

# Public Document Pack



## EXECUTIVE

**Date: Wednesday, 4 April 2018**

**Time: 2.00 pm,**

**Location: Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete**

**Contact: Jackie Cansick 01438-242216**

Members: Councillors: (Chair), (Vice-Chair),

---

## AGENDA

### PART 1

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**2. MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 13 MARCH 2018**

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 13 March 2018 for signature by the Chair.

Minutes attached

3 - 10

**3. MINUTES OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES**

To note the following Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees –

A. Community Select Committee – 7 March 2018

B. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 8 March 2018

11 - 18

**4. NEW HOMES BONUS**

To consider a report that seeks approval to a range of schemes and initiatives to be funded from the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus allocation that were announced by the Leader at the Council meeting in February 2018.

Report & Appendix attached

19 - 34

**5. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY**

To consider a report for recommendation to Council concerning the draft Community Safety Strategy that outlines the emerging priorities of the SoSafe Partnership for the next three years.

**6. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

To consider any Part 1 business accepted by the Chair as urgent.

**7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

To consider the following motions –

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 – 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

2. That Members consider the reasons for the following reports being in Part II and determine whether or not maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

**8. PART II MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 13 MARCH 2018**

To approve as a correct record the Part II Section of the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018.

Minutes attached for Members

**9. URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

To consider any Part II business accepted by the Chair as urgent.

**NOTE: Links to Part 1 Background Documents are shown on the last page of the individual report, where this is not the case they may be viewed by using the following link to agendas for Executive meetings and then opening the agenda for Wednesday, 4 April 2018 – <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/have-your-say/council-meetings/161153/>**

## STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, 13 March 2018

Time: 2.00 pm

Place: Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete

**Present:** Councillors: S Taylor OBE CC (Chair) J Gardner (Vice-Chair), R Henry, J Hollywell, Mrs J Lloyd, R Raynor, S Speller and J Thomas

**Start / End Time:** Start Time: 2.00 pm  
End Time: 4.44 pm

#### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no apologies for absence or declarations of interest received from Members.

#### 2. **MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 14 FEBRUARY 2018**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 14 February 2018 are approved as a correct record for signature by the Chair.

#### 3. **MINUTES OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES**

The Scrutiny Committees were commended for the work they had undertaken on developing the new policies and strategies that were coming forward.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the following meetings are noted –

- A. Community Select Committee – 7 February 2018
- B. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 8 February 2018
- C. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 19 February 2018

#### 4. **HERTFORDSHIRE HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY (HHIA)**

The Executive considered a report on recommending that the Council join the Hertfordshire Home Improvement Agency (HHIA).

Individual Members raised a number of particular concerns regarding the proposals to join the HHIA. The key outcome sought was for Stevenage residents to receive an improved service and Members wanted to be certain that this was to be the case.

It was emphasised that there was a need to identify current performance in order that a comparison could be made in 12 months' time.

Members considered the option of deferring joining the HHIA for 12 months. In response, the Assistant Director (Planning and Regulatory) expanded on the business case outlined in the report and in addition, he explained that the HHIA would provide a more resilient service for customers having recruited to a number of key posts.

The Executive was of the view that it was important that the performance of the new agency was closely monitored and that a thorough review was reported back to the Executive in 12 months' time. It was considered that the review should include details of customer feedback. The Portfolio Holders for Housing, Health and Older People and Community and Equalities also undertook to meet on a quarterly basis to consider performance and monitoring of the service.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That Stevenage Borough Council joins the HHIA in April 2018.
2. That the Council's functions under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, and any other functions relating to the delivery of the services provided by the HHIA, be delegated to Hertfordshire County Council
3. That the Strategic Director (MP) is authorised to execute all documents required for the Council to join the HHIA.
4. That the Assistant Director (Planning and Regulation) be nominated, and in his absence his nominated deputy, as the Council's representative on the Board of the HHIA with authority to take appropriate decisions on behalf of the Council.
5. That the Council reviews the performance of the HHIA 12 months post joining to determine whether it should remain a member authority and consider the potential for the Repairs and Voids Team to bid for HHIA work.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

## 5. **STEVENAGE CULTURAL STRATEGY (A 10 YEAR STRATEGY FOR ARTS & HERITAGE)**

The Executive considered a report that recommended the approval of a Cultural Strategy for the Town. The report also summarised a number of cultural ambitions over the next 10 years in order for Stevenage to become a destination creative town.

The Chair referred to the three bullet points setting out the Vision for the Strategy. It was considered that the third bullet point should be broken down into two parts.

The Executive thanked the Assistant Director (Communities and Neighbourhoods) for his work on drafting this strategy and the Chair undertook to write to the Chair of the Community Select Committee to thank her and the Members of the Committee for the comprehensive input they have made to this Strategy.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the final draft of the cultural strategy, as detailed at Appendix A to this report, is approved subject to reworking the 'Vision' section of the Strategy into four bullet points from the three quoted.
2. That the proposed set of milestones for 2018/19, as shown in section 6 of the Strategy, are noted.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

6. **3RD QUARTER MONITORING REPORT GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE**

The Executive considered a report that details the third quarter review of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2017/18 3rd Quarter General Fund projected net decrease in expenditure of £367,280 is approved.
2. That it is noted that the cumulative changes made to the General Fund net budget remain within the £400,000 (increase) variation limit delegated to the Executive.
3. That the progress of the 2017/18 approved savings, growth bids and carry forwards in the General Fund are noted.
4. That the 2018/19 ongoing net savings of £56,800, that will contribute to the General Fund Financial Security target for future years, is approved.
5. That the transfer of £4,730 from the General Fund to the town centre allocated reserve is approved.
6. That the new carry forward requests for the General Fund (£405,000) are approved.
7. That the 2017/8 3rd Quarter increases in the net HRA surplus of £230,370 is approved.
8. That the progress of the 2017/18 approved savings, growth bids and carry forward requests in the HRA are noted.
9. That the new carry forward request of (£217,870) in the HRA, as listed in table six of the report, is approved.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

## **7. 3RD QUARTER MONITORING CAPITAL PROGRAMME - GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

The Executive considered a report, which provided an update on the Council's 2017/18 and 2018/19 Capital Programme and sought approval for the revisions to the General Fund Capital Programme. The report also provided an update on capital resources available to fund the capital programmes.

At this juncture, the Chair referred to the coverage in the Stevenage Comet of the recent Budget and Council Tax setting. The article put in a positive light the Council's management of its budgets and this had been particularly the result of the work of the Assistant Director (Finance and Estates) and her team who always followed the very best practices.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2017/18 General Fund Capital Programme net decrease in expenditure of £269,030, as summarised in paragraph 4.1.1. to the report, is approved.
2. That a virement from the Deferred Works Budget of £20,000 to Town Centre Toilet refurbishment works is approved.
3. That it is noted that the 2017/18 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme remains unchanged.
4. That the 2018/19 General Fund increase in capital expenditure of £57,500 (slippage from 2017/18), as summarised in Table 1 and Paragraph 4.5.1. to the report, is approved.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

## **8. DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018-21**

The Executive considered a report that set out proposals for a draft Community Safety Strategy, which outlined the emerging priorities of the SoSafe Partnership for the next three years.

The Portfolio Holder for Communities and Equalities introduced the report and paid tribute to the Council's Officers for the work they had undertaken on the Strategy and who led the way on partnership working with the relevant agencies, particularly the local police.

The Executive recognised the successful initiatives in the area of Community Safety that the Council, along with its partners, had implemented in recent times. Work on domestic abuse had attracted much praise and although this was not included as a specific objective of the Strategy, Members were reassured that the focus on this

area of work would be maintained.

It was noted that funding for the Police had increased but as the Council funded PCSOs there was concern that, as a result, Stevenage might not benefit from additional front line Police Officer support. It was considered important that the Police and Crime Commissioner prioritised the resourcing of officers after giving due regard to the relative county wide crime statistics.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the draft Community Safety Strategy appended to the report be approved noting its focus on the work of the SoSafe partnership.
2. That in accordance with the provisions in the Council's Constitution, the draft Community Safety Strategy accompanying this report be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee before the final recommendations to Council are considered.
3. That it is noted that implementation of the Strategy would be achieved through co-operative working with communities and key partners via the activities of the Joint Action Group and overseen by the Responsible Authorities Group.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

## 9. **HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW 2018**

The Executive considered a report, which advised members of the outcomes and subsequent recommendations following consultation on the Allocations Policy Review.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following changes to the Housing Allocations Policy be approved:

1. That those at risk of homelessness, who presented themselves to SBC, who subsequently self-sourced alternative accommodation outside of the Borough, retain their local connection for up to two years.
2. That the five-year local connection rule is amended to five years out of the last seven years.
3. That those who were under-occupying were given a priority banding allowing them to bid for properties themselves via the Choice Based Letting system process. For households under-occupying by two bedrooms, a Band B to be applied and for those under-occupying by one bed for a Band C to be applied.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

10. **RETROFITTING FIRE SUPPRESSANT SPRINKLER SYSTEMS TO RESIDENTIAL TOWER BLOCKS - PROGRAMME PROPOSAL (SEE ALSO PART II REPORT)**

The Executive considered a report that sought approval to proposals to commence a programme of retrofitting Fire Suppressant Sprinkler Systems (FSSS) to all of the Council's seven high rise flat blocks, including two sheltered schemes. The financial details were set out in an accompanying Part II report on the agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** –

1. That the following proposals and the related financial provisions set out in the accompanying part 2 report, be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee before the final recommendations Council are considered.
2. That a FSSS, as specified by the Feasibility Study carried out by John Rowan and Partners (JRP), be retrofitted to all properties as stated in Paragraph 1.1. to the report (These works are fully endorsed by Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue).
3. That the retrofit programme, led by the Investment Team, be delivered by a single appointed contractor.
4. That the contract be offered to market via advertised tender using the "Restricted Procedure" for a term of one year.
5. That it is noted that these works are deemed improvements and as such will not be rechargeable to leaseholders.
6. That approval is given for officers to procure a Retrofitting FSSS Contract, in order to provide additional fire safety within each of the Council's residential high rise flat blocks.
7. That all means of information and communication with residents, pertaining to the installation, ongoing maintenance and operation of the FSSS be utilised.
8. That it is noted that SBC was undertaking this programme prior to the anticipated changes in regulations regarding Fire Safety and Building Control, following the publication of the Building a Safer Future, Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety (Dec 2017) (Hackitt Report). (It was very likely that further Fire Safety related works might come to force in the near future and that note be given to the outcomes).

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

11. **CORPORATE PERFORMANCE FOR QUARTER THREE 2017/18**

The Executive considered a report that highlighted the Council's performance across key priorities and themes for Quarter Three 2017/2018.



With reference to the FTFC performance, the Chief Executive explained that there were two areas that were not achieving their targets and these were in relation to General Fund and HRA identified savings. He stated that the Assistant Director (Finance and Estates) would be working closely with the Leader's Financial Security Group to ensure these targets were met.

Before moving on to Corporate Performance, the Chief Executive highlighted a number of positive outcomes and areas of good performance achieved by the Council in Quarter 3. These included the selection of Mace to help develop the SG1 Town Centre Regeneration Programme, the reduction in the use of agency staff and the Play Service being shortlisted for a Local Government Chronicle (LGC) national award.

Sickness Absence remained a concern and it was explained that, amongst other action being taken to improve performance, the Assistant Director (Corporate Services and Transformation) was looking to trial a third party provider for sickness reporting as there was a need for improvement.

It was noted that for the Customer Services Centre, the percentage of calls abandoned was not on target. Members asked that officers take steps to improve the current interactive voice response (IVR) service offer.

Homelessness Preventions also remained a concern and Members were aware that two staff would shortly leave the Council's Service. The Assistant Director (Housing and Investment) explained that the Section was undergoing a review ahead of implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act and that the interim plans were in place to appoint staff pending the outcome of the review process.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the delivery of priorities, which formed the Future Town, Future Council Programme and performance of the Council across the key themes during quarter three 2017/18, together with latest achievements are noted.
2. That the improvement plans for the Customer Service Centre and associated timeframe for delivery are endorsed (as outlined in Paragraphs 3.122 to 3.126 to the report).
3. That steps outlined to improve management of sickness absence across the Council are endorsed (as outlined in Paragraphs 3.135 to 3.138 to the report).

