

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

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

**Subject: Community Safety Partnership Update**

---

**REPORT FOR: INFORMATION**

---

**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 and National Probation Service.

---

**2. Wales Safer Communities Board & Network**

2.1 In 2016, the Wales Audit Office (WAO), on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales, published the Community Safety in Wales report which made several recommendations to improve Community Safety in Wales. [Community Safety in Wales](#) The report concluded that complex responsibilities make it difficult for public bodies to co-ordinate a strategic approach to Community Safety, which weakens collective leadership and accountability, and undermines the potential to help people stay safe.

2.2 Welsh Government noted the recommendations and committed to undertake a wider review, [Working Together for Safer Communities Review](#), to move the community safety agenda forward and respond to the Auditor General's recommendations.

2.3 Following the publication of the Working Together for Safer Communities review in 2017, the Welsh Government, in partnership with its devolved and non-devolved partners and stakeholders in Wales, established the [Safer Communities Programme](#).

2.4 The Safer Communities Programme concluded in September 2020, replaced by the Safer Communities Board along with the Safer Communities Network.

2.5 The Safer Communities Board has five key ambitions: -

- Community safety is integrated across all relevant policy areas / partnerships.
- Safer Communities Network is the recognised national forum for all sectors involved in community safety partnership working.
- The 'Evidence-based, Intelligence-led' principle and its application within local/regional partnership working is sustainably resourced.
- Community safety is prevention-focused and embraces a public-health approach.
- To learn from other related and interdependent programmes, providing mechanisms to feed key issues & learning into community safety partnership working, sharing awareness and cross-cutting practice.

2.6 The Community Safety Network commenced six months ago. Work undertaken so far is the production of “Briff” a weekly briefing document distributed via e-mail; Branding including development of the logo; ‘One stop shop’ website under development and Summer Seminar Series planned.

---

### **3. CONTEST**

3.1 Contest is the United Kingdom’s Strategy for Countering Terrorism. Within Wales, the governance structure for Contest has undergone a fundamental refresh and been rebranded as **Contest Cymru**. The Aims & Objectives are: -

- *Provide the strategic direction for partners and colleagues to help Keep Wales Safe*
- *To ensure leadership, consistency, and accountability in the delivery of Contest*
- *To mitigate threat, risk, and reputational harm, providing reassurance to senior officer and improve collaborative working to deliver outcomes that benefit the public.*

3.2 There are two All Wales Strategic Boards beneath Contest Cymru: -

- All Wales Protect & Prepare Strategic Board
- All Wales Prevent Board

3.3 There are six Regional Boards, and within the Dyfed-Powys area we have four Local Contest Boards.

3.4 PREVENT review - During the passage of the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019 on 12 February 2019, the government committed to carrying out an independent review of Prevent. The report, including any recommendations of the review, must be submitted to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, as required by the act.

3.5 William Shawcross was appointed as the new Independent Reviewer of Prevent on 26 January 2021. The independent review will consider the UK’s strategy for protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and will make recommendations for the future.

3.6 CHANNEL - forms a key part of Prevent. The process adopts a multi-agency approach to identify and provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism. Refreshed Channel Guidance was issued in 2020, which required Local Authorities to have a named Channel Chair and a named Vice-Chair, agreed by the Chief Executive. There is also a new requirement for an Annual Assurance Statement.

---

### **4. Serious Violence & Organised Crime**

4.1 The Home Office has two separate strategies – the Serious Organised Crime strategy and the Serious Violence Strategy.

4.2 Within Dyfed-Powys these have been combined and we have INTACT - Joint Serious Violence and Organised Crime Strategy.

4.3 To deliver INTACT there is a Regional Serious Violence & Organised Crime (SVOC) Board, which meets quarterly, and four Local SVOC Boards which sit under the Community Safety Partnerships. In addition, there are Operational Tactical meetings as and when required.

4.4 Within Dyfed-Powys Police there is now a SVOC Coordinator and 10 INTACT Community Support Officers, the team, work with several partners to develop and deliver diversionary activities and interventions to address the root causes of harm. The team are supported by an analyst to better target their activity.

---

## 5. Single Unified Safeguarding Review

5.1 Since 2017, Welsh Government and key stakeholders have been engaged in a project to examine the Welsh response to Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR), Adult Practice Reviews (APR) and Child Practice Reviews (CPR). This work instigated a practitioner's review led by the then Assistant Chief Constable Liane James and an academic review commissioned by the National Independent Safeguarding Board led by Dr Amanda Robinson of Cardiff University.

5.2 Both reviews produced near identical recommendations. It was apparent that too many reviews were being conducted in isolation on the same incident.

5.3 As a result of this work it was recommended that a project be instigated to take the recommendations forward. In December 2019, Liane James, now retired from policing, joined the Safeguarding and Advocacy team in Welsh Government to take this work forward.

5.4 A Single Unified Safeguarding Review Steering (SUSR) Group has been convened, with senior representation from all areas of community safety and safeguarding, both devolved and non-devolved in Wales. Four task and finish groups have been convened: -

- *Training and Learning*

The overarching purpose of the group is to create a process whereby the recommendations from a Single Unified Safeguarding Review are implemented on an all-Wales basis, thematic learning from reviews is embedded into policy and procedures and well-defined communication channels used to communicate learning with all partners, devolved and non-devolved.

- *Wales Safeguarding Repository (WSR) Task and Finish Group*

The overarching purpose of the group is to create a process and system, which captures all public sector safeguarding reviews undertaken in Wales. Once information has been collected and curated this will then enable data to be drawn upon and used by practitioners. This would facilitate and encourage interdisciplinary approaches to research and future preventative interventions.

- *Legal and Governance Task and Finish Group*

The overarching purpose of the group is to create a process whereby legislation and statutory guidance are reviewed to facilitate the introduction of an all-Wales Single Unified Safeguarding Review. This would enable thematic learning from reviews to be embedded into policy and procedures and well-defined governance and communication channels used to communicate learning with all partners, devolved and non-devolved.

- *Policy and Process Task and Finish Group*

The overarching purpose of the group is to develop systems and processes to create a Single Unified Safeguarding Review for Wales which compliments existing legislation, guidance, and duties in the devolved and non-devolved space. This will prevent the duplication of unnecessary reviews and focus on learning to safeguard for the future.

---

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

Relevant Policy (ies) :	n/a		
Within Policy	Y/N yes	Within Budget	Y/N n/a

Contact Officer:	Telephone:	Email:
Fay Smith	01597 827315	Fay.Smith@powys.gov.uk