

**Teignbridge District Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1
26th March 2024
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 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) Provide any questions to be raised at the next Community Safety Partnership meeting by 18th April 2024

Financial Implications

The financial implications are contained within Section 6. There are no additional pressures on the budget.

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Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising specifically out of this report.

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Risk Assessment

Not required as for information rather than decision required

Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

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

William Elliott Climate Change Officer

Report Author

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Executive Member

Cllr Linda Goodman-Bradbury, Executive Member for Housing and Communities

Appendices/Background Papers – Local Delivery Plan available on request from Rebecca.hewitt@teignbridge.gov.uk

1 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 the Peninsula to tackle issues such as child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, drug misuse, prejudice related crime, and to prevent violent extremism, domestic violence and abuse.
- 1.2 The CSP sets its priorities each March, with all partners using information from the Devon Strategic Assessment and the Police and Crime Plan. This year the CSP will also using information from the Devon Serious Violence Needs Assessment and the Interpersonal and Gender Based Violence and Abuse Needs Assessment. The partnership also throughout the year responds to emerging risks. CSP Staff attend fortnightly tactical meetings with Police.
- 1.3 The CSP delivers activity against a wide range of statutory legislation which continues the recently introduced Serious Violence Duty. The Home Office is currently undertaking a review of Community Safety Partnerships.
- 1.4 The CSP focusses on addressing areas where the risk of harm is the most significant for our communities.
- 1.5 The outcomes of the CSP are monitored at each CSP meeting through the Local Delivery Plan (LDP).
- 1.6 In 2023/24 the CSP received a £8,000 grant of violence reduction funding from the Safer Devon Partnership which had been provided to them by the OPCC (Office of the Police Crime Commissioner). The funding plan for this grant was developed alongside the Local Delivery Plan and has seen resource support for work on embedding Community Protection Warnings, Domestic and sexual abuse helpline stickers distributed across the area and Let's Talk about growing up in a porn culture sessions delivered to parents, educators and professionals.
- 1.7 In December 2022 the CSP was allocated funds from the Teignbridge UK Prosperity fund of £244,000 to further tackle violence by building resilience in our communities with a focus on young people and women and girls. There is more information about this work under section 4.

2 CSP Delivery

2.1 Delivery across the whole CSP area

Priority	Activity
Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence and Abuse (SVDVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established a Violence Prevention and Violence Against Women and Girls subgroup Engagement in Domestic Homicide Reviews Quarterly CSP SVDVA forums are convened with a range of partners and CSP staff are part of the Devon Interpersonal Gender Based Violence and Abuse Local Partnership Board Delivered an online training session on Domestic Abuse in July with almost 300 attendees, 90% of those attending said their awareness have increased significantly Regular engagement with South Devon MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) to create safety planning for those experiencing domestic abuse in South Devon 6,000 stickers have been distributed widely across the area displaying helpline numbers for domestic and sexual abuse support A bitesize awareness session on Stalking took place with more than 300 attendees
Exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive work the Adolescent Safety Framework to safeguard young people and communities from risk of exploitation and harm Attendance at the Anti-Slavery Partnership and the Devon and Torbay Prevent Partnership Continuing to promote the Exploitation Prevention Toolkit Promotion of the Partnership Information Sharing Form Supporting case management through Channel for individuals who are vulnerable to radicalisation
Problem drinking and problem drug abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work was undertaken to understand the increase in information surrounding ketamine use in young people. Once gathered this was shared with colleagues across the county and Public Health released information. Reinforced protocol for licensed premises to safely dispose of any drugs found and encourage reporting through joint visits to licensed premises with Police.
Changes in Youth Culture / Youth Gang Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular meetings with safeguarding leads at secondary schools to discuss community safety issues and have now developed a network with primary schools Engagement with the Adolescent Safety Framework which reviews contextual safeguarding risks in the individual, peer and school context Key partner in the Turning Corners project (South Hams and Teignbridge) Let's Talk Program (more details below) Continue to lobby around resources needed to address children's poor mental health

