

# AGENDA

## General Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: **Tuesday 17 January 2017**

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Time: **10.00 am**

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Place: **Council Chamber, The Shire Hall, St Peter's Square,  
Hereford, HR1 2HX**

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Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

**Tim Brown, Governance Services**

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Tim Brown, Governance Services on 01432 260239 or e-mail [tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk) in advance of the meeting.

# Agenda for the meeting of the General Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## Membership

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Councillor WLS Bowen</b>
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	<b>Councillor CA Gandy</b>
	<b>Councillor JM Bartlett</b>
	<b>Councillor MJK Cooper</b>
	<b>Councillor J Hardwick</b>
	<b>Councillor EPJ Harvey</b>
	<b>Councillor JF Johnson</b>
	<b>Councillor MT McEvelly</b>
	<b>Councillor AJW Powers</b>
	<b>Councillor NE Shaw</b>
	<b>Councillor EJ Swinglehurst</b>
	<b>Councillor A Warmington</b>
	<b>Councillor SD Williams</b>

Co-optees-  
educational  
issues

Mr P Burbidge

Mrs A Fisher

Mr P Sell

Roman Catholic Church

Parent Governor Representative: Primary  
Schools

Church of England

## AGENDA

	Pages
<p><b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> To receive apologies for absence.</p>	
<p><b>2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES</b> To receive details of members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.</p>	
<p><b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest by members.</p>	
<p><b>4. MINUTES</b> To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2016.</p>	7 - 10
<p><b>5. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC</b> To consider suggestions from the public on issues the committee could scrutinise in the future.  (There will be no discussion of the issue at the time when the matter is raised. Consideration will be given to whether it should form part of the committee's work programme when compared with other competing priorities.)</p>	
<p><b>6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC</b> To note questions received from the public and the items to which they relate.  (Questions are welcomed for consideration at a scrutiny committee meeting subject to the question being directly relevant to an item listed on the agenda below. If you have a question you would like to ask then please submit it <b>no later than 5.00 pm on Thursday 12 January 2017</b> to <a href="mailto:tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk">tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk</a>)</p>	
<b>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</b>	
<p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>        <b>that under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business during any discussion of the appendix to the report on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as indicated below and it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.</b></p>	
<p><b>2 Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual</b></p>	
<p><b>7. UPDATE ON HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT PROVISION</b> To receive an update on the impact of the revised education transport policy which became effective from September 2015.</p>	11 - 28

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|---|----------|
| <b>8. HEREFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY AND RELATED PERFORMANCE</b> | 29 - 76  |
| To review the work and activity of the Herefordshire community safety partnership.    |          |
| <b>9. DRAFT 2017/18 BUDGET MOVEMENTS</b>  | 77 - 80  |
| To update the committee on the movements in the 2017/18 draft base budget.            |          |
| <b>10. DRAFT WORK PORGRAMME AND TASK AND FINISH GROUPS</b>                            | 81 - 102 |
| To consider the committee's work programme and related scrutiny activities.           |          |
| <b>11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>   |          |
| The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 7 March 2017 at 10.00 am.                       |          |

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- Attend all Council, Cabinet, committee and sub-committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt' information.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least five clear days before the date of the meeting.
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all committees and sub-committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
- Access to a public register stating the names, addresses and wards of all Councillors with details of the membership of Cabinet and of all committees and sub-committees.
- Have a reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports (relating to items to be considered in public) made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet, committees and sub-committees.
- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
- Copy any of the documents mentioned above to which you have a right of access, subject to a reasonable charge (20p per sheet subject to a maximum of £5.00 per agenda plus a nominal fee of £1.50 for postage).
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, committees and sub-committees and to inspect and copy documents.