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

## 12. **URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

None

13. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That, under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 to 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2006 No. 88.
2. That having considered the reasons for the following item being in Part II, it be determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

14. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - RETROFITTING FIRE SUPPRESSANT SPRINKLER SYSTEMS TO RESIDENTIAL TOWER BLOCKS - PROGRAMME PROPOSAL PART 2**

The Executive considered a Part II report that outlined the financial implications for the retrofitting of Fire Suppressant Sprinkler Systems to residential tower blocks, which were set out in item 10 of this agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations within the report are agreed.

*Reasons for Decision: As set out in the report.*

*Other options considered: As set out in the report.*

15. **URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

None

**CHAIR**

## STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, 7 March 2018

Time: 6.00 pm

Place: Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete

**Present:** Councillors: S Mead (Chair), M Notley, J Brown, J Lloyd, J Mead, A Mitchell CC and G Snell

**Start and End Time:** Start Time: 6.00 pm  
End Time: 7.10 pm

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors E Connolly, L Harrington and C Saunders.

There were no declarations of interest received from Members.

#### 2. MINUTES OF 7 FEBRUARY 2018

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Select Committee, held on Wednesday 7 February 2018, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 3. COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE - SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2018/2019

The Committee considered a report by the Council's Scrutiny Officer, which invited the Committee to agree its Scrutiny Work Programme for the 2018/2019 Municipal Year.

The Scrutiny Officer had canvassed all Members involved in the scrutiny process and a number of responses had been received from Members, which commented on the current scrutiny arrangements. A number of topics had also been suggested as potential scrutiny items.

Following discussion around the suitability of the topics proposed and whether the Committee was of the view that the scrutiny process could add value to their consideration, it was **RESOLVED:**

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That Scrutiny Members' feedback on ideas for improving Scrutiny (see section 4 of the Scrutiny Officer's report), be noted; and

2. That having considered ideas put forward by individual Members, and from the public, the following matters be added to the long list for consideration, prioritisation and scoping as possible Community Select Committee Scrutiny Work Programme items for 2018/2019
  - (a) Effectiveness of Resident Engagement by Stevenage Borough Council (Paragraph 5.1.2 to the report referred)
  - (b) Neighbourhood Planning (Paragraph 5.1.3 to the report referred)
  - (c) Third Sector in Stevenage (Paragraph 5.1.5 to the report referred - to be considered as a one-off item e.g. presentation to Committee revisiting the review Members had previously undertaken) (not a full review)
  - (d) Stevenage Leisure Limited (SLL) (Paragraph 5.1.8 to the report referred)
  - (e) Consultation Demographic of Residents' Survey (To be considered in conjunction with (a) above (Paragraph 5.1.9 to the report referred)
  - (f) The Community Centres' Review (Paragraph 5.1.10 to the report referred) (taken as a policy development item (see Resolution 6).
  - (g) Equality and Diversity of Tenant Involvement Groups (To be considered in conjunction with (a) above (Paragraph 5.1.11 to the report referred)

(NOTE: It was noted that the following matters be not added to the Community Select Committee's Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/2019:

- Town Centre Regeneration (Paragraph 5.1.4 to the report referred)
  - Sheltered Housing (Paragraph 5.1.6 to the report referred))
3. That, the following statutory and standing items also be provided for within the Committee's Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/2019:
    - Crime and Disorder Committee (Statutory Committee)
    - Public Health Meeting (Standing Item)
  4. That, issues raised by the public, as detailed in Paragraphs 5.3.1 to 5.6.7 inclusive, to the report be noted.
  5. That, with regard to monitoring the review of recommendations and, specifically, reports within the remit of the Committee that had been issued over the last five years follow-up work on recommendations arising from previous studies be undertaken in respect of the following:

- Decent Homes Review (Bullet Point 2 to Paragraph 6.2 to the report referred) (to be considered as a one-off item e.g. presentation to Committee)
- Damp and Mould in Stevenage Homes

6. That, with regard to policy development work for 2018/2019:

(a) The reference to “waste exceptions for refuse collections”, as listed at Bullet Point 1 to Paragraph 7.1 to the report be deleted since this rested within the remit of the Council’s Environment and Economy Select Committee;

(b) The following matters, which were due to be considered by the Executive, be the subject of pre-scrutiny work by the Committee:

- Housing Services Charges and Allocations
- Housing Pooling and De-pooling Charges
- Co-operative Council
- Community Centres Review
- Community Engagement
- Review of Tenancy Agreements (timing subject to DCLG’s publishing guidance)
- Resident Involvement

**4. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

None.

**5. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Not required.

**6. URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

None.

**CHAIR**

This page is intentionally left blank

## STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Thursday, 8 March 2018

Time: 6.00 pm

Place: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Danestrete

**Present:** Councillors: L Martin-Haugh (Chair), J Brown, M Downing,  
A Farquharson, M Gardner, J Lloyd, A Mitchell CC and R Parker CC

**Start / End** Start Time: 6.00 pm  
**Time:** End Time: 7.35 pm

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Bibby, H Burrell, L Harrington and S Mead.

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 2. MINUTES - 8 FEBRUARY AND 19 FEBRUARY 2018

The Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 8 February had been circulated to Members and were tabled at the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 8 February and Monday 19 February are approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

#### 3. MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS REVIEW

The Scrutiny Officer presented a report which requested that Members consider the further recommendations to be incorporated into an action plan for communications for the Council.

Members were of the view that consultation with young people should not be restricted to Stevenage Youth Council who although did very good work for the Town did not represent all young people in Stevenage. Officers agreed to look at improving the level of youth engagement.

In response to a comment, Officers agreed that the Council Website did need to be improved and that resources had been allocated to deliver a new website during 2018/19.

Officers also agreed to look at the wording of the recommendations to ensure they were clear and understandable prior to submission to the Portfolio Holder for this

area.

It was **RESOLVED**:

That the following recommendations be added to those that the LGA Peer Team have made for inclusion into an action plan for Communications for the Council -

1. That the Council explores how best to better engage residents in developing its communications;
2. That the Stevenage Youth Council be invited to own a strand of the place brand and to promote this amongst the Town's young people.
3. That officers consider with the Leader as part of the resulting Communications Action Plan the community engagement response, where does the Council want to be on the (Arnstein) ladder of participation?
4. That there be a priority for informed rapid response to incidents and breaking news over planned 'ribbon cutting' events, etc., when necessary.
5. That the following issues that Members had previously highlighted as part of their review be included as areas of development -
  - The importance of intelligence to pre-empt issues and proactively engage with local press.
  - The benefit of positive news, especially with regard to any developing issues which might be of concern to Stevenage residents.
  - The need to build and maintain relationships with local media agencies.
  - The need for Members to exercise caution when using social media such as Twitter or Facebook but that training be provided to them to help build confidence.
  - The need to strengthen 'out of hours' coverage especially for social media comments.

#### **4. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Estates) and the Head of Revenue and Benefits (Shared Service) gave a presentation to Members on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2019/20.

Members were advised that the administrative cost of Council Tax support was paid for by Stevenage Borough Council, with a small grant from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government. The gradual transfer of claims onto Universal Credit would result in a potential increase in administrative costs for the Council partly due to the increase in the frequency and volume of changes that would need processing because of the monthly reassessments.

Officers advised that they would be looking at developing an income band scheme that was both affordable and equitable and would minimise any unintentional circumstances. To do this would require extensive data modelling and full consultation with local taxpayers, HCC and the Police. Additional software costs would also be incurred and resulting increased workloads would need to be addressed by additional staff resources.



Members agreed the need for the scheme and the importance of modelling it to meet the needs of Stevenage residents. In response to a question, Officers confirmed that the proposal did not affect pensioners who were protected from the changes.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the presentation be noted.
2. That the Assistant Director (Finance and Estates) and the Head of Revenue and Benefits (Shared Service) report back to a future meeting of the Committee when further information is available.

## **5. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

### **The Leader's New Home Bonus Proposal presented at Council on 28 February 2018 – Stevenage Cycling Festival**

This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting nor had it been made available for public inspection. The Chair determined however that the report would be considered and call-in would be waived due to the requirement to submit a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TRRO) in sufficient time and to sign the contract with the Tour promoters to secure the event, which could not wait until the next scheduled meeting on 19 March 2018.

The Leisure Services Manager presented the report and asked for Members comments prior to submission to the Executive meeting on 13 March 2018. Officers apologised for the late circulation of the report.

Members raised the following points in relation to the event:

- Was any of the money being targeted to improving the use of the cycleway network?
- More of the High Street businesses should be encouraged to join in this year;
- It was unclear how the event helped to improve the neighbourhood areas;
- The public toilets must be open during the event.

Officers advised that the cycleways were the responsibility of the County Council but that there was ongoing dialogue between SBC and HCC regarding the cycleways.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the allocation of £90,000 from the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus allocation will be subject to approval of the Executive for the implementation and delivery of the following scheme :

- Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series £90,000
2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's comments on the New Homes Bonus Scheme 4 - Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series £90,000, will be reported to the Executive on 13<sup>th</sup> March.
  3. That Members note the achievement of the 2017/18 Stevenage Cycle Festival.

**6. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Not required.

**7. URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

None.

**CHAIR**

**Meeting** EXECUTIVE  
**Portfolio Area** RESOURCES  
**Date** 4 APRIL 2018



## NEW HOMES BONUS 2018/19

### KEY DECISION

**Authors** Clare Fletcher | 2933  
**Contributor** Senior Leadership Team  
**Lead Officers** Clare Fletcher | 2933  
**Contact Officer** Clare Fletcher | 2933

## 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To approve a range of schemes and initiatives to be funded from the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus allocation.
- 1.2 The Leader announced the proposals at the Council meeting on 28 February 2018. As these formed part of the budget they have been considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and their comments are incorporated into this report.
- 1.3 To update Members on the progress of 2017/18 New Homes Bonus schemes announced at February 2017 Council meeting and approved by Members at the March 2017 Executive.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That an allocation of £260,600 from the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus allocation be approved for the implementation and delivery of the following schemes :
  - Scheme 1- Neighbourhood Wardens £41,600;
  - Scheme 2 - Stevenage Day £10,000;
  - Scheme 3 - Acknowledging the end of World War 1 £7,000;
  - Scheme 4 - Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series £90,000; (considered by Overview and Scrutiny 9 March 2018)

- Scheme 5 - Imagine Stevenage, Mobilising our Cultural Offer £40,000;
- Scheme 6 - Supporting Town Centre events £10,000;
- Scheme 7- Participatory budgets £40,000;
- Scheme 8 - Recognising suffragette movement £7,000;
- Scheme 9 - Electric Charging points £15,000

2.2 That Members note the progress made in relation to delivery of the 2017/18 NHB initiatives.

### **3 BACKGROUND**

3.1 The New Homes Bonus scheme was originally designed to be a financial incentive for Council's to deliver housing growth and as such replaced the Housing and Planning Development Grant. It was also intended to make the link between growth and new finance more visible.

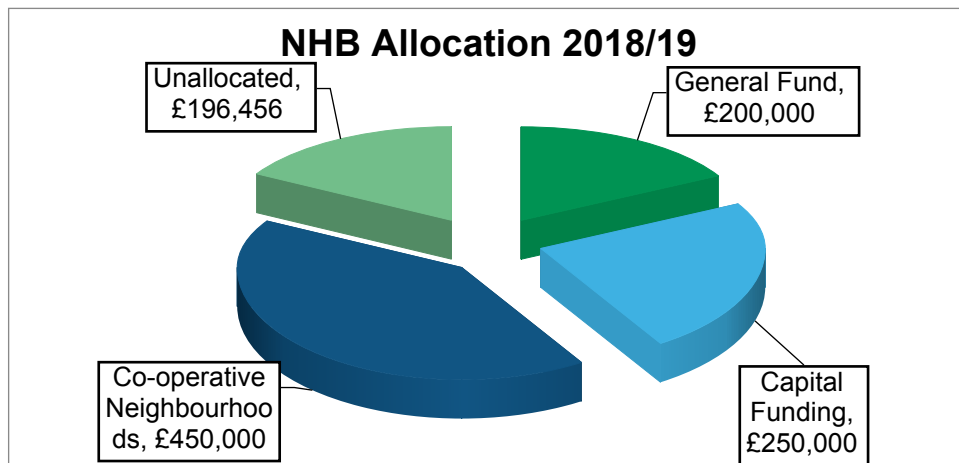
3.2 The original scheme started in April 2011 matching the additional Council Tax raised for new homes and properties brought back into use, with an additional amount of £350 for each affordable home for the following six years. In two tier areas the New Homes Bonus is split 80/20 between the District and County Councils.

