bidding process whereby Hertfordshire CSPs are required to develop funding applications for initiatives or activities that the CSP intend to run in the coming year, which is then assessed against local priorities and the PCC's Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan.

The SoSafe partnership submitted three partnership bids based on our priorities including a youth mentoring initiative, funding to expand the SADA Domestic Abuse Forum and a bid to deliver a Healthy Relationship course to year seven students in Stevenage. Unfortunately Stevenage, alongside other districts was unsuccessful in these bids.

SoSafe will be actively researching and seeking new funding opportunities throughout 2018/19 to support implementation of the 2018/19 action plan. Training on bid writing will be available. The dates of the training will be shared with the partnership.

5.2 Legal Implications

Production of the strategy is a legal requirement of the community safety partnership. The Crime and Disorder Act 1988 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 1996) requires the responsible authorities for an area to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and for the education of re-offending in the area.

5.3 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The council is committed to providing high quality services that are relevant to the needs and responsive to the views of all sections of the local community, irrespective of their race, gender, disability, culture, religion, age, sexual orientation or marital status. The General Equality Duty (Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) requires the council to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in the exercise of its functions.

There is recognition that crime and ASB can disproportionately impact upon those with protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act. The 2017 Hate Crime Conference hosted by the council highlighted the potential for this to happen at a local level. SoSafe will strive to involve the community in the design and delivery of the interventions which tackle crime and drive down disorder and anti-social behaviour. Relationships will continue to be built with groups around the town, including those from different faiths, BME groups and the traveller community, LGBT communities, women, girls and older people. It

will be essential to ensure interventions meet specific needs for different parts of the community and are delivered in a meaningful and empowering way.

APPENDICES

Appendix A – 2017/18 Community Safety Action Plan

Glossary

ASB	Anti-social Behaviour
A&E	Accident & Emergency
BeNCH CRC	Bedfordshire, Norfolk, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company (formerly Hertfordshire Probation)
BME	Black and minority ethnic
YC in Herts	Youth provision in Stevenage
CAADA DASH	Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse: domestic abuse, stalking and honour based violence (risk assessment tool)
CCSU	County Community Safety Unit
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
Class A drugs	Heroin, methadone, cocaine, crack, ecstasy, LSD and amphetamines
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DA	Domestic Abuse
SADA	Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review
E&NH CCG	East & North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group
FIP	Family Intervention Project
HBV	Honour Based Violence
HCC	Herts County Council
Herts Change	Domestic abuse perpetrator rehabilitation programme
HFRS	Herts Fire and Rescue Service
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
JAG	Joint Action Group
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
LIFE	Local Intervention Fire Education
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
NMS	No More Service
NPS	New Psychoactive Substances
NTE	Night Time Economy
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
OWL	Online Watch Liaison
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
RAG	Responsible Authorities Group

RJ	Restorative Justice
SADA	Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse
SARA	Scanning, analysis, response and assessment
SBC	Stevenage Borough Council
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely
SNT	Safer Neighbourhood Team
SOC	Serious Organised Crime
SoSafe	Stevenage Community Safety Partnership
SoStevenage	Stevenage local strategic partnership