ASB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the last year there has been a significant focus on increasing the potential for Community Protection Warnings to impact on anti-social behaviour. There is more information in section 5 Continue to manage monthly ASB meetings which bring partners together to discuss cases
Overarching work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Wednesday 22nd March 2023 the annual CSP Forum took place via Teams and was attended by 102 people, the average rating of those that completed the evaluation was 4.81 out of 5 Rebecca Hewitt as CSP Chair is an active member of the Safer Devon Partnership The CSP delivered an online session for people to get a better understanding of the day to day work of the CSP staff, this was attended by 54 people. The social media presence of the CSP has increased over the year with 256 followers on Facebook

2.2 Let's Talk

- 2.2.1 The CSP developed the Let's Talk project which aims to provide awareness, tips and techniques for parents and carers of children, 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 project has seen considerable interest from parents and carers but also professionals.
- 2.2.2 The information is delivered through live online sessions and recordings are available on YouTube. The sessions are targeted at the parents/careers of teenagers, pre-teens and primary aged children. There have also been topic specific sessions informing parents about what it means for our children to grow up in a porn culture.
- 2.2.3 This project has so far has been a resounding success with 6,600 engagements to date and 97% of attendees saying they would recommend this course to others. Whilst most people from Devon join, attendees have joined in from across the globe.
- 2.2.4 The CSP has now created a Board to oversee the project. In the past year funding has been provided by Devon and Cornwall Police, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Public Health. The Safer Devon Partnership have just approved a further £27,000 for 2024/5.
- 2.2.5 Sessions designed for parents and carers of young people who have special education needs or are neurodivergent are in development. Future plans include sessions aimed for dads, website development and the creation of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

2.3 Delivery specific to Teignbridge

- 2.3.1 Significant multi-agency work has taken place in the last year in relation to concerns about young people across Teignbridge being drawn into crime,

exploitation and becoming a victim of crime. The Adolescent Safety Framework which is overseen by Devon County Council assesses and mitigates risks in relation to specific peer groups and responds to complex and organised abuse. Work has been undertaken in relation to young people and adults of concern in Newton Abbot, Teignmouth and Dawlish. Feedback about the CSPs ability to respond to these concerns has been very positive from colleagues as the focus on early identification of concerns and multi-agency interventions has seen good results leading to a reduction in risk.

- 2.3.2 The CSP continues to meet with Police, key agencies and the safeguarding leads from all the secondary schools across the district. This meeting provides updates to the schools about key issues but also ensures that the schools can share concerns and emerging trends that they are observing. The relationships developed through this work are seen as key to addressing wider community safety issues and a network has now been created for primary school contacts.
- 2.3.3 CSP staff regularly attend visits to licensed premises jointly with Teignbridge Licensing staff and officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The operations were to engage with the License holders around issues relating to drugs, anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls.
- 2.3.4 The CSP continues to engage with several meetings including the South Devon Missing and Child Exploitation (MACE) and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) for Domestic Abuse to review specific cases within Teignbridge

3 Turning Corners Programme

- 3.1 Turning Corners was an Office of the Police Crime Commissioner funded project for 4 years from January 2021 to December 2024. Unfortunately, in February 2023 the CSP was notified of the decision to cease the funding. The CSP liaised with the office and whilst two projects stopped in June 2023 the Parent Support group continued until December 2023.

4 UK Prosperity Fund

- 4.1 The aim of the work being delivered under the UK prosperity Fund is to tackle violence by building resilience in our communities with a focus on young people and women and girls. The project has two elements firstly making our town centers feel safer for all and placing young people at the heart of our communities. The second element of the work focusses on changing the culture of misogyny to address harmful sexual behaviour.
- 4.2 The project is being delivered in a partnership made up of the CSP, Police, Young Devon and Space Youth Service.
- 4.3 Delivery so far
 - Peer research - Going into local schools and colleges, hosting online workshops, conducting online interviews, analysing this data, working on how this information can be turned into real change, linking in with the work on “changing the culture of misogyny”
 - Social Action - Looking further into the Newton Abbot and Teignmouth areas - focusing on the built environment. Newton Abbot work is

complete. Teignmouth will be delivered next, looking largely at what young people would want from a youth space.

