

# Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board

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## Safer Somerset Partnership: Annual Report Summary

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	<b>Seen by:</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Report Sign off</b>	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Officer	Trudi Grant	13.11.17
	Cabinet Member	Christine Lawrence	13.11.17
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Julian Gale	14.11.17
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>Each year, similar to the other strategic partnerships in Somerset, the Safer Somerset Partnership produces an Annual Report designed to raise understanding and awareness of the Partnership, its progress and key activities over the past year. It also includes an overview of future priorities and funding allocations which is detailed further in appendix A.</p> <p>In 2016/17 key activities and achievements included are: One Teams, County lines and Organised Crime Groups, Modern Slavery, Somerset Drug and Alcohol Partnership progress, Hidden Harm and Domestic abuse.</p> <p>The report also summarises how the Partnership has responded to key events including Counter Terrorism, the fire at Grenfell Tower and the Hinkley Point C project.</p> <p>The full safer Somerset Partnership Annual Report is available at <a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp">www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp</a></p>		
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<b>That the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board agrees and endorses the Safer Somerset Partnership Annual Report 2017 (shown at Appendix B)</b>		
<b>Links to Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b>	<p>Some groups and communities systematically experience poorer health than others. These are, in the main, often the same group who experience victimisation or are prone to offending.</p> <p>The Community Safety agenda overlaps with Health and Wellbeing work streams but in particular, theme 2 of the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy - <i>Families and communities are thriving and resilient</i>.</p>		

<b>Financial, Legal and HR Implications:</b>	There are no financial, legal or HR implications arising from this report
<b>Equalities Implications:</b>	Equalities Impact Assessments are carried on specific pieces of work that relate to services and our communities, however, no assessment has been conducted in relation to providing the Board with this report.
<b>Risk Assessment:</b>	N/A

## 1. Background

- 1.1 This report summarises the report, paying attention to subjects pertinent to the Health and Wellbeing Board's agenda.
- 1.2 The Safer Somerset Partnership was developed in 2011/12 as a single county wide partnership for delivering duties under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998).
- 1.3 The purpose of the Partnership is to provide strategic direction, leadership and improve the effectiveness of the delivery of Community Safety in Somerset, make effective links to other strategic partnerships and deliver against its statutory duties.
- 1.4 The Partnership's structure is outlined in background paper 1, with thematic priorities delivered by designated sub groups. There are also crime types that are better dealt with on a wider, Avon and Somerset level.
- 1.5 The Partnership has a range of statutory duties which are detailed in background paper 1, the Annual Report.
  - Community Safety Strategic Assessment
  - Community Safety Plan
  - Annual Community Safety Scrutiny Committee
  - Domestic Homicide Reviews
  - Reducing Reoffending

### 1.6 The Partnership's activities and achievements 2016/17

#### *One Teams*

In early 2017, the Safer Somerset Partnership agreed to provide County wide strategic leadership and oversight (not governance) of the One Teams in Somerset. There are now One Teams covering 12 of the most deprived communities in Somerset, including three new teams being established in Williton/Minehead, Hamp and Burnham. All of the One Teams have the same shared vision *"To work in Somerset's most vulnerable communities and provide co-ordinated front-line multi-agency working to efficiently provide sustainable solutions for families and individuals that prevent problems escalating and costs increasing to the public sector."*

The One Team model continues to evolve and will become more refined with the help of the new coordinator who is tasked with improving standards for working between 2017 and 2020.

### *County lines and Organised Crime Groups*

County lines activity typically involves gangs from large urban areas travelling to smaller locations (such as a county town) to sell Class A drugs, with a degree of sophistication, utilising remote call centres and networks to make it difficult for public agencies to detect.

County lines gangs pose a significant threat to vulnerable adults and children, upon whom they rely to conduct and/or facilitate the criminality. 'Cuckooing' residents, using their homes to run their business is a common feature. Exposure to gang exploitation has the potential to generate emotional and physical harm.

In the summer of 2017, for the first time, police colleagues met with local partner agencies to consider how not only to disrupt the groups from causing harm in Somerset but also, how the crime is prevented in the longer term.

Also persisting in Somerset, is the impact of Organised Crime Groups; people working together on a continuing basis for a particular criminal activity/ies. Police teams are now sharing local Serious and Organised Crime Profiles with the Partnership and are supporting the development of a mechanism by which local agencies can together, tackle these types of criminals in the form of a multi-agency Somerset Disruption Panel.

### *Modern Slavery*

This is a cross cutting agenda for a number of strategic partnerships in Somerset with the Safer Somerset Partnership providing a leadership role. It is often linked to Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and cuts across the Partnership's activity for disruption serious and organised crime.