3.3 The mechanism for determining the number of additional properties is to take the council tax base form completed by Council's in October, called the CTB1 and compare the number of properties between the current and previous year, less any long term empty properties. The value then applied is at 80% of the equivalent national average value Band D property.

3.4 For the 2017/18 NHB allocation the government revised the calculation for the NHB award from retaining an annual allowance for six years to four years and in addition a threshold of 40% increase in property numbers needs to be achieved before any NHB becomes payable. The government had consulted on the former change, however including the threshold calculation was not known until that years' allocation became due.

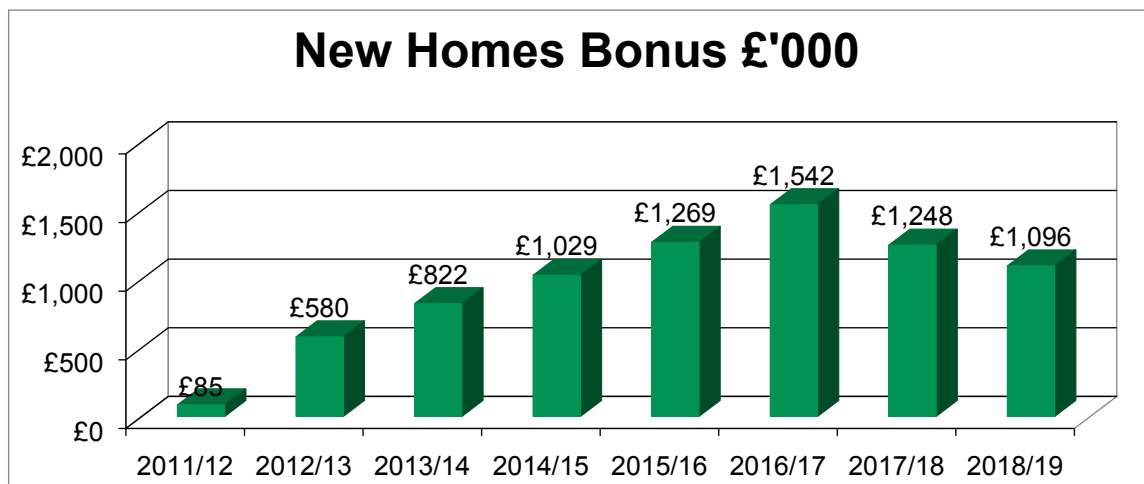
3.5 It has been the Council's policy to date not to rely on temporary income streams to fund permanent services, which includes the use of New Homes Bonus (NHB). To date, only £200,000 has been added to the General Fund base budget from NHB (and £250,000 for capital). Although it continues to be the view of the Assistant Director (Finance and Estates) that NHB should support one-off projects, a number of projects have received funding for the last few years. As part of the Business Unit Reviews (BUR) funding for three neighbourhood wardens has been secured from 2019/20. Other priority services such as the domestic abuse services and No More project may need to be resourced from the General Fund to secure their future long term.

3.6 Members have previously approved to ring fence funding of £450,000 for the co-operative neighbourhood FTFC work stream, which supports initiatives such as the playground improvement programme. The chart below details the 2018/19 NHB allocation of £1.096Million.



3.7 In addition to the £196,456 available for new schemes there is a further £67,645 that has not been allocated or returned to the NHB reserve as a result of actual costs being lower than budgeted. This means there is a total of £264,410 available to be allocated to new schemes.

3.8 Since 2011/12 the Council has received £7.67Million of NHB as shown in the chart below. The impact of reducing the award from six to four years and the threshold is clearly shown as the 2018/19 award has fallen to be in line with that received in 2014/15.



#### 4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION AND OTHER OPTIONS

##### 4.1 2018/19 Schemes

4.1.1 A number of New Homes Bonus proposals were announced as part of the Leader’s Budget Speech at Council on 28 February 2018. The following

schemes for the 2018/19 New Homes Bonus have therefore been identified for implementation:

<b>Scheme 1 : Neighbourhood Wardens</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Neighbourhoods and Co-operative Council	
<b>Allocation :</b> £41,600	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods
<b>Timescales : 2018/19</b> This allocation will top up funding for the existing three wardens cost in 2018/19 (£6,500) and fund a fourth warden in 2018/19.	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

- 4.1.2 The Neighbourhood Wardens initiative is considered to have been very successful in terms of developing the connection between the Council and its residents / local organisations. The Wardens have worked hard to resolve matters of concern and to help local people access the services they need.
- 4.1.3 Three wardens are currently employed and the use of NHB grant ensures funding up to the 31 March 2019, thereafter the three wardens will be funded from the Council's General Fund.
- 4.1.4 This additional allocation will fund a fourth warden for one year whilst further work is undertaken in year to consider future resourcing options.

<b>Scheme 2 : Stevenage Day</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Children, Young People and Leisure	
<b>Allocation :</b> £10,000	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods
<b>Timescales : June 2018</b> The additional funding for 2018/19 will allow provision of a wide, extensive and diverse range of free activities for the family and allow the voluntary sector the opportunity to fund raise.	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

- 4.1.5 Income for Stevenage Day is generated from two primary sources, catering and funfair franchises. Additional income is generated from stall fees which are predominantly taken up by charities and the voluntary sector. Over the

last few years live music stages have been added and officers have worked with Stevenage Festival to bring back Rock in the Park.

4.1.6 Infrastructure costs have increased significantly for, fencing, twin stages, PA and lighting, welfare and security. Whilst the charitable and voluntary sector provides some free activities, many of them view Stevenage Day as the biggest fund raising opportunity of the year.

4.1.7 The additional funding requested will allow more free activities to be included in Stevenage Day, which in turn will increase the footfall that should benefit the third sector organisations.

<b>Scheme 3 : Acknowledging the end of World War 1</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Children, Young People and Leisure	
<b>Allocation :</b> £7,000	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods
<b>Timescales : November 2018</b> Various events to commemorate the end of WW1	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

4.1.8 SBC supported the community and hosted a range of events and programmes marking the start of World War 1 (WW1). In 2018 it will be 100 years since the end of WW1 and the intention is to provide a range of relatively small but poignant events to mark the occasion. Pump prime funding of £3,000 was provided by the NHB fund for 2017/18. This has been used to plant poppies in various locations around the town which will flower in 2018.

4.1.9 A number of activities are planned for 2018 including:

- To lay a wooden cross at each WW1 War Grave at St Nicholas and St Mary's. The Last Post could also be played (November 10).

- A National Tribute will take place to remember the end of the WW1 War called “Battle’s Over”, A Nations Tribute. This event has been devised by The Royal Pageant-master and will be supported by The Royal British Legion. The pageant will have four main themes, each starting at a different time during the day (November 11).
- 06.00 “Battle’s Over - Sleep in peace, now the battles over”. This will take place at the start of the day with over 1,000 pipers playing the tune at each Cathedral throughout the country. In Stevenage the piper will play at the War Memorial at 06.00am (11 November).

<b>Scheme 4 : 2018 Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Children, Young People and Leisure	
<b>Allocation :</b> £90,000	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods
<b>Timescales : 2018/19</b> A wide range of events from Easter until October the highlight being the hosting of a combined HCC Hertfordshire Tour Launch and a round of the National Tour Series Professional Cycle Race event on May 28 Bank Holiday Monday	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

4.1.10 Stevenage Borough Council successfully hosted the Women’s Tour in 2015, the Pearl Izumi Tour Series in 2016 and The Tour Series final in 2017. These events have helped raise the profile of the town through national TV coverage as well as having a positive economic impact. They have also helped promote the benefits of exercise and use of the town’s cycleways.

4.1.11 Building upon previous cycling events the 2018/19 event will positively engage local cycling clubs, HCC and schools to co-produce an extensive cycling



programme. This will enable local people to have more involvement and control over what is delivered through the educational and community programme.

4.1.12 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered and confirmed their support for this initiative at its meeting of the 8 March 2018.

<b>Scheme 5 : Imagine Stevenage – Mobilising our Cultural Offer</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Children, Young People and Leisure	
<b>Allocation :</b> £40,000	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods
<b>Timescales : 2018/19</b> The initiative links to the launch of Stevenage’s Cultural Strategy in 2018.	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

4.1.13 The proposal is to appoint to a time limited-post to bring additional capacity to support the launch and mobilisation of the Cultural Strategy to ensure it becomes embedded in the way the Council and its partners think about the future of the town through a shared narrative / set of ambitions, creating new opportunities for cultural investment.

4.1.14 Deliverables will include:

- The establishment of a cultural partnership forum for the town.
- A minimum of 3 successful grant bids to cultural funders to support further cultural events, festivals, or installations in Stevenage in 2018 including Stevenage Day, the Suffragette Centenary Celebrations and Celebrate Stevenage.
- Public art installations as part of the Town Centre regeneration programme/Cycle network.
- Further stakeholder engagement with cultural organisations and cultural investors, both local and national, such as Creative Hertfordshire and Arts Council England.

<b>Scheme 6 : Supporting Town Centre events</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder :</b> Environment & Regeneration	
<b>Allocation :</b> £10,000	<b>Delivery Lead :</b> Assistant Director Planning & Regulation

**Timescales : 2018/19**

This additional funding will support and enhance a schedule of events to be held throughout the year in the town centre.

**Priorities Supported : Town Centre Regeneration**

4.1.15 Since the Council took back the management of town centre events, a Town Centre Manager has been appointed to promote business and events to bring increased footfall to the town centre by promoting the Stevenage offer through a new website and staging year round events. The additional £10,000 allocation will help with supporting a full programme throughout the year which could include (but not exclusively):

- Outdoor cinema
- Animal Crackers (small animal experience and education)
- Stevenage International Day (celebrating music, food & dance from different cultures)
- Halloween-Tastic (Face painting and Caldron making)
- And generally supporting a presence / activity in the town on a monthly basis.

**Scheme 7 : Participatory budgets**

**Lead Portfolio Holder :** Neighbourhoods and Co-operative Council

**Allocation :** £40,000

**Delivery Lead :** Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods

**Timescales : 2018/19 - 2019/20**

A pilot to trial community involvement in decision making in the two wards where the co-operative neighbourhood management programme has been implemented.

**Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management (CNM)**

4.1.16 The aim of this bid is to pilot participatory budgeting by engaging residents in meaningful consultation in the wards that the FTFC CNM programme is focussing upon. It is anticipated that this funding will facilitate effective decision making at a local level. The target Wards for next year are Martins Wood and St Nicholas.

4.1.17 The actual allocation of the budgets will be determined following public engagement and consultation.

<b>Scheme 8 : Recognising suffragette movement</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder : Leader of the Council</b>	
<b>Allocation : £7,000</b>	<b>Delivery Lead : Assistant Director Communities and Neighbourhoods</b>
<b>Timescales : 2018/19</b> Celebrating the suffragette movement with a series of events in conjunction with services such as the museum.	
<b>Priorities Supported : Co-operative Neighbourhood Management</b>	

4.1.18 This money will be used in conjunction with and is complementary to the programme of events which will be delivered by the museum. The funding will be used to mark the occasion in November 2018 when women could first become MPs and then December 2018 when women could vote in an election.

4.1.19 It is envisaged that this will include a town centre event which will be educational and involve local school children.

