

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 11 NOVEMBER 2021

Present:

Steve Raffield	Thames Valley Police (Chair)
Cllr Jason Brock	Leader, RBC
Cllr Tony Page	Deputy Leader, RBC
Cllr Adele Barnett-Ward	Lead Councillor for Neighbourhoods and Communities
Cllr Raj Singh	Observer, RBC
Jo Middlemass	Community Safety and Enablement Manager, RBC
Andrew Penrith	Thames Valley Police
Aaron Cheung	Thames Valley Police
Jeremy Oldroyd	Thames Valley Police, Victim Reduction Unit (VRU)
Zelda Wolfe	Assistant Director of Housing & Communities, RBC
Catherine Marriott	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Vicky Rhodes	Director of Early Help, Brighter Futures for Children
Zoe Hanim	Reading Channel Panel, RBC
Joanne Anderson	Neighbourhood Initiatives Team Manager, RBC
Becky Pollard	Consultant, RBC
Kathryn Warner	PACT
Jaqueline Markie	Reading Magistrates?
Julie Quarmby	Committee Services, RBC

Apologies:

Seona Douglas	Executive Director of Social Care and Health, RBC
Deborah Glassbrook	Director of Children's Services Brighter Futures for Children
Nicola Bell	Manager, Willow Project
Carly Dagg	Reading Magistrates
Giles Allchurch	Youth Offender Service, BFFC
Natausha Van Vliet	PACT
Donna Gray	Safeguarding Children, Brighter Futures for Children
Gina Carpenter	Service Manager (Early Help, CATs), BFFC

1. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY FUND

Jo Middlemass, RBC, gave a presentation on the Community Safety Fund allocation from the Police & Crime Commissioner for the period 2022-2015, which detailed the historical background to the grant and its allocation between the Thames Valley Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and explained that a new formula for funding had been introduced which would reduce the funding for Reading CSP over the next three years:

2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2014-25
£453,128	£373,411	£293,694	£213,977

The presentation also covered the new Police & Crime Commissioner's priorities and intention to continue to approve funding based on spend proposals being in line with the PCC's new Police & Criminal Justice Plan, and the current CSP priorities. The presentation set out key issues for the CSP including the need to review how the funding would be allocated moving forward and the requirement under the partnership's Terms of Reference to review future allocations every

November, which could provide an opportunity to consider aligning the allocations to the CSP priorities. The current CSP Plan was due to end in 2022 so a new plan would be written following the completion of a new Strategic Assessment. In the meantime, the budget would remain the same for the first six months of 2022-23, until the new Plan had been agreed to allow sufficient time for planning.

AGREED:

- (1) That Jo Middlemass submit a report setting out a review of the current allocations and recommendations for future allocations to the CSP meeting to be held on 3 February 2022, following completion of the CSP Strategic Assessment and draft three-year CSP Plan;
- (2) That the Chair of the CSP write to the service leads/commissioners for the four areas in receipt of the current funding to advise that a review was to be undertaken;
- (3) The CSP budget and allocations remain as is for the first six months of the financial year 2022-23.

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT PROPOSALS

Jo Middlemass reported that there had not been a robust assessment of the strategic aims of the CSP for several years and that the changes to funding would provide a good opportunity to revisit the aims. The assessment would look at all of the crime and disorder elements in Reading, including total numbers, number per population, types, unseen and unrecorded crimes alongside health data and information provided by support services. This data would then be used to identify the most appropriate methods to reduce crime and disorder. The Partnership noted that the assessment would need both hard and soft data, including qualitative data from sources such as the Community Safety Survey, Thames Valley Police and Crimestoppers, to ensure that the priorities and aims were up to date.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

4. SERIOUS VIOLENCE

Jo Middlemass gave a presentation on the Serious Crime Duty, which was being introduced as part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing & Courts Bill 2021. The Duty included a number of measures aimed at protecting the public by giving the police the tools needed to tackle crime and disorder, and by addressing the root causes of serious violent crime using multi agency approaches to prevention.

