

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

24<sup>th</sup> June, 2019

**Report Author: Fay Smith, CSP Co-ordinator**

**Subject: Community Safety Partnership Update**

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**REPORT FOR: INFORMATION**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Community Safety Partnerships were formed following the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which made it a statutory duty for each local authority area to have a Community Safety Partnership.
  - 1.2 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the responsible authorities to: *'Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed upon it... exercise its functions with due regard to...the need to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.'*
  - 1.3 The responsible authorities of the Powys Community Safety Partnership are Dyfed/Powys Police; Local Authority; Wales & West Fire Service; Youth Justice Service; Powys teaching Health Board; National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company.
  - 1.4 There are many legislative and cross-cutting issues which influence how Community Safety Partnerships operate, however priorities are determined annually via a Joint Strategic Assessment which draws on intelligence from all partner agencies, as well as service action plans or reports.
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**2. DEVELOPMENTS**

**2.1 The Safer Communities Programme:**

The Welsh Government's [Safer Communities Programme](#) was established in December 2017 following the completion of the [Working Together for Safer Communities Review](#) – Welsh Government's response to the Auditor General's [Community Safety in Wales](#) report of the previous year. At the heart of the programme is a new shared vision for community safety in Wales in which:

- Every community is strong, safe and confident in a manner that provides equality of opportunity and social justice, resilience and sustainability for all;
- The shared responsibility of government, public and third sector agencies is to work together with the communities they serve and the private sector to address activity or behaviour that is unlawful, anti-social, harmful to individuals and society and to the environment;
- Sharing knowledge and ensuring early intervention with prompt, positive action tackles local issues and addresses vulnerabilities.

This vision is underpinned by six key principles and a set of 11 commitments from Welsh Government designed to support the refresh of local and regional community safety partnership working ensuring it is:

- Evidence-based and intelligence-led;
- Supported by appropriate skills & knowledge;
- Sustainably resourced and locally appropriate;
- Engaging and involving citizens;
- Preventative and intervening as early as possible;
- Focused on long-term improvements and benefits.

The programme commitments include:

- working with the Commission on Justice in Wales to identify options for the development of a distinct Welsh justice system;
- establishing a dialogue with the Home Office over the appropriateness of the original Crime & Disorder Act as it applies to Wales;
- developing a more clearly defined strategic leadership role for Welsh Government in community safety partnership working;
- establishing a community safety partnership policy & practice function within Welsh Government;
- developing new Welsh guidance for community safety partnership working;
- considering how to establish a Wales Community Safety Network and online resources library;
- exploring opportunities for joint thematic inspection around the ‘reducing reoffending’ them;
- considering how to improve community safety funding programmes to achieve longer term approaches giving greater flexibility and focus on community safety outcomes;
- improving data sharing, data development and analysis arrangements for community safety partnership working.

The programme is being taken forward under the direction of a multi-agency programme board. Chaired by Jane Hutt AM, Deputy Minister & Chief Whip, with representatives from:

- Welsh Government;
- the Home Office;
- the Ministry of Justice;
- Welsh Police & Crime Commissioners and
- Chief Constables (Policing in Wales Group); the
- Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA);
- Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE);
- Her Majesty’s Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS);
- Youth Justice Board (YJB) Cymru;
- Welsh Fire & Rescue Services Chief Officers;
- Public Health Wales (PHW);
- Community Justice Cymru (CJC);
- Welsh Local Health Boards (LHBs).

Senior Responsible Officers from the programme board have been appointed to lead workstreams based on the six key principles. The board has agreed that the delivery plan will utilise dispersed leadership methodology to ensure it involves all key stakeholders, is collaborative and integrated in its approach, and places an emphasis on sustainable action that is preventative or intervening as early as possible. Programme implementation is initially focused on Serious & Organised Crime and associated 'county lines' activity and serious violence, agreed as the most pressing priority for all partners and areas within Wales.

## 2.2 Serious Organised Crime (SOC)

Nationally County Lines is having a big impact upon Communities, Powys is not exempt from this.

The Home Office held the Wales official launch of the Serious Organised Crime Strategy on the 9th May, in Newport. This event was attended by agencies from across Wales and some of the Key Note speakers were -

- Lynne Owens, Director General, National Crime Agency
- Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP, Minister of State for Security and Economic Crime
- Jane Hutt, Deputy Minister and Chief Whip
- Debbie Wilcox, Leader of Newport City Council and Leader of Welsh Local Government Association

There is a Regional Serious Organised Crime Board which meets quarterly, and Local SOC Boards have recently commenced, which meet quarterly and feed into the Regional Group. Tactical SOC groups will be called as and when required.

It is important to note that County Lines (drugs) is only one form of Serious Organised Crime, there is also Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Slavery, Illicit Tobacco etc.

Currently Powys has 6 Organised Crime Groups – 5 in relation to drugs, 1 in relation to Illicit Tobacco which is being managed by our own Powys Trading Standards in a case which involves considerable sums of criminal monies.

## 2.3 Domestic Homicide Reviews

On the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 Powys CSP published its first DHR. Tragically later in April 2018, a further domestic homicide took place. Powys CSP have recruited an Independent Chair and the review process is underway.

Recommendation	Reason for Recommendation
The Committee notes the contents of the Report	For Information only

<b>Relevant Policy (ies) :</b>	n/a		
<b>Within Policy</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Within Budget</b>	<b>Y/N n/a</b>

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