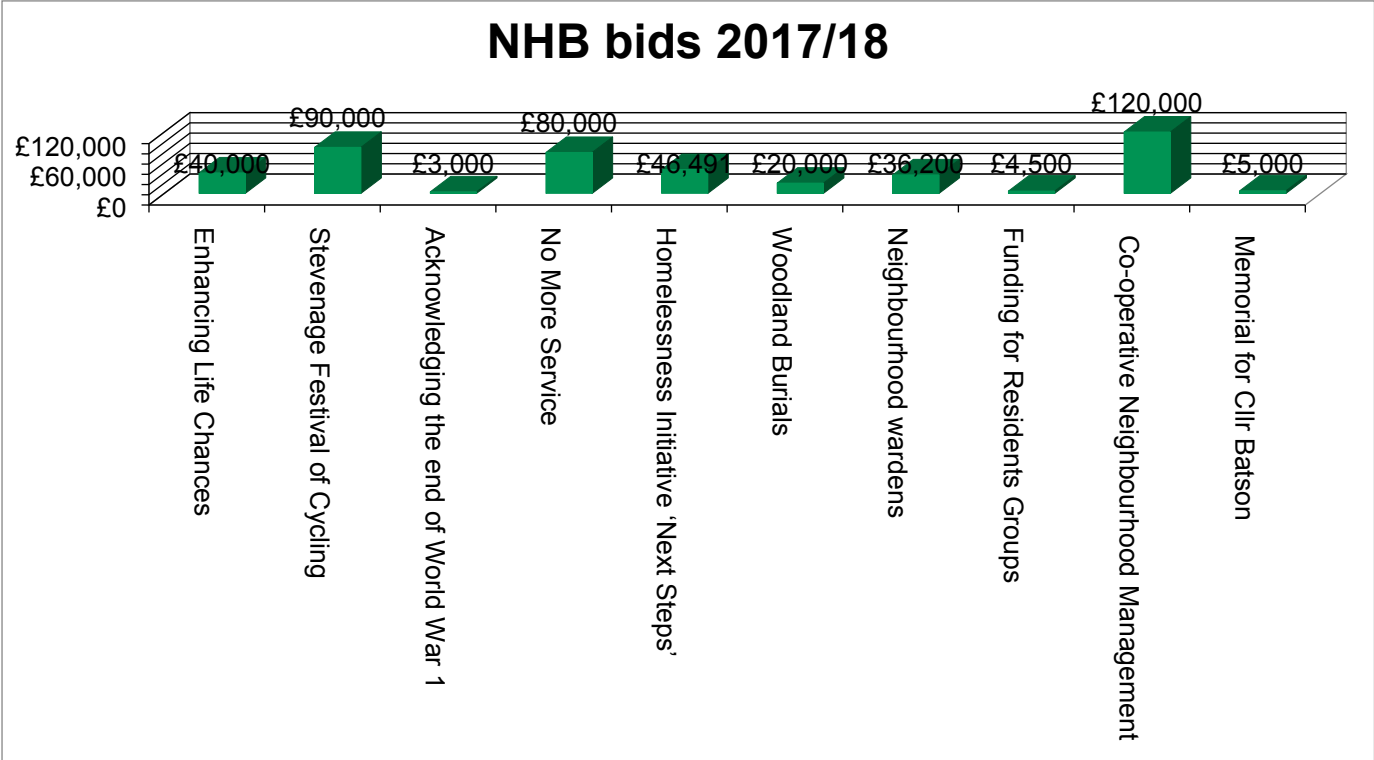
<b>Scheme 9 : Electric Charging Points</b>	
<b>Lead Portfolio Holder : Economic, Enterprise and Transport</b>	
<b>Allocation : £15,000</b>	<b>Delivery Lead : Assistant Director Planning &amp; Regulation</b>
<b>Timescales : 2018/19</b> Installation of electric charging points	
<b>Priorities Supported : Town Centre Regeneration</b>	

4.1.20 The funding will meet the cost of installing two twin charging point for electric vehicles in four existing parking bays in the Quadrant. This scheme aims to support the use of electric cars within Stevenage. The scheme will recover the cost of the electricity used through fees for parking in these bays. The cost of charging will match that at the other privately run bays in the town centre. This is open to the public and will not require users to be a member of a scheme. The users will still pay the parking charges for the bays.

4.1.21 This proposal supports the Council's sustainable transport policies and contribute towards improving air quality for Stevenage residents.

**4.1 Update on 2017/18 schemes**

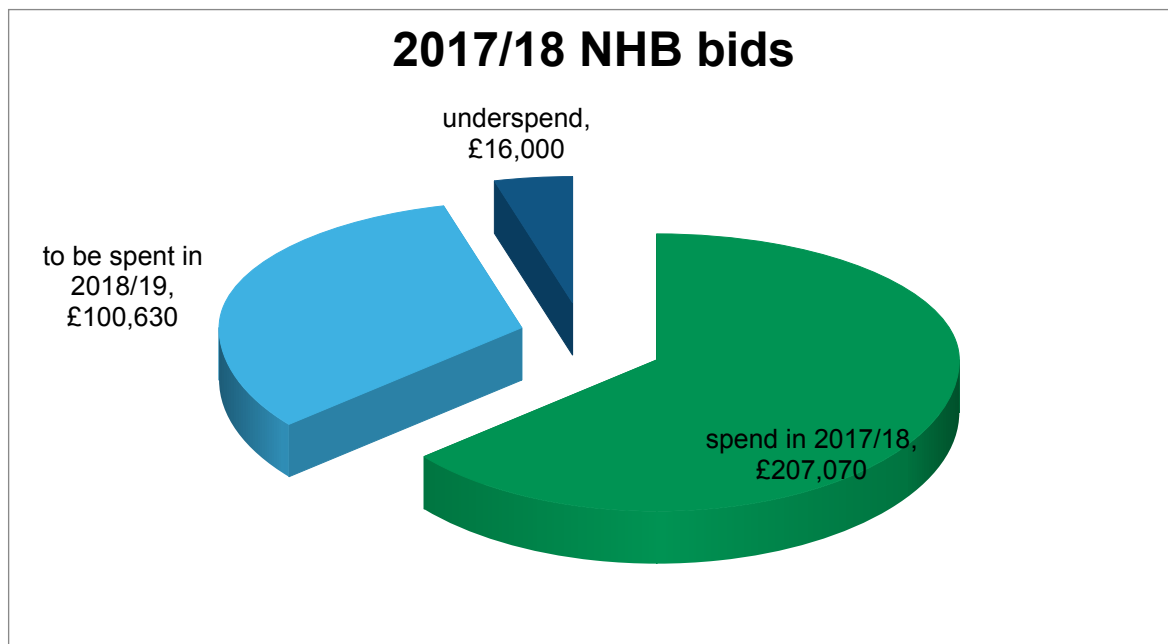
4.2.1 The 2017/18 schemes approved in the March 2017 report are summarised in the chart below.



4.2.2 Subsequent to the initial approval in April 2017, the 'next steps' project NHB funding was removed, as alternative central government homeless funding was allocated for 2017/18 which was used to resource the project.

4.2.3 A new project was approved by Members (included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy to the September Executive) to support the Stevenage Credit Union to be able to expand its membership and offer through introducing an ICT system which provides greater functionality. The Assistant Director Finance and Estates proposed a number of KPIs to demonstrate the success of the new software once implemented.

4.2.4 A summary of the 2017/18 scheme progress is included in Appendix A to this report and the projected amounts to be spent are summarised in the chart below.



## 4.2 Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.3.1 At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 8 March, Members considered the NHB bid for the Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series (£90,000). Members asked a number of questions about the event, including the logistics of running the event, how we quantifying the positive impact on the businesses, improvements to the cycle ways by HCC, and wider impact across the town. Members also asked how the additional Warden would be funded beyond the pilot year, and the priorities of Neighbourhood Wardens. Members did not suggest any changes to the proposal.

4.3.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments from their meeting of the 19 March will be highlighted to the Executive at their meeting of the 4 April 2018.

## 5. IMPLICATIONS

### 4.3 Financial Implications

5.1.1 The final New Homes Bonus allocations for 2018/19 have been published, with amounts paid monthly direct to councils with the first monthly payment April 2018.

5.1.2 As part of the budget setting process, Council approved a General Fund Revenue Account Contingency Sum in the Budget and Policy Framework for 2018/19 of £400,000 for expenditure determined by the Executive. This expenditure is funded from the New Homes Bonus reserve and the impact on the General Fund is neutral.

5.1.3 Part of the New Homes Bonus has been earmarked for previously approved budget policy commitments these summarised below:

<b>Policy Commitments</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
Contribution to the General Fund	£200,000
Contribution to the Capital Reserve	£250,000
Contribution to Co-operative Neighbourhood Management	£450,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£900,000</b>

5.1.4 The total new homes bonus expenditure for 2018/19 is summarised below.

<b>2018/19 New Homes Bonus Allocation</b>	<b>£1,096,456</b>
<b>Balances from previous year unused/returned</b>	<b>£67,645</b>
<b>Total Possible allocation</b>	<b>£1,164,101</b>
Less : Contribution to General Fund Budget	-£200,000
Less : Contribution to Capital Reserve	-£250,000
Less: Neighbourhood Improvements programme	-£450,000
Less : Contingency left in reserve for scheme over-runs	-£3,501
<b>Allocation Remaining to Support Schemes</b>	<b>£260,600</b>

<b>New Homes Bonus</b>	<b>Spend</b>
Scheme 1- Neighbourhood Wardens	£41,600
Scheme 2- Stevenage Day	£10,000
Scheme 3- Acknowledging the end of World War 1	£7,000
Scheme 4- Stevenage Cycling Festival incorporating the Tour Series	£90,000
Scheme 5- Imagine Stevenage – Mobilising our Cultural	£40,000

New Homes Bonus	Spend
Offer	
Scheme 6- Supporting Town Centre events	£10,000;
Scheme 7- Participatory budgets	£20,000
Scheme 8- Recognising suffragette movement	£7,000;
Scheme 9- Electric Charging points	£15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£260,600</b>

#### 4.4 Legal Implications

5.2.1 The New Homes Bonus funding is a non-ring-fenced grant and as such can be spent as recommended by Members.

#### 4.5 Risk Implications

5.3.1 An amount of £3,501 has not been allocated to allow for any potential overspends. The schemes are monitored throughout the year and reported as part of the quarterly monitoring process.

#### 4.6 Policy Implications

5.4.1 The 2018/19 NHB proposals were considered at the Overview and Scrutiny meeting of the 19 March 2018 prior to Executive on the 4 April 2018.

#### 5.5 Equalities and Diversity Implications

5.5.1 Stevenage Borough Council has committed itself 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. These considerations are the duty of decision makers. Initial Equality Impact Assessments (EqIAs) have been carried out on the recommended New Homes Bonus schemes and further full EqIAs will be carried out, where appropriate, if the schemes go ahead. It is anticipated that there will be a positive impact from the schemes and EqIAs will be used to ensure that all sections of the community can benefit from them.

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

BD1 New Homes Bonus Report 2017/18 March 2017 Executive

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/160923/160931/160995/20170314-Item7.pdf>

BD2 General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (2017/18-2021/22)  
September 2017 Executive

[http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/182083/182087/182091/Executive-19-September\\_2107-Item5.pdf](http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/182083/182087/182091/Executive-19-September_2107-Item5.pdf)