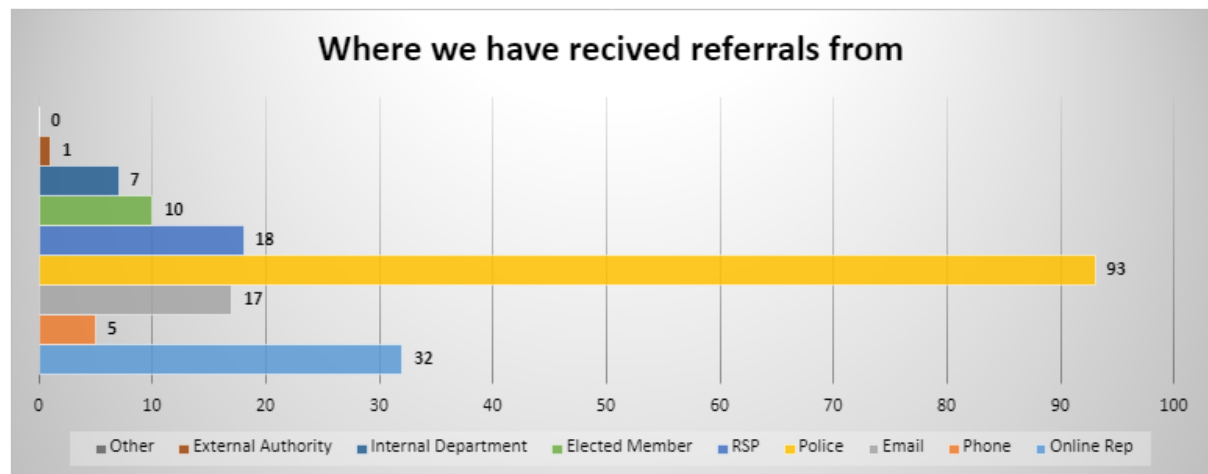
- Delivery staff and managers attended AIM 2 training - this has helped frame the project and ensure we are working towards a trauma-informed approach.
- One to one work with young people displaying or experiencing Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Delivered 4 full Harmful Sexual Behaviour Programmes in schools
- Young people's voice group - changing the culture of misogyny - outreach and focus groups in schools, community projects and housing - networking and building ally relationships

4.4 A briefing for Teignbridge Councilors is taking place on 28th February.

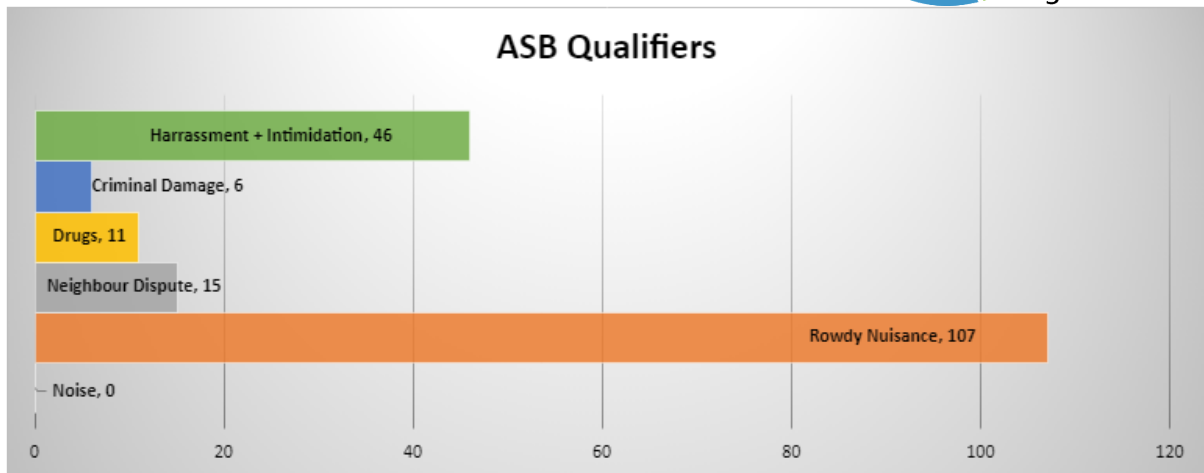
5 Anti-Social Behavior service delivery in Teignbridge

5.1 The data covered in this report ASB cases managed between the 1st January 2023 and the 22nd February 2024. There were 183 ASB cases managed over this period compares to 130 for the same period the year before. This shows a 29% increase.

