

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP - 10 NOVEMBER 2022

Present:

Steve Raffield	Thames Valley Police (Chair)
Cllr Jason Brock	Leader, RBC
Cllr Karen Rowland	Lead Councillor for Environmental Services & Community Safety, RBC
Cllr Clarence Mitchell	Observer, RBC
Zelda Wolfle	Assistant Director of Housing & Communities, RBC
Sarah Gardner	Community Safety Partnership, RBC
Joanne Anderson	Neighbourhood Initiatives Team Manager, RBC
Martin White	Consultant in Public Health, RBC
Zoe Hanim	Reading Channel Panel, RBC
Sally Andersen	Senior Wellbeing Commissioning Manager for Drugs & Alcohol, RBC
Jo Middlemass	Community Safety and Enablement Manager, 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
Jacob Nurdan	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Praveen Liyanage	Thames Valley Police
Emma Tompkins	Thames Valley Police
John Ennis	Probation
Kathryn Warner	PACT
Simon Hill	Committee Services, RBC

Apologies:

Cllr Tony Page	Deputy Leader, RBC
Seona Douglas	Executive Director of Social Care and Health, RBC
Frances Martin	Executive Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, RBC
Beckie Pollard	Consultant in Public Health, RBC
Lynne Mason	Locality Team, RBC
Jackie Markie	Probation
Gail Muirhead	RBFRS
Alex Jansz	RBFRS
Brian Grady	Brighter Futures for Children
Donna Gray	Safeguarding Children, Brighter Futures for Children

1. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SERIOUS VIOLENCE STRATEGY - FINAL DRAFT

Further to Minute 3 of the previous meeting Jo Middlemass and Steve Raffield presented the final draft of the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategy 2022-25. The content of the Strategy included a summary of action across the partnership in the last three years to tackle issues of crime and disorder, and the priorities for the three years which were: to reduce crime in the top crime-generating neighbourhoods, to improve the way the CSP works with communities to tackle anti-social behaviour and hate crime, to reduce community-based drug

related activity, to reduce knife violence, including the carrying of blades and their use in crime, to tackle organised crime gangs transporting illegal drugs across Reading's borders, also known as 'county lines' offending, to improve safety for women in public places and reduce sexually focused crimes and anti-social behaviour, and to develop a strategy and plan to reduce persistent offending. The Strategy also included a summary of the CSP's approach and underpinning principles and an explanation of the governance arrangements and how success would be measured. The final Strategy would be submitted to the Housing, Neighbourhoods and Leisure (HNL) Committee on 4 January 2023.

The Group discussed the Strategy and welcomed the move towards a clearer and more public-facing approach. It was noted that the measures of success and the delivery mechanisms for different priorities within the Strategy would be discussed at a CSP workshop to begin development of the Community Safety and Serious Violence action plan, which was scheduled to be held on 8 December 2022.

AGREED:

- (1) That detail on the measures of success and the delivery mechanisms for the Strategy be considered at the CSP workshop on 8 December 2022;
- (2) That the final Strategy be circulated to the Group prior to submission to the Housing, Neighbourhoods and Leisure (HNL) Committee on 4 January 2023.

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SERIOUS VIOLENCE STRATEGY - DELIVERY MODEL

Jo Middlemass gave a presentation on progress with developing a delivery model for the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategy. She explained that it was planned to bring in a performance group to have oversight of plan and monitor crime and perception data, and that proposals for additional delivery groups or task and finish groups could be developed at the CSP workshop on 8 December 2022. Potential options for consideration included delivery groups for Violence Against Women and Girls and Reducing Re-Offending, and a task and finish group on County Drug Lines.

Jo also explained that the CSP would report to the Council's Housing, Neighbourhood and Leisure Committee on an annual basis to provide an update on its activity and performance, that an annual Strategic Assessment would be carried out to refresh data and plans and that it was proposed to run an annual Community Safety Survey to monitor how perception levels. The Communications Group would also develop a CSP Communications Plan for consideration at the next Executive Group meeting. The Chair noted that with the addition of the suggested groups there would be a delivery mechanism for each of the priorities included in the Strategy, and that it was important for partner agencies outside of the Council and TVP to contribute where they could and ideally lead one or more of the groups.