## **APPENDICES**

A Appendix A- 2017/18 New Homes Bonus Bids progress



**APPENDIX A PROGRESS ON 2017/18 NEW HOMES BONUS ALLOCATIONS**

Ref	Bid Title	Portfolio Lead	Funding 2017/18 allocation	Projected 2017/18	Spend 2018/19	Under/over spend	Leader Officer Commentary
NHB 1	Enhancing Life Chances (Child poverty support, for vulnerable families in Stevenage)	Children, Young People and Leisure	£40,000	£20,500	£14,500	5,000	<p><b>Bespoke Financial Information and Advice Service through Stevenage Children's Centres. Funds allocated £14,500.</b> CAB have been commissioned to provide this service from 1.1.18 to 31.8.18. Outreach surgery sessions are being delivered. The first project report from CAB is due 31.4.18.</p> <p><b>Bespoke Financial Advice for Families with Disabled Children. Funds allocated £20,000.</b> Herts Money Advice Unit (MAU) was commissioned to deliver this project from June 2017 until June 2018. Reports indicate that up to November 2017, 75 cases had been processed, with predicted annualised additional benefit income of £142,000 being acquired for these families.</p> <p><b>Baby Box Project: Allocated funding £5,000.</b> This project was not progressed following issues in developing the scheme to its full potential. This has been reallocated to NHB 10 in agreement with the Leader.</p>
NHB 2	Festival of Cycling (Cycle Fest – First and Best)	Children, Young People and Leisure	£90,000	£74,000	£0	16,000	The first Stevenage Cycling Festival Stevenage Festival of Cycling hosted a wide range of events from Easter until October, activities included led rides, Breeze, junior and family skills training, women only rides (Breeze), come and try events, family fun days. Undoubtedly the highlight of the festival was the final round of the televised Tour Series, on bank holiday Monday may 28 which started with a range of community cycling and activities a followed by the first round of the Hertfordshire Tarmac Tour Series. The final rounds of the Women's and Men's Tour series met all of our expectations in terms of the on the street and TV spectators. The event was supported by live music, trick cyclists, themed characters a community and promotional zone with free competitions and give always. (Underspend of £16,000 returned to NHB balances).
NHB 3	Acknowledging the end of World War One	Children, Young People and Leisure	£3,000	£0	£3,000	0	During 2017 the Council will worked with key partners the Royal British Legion(RBL) and the Parks and open spaces team to plant poppies at key locations in the town which will flower for the first time during 2018. We have continued to meet with RBL to provide commemorative events on 11 November 2018 and to acknowledge the end of WW1, we will be placing poppies in the trees on the Bowling Green and union flags on lamp posts around the bowling green area from October 2018.
NHB 4	The No More Service	Children, Young People and Leisure	£80,000	£80,000	£0	0	During 2017/18 The No More Service has worked with 69 clients, 45 males and 14 females. We have produced a service review report, an action plan and are working on a strategy. Work has commenced on the selling of services provided by No More which includes drug testing and a project we have designed for County, which we should hear about in the next few months. Work continues regarding the savings made to SBC and partners and we have been able to predict that £129,861 has been saved jointly by SBC, police and Herts Fire & Rescue for intensive support during April 2016 to March 2017. (reported 3rd quarter monitoring report to March Executive )
NHB 5	Homelessness Prevention Initiative 'Next Steps'	Housing	£0	£0	£0	0	This option was removed as central homeless grant was available to fund the initiative
NHB 5B	Credit Union new software	Housing	£45,000	£19,070	£25,930	0	replaces initiative NHB5. The supplier has been commissioned and the work is in progress currently. The Council will be monitoring the KPI's after the software becomes operational. This should help the credit union expand its offer, an alternative to high interest loans and meet the minimum criteria set our for such organisations in terms of loan book and investments.
NHB 6	Woodland Burials	Environment & Regeneration	£20,000	£13,500	£6,500	0	Works have commenced to establish the natural burial site. Boundary fencing has been installed and trees and hedging has been purchased for planting. Architects were commissioned and have drawn up detailed designs for the entrance to the site and pathway through the ground that will be considered by members in due course. The remaining budget will be spent in 2018/19.
NHB 8	Neighbourhood warden	Neighbourhoods and Co-operative Council	£36,200	£0	£36,200	0	Three Wardens were appointed in February 2017, and have worked with various teams and communities with some significant successes with a focus on supporting communities to improve their neighbourhoods, through a range of campaigns and promotions. This allocation together with the 2018/19 allocation ensure that all wardens plus a new post are funded up to the 31 March 2019. After this mainstream funding has been found for three wardens as at 31/3/2018.
NHB 9	Memorial for Cllr Batson	The Leader	£5,000	£0	£5,000	0	This budget will be spent in 2018/19 and will be done in conjunction with the family to ensure a fitting tribute.
NHB 10	Funding for residents groups	Neighbourhoods and Co-operative Council	£4,500	£0	£9,500	-5,000	The funding has been used to strengthen existing residents' groups, promoting them in local areas and at events such as Stevenage Day. A project led by Peartree Spring Primary School (see box below) includes plans for the school to create a parent volunteer group to maintain the improved alleyway on behalf of the school and the council. The success of this project is resulting in Shephalbury Park Primary School approaching us to do something similar. (See NHB 1)

**APPENDIX A PROGRESS ON 2017/18 NEW HOMES BONUS ALLOCATIONS**

Ref	Bid Title	Portfolio Lead	Funding 2017/18 allocation	Projected 2017/18	Spend 2018/19	Under/over spend	Leader Officer Commentary
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£323,700</b>	<b>£207,070</b>	<b>£100,630</b>	<b>£16,000</b>	
<b>Additional information regarding CNM programme</b>							
<b>CNM</b>	<b>CNM programme</b>	<b>Neighbourhoods and Co-operative Council</b>	<b>£550,000</b>	<b>£422,000</b>	<b>£128,000</b>		As part of a programme to improve public spaces across the town, we have invested in 9 new play areas that were designed by the children who use them. Following issues with fly-tipping and vandalism to litterbins, we have replaced and installed new facilities in Pin Green and Shephall, displaying our council's logo to help residents understand that any issues they spot with them should be reported to us. Signage and noticeboards in these wards' green spaces have been replaced, and some of the unsightly shrubs and hedges have been removed or pruned to improve the look and feel of local areas. We are working on a project with Peartree Spring Primary School who approached us on behalf of their school community to tidy and brighten up an alleyway that is a popular route to school for the children and their families. Our improvements include installing a new litterbin - sponsored by Arriva - replacing the dilapidated fencing, removing overgrown trees and shrubs and improving the footpath for wheelchair and buggy users. We are delighted to work with them and look forward to the children designing and creating a more inspiring journey to start their school day. 2018/19 relates to revenue spend (green space signage , public realm works).

**Meeting:** EXECUTIVE  
**Portfolio Area:** Community Safety  
**Date:** 4 APRIL 2018

## COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018-21

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



### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider, for recommendation to Council, the draft Community Safety Strategy which outlines the emerging priorities of the SoSafe partnership for the next three years and which was considered by the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) at its meeting on 5 February 2018.
- 1.2 The Council's Constitution includes the Community Safety Strategy as a Budget and Policy Framework item and as such the Overview & Scrutiny Committee were consulted on the draft Strategy post consideration by the Executive on 13 March 2018.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Council be recommended to approve the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy as appended to this report.
- 2.2 That Council be recommended to amend Article 4 of the Constitution to delete from the Policy Framework the Community Safety Strategy as this is no longer a statutory requirement (*Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*<sup>1</sup>).

### 3. BACKGROUND

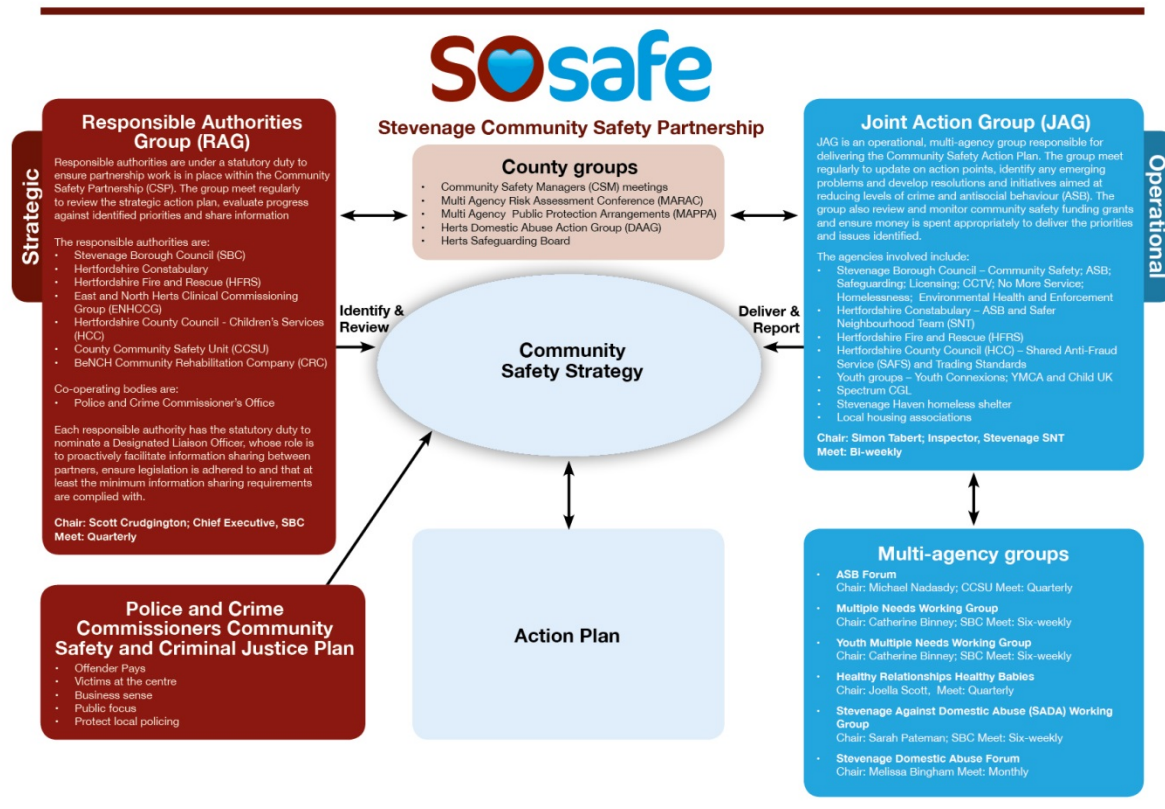
- 3.1 The town is rapidly changing and with a preferred developer MACE now on board to help take forward the town centre regeneration ambitions there will be much more change to come over the coming months and years. The population is growing and a broad cross-section of people have chosen Stevenage to live and work in. Stevenage continues to be a safe place to live and work. There are however, peaks in crime and anti-social behaviour, often through the sudden occurrence of a criminal activity, or a spate of connected incidents. The Council is aware through the most recent Residents Survey that people in some parts of the town feel troubled by youth nuisance and that

<sup>1</sup> *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011* found at:  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted>

## Part I Release to Press

they are concerned about going out after dark. The Community Safety Partnership -SoSafe will work to address these issues working co-operatively with local communities.

- 3.2 The development of a strategy is central to the overall purpose of the Community Safety Partnership and is summarised in the diagram below.



- 3.3 This strategy will ensure that Stevenage, as a co-operative council, utilises its available resources in the most effective manner possible to deliver meaningful crime reduction outcomes. SoSafe is committed to building on progress achieved in recent years, and will strive to continue to drive down crime and disorder in Stevenage. In his most recent visit to the partnership in February 2018 the Police and Crime Commissioner recognised the strength and effectiveness of SoSafe as a community safety partnership.

- 3.4 Between 2015-2018 the partnership secured £132k of external funding to help it deliver on priorities and initiatives. This funding resulted in the delivery of some innovative projects including the SoSafe Youth Ambassadors, the Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA) Traveller Project and various community reassurance events. In addition to this, the No More Service allotment successfully secured a £1,000 grant from the Tesco Bags for Help scheme and in February 2018 SADA won the Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) Excellence in the Community award.

- 3.5 The ASB Team managed a number of complex cases that resulted in successful enforcement action being taken. This included re-possession of a nuisance property on the Absolute Ground for Possession, as well as a

**Part I**  
**Release to Press**

Property Closure Order on an address where drugs were being dealt that resulted in a high level of ASB for the residents.

- 3.6 Numerous partnership operations with the Police were undertaken such as regular residents' surgeries in tower blocks where there were reports of ASB and crime, have helped to reassure residents and encourage them to report ng nuisance behaviour.
- 3.7 During the year the partnership has engaged with residents on a number of occasions including the Domestic Abuse 16 Days of Action and Operation Night Owl which targeted drinking and the night time economy. The partnership has been instrumental in arranging training for front line staff, partners and volunteers; including tackling extremism, DA Awareness, Hate Crime Awareness Training, Safeguarding and Child Sexual Exploitation Training.
- 3.8 By properly engaging with the local community and working with them to shape the service offer it has been possible to increase the profile of the partnership and highlight the benefits of co-operative through the work of volunteers and partners and through mechanisms like the ASB forum. It has also been possible to highlight what can be achieved when resources are co-ordinated and strategically aligned in particular the outcomes achieved through SADA.
- 3.9 During November and December 2017, the SoSafe Partnership worked with local partners to shape the draft strategy. The themes for the strategy were further developed at consultation events in the town centre and via surveys shared with customers. There are a number of differences between the 2015/17 and 2018/20 community safety strategies. Notably, the overall aims have changed to focus on helping people to feel safe and to tackle perceptions of ASB and crime. This will be achieved by empowering residents to get involved and encouraging them to learn more about actual levels of crime and disorder in Stevenage. The 2018/20 strategy aims to safeguard the broader spectrum of vulnerable people beyond those who are victims of domestic abuse. ASB will be tackled with partners and the local community, working co-operatively. In the 2015/18 strategy, the No More Service set out to reduce harm to the individual/client, whereas the 2018/20 strategy is seeking to motivate clients to break the cycle of addiction themselves by understanding the impact their substance misuse has on the community, not just the individual.
- 3.10 The proposed strategy accompanies this report. It is suggested that, subject to agreement by Council to approve the strategy for implementation, it be adopted by the Responsible Authorities Group on 23 April 2018.
- 3.10.1 There are a number of key points that require consideration. These are set out in the following sections of the report and formulate the rationale upon which the recommendations are presented.

## **Part I** **Release to Press**

### **4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION AND OTHER OPTIONS**

#### **4.1 Local priorities for Stevenage**

4.1.1 The draft Community Safety Strategy has gone through the necessary process and compiled based on evidence obtained from Police Performance Reports, the 2017 Residents Survey results, consultation with members of the public and partners and surveys completed by service users. The priorities identified are those that ranked highest, following the consultation.