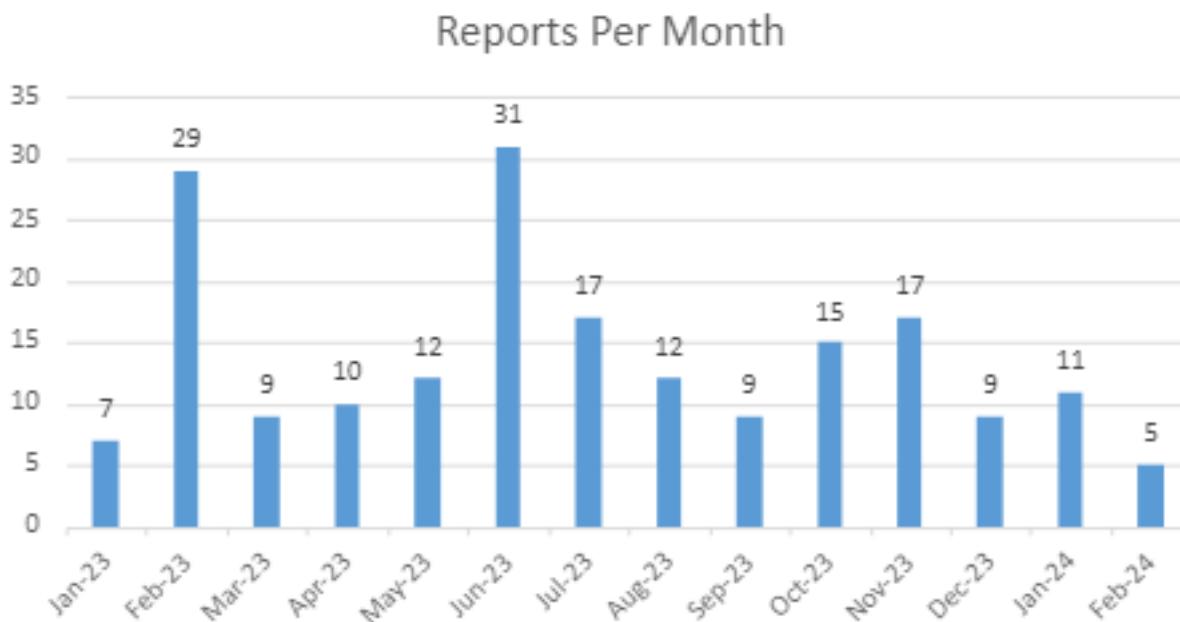
5.2 As can be seen from the graph below, 93 were received from Police, 32 online reports, 18 from registered housing providers and 7 from internal Teignbridge departments, 10 from elected Members, 17 from email, 5 from phone, 1 from external authority and 0 from other.



5.3 The main reason referrals were made related to rowdy and nuisance behaviour followed by harassment and intimidation.



- 5.4 The table below shows referrals received per month. We have seen a large spike in cases in both February and June. Both these spikes related to groups of young people receiving their ASB letters. The average number of cases per month in 2023 was 14.8 compared to 8.4 for the monthly average in 2022.



5.5 Examples of anti-social behaviour cases in the past twelve months

- 5.5.1 During the period covered by the report we have seen a couple of groups of young people forming and getting involved in ASB, this has been in town centre locations. There has been significant multi-agency work to address the issues caused by the groups at the same time as ensuring the children are safeguarded.
- 5.5.2 Calls came into the Council and Police following the installation of a refurbished playpark in Newton Abbot. The park was very successful with

many young people and families using the facility as soon as it opened. Sadly, we did see a few young people causing anti-social behaviour and causing issues for others. After multi-agency discussions it was agreed to install CCTV which was funded by the Town Council and this alongside individual work with the young people involved resulted in the negative behaviour ceasing and everyone being able to enjoy the park.

- 5.5.3 In February 2023 concerns were raised about an area of housing where multiple residents were involved with anti-social behaviour including drug use, fighting, noise, intimidation and drunk and disorderly. Proactive work with the housing provider, Police and the ASB Officer resolved the issues using a range of tactics including eviction, ASB letters, Partners and Community Together Survey, Community Protection Warnings and criminal justice outcomes. The actions were completed by July 2023 and since then there has only been reports relating to noise nuisance.

