

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 15 SEPTEMBER 2022

Present:

Steve Raffield	Thames Valley Police (Chair)
Cllr Jason Brock	Leader, RBC
Cllr Tony Page	Deputy Leader, RBC
Cllr Karen Rowland	Lead Councillor for Environmental Services & Community Safety
Cllr Clarence Mitchell	Observer, RBC
Frances Martin	Executive Director, RBC
Zelda Wolfe	Assistant Director of Housing & Communities, RBC
Sarah Gardner	Community Safety Partnership, RBC
Joanne Anderson	Neighbourhood Initiatives Team Manager, RBC
Umi Abdulmutwalib	Domestic Abuse Partnership, RBC
Zoe Hanim	Reading Channel Panel, RBC
Vicky Rhodes	Director of Early Help, Brighter Futures for Children
Giles Allchurch	Brighter Futures for Children
Catherine Marriott	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Aaron Cheung	Thames Valley Police
Rachel Batts	Thames Valley Police
Jacqueline Markie	Probation
Julie Quarmby	Committee Services, RBC

Apologies:

Cllr Raj Singh	Observer, RBC
Seona Douglas	Executive Director of Social Care and Health, RBC
Jo Middlemass	Community Safety and Enablement Manager, RBC
Lynne Mason	Locality Team, RBC
Gail Muirhead	RBFRS
Alex Jansz	RBFRS
Donna Gray	Safeguarding Children, Brighter Futures for Children
Kathryn Warner	PACT

1. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

2. READING PREVENT ACTION PLAN 2022-23

Further to Minute 2 of the meeting held on 21 April 2022, Zoe Hanim gave a presentation updating the Board on the local risks and key messages from Counter-Terrorism Policing South East:

- Key requirements for the Prevent Action Plan;
- Ten Benchmarks;
- Risk Assessment Factors;
- Thames Valley Counter-Terrorism local profile and trends;
- Key themes for the Reading Prevent Action Plan;
- Thames Valley Prevent referral data;
- Reading demographics;

- Key objectives.

Zoe Hanim reported that she would share data from Project Starlight, which explored the prevalence of domestic abuse incidents within Prevent referrals, with officers involved with the Domestic Violence Strategy and that she would be meeting with Umi Abdulmatwalib to discuss staff training. Zoe also explained that each young person who was referred to the prevent Panel would get an individual bespoke support plan, which included language support for those for whom English was an additional language, as this had been noted as a common theme. The panel noted that the majority of referrals came via schools and the police, with very few referrals from the voluntary sector or community. A bid had been submitted for funding to support work to train local area voluntary sector workers about Prevent and how to make referrals.

AGREED: That the presentation be noted.

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SERIOUS VIOLENCE STRATEGY

Sarah Gardner gave a presentation on progress on the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategies. The presentation covered the following areas:

- Responses to the consultations;
- The seven priorities that had been consulted on and the responses received;
- Additional areas of concern raised during the consultation that did not fall into the remit of the strategies;
- Next steps.

Zelda Wolfle noted that it would be important to link both of these strategies to the Combatting Drugs Partnership as there was a degree of overlap. Steve Raffield added that once the Strategies had been agreed, the CSP would be responsible for ensuring that Delivery Groups were held accountable.

AGREED: That the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategies be noted for onward submission to the Housing, neighbourhoods & Leisure Committee on 9 November 2022 for approval and launch on 10 November 2022.

4. DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY - OVERVIEW OF DRAFT STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES

Umi Abdulmutwalib gave a presentation updating the Group on the draft Domestic Abuse Strategy, which covered:

- The Domestic Abuse Act 2021;
- Statutory responsibilities;
- Summary of needs assessments;
- Priorities moving forward;
- Consultation Feedback
- Responses drawn from the Action Plan;
- Timelines.

The group noted that the Action Plan would be circulated to the Community Safety Partnership for comments before being submitted to the Housing, Neighbourhoods and Leisure Committee on 9 November 2022 and formally launched on 10 November 2022.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

5. THEMATIC REVIEW REPORT

Vicky Rhodes updated the Group on the year-long review of Young Person Violence following two serious events in Reading. The Executive Group had focussed on 13 young people involved in serious offending and had worked in parallel with a separate Wokingham Child Safeguarding Practice Review.

Vicky set out the key findings of the review which noted that offenders were often likely to have been victims too, had come from hard to engage backgrounds and often had mental health issues. Other contributory factors included a lack of national and local common evidence base, delays in decision making, unreported offences and incidents of serious and/or sexual assaults to women and girls. Vicky added that an action plan had been drawn with 13 recommendations for further areas for action and improvement including:

- Develop and produce a problem profile;
- Evaluate profile of At Risk young people;
- Share information with schools
- Effectiveness of the Pupil Referral Unit
- Delays in the criminal justice system;
- Diversionary support;
- Disrupting criminal activity;
- Joint case planning and oversight;
- Avoiding duplication of workers;
- Earlier referrals and engagement with mental health and emotional health and wellbeing services;
- Engagement with speech and language services;
- Violence against women and girls;
- The role of social media in the risk profile of young people.

Vicky Rhodes confirmed that the Berkshire West Safeguarding Partnership would monitor progress on the recommendations, although much of the work would be Reading-specific. She stated that the Serious Violence Group, The Violence Reduction Unit and TVP had much of the data needed to produce the problem profile and the Serious Violence group would discuss resourcing at its next meeting. Giles Allchurch noted that young people would need support as they grew up and needed to access adult rather than children's services.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

6. InterACT - NEW DATA SYSTEM COMMISSIONED BY OPCC

Aaron Cheung, OPCC, gave a demonstration of InterACT, a new data sharing platform that had been purchased by the OPCC. The system could be used to make data from the crime reporting system (and data from other partners in the future) easily and quickly available. Aaron showed how the data could be accessed and filtered to show details relating to crimes, offenders and victims, and to show emerging and current trends. The system was updated on a monthly basis, although this could be changed in future if required. Aaron explained that the system would not be made available to the public immediately and that it would be important to look at what data could be accessed to share information without unnecessarily increasing the fear of crime.

AGREED: That the position be noted and that members of the Group contact Aaron Cheung directly for access to InterACT.

7. SAFER STREETS 4 UPDATE

Sarah Gardner gave a presentation on the latest successful bid for Safer Streets funding, which covered the following:

- There would be a Town Centre focus;
- Key highlights included:
 - Young Voices Steering Group;
 - Creation of a Safer Student Partnership
 - Safety for women;
 - Improving the environmental design of crime hotspots;
 - Tackling town centre anti-social behaviour;
- A series of public engagement events during autumn 2022;
- Links to the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategies.

Sarah Gardner explained that there was considerable activity planned over the next few months, including joint work with the OPCC and press releases regarding the scheme.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Restart Thames Valley

Rachel Batts, TVP, updated the Group on the Restart Thames Valley project which was aimed at reducing reoffending for prisoners leaving HMP Bullingdon and HMP Bronzefield. She explained that funding had been made available for trauma informed training and asked that members of the Group contact her directly if they knew of anyone who would benefit from this.

OPCC Vacancy

Cath Marriott reminded the Group that the Analyst post had been advertised and asked if it could be shared to encourage people to apply.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings for 2022/23 would take place on:

10 November 2022

2 February 2023

20 April 2023

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

(The meeting commenced at 9.30am and closed at 11.47am)