From 2015-2018 the identified priorities were:

1. Helping to make People feel Safe
2. Reduce Crime and Disorder
3. Provide a Co-ordinated Response to Domestic Abuse
4. Tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) with partners
5. Reduce harm caused by drugs and alcohol

The five key priorities identified for 2018-2021 are:

1. Helping to make People feel Safe
2. Reduce crime and Disorder
3. Protect and Safeguard Vulnerable People
4. Tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) Co-operatively with partners
5. Break the cycle of substance misuse and offending

**These priorities are underpinned by two overarching objectives to:**

- Build Resilient Communities
- Work co-operatively with communities to help reduce fear of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

#### **4.2 Rationale for priorities**

4.2.1 This strategy provides a framework for the activities and initiatives that the partnership delivers to improve community safety and community confidence in the town. Following consultation with members of the public and partners, this strategy identifies the priorities that SoSafe will focus on over the next three years. Whilst many of the priorities remain the same as in previous years there is a broadening focus on the wider safeguarding agenda. Domestic abuse remains a key area of focus within this arena, but alongside issues such as child sexual exploitation and human trafficking. The council also remains committed to a cooperative approach of working with communities across the town and this remains an underlying theme across all objectives.

## **Part I**

### **Release to Press**

4.2.2 Alongside the strategy, a detailed action plan is produced each year, which shows how SoSafe will achieve its aims and objectives. It contains specific targets and is monitored, updated and reviewed regularly.

4.2.3 As the Co-operative Neighbourhood Management Programme progresses, there will be further opportunities to develop localised approaches to support delivery of the Community Safety Strategy at a neighbourhood level. For example it may be possible to deliver more targeted intervention in neighbourhood hot-spots, and/or to work with colleagues to design-out crime in planned neighbourhood improvement works. There will also be further opportunities to develop interventions with local neighbourhood-based community and voluntary organisations.

4.2.4 The Community Safety Strategy has been developed with due regard to the following:

- Public Consultation
- National Developments and Changes to Legislation
- Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) plan *Everybody's Business*
- Annual Strategic Assessment for Stevenage 2016/17
- County Community Safety Unit (CCSU) domestic abuse strategy and the Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse Strategy
- CCSU drugs and alcohol strategy
- National Probation Service Reducing Offending Strategy
- Historical and Current Crime Data.
- Residents Survey.

### **4.3 Strategic fit and context**

4.3.1 The profile of the SoSafe partnership is of growing importance and it is increasingly being called upon to share best practice and co-operative ways of working. The responsibility to make Stevenage a safe place to live, work and visit is paramount to all SoSafe partners.

4.3.2 The Community Safety report was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 19 March 2018, the report was acknowledged by the Committee.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Financial Implications**

5.1.1 The council will utilise existing resources to help tackle some of these issues, including its communications functions, its continued investment in CCTV and the work of its own community safety team. There is also recognition that a number of existing activities that are having a positive impact are reliant on time-limited funding, such as New Homes Bonus and other external funding resources. Decisions on the future of some of these services will need to be considered in relation to this. These funding challenges are also being



## **Part I**

### **Release to Press**

considered through the Communities and Neighbourhoods Business Unit Review. The community safety strategy remains a partnership strategy for the town and the council will continue to work with other commissioners and funders such as Herts County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Government Departments and other funders to help lever in investment where possible.

- 5.1.2 There may be some match-funding or pump priming requirements related to progressing certain initiatives and projects. The SoSafe partnership Action Plan is developed annually as part of the final strategy and will highlight where resources will be required to support delivery of specific projects.

### **5.2 Legal Implications**

- 5.2.1 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 Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 5.3.1 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.
- 5.3.2 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, our 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.

### **5.4 Risk Implications**

- 5.4.1 The strategic commitment of key stakeholders in the development of the strategy has helped to mitigate key risks such as focussing on the wrong priorities or those over which the partners have little impact or influence. Risks



## **Part I**

### **Release to Press**

will continue to be considered as interventions develop through the ongoing work of RAG.

#### **5.5 Policy Implications**

**5.5.1** The strategy links into other key SBC policies including the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and the health and wellbeing strategy.

#### **5.6 Staffing and Accommodation Implications**

**5.6.1** Posts within the Community Safety Team will be realigned to fit the strategic aspirations within the strategy through the Communities and Neighbourhoods Business Unit Review.

#### **5.7 Human Rights Implications**

**5.7.1** The development of the strategy has taken into account human rights including a person's right to defend their rights in our courts and compels public organisations (including local authorities and the police) to treat everyone equally, with fairness, dignity and respect.

#### **5.8 Service Delivery Implications**

**5.8.1** The strategy will influence and shape the work of the SoSafe Partnership and its delivery strands are clearly aligned back to the outcomes that are sought. This will also apply to the function of the Responsible Authorities Group that will oversee delivery of the strategy reporting to Stevenage Together.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Community Safety Strategy 2015/18

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/117036/117040/117104/Council-25-Feb-2015-Item13-AppA.pdf>

### **APPENDICES**

- Draft Community Stevenage Strategy 2018/21

This page is intentionally left blank

# Community Safety Strategy 2018/21



## Working Together to Make Stevenage Safer Community Safety Strategy 2018-21

Page 43

DRAFT



# Contents

Foreword

Introduction to SoSafe

Aims & objectives

Monitoring and measuring performance

**Objective one – Helping to make People feel safe**

- Working Co-operatively with partners – **The Tower Blocks Action Plan**

**Objective two – Reduce Crime and Disorder including Criminal Damage**

- Being a volunteer - **What it means to be a Volunteer**

**Objective three – Protect and Safeguard Vulnerable People**

- Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse – **“The Safe Space”**

**Objective four – Tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) co-operatively with Partners**

- Intensive Family Support – **Sustaining Tenancies**

**Objective five – Drugs and alcohol**

- No More Service – **Sustaining Change**

**Appendix One – (SADA) Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017-2020**

**Appendix Two – Anti social Behaviour Promise**

**Appendix Three – No More Service Report**

## Foreword

I am pleased to present SoSafe's Community Safety Strategy for 2018/20. It outlines some of our successes, our priorities over the next three years and the actions we will take to address them.

Stevenage is a co-operative council that prides itself on collaborative working with partners and the community. SoSafe will continue to address the issues the residents, visitors and those that work in our town see as a priority, by involving you in the decision making and by consulting with you.

In future years, as in the past three years, our priorities are what the people of the town have told us they want to see us focusing on, including tackling crime such as domestic abuse and crime associated with drugs and alcohol.

The town is rapidly changing and is a growing, exciting, vibrant place with planned regeneration that is attractive to new businesses and new homes. Our population is growing and the town has a broad cross-section of people who have chosen Stevenage to live and work in. Stevenage continues to be a safe place to live and work, with lower the lowest dwelling burglaries in the County. There will naturally be peaks in crime and anti-social behaviour and we are aware that people in certain parts of the town feel troubled by youth nuisance and are concerned about going out after dark. SoSafe will work to address these issues and involve the communities in order to solve these problems.

There continues to be unprecedented pressures on public sector funding. This strategy will ensure that as a co-operative council we are utilising all available resources in the most effective manner to achieve value for money. SoSafe is committed to building on progress made in recent years, and will continue to drive down crime and disorder in Stevenage. Our partnership is unique, and encourages other partners to be part of SoSafe which is passionate about its people, the town, and creating safe environments for our communities.

Our aim for this strategy is to build safer, stronger and more confident communities. We will do this by decreasing crime and improving community safety. Over the following pages, we have captured actions that we have already completed, are doing, and will do in order to achieve this. I hope that by reading this strategy, you will see how SoSafe is working towards this aim for the benefit of all who live, shop and work in the town.

Scott Crudgington, Chair of SoSafe

Councillor Jackie Hollywell, Executive Member for Safer Communities

## Introduction to SoSafe

SoSafe (Stevenage Community Safety Partnership (CSP)) is a strategic partnership, working to reduce crime and offending in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. It is made up of the following organisations:

- Stevenage Borough Council (SBC)
- Hertfordshire Constabulary
- BeNCH Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) (formerly Hertfordshire Probation)
- East and North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group (E&NH CCG)
- Hertfordshire County Council (HCC)
- Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS).

SoSafe is made up of key agencies that each bring their own unique specialism to the partnership. By working collaboratively with partners and our local communities, we have been able to make significant changes to the lives of those people who need support, guidance and advice, whilst tackling crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.

This strategy provides a framework for the many activities and initiatives that the partnership deliver to improve community safety and community confidence in the town. Following consultation with members of the public and partners, this strategy identifies the priorities that SoSafe will focus on over the next three years.

Alongside the strategy, a detailed action plan is produced each year, which shows how SoSafe will achieve its aim and objectives. It contains specific targets and is monitored, updated and reviewed regularly.

The Community Safety Strategy has been developed with due regard to the following:

- Public Consultation
- National Developments and Changes to Legislation
- Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) plan *Everybody's Business*
- Annual Strategic Assessment for Stevenage 201/17
- County Community Safety Unit (CCSU) domestic abuse strategy and the Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse Strategy
- CCSU drugs and alcohol strategy
- National Probation Service Reducing Offending Strategy
- Historical and Current Crime Data.
- Residents Survey.

SoSafe could not achieve its objectives without help from the public. It is the duty of *all* citizens to play their part in making their communities safer. People can contribute by reporting crime and disorder, supporting criminal justice agencies, and by taking responsibility for their personal safety and the safety of others.

For ideas on other ways to get involved, please visit our website: <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/about-stevenage/so-safe/>







## Stevenage Community Safety Partnership

### County groups

- Community Safety Managers (CSM) meetings
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- Herts Domestic Abuse Action Group (DAAG)
- Herts Safeguarding Board

### Joint Action Group (JAG)

JAG is an operational, multi-agency group responsible for delivering the Community Safety Action Plan. The group meet regularly to update on action points, identify any emerging problems and develop resolutions and initiatives aimed at reducing levels of crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB). The group also review and monitor community safety funding grants and ensure money is spent appropriately to deliver the priorities and issues identified.

The agencies involved include:

- Stevenage Borough Council – Community Safety; ASB; Safeguarding; Licensing; CCTV; No More Service; Homelessness; Environmental Health and Enforcement
- Hertfordshire Constabulary – ASB and Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)
- Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue (HFRS)
- Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) – Shared Anti-Fraud Service (SAFS) and Trading Standards
- Youth groups – Youth Connexions; YMCA and Child UK
- Spectrum CGL
- Stevenage Haven homeless shelter
- Local housing associations

**Chair: Simon Tabert; Inspector, Stevenage SNT**  
**Meet: BI-weekly**

### Multi-agency groups

- **ASB Forum**  
Chair: Michael Nadasdy; CCSU Meet: Quarterly
- **Multiple Needs Working Group**  
Chair: Catherine Binney; SBC Meet: Six-weekly
- **Youth Multiple Needs Working Group**  
Chair: Catherine Binney; SBC Meet: Six-weekly
- **Healthy Relationships Healthy Babies**  
Chair: Joella Scott, Meet: Quarterly
- **Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA) Working Group**  
Chair: Sarah Pateman; SBC Meet: Six-weekly
- **Stevenage Domestic Abuse Forum**  
Chair: Melissa Bingham Meet: Monthly

### Action Plan

### Community Safety Strategy

Identify & Review

Deliver & Report

### Responsible Authorities Group (RAG)

Responsible authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure partnership work is in place within the Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The group meet regularly to review the strategic action plan, evaluate progress against identified priorities and share information

The responsible authorities are:

- Stevenage Borough Council (SBC)
- Hertfordshire Constabulary
- Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue (HFRS)
- East and North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group (ENHCCG)
- Hertfordshire County Council - Children's Services (HCC)
- County Community Safety Unit (CCSU)
- BeNCH Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

Co-operating bodies are:

- Police and Crime Commissioner's Office

Each responsible authority has the statutory duty to nominate a Designated Liaison Officer, whose role is to proactively facilitate information sharing between partners, ensure legislation is adhered to and that at least the minimum information sharing requirements are complied with.

**Chair: Scott Crudginton; Chief Executive, SBC**  
**Meet: Quarterly**

### Police and Crime Commissioners Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan

- Offender Pays
- Victims at the centre
- Business sense
- Public focus
- Protect local policing

Operational

Strategic

## Findings from Stevenage Borough Council 2017 Residents Survey

Almost 9 in 10 (88%) residents feel safe when outside in their local area during the day, and more than half of residents (52%) say that they feel very or fairly safe when outside in their local area after dark. Both of these figures, while still below the national average, are 5 percentage points higher than in 2015 – a statistically significant increase.