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The Chairman or an attendee at the meeting must take the signing in sheet so it can be checked when everyone is at the assembly point.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the meeting of General Overview & Scrutiny Committee held at Council Chamber, The Shire Hall, St Peter's Square, Hereford, HR1 2HX on Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 4.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillor WLS Bowen (Chairman)  
Councillor CA Gandy (Vice Chairman)

**Councillors:** JM Bartlett, MJK Cooper, EPJ Harvey, JF Johnson, MT McEvilly, AJW Powers, NE Shaw, EJ Swinglehurst, A Warmington and SD Williams

**In attendance:** Councillors AW Johnson (Cabinet Member), PM Morgan (Cabinet Member) and PD Price (Cabinet Member).

**Officers:** G Hughes – director economy, communities and corporate, A Harris - head of management accounting, J Rushgrove – head of corporate finance, M Taylor - interim director of resources,

**51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor J Hardwick and from the statutory co-optees, Mr Burbidge, Mrs Fisher and Mr Sell.

**52. NAMED SUBSTITUTES**

No substitutions were made.

**53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**54. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2016 be approved as a correct record.

**55. SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no suggestions.

**56. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions had been received.

**57. DRAFT 2017/18 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) UPDATE**

The Committee's views were sought on the budget proposals for 2017/18 and the updated medium term financial strategy (MTFS).

The interim director of resources (IDOR) gave a presentation. He commented that the Autumn Statement had resulted in very few changes to the position reported to the

Committee in November. The financial settlement was awaited but no significant changes were expected. In response to comments made by the Committee in November the figures in the MTFS had been reviewed to ensure consistency in reporting and that any changes over time could be readily tracked.

In discussion the following principal points were made:

- It was observed that a number of figures had changed from those presented in the report to the Committee in November. Examples included: an increase in the proposed budget for adults and well being (£166k), an increase in locally retained business rates (£2m) an increase in the business rates top up and S31 grant, and an increase in the centralised pension deficit and housing benefit costs.
- The head of corporate finance provided clarification adding that the change to the net budget related to a change in the presentation of the S31 grant and a recalculation of the expected business rate income. The centralised pension cost had been revised following the latest headcount and the housing benefit cost had been revised to reflect an administrative cost that had to be incurred.
- The IDOR commented that in response to the points made by the Committee in December he had challenged the assumptions underpinning the budget. This had been a worthwhile exercise. Changes in figures could now be readily tracked and he considered the MTFS model was now more robust. A detailed reconciliation could be provided to members of the Committee if they wished.
- With reference to page 48 of the agenda papers paragraph 4.5, and also noting the proposals for a development partnership, it was asked what scope there was to make allowance for the benefits of partnership working in selling or leasing Council property assets. The IDOR commented that the Property Services team was reviewing current arrangements to ensure that it could be demonstrated what benefit was being gained and should be gained from leases and disposal of council properties to other organisations.
- The Director, Environment, Corporate and Communities commented that money was allocated for the proposed development partnership in the capital programme. In relation to assets it was not proposed to allocate assets to others but to consider requests from Parish councils to take on the running of assets if they wished to do so.
- In view of the expectation that parish councils and others would take on the delivery of some services it was asked if there could be some specific provision in the revenue budget for invest to save schemes that Parish Councils and community groups proposed.
- In response officers suggested that the principle of facilitating increased engagement with parish councils and communities and revenue funding to support invest to save proposals in support of the delivery of some services in place of Herefordshire Council could be explored as part of the future review of the MTFS.
- In relation to the use of the 2% additional precept for adult social care, the Director of Adults and Wellbeing commented that there was not a separate budget line for the use of this sum, as the precept essentially recognised the general pressures affecting adult social care. One specific way in which some of the resources generated from the precept had been used was to cover the non-recurrent cost of staff to work on generating capacity in the wider system and developing community services.
- Clarification was sought on how the Rural Services Delivery Grant was being spent. Officers confirmed that the grant was not ring fenced and was provided by the government in recognition of the additional costs rural authorities incurred in delivering services. One example of the way in which this operated in practice was



the Council's payment of different rates to those providing domiciliary care in rural and urban areas. In response a Member suggested that given that adults and wellbeing was already benefiting from the additional 2% precept, consideration might usefully be given to using the grant to support other services affected by rurality such as rural bus services.

- Reference was made to the leader's foreword to the MTFs that a 3.9% council tax increase was "*at a level which will be felt by those most vulnerable households as too high*". It was asked what his stance would be if the government, as was being indicated, authorised authorities to levy a further additional precept above the 2% already proposed, to support social care. The Leader indicated that he was not prepared to discuss this matter until the detail of any government proposal was announced. The implications could then be discussed with Cabinet and Group Leaders.

