

**Teignbridge District Council**  
**Overview and Scrutiny**  
**16<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**Part i**

**South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership Annual Review**

**Purpose of Report**

To provide Members with the opportunity to scrutinise the work of the South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership (CSP) as defined by Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Crime and Disorder (Overview & Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

**Recommendation(s)**

The Committee RESOLVES to:

- (1) Review the work of the Community Safety Partnership and provide any questions to be raised at the next Community Safety Partnership meeting

**Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. Community Safety Partnership activity is delivered through existing officer capacity and external grant funding, with no direct core budget for delivery. External funding secured includes £100,000 for Let's Talk, £28,280 for hotspot patrols, £9,000 to extend marshal provision, and £10,000 for a knife crime awareness project. As this funding is time limited, any continuation or expansion of activity requiring Council resources would need to be considered through the normal budget setting process.

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**Legal or Governance Implications**

The council participates in the statutory Community Safety Partnership pursuant to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act places duties on responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder and to keep such strategies under review. The Local Government Act 2000 also supports overview and scrutiny arrangements and broader community leadership functions  
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## **Risk Assessment**

Rebecca Hewitt – An EIA has not been completed as no decision is required

## **Environmental/ Climate Change Implications**

There are no significant environmental or climate change related implications associated with this report.

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## **Executive Member**

Cllr Suzanne Sanders  
Executive Member: Neighbourhoods

## **Introduction/Background**

- 1.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) operates across Teignbridge, South Hams and West Devon and is a statutory partnership. It works collaboratively across Devon and is a member of the Safer Devon Partnership. It also collaborates on work across the peninsula to tackle issues such as child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, drug misuse, prejudice related crime, prevention of violent extremism and domestic violence and abuse. The CSP focusses on addressing issues where the risk of harm is the most significant for our communities.
- 1.2 The CSP sets its priorities annually in March. All partners are invited to take part in the priority setting using information from products including the Devon Community Safety Strategic Assessment and the Police and Crime Plan. Throughout the year, the partnership also responds to emerging risks. Current CSP priorities are shown below.



- 1.3 The CSP monitors activity under each of the priorities through a Local Delivery Plan which is shared at each quarterly meeting.
- 1.4 The CSP also holds annual CSP Forum events to promote the work that the CSP has delivered to a wider audience of community representatives.
- 1.5 Responsibility for Community Safety falls within the remit of the Strategy and Policy Team with operational case management undertaken by the Neighbourhoods team with Laura Evans as the ASB and Safeguarding Officer. The restructure has created more resilience in both areas.
- 1.6 Whilst there is no direct funding for the CSP delivery, applications are made into available funds to address key areas of need.

## 2 CSP delivery

This report will summarize some key areas of work undertaken in 2025/2026

### 2.1 Let's Talk Programme

- 2.1.1 The Programme aims to empower parents and carers by raising awareness of the community safety risks and challenges faced by young people whilst providing simple tips on how to support them. The sessions cover a range of community safety issues including healthy relationships, exploitation, mental health, staying safe online, county lines, gangs, alcohol and drug misuse. The information is delivered through live online sessions and a website which was launched in April 2026. [Let's Talk Safer Families](#)  
The sessions have been designed specifically for the parents/carers of teenagers, pre-teens, primary aged children, neurodivergent young people, and Dads.
- 2.1.2 By the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 there had been more than 9,800 engagements in the sessions and within two weeks of the launch of the website there had been 1100 visitors to the website.
- 2.1.3 In April 2026 the project was successful in obtaining a grant of £100,000 from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to appoint a full time Project Lead, deliver further live sessions and run a communications campaign

focused on the positive role Dads and male carers can play in safeguarding young people.

## **2.2 Raising awareness of key issues with professionals**

2.2.1 A key role of the CSP is working with partners to raise awareness of key community safety issues. The CSP facilitates online bitesize learning opportunities for partners to hear from professionals on key issues. Sessions have included presentations on stalking, domestic abuse, gaming and gambling harm, exploitation prevention, diversity and hate crime, suicide prevention, serious and organised crime, fraud and rogue traders, radicalisation and online influences, violence against women and girls, modern slavery, drugs and alcohol awareness and anti-social behaviour. To date there have been nearly three thousand engagements with the sessions. Evaluations from the sessions have shown that attendees rate the sessions an average of 4.6 stars out of 5 and 95% saying their knowledge had increased.

## **2.3 Safer Spaces, Safer Places**

2.3.1 The aim of the Safer Spaces, Safer Places work delivered under the UK prosperity Fund was to tackle violence by building resilience in our communities with a focus on young people and women and girls. The project had two main elements;

- making our town centres feel safer for all and placing young people at the heart of our communities
- changing the culture of misogyny to address harmful sexual behaviour.