Residents who said that they felt very or fairly unsafe outside in their local area were presented with a list of potential issues and asked to select the issue that concerns them the most. Almost 9 in 10 (87%) residents selected 'Youths causing crime/disruption'.

Residents were then asked to rank their top three most important priorities from the previous list from 1 to 3, with 1 being the most important, 2 the second most important and 3 the third most important. A rank analysis of responses show that the top three priorities of Stevenage residents are:

1. A regenerated Town Centre and leisure park
2. A range of housing including affordable housing to buy or rent, and
3. Reducing current levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.

**In 2015, the top three priorities of residents were very similar, although ordered differently:**

1. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
2. A regenerated town centre, and
3. A range of housing including affordable housing to buy or rent.

**These findings together with talking to residents and visitors to the town at our various events have helped us to determine what our SoSafe Aims and objectives are for the next three years.**



## Differences between 2015/17 and 2018/20 strategies

In comparison to the community safety strategy of 2015/18, the SoSafe aims have changed to improve our co-operative working with partner agencies and the community. As a partnership we want to empower the community to get involved and learn more about the actual levels of anti-social behaviour and crime in Stevenage, and give them the chance to get involved and be a part of the SoSafe partnership. The aim for the 2018/20 strategy is to change people's perception of youth crime and inform the community including schools and businesses what the facts are regarding crime and disorder, in comparison the 2015/18 strategy stated we wanted to help people feel safe at home, and while this is true we aim to involve members of the community and help them to feel safer in the town, especially after dark.

The 2018/20 strategy aims to protect and safeguard vulnerable people, including support for those who have experienced domestic abuse, but also our work to protect children and older vulnerable people. This has changed from the 2015/18 Strategy where the aim was to provide a coordinated response to domestic abuse. Through this work we have learnt that survivors of domestic abuse are key to the shaping the service, we need to ensure we continue to give them a voice. The multiple needs working group takes a coordinated approach to safeguarding clients, including those that would normally not be supported and the award winning Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse strives to deliver and share best practices.

Page 49 Unlike the 2015/18 strategy, we aim to tackle anti-social behaviour co-operatively with partners, rather than the community alone. This will give us the ability to communicate with partners, problem solve with the community, share important information, and act early to prevent crime and disorder. The aim is to have positive activities to divert attention away from hotspot areas. By using our community safety ambassadors we will be able to look at problematic areas and find new ideas that will help reduce levels of youth crime. Since August 2016 we have been using the Public Space Protection Order to allow us to educate those causing anti -social behaviour and nuisance and where appropriate take proportionate enforcement action.

The aim for the next two years is to continue to offer support to break the cycle of substance misuse and offending. The No More Service offers 1 to 1 support to motivate clients to break the cycle themselves; resulting in a reduction of harm that substance misuse has on both the individual and the community. This is similar to the 2015/18 strategy however the aim is to work with clients to help them realise the impact that substance misuse and offending has on them as well as the community. By working co-operatively with clients, partners and the community we can make a real impact to the lives of those who have been affected by alcohol, drugs or offending.

## SoSafe Aims

We have established two overarching aims for the 2015/18 strategy:

- **Building Resilient Communities**
- **Working co-operatively with communities to help reduce fear of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour**

## SoSafe Objectives

Within SoSafe's overarching aims, we have established five key objectives:

1. Helping to make People feel Safe
2. Reduce crime and Disorder including Criminal Damage
3. Protect and Safeguard Vulnerable People
4. Tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) Co-operatively with partners
5. Break the cycle of substance misuse and offending.



## Monitoring and measuring our performance

The SoSafe Action plan and the commitment of the partners including volunteers is the key to delivering this strategy. As a co-operative council we are aware that we can achieve more by working together to deliver all of the activities that ensures SoSafe achieves its objectives and delivers the needs of the town.

The SoSafe partnership has to rely on existing resources and making additional funding applications.

**Below is a list of Successful External Funding Bids:**

<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Monetary Value and who is delivering the project</b>	<b>How the Funding is used</b>
<b>February 2017</b>	<b>£107,000</b> (Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse)	A domestic Abuse Safe Space in Stevenage
<b>April 2017</b>	<b>£3,000</b> (Community Safety & SoSafe partners)	Community Reassurance
<b>October 2017</b>	<b>£3,000</b> (Community Safety)	Community Safety Ambassadors Program
<b>January 2018</b>	<b>£10,000</b> (Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse)	Traveller Engagement Project
<b>January 2018</b>	<b>£1,000</b> (No More Service)	The No More Service Allotment
<b>March 2018</b>	<b>£9,000</b> (Community Safety Fly Tipping Task Force)	To tackle fly tipping in the town

Page 51

## How we will measure performance

Performance indicators are agreed annually and reflect the agreed priorities and outcomes whilst taking into account the views of our customers from their engagement with us. We will set SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timely), challenging targets and measure these four times a year to check that we are making progress, and report on the progress at out four weekly JAG (Joint Action Group) meetings with partners.

## **How we will monitor performance**

To understand crime and associated disorder the partnership need to work together to address the underlying problems, effective crime reduction relies on the partnership working with our communities and listen to what and where our problems are. This helps us to direct partnership resources efficiently and effectively, to deliver services in the right place at the right time.

Crime trends are monitored regularly, and performance against our targets is reported to the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG). This group includes SoSafe's most senior managers and the elected councillor with responsibility for community safety. Additionally, elected councillors sit on a scrutiny committee which challenges SoSafe's performance. Hertfordshire's PCC is the public's elected representative for policing matters. As such, the PCC maintains strong links with the county's CSPs.

## **Objective One – Helping to make People feel Safe**

### **What will we do?**

A key focus in this strategy is engagement with Communities and groups who sometimes don't have the opportunity to get involved. Engagement will take place across the town at events and in other ways, including our different customer forums, residents meetings, through our partner agencies, surveys, social media, street meets and surgeries.

Crime and anti-social behaviour (which includes youth nuisance) remains one of the most widely perceived problems across Stevenage, although youth nuisance only made up 20% of the reported crime/ASB in the town for period July – September 2017, which incorporates the summer months, the perception is that the problem is a lot higher. With the help of our partner agencies, we want to keep people informed about the actual statistics relating to crime and ASB and address their perceptions. In a recent residents survey, members of the public were asked to rank their top three priorities for the town, one being the most important to three being the third most important. The public placed reducing current levels of crime and anti-social behaviour as the third most important. This being a massive change from the 2015 survey where tackling crime and anti-social behaviour was the most important priority.

We will target those areas that have told us that they have concerns for their safety we will engage with the community and the local businesses to change the perceptions regarding feeling secure when they are out and about in Stevenage. High visibility policing and co-operative working in neighbourhood centres, will continue and key operations such as Operation Night Owl, PSPO events and Street Meets will be promoting feeling safe at night.

To help with this, SoSafe is piloting a new programme for enthusiastic individuals to become Community Safety Ambassadors for Stevenage. The programme will provide a new and unique opportunity for young people to act as 'ambassadors' by delivering key community safety messages in Stevenage, whilst gaining valuable training and experience with a variety of agencies who work together to keep Stevenage safe. As an ambassador, successful applicants will be given the opportunity to:

- Take part in community safety, crime prevention and awareness projects
- Gain experience and training on a wide range of community safety issues
- Gain valuable work experience with a variety of public sector agencies
- Develop knowledge of how local services work together to keep the public safe
- Develop professional networks and enhance CV and employability skills

**We will monitor our performance using these measures:**

- perception surveys about the perception of crime and ASB
- feedback from Silver Street Meets, Operation Night Owl and other community engagement events
- Reaching different communities and groups of people for their views
- Raise awareness of success through our partnership.



**What have we been doing?**

<p><b>Community Engagement Events</b></p> <p>The partnership holds a number of events in and around the town including stalls in the town centre. We have held many engagement events to get people’s views including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal Safety Events</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Watch</li> <li>• Operational Night Owl</li> </ul>	<p><b>Street meets and surveys</b></p> <p>As a partnership we organise regular multi-agency street meets in the community. Surveys with members of the community take place on a regular basis. Neighbourhood surveys help the partnership to understand the priorities of our customers;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Silver Street Meets</li> <li>• Satisfaction Surveys</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Surveys</li> <li>• Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Customer Forums</b></p> <p>The partnership is actively encourages local residents to get involved to help shape our services;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA) D A Forum</li> <li>• Anti-Social Behaviour(ASB) Forum</li> <li>• Residents Meetings</li> <li>• Resident Inspectors/volunteers</li> </ul>
---	---	---

From January 2017 to December 2017, we have carried out surveys with 56 complainants of anti-social behaviour regarding the service they received.

We have **supported 122 victims/survivors** of domestic abuse through Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA). Since June 2016

The No More Drugs, Alcohol & Offender Service was nominated for a national award and attended an awards ceremony on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

## Working Co-operatively – The Tower Block Action Plan

Page 54

Following complaints of drug use at The Tower Blocks during the summer months a problem solving partnership Action Plan was produced.

By working co-operatively with internal, external partners and the residents we were able to identify the property that was causing most of the issues. A number of regular surgeries were held, and residents were able to report their concerns to the Tenancy Advisor, local Police Officer, ASB Officer or the Wardens.

Since the introduction of the Action Plan and the co-operatively working reports of drug use in the area has ceased, and the property closed under a Closure Order.

Surgeries and street meets are continuing in the area and are principally around increasing reassurance and gathering any further intelligence from the residents of the Tower Blocks.

During the surgeries and street meets officers visit and leave questionnaires at addresses with no response.

## **Objective two – Reduce crime and disorder including criminal damage**

### **What will we do?**

We will use our partnership powers to deter and reduce all types of crime. We aim to disrupt and shut-down criminal individuals and groups who negatively impact on our communities, including those involved with drug dealing, child sexual exploitation (CSE) and serious organised crime (SOC). We will take a multi-agency approach to these crimes, appropriate to the level of threat.

We will manage persistent offenders, ensuring that appropriate interventions are provided to them and help them to access local services in order to prevent reoffending. We will deter potential offenders from entering the criminal justice system and support restorative justice (RJ), to ensure that criminals take responsibility for the harm caused to victims and the community.

We will monitor crime data for increases and emerging patterns. This will allow us to target specific locations and individuals, and coordinate appropriate preventative or enforcement action.

We will build relationships with health related agencies such as Lister Hospital, Mental Health services and local GPs, in order to help them identify the correlations between crime and health and allow all agencies to undertake their statutory duties effectively.

We will monitor our performance using these measures:

- **Rate of all crime**
- **Crime rates for burglary dwelling**
- **Crime rates for robbery**
- **Violent crime rate including Domestic Abuse**
- **Customer satisfaction surveys**
- **Outcomes for offenders subject to the integrated offender management (IOM) programme and SBC's No More Service.**

## What have we been doing?

<b>Information Sharing</b> <p>We have devised partnership Action Plans to help tackle hot spots areas of anti-social behaviour. The Action Plan provides an excellent way of building up intelligence, and preventing situations from becoming more serious. We have used the professionals meeting and the Action Plans to identify vulnerable people quickly, and use our partnership networks to work co-operatively with partner agencies and the community</p>	<b>Co-operative Working</b> <p>We have been actively encouraging cross - boundary working with other housing providers and local authorities. We have carried out training with North Herts, East Herts and Stevenage Football Foundation. PREVENT (Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015) training has been carried out internally and offered to partners agencies. A public meeting was held at SBC by Trading Standards on Scams and Fraud</p>	<b>Volunteering and work experience</b> <p>Community Safety has a number of various roles which have been undertaken by volunteers including, being a resident inspector, a member of the ASB Forum or the SADA Domestic Abuse Forum</p>
--	---	---

Page 56

Information sharing has been instrumental to tackling crime, disorder and ASB in our town.

We have created a SoSafe partnership child sexual exploitation/modern slavery action plan in January 2018 following a Police priority setting meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> 2017.

We are empowering volunteers to be part of the SoSafe partnership and represent us at events.



## Being a Volunteer – What it means to be a volunteer

Being a volunteer and a member of the ASB Forum has meant that I get more of an insight into what is happening in my town. I have been part of the forum for a number of years after being involved in an ASB case. As a group we review the ASB in the town and work with the team to find solutions to stop nuisance. It is important that the residents have a say in what happens and that we feel empowered to be involved in developing the service and reviewing its policies and procedures. As a member we have attended various events and even visited the local courts to hear how cases are heard. This has given the group even more knowledge on how cases are processed and the other agencies that are involved. Members of the forum are from many different backgrounds and ages, this means we can look at things from different people's perspectives.