The IDOR commented that if a substantive issue relevant to the budget emerged warranting further discussion a further report could be made to the Committee for its consideration. It was noted that the timetable would permit the Committee to consider any such a report at its meeting on 17 January.

- In relation to a question about the detailed reporting of the use of reserves the IDOR commented that a schedule showing movements in reserves would be presented as part of the budget report to Council.
- It was requested that additional material the IDOR considered relevant should be shared with members of the Committee at the earliest opportunity to enable them to comment in a timely fashion and allow time for account to be taken of those comments.
- It was suggested that the grouping of some figures in the presentation of them, for example centralised pension deficit and housing benefits shown as one line in the table on page 31, might be better shown as separate items.

## **RESOLVED**

- That (a) **the reconciliation showing the changes between the report made to the Committee in November and that presented in December be circulated to members of the Committee for information;**
- (b) **officers be requested to explore the principle of facilitating increased engagement with parish Councils and communities and revenue funding to support invest to save proposals in support of the delivery of some services in place of Herefordshire Council could be explored as part of the future review of the MTFs; and**
- (c) **if a substantive issue relevant to the budget warranting further discussion with the Committee emerged a further report be made to the Committee's meeting in January for its consideration.**

## **58. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 17 January 2017 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 5.40 pm

**CHAIRMAN**





<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 January 2017</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Update on home to school transport provision</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Assistant director education and commissioning</b>

## Classification

**Open** – Report and Appendix 2

**Exempt** – Appendix 1 is exempt by virtue of paragraph 2 “Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual” of the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in the constitution pursuant to Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1072, as amended.

## Key Decision

This is not an executive decision.

## Wards Affected

Countywide

## Purpose

To receive an update on the impact of the revised education transport policy which became effective from September 2015.

## Recommendation(s)

**THAT:**        **the committee determine, having regard to the findings of the impact assessment outlined in the report, whether there are any recommendations for the executive to consider.**

## Alternative options

- 1        The committee could recommend that further actions be recommended to the executive for consideration. The information contained in this report suggests that this is not required. Any additional actions would need to be assessed against the resources available to deliver the action and the likely benefit of doing so.

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
Andrew Blackman, admissions and transport policy manager on Tel (01432) 260927

## Reasons for recommendations

- 2 To monitor the impacts of the implementation of the transport policy changes.

## Key considerations

- 3 On 19 December 2013, Cabinet agreed a revised home to school transport policy; having regard to the subsequent recommendations of the general overview and scrutiny committee, in March 2014, Cabinet decided the implementation date for the policy changes would be amended to September 2015.
- 4 The key changes to the revised policy were that free transport will only be provided to the nearest school, subject to the statutory walking distance criteria and with an exception provided in relation to those pupils whose nearest school was in Wales, who would be offered free transport to their nearest Herefordshire school. Post 16 special educational needs (SEN) students now have to pay a contribution towards the provision of transport assistance.
- 5 The findings of a review of the impacts of the revised policy are outlined in appendix 1.
- 6 The key statistics lifted from the appendix are:
  - a. In September 2014, there were 1,646 transfers to secondary school, in September 2015 there were 1,667 and in September 2016 there were 1,618. Of these in 2014, a total of 402 were entitled to free transport, in 2015 there was a total of 359 and in September 2016 there was a total of 334 – therefore the number of year 7 eligible mainstream pupils in receipt of free transport has reduced by 68 when compared to September 2014. It is not yet possible to analyse the impact, if any, upon eligible reception class pupils as not all children have yet either taken up their place at school or applied for free transport (most parents will take their reception aged child to/from school until they are settled).
  - b. The number of mainstream pupils paying for a vacant seat has again increased by a similar amount (96), compared to September 2014, generating additional annual income (a net cost saving) of £76,000. Of these, 76 were additional year 7 and 20 were additional reception pupils.
  - c. There are nine post 16 SEN students paying the equivalent of the vacant seat contribution towards their transport costs. This charge was introduced in September 2015 for new entrants to the system and at that stage 13 students were paying a contribution. This reduction in paying students was not anticipated, given that by 2016 the charge applies to all post 16 SEN students. However, the overall number of post 16 SEN students seeking transport via the council has dropped from 63 in September 2015 to 26 in September 2016. This reduction in demand is enabling savings to be realised on contract costs for SEN transport. Contract cost reductions for this service area are running at around £40,000 in the year.
  - d. At the time that the council was considering introducing the policy change to nearest school only, a number of claims were made that this would result in pupils choosing to apply for schools out of county with the impact that Herefordshire schools would be affected by a loss of students. It should be