2.3.2 Space Youth Service and Young Devon were the delivery partners for the programme. The project was very successful in reaching young people in the District to hear their views on how to address challenges in the community and their views have been included in the consultation for the Newton Abbot Masterplan and informed CCTV placement and Police patrol routes. The project has now ceased as the funding came to an end. Below are examples of the work delivered. A recording of a Learning Sharing session is available on the CSP YouTube Chanel.

2.3.3 Consultation took place with more than 170 young people in Teignmouth regarding feelings of safety and provision of services for young people and there is now a young people designed youth club being delivered one night a week by Space in partnership with Teignmouth Community School and conversations are underway about sustainability.

2.3.4 The 'Is This Okay' Harmful Sexual behaviour programme is a preventative targeted and educational series of six sessions that works with young people who have been highlighted as being at risk of either displaying, or experiencing, harmful sexual behaviours both in school and in their local community. 302 young people in Teignbridge have benefited from this programme delivered in 7 schools. 100% of attendees said they will use the information from the sessions to keep themselves safe and 94% felt confident to share what they had learnt with friends which expands the reach of the programme. The learning from the sessions has also informed strategic approaches across the County.

2.3.5 Early on in the programme more than 180 young people were asked their views on how to change the culture of misogyny and the findings from this

research led to the development of the 'Voices to be Heard' programme. This pilot saw sessions delivered across three Primary schools to 54 young boys discussing how to address the impact of misogyny and what role they can play. One quote from a year 6 boy was 'I want to influence others to change'.

## 2.4 ASB Hotspot delivery

- 2.4.1 In 2025/26 the Police and Crime Commissioner received funding from the Home Office to tackle serious violence and anti-social behaviour. An analysis of crime data resulted in the identification of 16 sites across the peninsula one of which was Newton Abbot. A total of £28,280 was received and a Marshal Scheme patrolling key locations in the town was established.
- 2.4.2 The Scheme was implemented in Newton Abbot with Street Marshals patrolling the town. The project was required to provide key performance data to the Home Office. Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 the Street Marshalls in Newton Abbot had 5,348 public interaction and the scheme saw 1,451 hours of patrolling. In the Policing Sector that included the Newton Abbot hotspots there was a 26% reduction in ASB and Street Violence compared to prior to the scheme being implemented.
- 2.4.3 A further £9,000 of funding has been provided by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide Marshals for Newton Abbot up until September 2027.
- 2.4.4 Under the fund managed by the Police and Crime Commissioner there was the opportunity to bid for projects within the hotspot areas. In partnership with Local Police and Space Youth Service a successful bid was made for £10,000 to deliver a Knife Crime Awareness project. The project is not yet complete but to date has engaged 61 young people (58% male) across three schools and approximately 40 participants in youth club sessions. The programme has adapted to varying attendance and demographics, gathering diverse perspectives on weapon carrying and its impact. Notably, 44% of school participants anonymously disclosed having carried a weapon. The sessions have encouraged open discussion, provided valuable insights into gender differences and local experiences, and informed ongoing evaluation and future improvements to the programme.

## 3 Anti-Social Behavior delivery in Teignbridge

### 3.1 Case management

- 3.1.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour and Safeguarding Officer continues to work in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership to address anti-social behaviour across the district. Between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026, a total of 506 cases were managed. These predominantly related to neighbour disputes, noise nuisance, drug-related activity, intimidation, and incidents involving vulnerability and exploitation.
- 3.1.2 Data shows that Newton Abbot accounts for 40.6% of all cases within the reporting period. The next highest areas are Dawlish 11.3%, Teignmouth 9.7%, Kingsteignton 8.2%, and Buckfastleigh 4.8%.
- 3.1.3 A significant proportion of casework involves high-risk or complex matters, including safeguarding concerns and counter-allegations, requiring careful management to balance enforcement, support and risk reduction.

3.1.4 Targeted enforcement and partnership working have contributed to improved community reassurance in affected areas, with reduced repeat reporting in cases where effective interventions have been implemented.