The presentation covered how the Duty was expected to work in practice, funding, the roles of the Violence Reduction Units and Community Safety Partnerships and the timescales. Jo explained that the Reading CSP had already started to take action, including:

- Establishment of a Serious Violence Steering Group (SVSG);
- The Terms of Reference to be signed off and membership finalised for the SVSG;
- Support would be provided by Reading Borough Council's Community Partnerships Service. The Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit had provided £40k to the nine place-based partnerships, including Reading to support preparation for the duty;
- Reading was using this funding to complement Safer Streets funding and provide a post to support the CSP with delivery of these areas of work;
- It was suggested that this be included within the CSP's overarching Strategic Needs Assessment, rather than having a separate assessment;

- The One Reading Partnership had begun work through its workstreams which would support these activities;
- A number of initiatives had been funded by the VRU, including Hospital Navigators.

AGREED:

- That the commissioning of the Strategic Needs assessment be supported;
- That the Serious Violence Steering Group report into the Community Safety Partnership Executive Group;
- That the Community Safety Partnership Chair write to all partners asking for the support for the Steering Group and to request their input into the Strategic Needs Assessment;
- That the strategy and plan be signed off by the Community Safety Partnership;
- That a bi-annual report be submitted to the Community Safety Partnership, which would set out progress of the plan.

5. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW

Jo Middlemass reported that she had been informed that there would be a need for a domestic homicide review. She noted that there was no CSP funding to pay for an independent Chair for the review, and that she would be speaking to other CSP's about how they funded reviews.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

6. PREVENT UPDATE

Further to Minute 6 of the meeting held on 22 April 2021, Zoe Hanim, Prevent Lead and Chair of Reading Channel Panel, gave a presentation introducing the Draft Prevent Action Plan which set out key points, including:

- Prevent governance in Reading, including details of the partners involved in the Reading Prevent Management Group;
- Counter terrorism local profile and risk assessment;
- The four Community Cohesion indicators: English language proficiency, economic inactivity, residential segregation and migration levels;
- Community insight;
- The Reading Prevent Action Plan including the objectives, actions to achieve the objectives, timescales and key dates and responsible officers.

The CSP noted that the further work that was being undertaken on community engagement generally would be useful in helping the Prevent agenda to become part of broader Safeguarding. The CSP also noted that there was a need for careful communications to engage people in lower-risk areas and that there was no additional funding available for this.

AGREED:

- (1) That the presentation be noted;
- (2) That the Action Plan for the coming year be agreed and that it be monitored via the Community Safety Partnership.

7. EXTRA FAMILIAL HARM STRATEGY

Vicky Rhodes, Brighter Futures for Children, gave a presentation on the Extra Familial Harm Strategy which was linked to the One Reading Adolescent Risk Strategic Group, reporting into the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership. The Strategy set out the types of harm: Child Sexual Exploitation, Criminal Exploitation, Missing Children, Gang Affiliation, County Lines and Serious Youth Violence and the actions that would be taken to address these.

Vicky explained that local data had been collected from various sources, including listening to young people themselves. The current number of young people at risk, while small, was growing steadily, with the greatest area of risk being drug related. There was also a disproportionate number of young people with SEND or ECHP. The Strategy aimed to identify young people at risk earlier, using a consistent approach. The Strategy set out the priority areas and the ways in which the partnership agencies would need to work in order to achieve the three aims of Predict, Prevent and Divert. The presentation also set out the next steps to be taken to progress the Strategy including finalising the actions plan, setting up the relevant workstreams, developing a Young Person's version and seeking endorsement from the CSP.

The Group discussed the presentation and raised the following points:

- It was important to capture the voice of the child, especially as many of those at risk were reluctant to engage with services;
- A recent project to help pupils with speech and language difficulties had proved successful not only for the pupils involved but for the whole school community as the levels of disruption had decreased, and this model could be helpful in Reading;
- The Choices Programme, where Y5 to Y8 students could use story book characters to practice making decisions on behalf of a third person could also be used in Reading Schools.

AGREED:

- (1) That the Strategy be endorsed;
- (2) That updates be submitted to the Community Safety Partnership.

8. SAFER STREETS UPDATE

AGREED: That Jo Middlemass circulate the update, and that any questions be directed to her.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings for 2021/22 would take place on:

3 February 2022

21 April 2022

All meetings start at 9.30am, venue to be confirmed.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 12.03 pm)