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
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noted that at September 2014 (prior to the policy being introduced) the county saw a net positive import of 36 pupils. Members will be interested to note that, despite the concerns raised around the policy change, as of September 2016, the county now has a net positive import of 76 students. This suggests that the policy change is not having a significant impact on pupils choosing to apply for schools out of county.

- e. A number of secondary schools (Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School , John Kyrle High School and Sixth Form Centre, John Masefield High School and Sixth Form Centre, Weobley High School and Wigmore School) might have expected to receive fewer preferences for their schools as a direct consequence of the change in education transport policy. However, the total number of places offered, 796, is an increase of 46 compared to September 2014. There is no evidence of any negative impact on other schools.
- f. Analysis of year 7 applications for September 2016, indicates that 660 of these pupils would have an automatic entitlement to free transport as their nearest school is further than three miles away. Interestingly, 26% of this group have chosen to attend their catchment school even though they would be entitled to free transport to another nearer school and 39% have chosen to attend a school which is neither their nearest or catchment school. Only seven appeals against the outcome of the revised education transport policy have been received. The number of appeals (4% of the potential total) is a significant reduction on last year (20%).
- g. The process of reviewing the specification for contracted school transport services is ongoing and opportunities, particularly at the start of each new school year, are being explored to reduce operating costs and realise savings as a result in reducing demand for entitled transport. The current round of reviews, relating to the new school year, has resulted in changes or cancellation of 10 contracts (out of 134) with an estimated saving of around £85,000. Our anticipation is that the rate of savings will increase over the next two years as the full impact of the policy change can be realised through service planning and students with an entitlement under the old policy will not need to be provided with free transport.
- h. Transport implications arising from change in policy. There are no reported consequences upon the school travel network, including buses, taxis and cars, across the county as a result of the change in policy. Congestion continues to occur, particularly outside schools, where insufficient drop off/pick up space exists.

## **Community impact**

- 7 The change in implementation date for the agreed policy changes has provided additional planning time for children, young people, parents/carers, schools and transport providers to prepare for the changes, whilst still ensuring that the council continues to direct its resources at the agreed corporate priorities.

## **Equality duty**

- 8 Public sector equality duty (PSED) implications of the policy changes were explored when Cabinet took the decision in December 2013 (see appendix 2); the changes to the timing of the implementation, with the slower phasing, further mitigated some of

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Andrew Blackman, admissions and transport policy manager on Tel (01432) 260927

the impacts and allowed parents and schools to consider options. To date we have received no information to suggest that there are either any unintended consequences or this has had a more negative and therefore inequitable impact upon certain families/geographies.

## **Financial implications**

- 9 Implications for savings/revenue generation resulting from the policy change are identified in the body of the report. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **Legal implications**

- 10 The council is required under section 508B of the Education Act 1996 (“the Act”) to make and provide free of charge, such home to school travel arrangements as they consider necessary having regard for the Department for Education statutory Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance, 2014 which was considered when the revised policy was introduced.
- 11 Our current policy meets with this requirement.

## **Risk management**

- 12 The delayed implementation date and phasing has mitigated the risks identified by allowing parents and schools additional planning time and the rolling out of various alternative transport options. In addition, there have been no further risks identified.

## **Consultees**

- 13 None in relation to this report..

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Policy change impact analysis (exempt)

Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment – home to school/college transport

## **Background papers**

- None identified.

Document is Restricted





## Equality Impact Assessment

## Home to school/college transport

## Introduction

Herefordshire home to school/transport policy sets out what the Council is to provide, and make arrangements for, regarding transport for children and young people attending schools and colleges.