## Objective three – Protect and safeguard vulnerable people

### What will we do?

We will continue to raise awareness, informing the public about how and where they can report domestic abuse; empowering victims to come forward and seek advice from our dedicated Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA) Team and the volunteers from the SADA Forum.

The SADA Working Group has been encouraging organisations to have a consistent approach to domestic abuse through training and attendance at the various SADA led groups. SADA has a multi-agency approach to tackling domestic abuse, focusing on the importance of having the appropriate measures in place to stop escalation by working with medium, standard or low-level cases.

Work has also been focused around changing the behaviours of perpetrators, either by working with partners including the Change Project which provides appropriate rehabilitative support. The No More Service which offers 1-1 support and focuses on offenders that may also have drug and alcohol problems, working closely with Families First and the For Baby's Sake team.

As an organisation, safeguarding is an essential part of our day- to-day role. We refer people to the Single Point of Access for support when they are in crisis including self-harm and suicide, request Welfare checks from the Police when we are concerned for their safety as well as hold emergency professionals meetings to create a multi-agency action plan. The Community Safety team have 5 Designated Safeguarding Officers, 1 Strategic Safeguarding Officer and 1 Family Intervention Worker. Co-operative working in this area has helped us to use the whole family approach to help sustain tenancies, get people back into training or work, improve school attendance and manage behaviour at home.

Page 58



The Multiple Needs Working Group allows partner agencies to refer vulnerable clients, or cases with safeguarding concerns to a panel of partner agencies from areas such as Mental Health, Families First, the Police, CAB, Probation, Housing, Adult Care Services, Children Services and Supporting Herts. The panel share information and look for ways to support the referee.

### We will monitor our performance using these measures:

- Rates of domestic abuse
- Outcomes for clients referred to Herts Change perpetrator programme and the No more Service
- Outcomes for clients referred to the SADA Domestic Abuse Panel, referred to the service for support, crisis intervention and referrals to the Safe Space
- Monitoring outcomes of any domestic homicide reviews (DHR), especially in relation to the CAADA (Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse) DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Honour Based Violence) risk assessment and its use by partners.

## What have we been doing?

<p><b>Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse (SADA)</b>          Following the introduction of the service in 2012, SADA has completed some ground breaking work including the introduction of a domestic abuse forum managed, by survivors of domestic abuse in Stevenage and a SADA Panel meeting which discusses medium, standard and low-risk cases of domestic abuse with partner agencies. The SADA strategy, which was collated by the partners of SADA working group, is supported by a local and county-wide Action Plan (appendix Two).</p>	<p><b>For Baby's Sake</b>          For Baby's Sake is a programme for expectant parents, whether they are together as a couple or not, who want to bring an end to domestic abuse and create the best possible start in life for their baby.          They also help both mums and dads to create a positive future for their baby and any other children in the family.</p>	<p><b>Herts Change</b>          We have secured the Change Project for Stevenage for a further twelve months and have clients from the No More Service that are due to commence training to help deliver the programme. Referrals from agencies or a self – referral can be made to the programme which helps to break the cycle of offending, helping them to develop a better understanding of the detrimental long-term impact that their actions have on their families.</p>
---	--	--

Page 59

The SADA DA panel discussed 76 medium/low cases since April 2017.

Rebecca Butterworth from Baby's sake received one of the No More community awards for the Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award in December 2017.

The Herts change project runs weekly in Stevenage and funding has been applied to continue until March 2019.

## Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse – “The Safe Space”

Page 60

Stevenage Against Domestic Abuse set up the fully equipped flat where victims can rest and seek advice and help while they work out how to go forward with their lives.

One of the first women to use the flat told the Comet her story:

She said: “I was referred through work because I had concerns about a family member with mental health problems.

“The police were involved and it got to the point where it felt unsafe in the property.

“Having that bit of time out gave me a chance to get out of the situation with my daughter and get my own thoughts together without fear of violence.

“SADA talked to me about the problems I had and showed me to the flat.

“It gives you that place to go when there is nowhere else.

“You can get a decent night’s sleep and feel safe.

“My situation has now improved with the support of other services

“SADA are still there if I need them. It’s a lot better knowing there is someone there to talk to if something happens.

“The staff were very helpful and the flat was absolutely brilliant, a really lovely place where you can have a break from things.”

## Objective Four - Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Co-operatively with partners

### What will we do?

We will communicate with our partners and share information; we will act early and prevent problems from escalating, taking the proportionate enforcement action where problems persist. We will target hotspot areas and repeat offenders of all ages, working co-operatively with partners to divert young people away from anti-social behaviour. As a partnership we will support positive activities away from hot spot areas and encourage our youth ambassadors to get involved in problem solving, encouraging new ideas for diverting young people away from causing a nuisance in the community.

As part of the Families First initiative we, support the needs of the whole family; this could include working with schools, local police, Youth Offending Team, YC in Herts, Children Services, this is necessary to address bad behaviour and supporting positive activities instead. As a partnership we support the whole families and those individuals whose behaviour affects the wider community.

We will tackle alcohol and drug fuelled ASB, making full use of our ASB tools and powers such as Community Protection Notices, Property Closure Orders and Fixed Penalty Notices. Within the Community Safety Team, there are 5 police accredited officers who have the designated power to issue notices. SBC also has 3 accredited neighbourhood wardens and an Environmental Enforcement Officer.

We will plan at the Joint Action Group with our SoSafe partners specific operations around seasonal fluctuations in ASB, especially around Halloween, Bonfire Night and the summer holidays; utilising multi agency bicycle patrols and high visibility partnership patrols.

We will use our powers to enforce against environmental crime offenders, including on the spot penalty notices, and will proactively investigate and prosecute perpetrators of fly tipping.

We are currently updating our mobile CCTV cameras which the partnership has available to help with stopping and prosecuting offenders that are causing ASB, committing crime, or fly tipping in our town.

We will monitor our performance using these measures:

- **rates of ASB incidents**
- **rates of criminal damage**
- **rates of deliberate fire**
- **customer satisfaction surveys and consultation**



## What have we been doing?

### PSPO Public Spaces Prevention Order

Stevenage's PSPO came into force on the 15 August 2016. The PSPO replaced Existing Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) in Bedwell/Town Centre and The Hyde (Shephall), with the addition of zoned areas around The Oval (Pin Green) and the Old Town High Street. These areas were identified by partners from SoSafe as problematic areas for anti-social behaviour in Stevenage.

### Family Intervention (Families First)

Within the team is a FIP worker who is part-funded by SBC and Families First. The worker supports families, some that may be at risk of losing their homes because of ASB, rent arrears, or other circumstances. The Key worker, coordinate a unique team of individuals to work closely with all members of the family. The positive impact on the community, due to this intervention, can be significant. Family members feel empowered and some have gained training, sustained their tenancies and found work.

### The Youth Ambassadors Project

The youth ambassadors were interviewed and recruited from North Herts College and John Henry Newman School, they will help to promote information and offer advice on how to report crime and increase feelings of safety for residents and visitors to Stevenage. Following their training they are able to give tailored information for people with complex needs.

page 62

Partnership events take place every quarter in the designated PSPO areas. We have held events every quarter since 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

The Family Intervention worker is co-funded by Families First and Hertfordshire County Council. The pilot project started in 2009 and is now co-funded until 2020.

The ambassadors are running their first event on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

## Intensive Family Support – Sustaining tenancies

Page 63

This tenant was originally known to the ASB team due to nuisance in the area where she resided. The nuisance caused a problem in the street, with parties in the garden, friends shouting, loud music, dog nuisance and visits from the police concerning her partner at the time. The residents in the street made visits to the council offices and the local police to lodge complaints on a daily basis. Initially we worked with the police and the residents to gather evidence for the case and the tenant was served with an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement and a Notice of Seeking Possession. The tenant attended meetings on a weekly basis with the ASB Team and family Intervention worker; we put in strategies to help her manage her tenancy and helped her to put in boundaries for her son and stopping her ex-partner and friends from causing a nuisance. The tenant has worked hard to implement the strict guidelines and began to meet her goals; the nuisance complaints slowed down and eventually stopped.

The tenant has made positive changes to turn her life around and has been attending a 6 week parenting programme; she has attended all of her appointments with her support worker from the family intervention and has taken responsibility for her own actions, by working with all the agencies including the police and the school.

## **Objective Five – Break the cycle of substance misuse and offending.**

We will continue to support people to break the cycle by putting practical solutions in place to tackle issues that cause or exacerbate substance misuse or offending. By the No More Service (NMS) helping clients to do this, we will reduce the impact of drugs, alcohol and crime have on the individual and the community. We work alongside enforcement agencies to take a collaborative approach to stop reoffending, through deterrents and reintegration to the community, including attending Prolific and Priority Offender meetings and MAPPA meetings (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements). The ethos of the No More Service is by improving the person's self-worth and helping them to earn something positive such as housing or a role in the community, this will enable and motivate them to break the cycle of crime or substance use.

We will publicise the work and successes of the Service to other agencies, in order to increase knowledge of the service and number of referrals. We produce an annual report on the service, demonstrating the humanistic impact of the service to the community and case studies from clients to show the improvement to their own lives. We also calculate the predicted saving to services including the Council, Police, Probation and HFRS. We are going to be calculating the predicted saving to the NHS, Children's services, prison and the courts. We continue to apply for funding to be able to continue to provide the service, as we demonstrate the cost effectiveness of assisting people to make sustainable changes to their lifestyle, rather than short term solutions to manage their risk.

We will continue to seek innovative approaches to reduce the harm of drugs and alcohol on the community. This includes looking into the application of the initiatives to reduce the availability of cheap, high strength alcohol. We will continue to support clients to overcome the barriers created by crime and substance use, including pathways out of homelessness,

We will monitor our performance using these measures:

- Assessing the reduction in risk to the individual and the community
- Calculating the predicted cost saving made to the public by engaging clients
- Number of referrals and agencies providing these.



## What have we been doing?

### Engaging people

We continue to adapt our practices to meet and engage hard to reach clients, that may have 'fallen through the net' or been deemed as 'entrenched and unchanging'. We meet with people whilst in prison, so they can set their goals for what they want to do when they are released and understand how they can achieve these. We also offer to attend joint appointments with other professionals they are already working with. We also offer same day appointments to people, so they can get access to help as soon as possible, once they have decided they want to make a change to their life.

### Celebrate client success

NMS hosted the community awards ceremony in December 2017 which celebrated the success and achievements of our clients. This included some of our clients who have gone onto start volunteering, abstained/reduced their drug and alcohol use and a prolific burglar who hasn't been arrested for almost two years.

### Develop innovative approaches

By listening to our client's needs, we aim to develop new ways of engaging them to overcome barriers.

The stick with us project encourage clients to express their goals and life experiences by making collages within a group setting.

Page 65

475% increase in No More referrals from September 2012 – August 2013 to April 2016 – March 2017

£129,863.11 is the predicted saving to SBC, Police and HFRS for the clients referred for intensive support between April 2016-March 2017.

96% of clients sustained housing or gained housing after being of no fixed abode.

88% of clients have no ASB case following closure from NMS.

In May 2014, I was still on a methadone programme with CRI, using as much heroin as I could get hold of on top of this and I had to move out of my partner's Council flat. At this point I was referred to the No More Project.

I had previously thought about following my partner when she passed away, especially when I was faced with being made homeless again (having given up my room to move in to become my partner's carer). However, my No More support worker helped me by looking at all my options to prevent this from happening and I was able to move into my own council flat.

My support worker never lost their temper, was pig stubborn, understood my grieving and was always there when I needed them. They spent time to explain things, in terms I could understand, like explaining letters I got sent from the Council and other agencies. When they said they were going to do something, they would make the time to actually do it. They came back to help me even when I got annoyed. Whilst working on the No More Project it was the first time I had seen two agencies speak to each other, it had previously taken me ages to get the GP to speak to Cri but it only took my support worker ten minutes.

I have not used heroin since October 2014, since working with the Project. I finished my methadone programme in November 2015 and I have no desire to use drugs.

I still get texts from dealers but I just ignore them. I have completed grief counselling and I am taking my anti-depressants. Stopping heroin and methadone was easier to cope with than dealing with the pains of everyday life that came back once I stopped using drugs. My flat has no rent arrears and has had no reports of anti-social behaviour since I moved in. I have plans for the future and want to get a motorbike so I can visit my boys, as I have a good relationship with them now.

## Appendix

- No More review report
- Domestic abuse strategy
- Our Achievements

### List of acronyms

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank