

Present:

Emma Burroughs (in the Chair)	Deputy Area Commander, Thames Valley Police
Anthony Brain	Community Safety Manager, Reading Borough Council (RBC)
Cath Marriott	Policy Development, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Cllr Helen Manghnani (observer)	RBC
Elwyn Hopkin	Deputy Chair, Berkshire Bench
Nicola Bell	Manager, Willow Project
Paul Gresty	Strategic Lead for Partnerships and Prevention, RBC
Sally Andersen	Contract and Project Manager - Public Health, RBC
Simon Hill	Committee Services, RBC

Apologies:

Cllr Sophia James (Chair)	Lead Councillor for Neighbourhoods & Communities, (RBC)
Cllr Liz Terry	Lead Councillor for Children, RBC
Cllr Jo Lovelock	Leader, RBC
Cllr Tony Page	Deputy Leader, RBC
Carol Kelly	Chair, Berkshire Bench
Kathryn Warner	Communities Manager, PACT
Melanie Smith	Head of Berkshire, National Probation Service
Sarah Gee	Head of Housing & Neighbourhoods
Vicky Rhodes	Strategic Lead for Early Help, RBC

1. MINUTES AND MATTER ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

Further to Minute 2 of the previous meeting, regarding consultation on the draft Drug & Alcohol Strategy, Sally Andersen reported that the Strategy had been submitted to the Council's Policy Committee and that approval was also being sought to recommission the drug and alcohol treatment service.

2. TROUBLED FAMILIES UPDATE

Paul Gresty submitted a report giving an update on the Reading Troubled Families Programme.

The report noted that the focus of the programme, overseen by central government, remained the achievement of outcomes for families through Payment by Results and service transformation and legacy planning. Reading had a target of 1170 families achieving significant and sustained progress against agreed outcomes by 31 March 2020, which was the date the programme was due to end. As of August 2018 Reading had made claims for 249 families achieving progress, and the report set out the performance required in 2018/19 and 2019/20 to achieve the target. Appendix A to the report set out a summary of Reading's current performance and projection for

the end of the programme. To help achieve the targets officers had been working with RVA and voluntary sector partners to ensure that the third round of the Innovations Fund had a clear focus on increasing the number of families identified, attached and outcomes achieved.

The report explained that an Early Help Service Transformation Maturity Model and toolkit was used as a 'route map' to achieve service transformation. The report summarised the current self-assessment which was due for completion at the end of September 2018, with an Action Plan to be completed by the end of December 2018. A Troubled Families Partnership Board met bi-monthly and had oversight of the Programme and Action Plan.

The report explained that the Early Intervention Prevention and Partnership Strategy had been refreshed in early 2018, and that it had recently been agreed to form a Reading Early Intervention Partnership to oversee the Strategy. Paul said that CSP partners were invited to get involved in the Partnership and agreed to circulate more information.

Nicola Bell noted that the Trouble Families Programme criteria suggested an overlap with families with exploited children, and suggested a meeting to discuss this further.

AGREED:

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That Paul Gresty circulate information on the Early Intervention Partnership.

3. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT EMERGING PRIORITIES

Anthony Brain submitted a report summarising performance against the priorities in the current Community Safety Plan, and setting out potential priorities that were emerging from the Strategic Assessment for inclusion in the next Community Safety Plan.

The report noted that the current Community Safety Plan had seen a change in focus away from 'traditional' crime types towards those reflecting more complex crimes based on assessing Threat, Harm and Risk. This reflected a move both in the Thames Valley and nationally towards identifying vulnerable individuals being or at risk of being exploited for criminal gain. New demands and changing circumstances, against a backdrop of reducing resources, meant that focusing on providing the best possible outcome for those most at risk of harm or causing harm was now embedded in community safety work and this was in line with both Thames Valley Police priorities and the Council's Corporate Priority of 'Safeguarding and protecting those that are most vulnerable'.

The report explained that the Strategic Assessment was still in an early stage of development but had, through assessment of Threat, Harm and Risk, identified a number of areas that were likely to be put forward as priorities:

- Violent Crime (Domestic Abuse)
- Adult Exploitation (sex-working, human trafficking and cuckooing)
- Class A Drugs
- Violent / ASB Crime (Young People)

The assessment had also identified other key areas of concern that were either creating increased demand for services or had an unknown risk to Reading:

- Unauthorised Encampments
- Acquisitive Crime levels
- Community Tension / BREXIT

It was intended that a draft Assessment be circulated in December, with the final draft then be signed off at the CSP meeting on 31 January 2019. A partner workshop would be held in early 2019 to identify the delivery groups needed for the new priorities, and following this the new three year Community Safety Plan would be produced.