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 contains 2 main modern slavery offences, punishable by up to life imprisonment:

1. Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour
2. Human trafficking

Types of Modern slavery include:

- Sexual Exploitation
- Domestic Servitude
- Forced Labour
- Debt Bondage
- Organ Harvesting
- Criminal Exploitation
- Child Trafficking

In the past year, as part of the Avon and Somerset Anti-Slavery Partnership, work has taken place to improve the profiling of modern slavery across Somerset and consider the strategic direction which includes a focus on prevention activity.

Somerset took part in the Modern Slavery National Referral Mechanism pilot project for improving the way that potential victims of modern slavery were identified and referred for support. Trained staff continue to provide this referral service.

#### *Somerset Drug and Alcohol Partnership*

This year we were pleased to see the performance of our specialist services improve quarter after quarter, finishing the year as one of the best performing in the country in terms of getting people into treatment and onto recovery. Congratulations must go to all the staff, peer mentors, service users and their friends and families who have worked so hard to make Somerset a 'recovery county'.

Targeted work with young people and protecting children from the harms of adult substance use continue to be very high priorities and the Somerset Drug and Alcohol Partnership is committed to a 'think family' approach which focused not only on the adults issues, but on the impact on children who may be exposed to this.

During the coming year the partnership will continue to progress work started this year on the impacts of mental health and substance use, as well as the impacts of substance use within offending. Commissioners within the partnership will also be engaged in the re commissioning of specialist Drug and Alcohol Services as the current contract draws to an end. Intelligence gathering and engagement has been undertaken and procurement will take place over the next eighteen months with a new service in place by April 2019.

#### *Domestic abuse*

During 2016/17 a great deal of work has been undertaken to improve the quality of the domestic abuse system across Somerset. The Partnership redesigned its Somerset Domestic Abuse Board, with new membership and fresh direction with the primary aim of providing quality assurance across the system and with help from the Somerset public Health team, works to a specially designed score card.

A key activity of the Board has been to review Somerset's Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) to help embed the MARAC principles in to existing safeguarding practices in order to create a system that is more child and family centred.

#### *Hidden Harm*

A report produced by Somerset County Council Public health, defined hidden harm as the actual and potential effects of parental substance misuse (drugs and alcohol), domestic abuse and mental health issues on dependent children. The aim when considering Hidden Harm is to 'intervene early with vulnerable children and young people in order to improve lifetime health and wellbeing, prevent mental illness and reduce costs incurred by ill health, unemployment and crime. It is anticipated that early intervention will bring benefits to the individual during childhood and into adulthood but also improve his or her capacity to parent'.

Treatment of substance misuse, domestic abuse and mental health involves a range of stakeholders and service providers at any one time. In complex cases the involvement in assessments of practitioners from different specialist services will result in a better understanding of how parental problems impact on family functioning and parenting capacity. Robust professional links, joint protocols and

procedures between children's and adults' services will help to ensure collaboration during assessments and service provision. The significant impact of the trio of domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health on the health and wellbeing of children and families is well evidenced; and the need for effective joint working is crucial.

Domestic abuse, mental health and substance misuse specialist services have been running combined workshops with staff to enable them to better work together to identify complex individuals with multiple needs, as early as possible and then support to identify children at risk as a result of this.

## 1.7 Responses to key events

### *Counter Terrorism (Prevent)*

The Partnership oversees the work of the Somerset Prevent Board and in turn, the Channel process in Somerset. Somerset County Council takes a leadership role in this work and reports on a quarterly basis.

Highlights of the report *Embedding Prevent in Somerset*, which audited the progress in all 'specified authorities' July 2017 include:

- 'specified' agencies have done extremely well in embedding their duties with only a small number of tasks left outstanding
- All agencies have cascaded and/or attended training on prevent. There are still more to train, but the means to achieve this are embedded and sustained.
- Almost every school in Somerset has completed training which is a great achievement. However, schools still feel they need support in this topic, particularly when needing to discuss radicalisation with children

From assessing Channel cases to date, it is clear that these individuals can have other vulnerabilities and in some cases, experience of receiving other services which may include social care. Work has been underway to improve the way that the Channel process aligns with safeguarding processes that are already in place, including the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to ensure that the client is supported in the most appropriate and timely way, whilst appropriately assessing and responding to their needs, vulnerabilities and risk.