### **3.2 Community Protection Warnings**

- 3.2.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides local authorities and partners with a range of powers to address anti-social behaviour in a more effective and victim-focused way. One of the key tools introduced by the Act is the Community Protection Notice, which can be used to stop an individual aged 16 or over, a business or an organisation from engaging in behaviour that has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the community. Before a Community Protection Notice can be issued, a written Community Protection Warning must be served. The Community Protection Warning clearly sets out the behaviour causing concern, the steps required to prevent or reduce its impact, and the consequences of failing to comply. If the behaviour continues, a Community Protection Notice may be issued imposing requirements to stop the behaviour, undertake positive actions, or take reasonable steps to prevent further anti-social behaviour. Breach of a Community Protection Notice constitutes a criminal offence.
- 3.2.2 During the last reporting year, Community Protection Warnings have continued to be used as a core intervention within the anti-social behaviour toolkit for adults. Between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, a total of 215 Community Protection Warnings were issued, with 21 cases progressing to the issuing of a Community Protection Notice. The overall compliance rate with Community Protection Warnings in Teignbridge during this period stood at 90.2%, demonstrating that Community Protection Warnings are effective in securing behaviour change without the need for escalation in nine out of ten cases.
- 3.2.3 The top 5 recorded reasons for issuing a Community Protection Warning are harassment and intimidation, rowdy nuisance behaviour, neighbourhood disputes, drug related ASB and noise nuisance. These behaviours are frequently interlinked and, in many cases, escalate over time, significantly impacting a victim's sense of safety, wellbeing and ability to enjoy their own homes. Many cases involve underlying vulnerability, including substance misuse, mental health concerns or safeguarding issues which can require a proportionate multi-agency response rather than enforcement alone. Neighbour disputes remain a consistent driver of demand, often characterised by repeated low-level incidents which, if unmanaged, have the potential to escalate into harassment, intimidation or criminal behaviour.
- 3.2.4 All Community Protection Warnings issued during the year were supported by corroborated evidence, including diary sheets, partner intelligence and officer observations, ensuring enforcement decisions were defensible and compliant with legal thresholds.
- 3.2.5 In a number of cases, Community Protection Warnings were used alongside safeguarding and support pathways, particularly where behaviour intersected with domestic abuse, exploitation, substance misuse or vulnerability, allowing risks to be managed without criminalising vulnerable members of the community.

3.2.6 One case study demonstrates the circumstances in which a Community Protection Warning may be appropriately issued. A prolonged dispute involving multiple households escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, offensive signage, nuisance filming, unsafe bonfires and ongoing counter-allegations. This was within the context of planning and environmental issues and safeguarding concerns involving children. A coordinated multi-agency investigation was undertaken with police, environmental health, planning, legal services and other partners. Community Protection Warnings were issued to all parties, clearly setting out which behaviours were unacceptable and stating what actions were required to reduce harm and prevent further escalation. Following the issuing of the warnings, the case was closed to Anti-Social Behaviour on 5 December 2025 after a year of contact with risks reduced through partner actions including a police firearms review and resolution of associated planning and environmental matters.

3.2.7 A second case study further demonstrates the effectiveness of Community Protection Warnings. Serious Anti-Social Behaviour was identified through repeated incidents linked to individuals across local public houses. Incidents included violent assaults, intimidation, threats to kill and inappropriate behaviour towards minors, giving rise to significant safeguarding concerns and adversely impacting both business operations and community confidence. Working in partnership with the police and premises licence holders, evidence was coordinated to support proportionate enforcement action. Community Protection Warnings were drafted and issued to key individuals, prohibiting violent and threatening behaviour and setting clear expectations to reduce risk to victims and the wider public. As a result, offenders were excluded from local licensed premises, landlords were supported in applying a consistent approach, and the intervention contributed to improved public reassurance through visible, coordinated partnership enforcement.

3.2.8 A third case study demonstrates the application of a Community Protection Warning in addressing child exploitation. In this instance, an adult male was identified as an individual of concern following reports of exploitative and criminal behaviour. Early intelligence suggested that he was soliciting money transfers under false pretences, with suspicion that these funds were being used for drug-related purposes. As the investigation progressed, the situation revealed more serious safeguarding concerns. Intelligence indicated that the individual was grooming minors, encouraging truancy from school, facilitating theft, and was suspected of sexual exploitation. His address became known for substance misuse and the involvement of other vulnerable people. This case posed several significant challenges. First, the risk profile was complex, with allegations ranging from financial exploitation to potential sexual harm, making both risk assessment and intervention particularly demanding. The quality of information varied, with a mix of untested and reliable intelligence, necessitating careful verification before any enforcement action could be taken. Engagement barriers also emerged, as key individuals such as family members were reluctant to cooperate with professionals. Additionally, effective management of the escalating risks required rapid and coordinated action between the ASB Officer, police, and social care teams. In response, a Community Protection Warning was issued, restricting their contact with minors and addressing their exploitative behaviours. Police and the ASB

Officers are continuing to monitor for any potential breaches. Safeguarding plans have been put in place for the affected children, and multi-agency oversight remains ongoing. The case is still under review due to the gravity of the allegations and the possibility of criminal proceedings.

#### **4 Conclusion**

The Community Safety Partnership continues to deliver strong, collaborative work across Teignbridge. Priorities are intelligence led and address key risks through prevention, enforcement and building resilience in our communities. Programmes such as Let's Talk Safer Families and Safer Spaces, Safer Places are making a positive impact, particularly with young people and vulnerable groups. Ongoing challenges include anti-social behaviour complex cases requiring multi-agency support, changing cultures and crime trends. Ongoing focus will be needed to sustain progress, secure funding, and strengthen early intervention.