The Group discussed the delivery arrangements and the points made included:

- The PCC's office could offer support across the groups, for example the forthcoming Thames Valley strategy for reducing re-offending could inform the work on that priority in Reading. A reducing reoffending delivery group would need to establish how to work across related issues such as drug misuse, for which there was a new 10 year government strategy;
- A West Berkshire combatting drugs partnership had been set up and the CSP would have to consider how to link in to this;

- The majority of direct action addressing serious violence was carried out by the police, and often had to be confidential, but other partners could take a lead on preventative work.

AGREED:

- (1) That partners consider where they could contribute to and lead on the delivery of the Community Safety and Serious Violence Strategy;
- (2) That proposals for additional delivery groups or task and finish groups could be developed at the CSP workshop on 8 December 2022;
- (3) That the Communications Group develop a CSP Communications Plan for consideration at the next Executive Group meeting.

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY FUND - MID-YEAR REVIEWS & NEXT STEPS

a) Mid-Year Review

i. Criminal Justice Treatment Pathway - Drug and Alcohol Treatment

Sally Andersen gave an update on use of the funding to deliver services to individuals across the whole criminal justice pathway, from arrest referral, pre-sentence, courts, custody and Prison, including the assessment, care coordination and recovery support functions for those sentenced to community sentences or post-custody supervision via National Probation Services. The update included details of funding allocation and set out data for: Criminal Justice caseload; the commencement, attendance at and completion of Drug Rehabilitation requirements (DTR) and Alcohol Treatment requirements (ATR); Prison releases; high risk offenders; inpatient detox/rehab and reduced substance misuse. The Group noted that the use of DTR and ATRs had been successful, and suggested ways of measuring reductions in repeat offenders.

ii. Source and Rise Up

Vicky Rhodes gave an update on Source (drug and alcohol support for young people) and Rise Up (reducing school exclusions at Prospect School) which outlined the activities, targets and Q1/Q2 performance for each of the projects. Vicky also outlined wider work going on to address the rate of school exclusions and Cath Marriott suggested opportunities to widen out the successful work of Rise Up.

iii. Community Safety and ASB

Jo Middlemass gave an update of the use of funding for Community Safety and ASB, which had a focus on reviewing and developing the way the CSP tackled area-based issues. Recent work also included setting up a Monitoring system on Sharepoint to track the progress of actions under the CSF Plan.

b) Next Steps

Jo Middlemass noted that funding for each workstream had been agreed until 31 March 2023 and would be reviewed once the Community Safety priorities and action plan had been drafted. With the draft Strategy now agreed it was proposed to use the workshop on 8 December 2022 to look at what was needed to enable the partnership to achieve its outcomes and where there

were gaps. Bid proposals could then be put forward to the CSP at the Executive Group Meeting in February 2023, with bids being submitted to the OPCC covering the remaining two years of the PCC's funding allocation. It was noted that there was an overall reduction in funding available.

AGREED: That the workshop on 8 December 2022 look at what resources were needed to enable the partnership to achieve its outcomes and where there were gaps, in order to develop bid for consideration at the Executive Group Meeting in February 2023.

5. FUTURE MEETINGS - PROGRAMME OF REPORTS AND BROUGHT FORWARD PLAN

Jo Middlemass reported that she was developing a reporting schedule for the various groups and boards that were a part of the wider CSP and this would be shared via a new Team on Microsoft Teams. She asked partners to consider what other business they would like to bring to Executive Group meetings. Cath Marriott noted that the role of CSPs needed to balance decision making, scrutiny/holding to account and information sharing. Jacob Nurdan outlined a successful approach that other CSPs had taken. The Chair and lead officer would consider holding a workshop to review the Executive Group role and meetings.

AGREED:

- (1) That the any other feedback be given to Jo Middlemass;
- (2) That Jo Middlemass and Steve Raffield consider holding breakout groups at a future meeting for a workshop to review the Executive Group role and meetings.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Steve Raffield, TVP, updated the Group on work in response to recent attacks on young women in the town centre. Cath Marriott suggested potential links with the forthcoming Police & Crime Plan and OPCC masculinity programme.

The Group thanked Vicky Rhodes who was attending her last meeting.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings for 2022/23 would take place on:

2 February 2023

20 April 2023

It was agreed that if possible the next meeting be held as a hybrid meeting at the Civic Offices.

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

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