5.6 Expansion of Community Protection Warning use

- 5.6.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced simpler, powers to tackle anti-social behaviour that provide better protection for victims and communities. It included Community Protection Notices (CPNs) to stop a person aged 16 or over, business or organisation committing anti-social behaviour which spoils the community's quality of life. A written warning (CPW) must first be issued informing the perpetrator of problem behaviour, requesting them to stop, and the consequences of continuing. A CPN can then be issued including requirements to stop things, do things or take reasonable steps to avoid further anti-social behaviour.
- 5.6.2 In February 2023 Gary Wilson, Becca Hewitt, Marie Downey and Kieran Bond attended training arranged by the Police and delivered by Mallard consultancy. The training looked at the scope of CPW and case law, it emphasised the importance of CSPs and partnership working to achieve successful outcomes. Following discussions at the CSP, Mallard consultancy delivered a further session on the 14th of July at Teignbridge for the CSP and after that funding was sought to increase Gary Wilson's role to a fifth day to expand the use of CPWs across the CSP area. His additional day per week started on the 18th September 23.
- 5.6.3 The CPWs have been issued in partnership with the following organisations; Police, Trading Standards, Teign Housing, Livewest, Sanctuary, Westward Housing, Sovereign, RSPCA, Social Care and Mental Health.
- 5.6.4 As of 23rd February, 230 CPWs have been issued across the CSP with 166 of those being in Teignbridge. Only 13 have required a CPN to be issued which means a compliance rate of 93%. One of the CPNs is currently being considered for prosecution due to a potential breach.
- 5.6.5 Examples of cases where a CPW has been issued -
- The local policing team contacted the CSP regarding an adult male from Torbay in his mid-twenties who had driven young males and females around in his vehicle. During one of these visits a female child collected some drugs from Exeter. The CPW restricted him from carrying children in his vehicle

without parental consent. It was issued in Mid-December and there has been no further intelligence.

- A CPW was issued to a male in his forties who was using substances and causing harassment and nuisance to neighbours. The CPW was issued in the second week of November and as well as prohibiting this activity the warning contained positive conditions to engage with the drug and alcohol service. A recent update from the housing provider is that following years of refusal to engage with services he is now actively working with a treatment provider to address his substance use and the impact that this has on the community.
- There was significant impact on a number of houses in a community due to the behaviour of a female. A CPW was served alongside a housing Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction. The neighbours then started to perpetrate behaviour towards the female who had been issued the notice. The CPWs have addressed this new behaviour and there have been no further complaints since issuing at the start of October regarding any of the individuals.
- A joint Test Purchasing Operation with Trading Standards saw two premises that sold vapes to underage children issued with CPWs during the visit. This was conducted in August and there has been no further intelligence submitted regarding those premises.
- Complaints were received from neighbours regarding cannabis smells coming from a property. Intelligence from the school also suggested that a number of young people were attending the house and taking drugs. The Police and Gary attended the road and undertook a Partners and Communities Together Survey to gain the views of the residents on the issues and they were all very concerned. A CPW was issued in July 2023 and there have been no further complaints. Safeguarding measures have been undertaken in regard to the children.
- An RSPCA warrant visit was accompanied by Council Officers who witnessed significant dog fouling that was having an impact on neighbours. The CPW was issued alongside an abatement notice, the back garden was subsequently cleared and no further issues have been reported.
- A commercial property became vacant and the rubbish was not removed, there was a further accumulation of waste and rat issues. The complainant and Council officer spoke with the commercial waste provider but they did not respond for almost a year. A CPW was issued to the regional manager and Head Office and the waste was removed within two weeks.
- A high risk male that is well known to Police was issued a CPW which included a banning requirement from the area where his partner lived as well as other requirements. His partner had been repeatedly subjected to domestic abuse. This was issued in July 2023 and then in October a CPN was issued due to beaches for other elements of the CPW but he is not known to have visited the town where she lives since the CPW was issued and we are not aware of any further abuse to the female.

6 Implications

a. Financial

In 2023/24 the CSP received £8,000 of funding from the Safer Devon Partnership that originated from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver violence reduction initiatives. Whilst this allocation is not continuing the CSP has been able to bid for projects into the fund. The CSP was successful with both bids which totals £35,000 for 2024/25. £8,000 to continue the CPW pilot work and also £27,000 for development of Let's Talk.