### *Grenfell Tower*

In the wake of the tragic fire at London's Grenfell Tower in June 2017, the Partnership requested an assurance briefing from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, which stated:

- Fire safety legislation, (Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005), applies to a wide range of building occupancies; this includes the common areas of high rise residential premises.
- The responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the above legislation are met lies with the building owners.
- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service (DSFRS) has a duty to enforce the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- DSFRS have a robust, fire safety inspection strategy to ensure that a suitable level of compliance is achieved in all buildings (where the legislation applies), especially where the risk of loss of life is highest.
- In light of the fire at Grenfell Tower, in London, fire safety risk information held by DSFRS, has been reviewed for all known high rise premises in Devon and Somerset. Following this review, a bespoke risk based inspection programme

also commenced, with a view to confirming that the current status of the building, and to give assurance to residents

- The Service continues to carry out high rise exercises and multi-agency exercises to assist in training and preparation for similar incidents.

### *Hinkley Point C Project*

The Somerset Hinkley Community Safety Group, facilitated by Sedgemoor District Council now meets each month, with a larger meeting every quarter to consider local impacts on community safety. This group involves EDF, local authorities, South West Ambulance Trust, police and the fire service. The Safer Somerset Partnership has asked for regular reports to keep up to date with progress and impacts.

## **1.8 Performance against priorities, new priorities and grant funding**

Below is a list of priorities set for the Partnership between 2014 and 2017. Performance against these can be found in background paper 1.

- Improve links to other partnerships, interagency collaboration and understanding of services
- Prevent the escalation of violent crime and abuse by supporting victims and working with perpetrators
- Focus on targeted Anti-Social Behaviour
- Focusing on Families through Early Help
- Identify opportunities and approaches that Improve mental wellbeing and the emotional resilience of people in Somerset
- Break the cycle of offending/abuse through an engaged multi-agency response to targeted/identified groups

A new set of priorities have been approved for 2017-2020.

- Priority 1: Protect people from the Harm of Domestic and Sexual Abuse
- Priority 2: Identify and Prevent the Exploitation of Vulnerable People
- Priority 3: Identify and Support those with Inequalities and vulnerabilities, which can lead to poorer health outcomes and increased risk taking behaviours
- Priority 4: Meet our Statutory Duties [Reducing Reoffending and Domestic Homicide Reviews]

The Partnership has allocated a grant made available by the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner against each of these. An overview of this allocation is available in Appendix A

## **2. Consultations undertaken**

- 2.1. The Safer Somerset Partnership representatives were all consulted in the content of the Annual Report and given opportunity to amend and provide feedback on two separate occasions.

## **3. Background papers**

- 3.1. Safer Somerset Partnership Annual Report 2017 (Appendix B)  
Available at [www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp)
- 3.2. Safer Somerset Partnership Plan 2017-2020.  
Available at [www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/ssp)

## Appendix A

### Funded Services/projects aligned to Partnership Priority

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner allocated grant funding to be allocated the Partnership for the years 2017/18 – 2019/20. The table below illustrates how the chosen services and project align with this Plan's priorities.

Service/Project	Linked Priority
<p><b>Positive Lives</b> (previously Housing Support for Offenders – Complex Adults Design Group). This is a continuing project essential for supporting high risk of harm and high risk of reoffending offenders.</p>	<p>Priority 3: Identify and Support those with Inequalities and vulnerabilities, which can lead to poorer health outcomes and increased risk taking behaviors</p> <p>Priority 4: Meet our Statutory Duties [Reducing Reoffending and Domestic Homicide Reviews]</p>
<p><b>One Team Development projects</b> Two-part project to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assist the Safer Somerset Partnership in quality assurance of One Teams</li> <li>2. Embed consistency of standards where required whilst ensuring the continuation of locally led teams</li> <li>3. Assist the Mendip team transform from a 'virtual' to a face to face meeting structure by adding some coordination resource</li> </ol>	<p>All priorities</p>
<p><b>Vulnerability Pathways – systems review</b> A one off system review, independently chaired, designed to consider the various vulnerability pathways in Somerset and assess areas for change and improvement. Not starting until year 2/3</p>	<p>Priority 2: Identify and Prevent the Exploitation of Vulnerable People</p>
<p><b>Project SHE</b> A SHE diversion worker will work across Somerset (based in Bridgwater). The aims of SHE are to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve safety for those who are themselves victims/vulnerable</li> <li>- Improve access to, and engagement with, support</li> <li>- Reduce number of arrests/ re arrests</li> <li>- Reduce number of remands/ short custodial sentences</li> <li>- Reduce re offending</li> <li>- Improve outcomes for children and families through prevention.</li> </ul>	<p>Priority 1: Protect people from the Harm of Domestic and Sexual Abuse</p>
<p><b>CSE Prevention</b> Support to young people who are at risk of sexual exploitation and/or criminal exploitation. Focus on the 'push' factors such as abuse, bullying or family conflict and the 'pull' factors like grooming in order to quickly and effectively combat the underlying causes of running away and prevent problems escalating.</p>	<p>Priority 1: Protect people from the Harm of Domestic and Sexual Abuse</p>