

**Title:** Update Report – Community Safety

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

**To:** Health & Wellbeing Board **On:** 13 October 2016

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## 1. Achievements since last meeting

- 1.1 The statutory members of Torbay's Community Safety Partnership met on 28 September 2016. The statutory members of the partnership include: police, council, fire and rescue, clinical commissioning group, national probation service, and the community rehabilitation company. The activity of the Community Safety Partnership relates to **additional** work which is going to take place by agencies who will work together to **do something differently**. The work of the partnership does not include 'the day job' of each individual agency.
- 1.2 The Community Safety Partnership is now chaired by Superintendent Jacqui Hawley, the Devon and Cornwall Police Commander for South Devon.
- 1.3 An item for consideration at that meeting was the structure and governance of the Community Safety Partnership, and how that fits within the broader strategic structure of a Children's Safeguarding Board, Adults Safeguarding Board, and Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.4 A 'mapping' activity completed by the Partnership Lead Manager of Torbay's four 'strategic boards' (i.e. Adults Safeguarding, Children's Safeguarding, Community Safety Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board) had been completed to highlight the work activity of each board, along with the contribution expected (and demand placed) on services/agencies to attend. This work demonstrated that the four boards generate approximately 116 meetings per year and generated a debate amongst the partnership signalling a need to move to a leaner, more efficient governance structure.
- 1.5 The work of the Community Safety Partnership has changed significantly in the last 2 years. This is in response to changes in crime, 'new' crime types (such as cyber crime, online exploitation of children, serious and organised crime, violent extremism and modern slavery), a rise in complexity of cases, and the increasing prevalence of issues such as mental ill health and problematic alcohol use as factors within crime. These changes have taken

place in a context of diminishing resources in response to 'austerity measures'.

- 1.6 As such the remit of the Community Safety Partnership must now move from working to achieve 'traditional community safety outcomes' to prioritising its activity on safeguarding the individuals and communities who are *the* most vulnerable and are at the greatest risk of significant harm.

- 1.7 At its meeting on 28 September 2016 the Community Safety Partnership considered its new draft Strategic Assessment. The data driven assessment provides a 'snapshot' of Crime and Disorder. Within the assessment the two biggest crime and disorder issues for Torbay are:

- 1. Domestic abuse and sexual violence**
- 2. Violent crime associated with problematic alcohol use**

- 1.8 The strategic assessment states:

- 1.9 *Over the past five years violent crime has increased year on year and in 2015/16 violent crime continued to rise in Torbay, with violence with injury rising by 10% and violence without injury rising by 9%.*

- 1.10 *In the past year there have been 2890 Violent Crimes compared to 2,521 two years ago representing a rise of 15%.*

- 1.11 *Compared to similar CSP areas and those within Devon and Cornwall, Torbay was above average for violence against the person, violence with injury and violence without injury.*

- 1.12 Based on an analysis of threat, risk and harm within the Strategic Assessment the following areas were also identified as priorities for Torbay's Community Safety Partnership:

- Violent Crime associated with Alcohol and the Night Time Economy
- Re-offending
- Cyber Crime
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Slavery
- Hate Crime
- Violent Extremism

## **2. Challenges for the next three months**

- 2.1 The crime types listed above all require a multi-agency response and are 'cross-cutting' across each of Torbay's Strategic Boards. As Chairperson of the partnership, Superintendent Hawley will be encouraging discussions at a strategic level to consider:

- how governance structures could be improved further in Torbay to ensure that priority issues, particularly domestic abuse and sexual violence, for which agencies should be held jointly accountable, are considered in an efficient and action focused manner
  - the governance of the Community Safety Partnership (i.e. currently the partnership *reports* to the Health and Wellbeing Board, but is not *represented* on that committee)
  - streamlining structures to eradicate duplication, encourage collaboration, make the best use of individuals time, add value, affect change and enable swift decision making
  - ensuring that across all partner agencies, appropriate resources are fairly allocated to/diverted into activity to tackle these issues
- 2.2 The Community Safety Partnership will share with the Health and Wellbeing Board the new Torbay Strategic Assessment when completed. The Community Safety Partnership is also required to produce a three year Community Safety Strategy, which exists in draft and will be circulated to the Health and Wellbeing Board in its draft format for consultation/comment in due course.

### **3. Action required by partners**

- 3.1 The Community Safety Partnership requests that the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, along with the Chair of Torbay Adult's Safeguarding Board, and Chair of Torbay's Safeguarding Children Board commit to meeting and communicating regularly with each other to ensure that the combined efforts of the Boards are appropriately structured, efficient, and are able to drive forward change with shared accountability, collaborative approaches and in some cases joint commissioning.

### **Appendices**

NA.

### **Background Papers:**

NA.