At the meeting Anthony summarised the current trends regarding the emerging priorities and the reasons for their inclusion. Partners discussed some of the issues behind increases in the rate of different crimes and for not achieving successful outcomes.

Cath Marriott reported that the OPCC would like CSPs to have regard to the Police & Crime Plan in considering their own plans and priorities, and that there was an aspiration to have a more consistent approach across the region, possibly with the PCC providing standardised data to the individual CSPs for them to assess.

AGREED:

- (1) That the update be noted;
- (2) That the emerging priorities be endorsed for inclusion in the Strategic Assessment.

4. DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY UPDATE

A Brain presented a progress update submitted by S Gee on the development of a new Domestic Abuse Strategy. A number of workshops had taken place to consider a partnership response from the CSP to the Government's Domestic Abuse Consultation and discuss emerging issues for both the CSP's Strategic Assessment and the Domestic Abuse Strategy. National and local Domestic Abuse data had also been collated. The following priorities had been identified:

- Encouraging people to seek support earlier - improving information, education and prevention;
- Providing the right response first time - improving identification, encouraging disclosures and ensuring an appropriate immediate response;
- Having the right services available - improving support to move from victim to survivor or to change abusive behaviour;

- Understanding of the challenges in our town - improving data analysis and community engagement.

Further focus groups to refine priorities and assign leads for actions would be scheduled for October 2018, and a final draft of the Strategy was expected by January 2019.

AGREED: That partners submit any comments on the emerging priorities for the Domestic Abuse Strategy to Anthony Brain.

5. DELIVERY GROUP ACTION PLANS

The Delivery Groups submitted their current actions plans, which set out progress against actions/tasks under the agreed priorities for each group.

a) Vulnerable Communities

Anthony Brain reported that analysis was required of the low outcome rate for Hate Crime, which was currently 8.6%, compared to the Thames Valley average of 17.6%. He noted that there had been a successful response to the Oracle bomb scare, which had shown that commercial premises were generally well-prepared for such an incident. One issue that had emerged was how to make best use of the Town Safe radio system.

An update on Prevent would be given at the next meeting.

b) Modern Day Slavery and Adult Exploitation

Nicola Bell reported that from 1 September 2018 the Willow Project had been providing a service across the Thames Valley for individuals who were assessed as having been victims of exploitation or who were deemed to be at risk of exploitation. A Berkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership was being set up to share ideas and coordinate work. Nicola noted areas where more information needed to be shared including immigration checks by the Home Office and the use of Reception Centres across different local authority areas for victims of modern slavery.

c) Violent Crime

Emma Burroughs reported that there had been an increase in violent crime by young people. There were no notable issues with the town centre and night time economy.

d) Drug and Alcohol

The Drug & Alcohol Strategy For Young People And Adults 2018-22 Action Plan had been circulated with the agenda. The Plan set out actions being taken under the priorities of Prevention (reducing the amount of alcohol people drink to safer levels and reducing drug related harm), Treatment (Commissioning and delivering high quality drug and alcohol treatment systems) and Enforcement and Regulation (Tackling alcohol and drug related crime and anti-social behaviour). A recent press

release on helping Rough sleepers into drug and alcohol treatment through a new joint working partnership had also been circulated.

AGREED: That the Delivery Group Action Plans be received.

6. CRIME PERFORMANCE REPORT

Anthony Brain submitted the crime performance report as at the end of July 2018.

For all British Crime Survey crimes there had been a 4% year-on-year increase. For burglary there had been an 11% year-on-year increase, although the rate was currently falling rapidly and at a faster rate than the Most Similar Group of CSPs (MSG). There had been a 26% year-on-year increase in violent crime and trend prediction suggested that the rate was increasing at a faster rate than the MSG.

AGREED: That the report be noted.

8. OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE

Cath Marriott reported that the OPCC had submitted a bid to the Early Intervention Youth Fund on serious youth violence, and that a change had been proposed to the timing of OPCC spending plans, in order to give CSPs earlier notice of their grant funding.

AGREED: That the position be noted.

9. FUTURE ITEMS

The following items were noted for future meetings:

- Drug & Alcohol Action Plan
- Strategic Assessment sign-off
- Prevent update

An item on serious organised crime was also suggested.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

The remaining meetings for 2018/19 would take place on:

Thursday 15 November 2018

Thursday 31 January 2019

Thursday 25 April 2019

All meetings at 9.30am.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 11.12 am)