The policy sets out the circumstances where the Local Authority must make transport arrangement due to legislation and what is provided additionally by the Council as a result of local determination. The policy applies to children of statutory school age and young people between 16 and 19 years of age attending further education courses. The policy considers children and young people:

- of different ages;
- with identified learning difficulties and disabilities;
- who are from low income families;
- with different religion or belief.

The approximate number of children and young people using Council co-ordinated transport are given in the table below:

	Number
Children aged 5-16 attending mainstream school	3,600
Children with special educational needs attending mainstream and special school	230
Children attending schools on the grounds of religion and belief	130
16-19 years olds	1,100
16-19 year olds with SEN	110

The overall school population is 21,400.

The overall cost of transport provision is circa £3.7m. The costs are £4.8m and through charging for non-entitled transport there is an income £1.1m. The charges do not cover the average costs of transporting the non-entitled children and young people.

The proposed policy changes

- 1) To provide free home to school transport for children aged 5-16 years to their nearest school in England rather than their nearest and catchment.

- 2) To withdraw the subsidy for transport to 16-19 year olds with SEN and introduce the same charge as for non SEN 16-19 year olds.
- 3) Reduce the level of subsidy for those travelling on Council coordinated transport.

#### Numbers affected

The number affected by change to nearest school only is approximately 800 (500 at secondary and 300 at primary).

The number of 16-19 year olds with SEN who would be charged under the revised is 110.

#### Consultation

During May and June 2013 Council officers discussed the proposed changes with elected members and asked interested and affected parties to respond through the web site. There was subsequently 6 weeks of formal consultation between the 9<sup>th</sup> September and the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Respondents were asked:

- and what mitigation could be put in place for either group.
- what other savings might be made as an alternative;
- whether there were other ways of reducing the impact on young people with SEN or from rural communities;

Details of the proposals and information in the form of a frequently asked question (FAQ) response sheet were circulated. Head teachers, governors and parent groups were advised of the desire to get a wide range of responses. Affected and interested parties were asked to express their views and consider the implications. The responses to the consultations were collated and considered in officer groups and by cabinet member for Children's Services.

#### Impact

Changes to nearest, rather than nearest and catchment, may mean that children from rural communities may not receive free transport to the school they are at now or would have chosen to go to. This is not considered to specifically disadvantage any children or parents with protected characteristics.

Changes to charging for students with SEN may adversely affect children and young people with disabilities. It may be that students feel they cannot attend a particular provision due to the cost.

#### Assessment of Impact

There were no credible alternatives identified through consultation as to how to realise the savings the proposals bring.

Other Local Authorities already have such policies about nearest school and charging for post 16 SEN students. Where authorities have introduced these policies there was no discernible change in numbers attending provision.

While the charge to SEN students does have the potential to impact on a group with protected characteristics the introduction of charging is considered reasonable because:

There are grant schemes funded by the Education Funding Agency available through further education training providers or on an individual basis.

#### Mitigation

1. If it is decided to introduce these changes, 3 months' notice will be given to parents to give time to secure an approach to payment.
2. The local authority and further education providers will support parents with information and guidance in making grant applications for financial assistance.
3. The local authority will make available easy ways for parents to pay the charges with weekly and monthly schemes.
4. The policy change will be monitored and reviewed in terms of the impact on a monthly basis.





<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 January 2017</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Herefordshire community safety partnership strategy and related performance</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Councillor PM Morgan Chair of the Herefordshire community safety partnership and cabinet member lead for community safety.</b>

### **Classification:**

Open

### **Key decision**

This is not an executive decision.

### **Wards Affected**

Countywide

### **Purpose**

To review the work and activity of the Herefordshire community safety partnership (CSP).

### **Recommendation(s)**

**THAT: the committee review performance of the partnership against its strategic priorities and identify any further actions it may wish to recommend to the partnership for consideration.**

### **Alternative options**

1. The report provides a factual overview of priorities and performance. The chair of general overview and scrutiny committee provided a prior briefing on content that the committee would like to examine in the briefing and analyse on the 17 January 2017.
2. It is open to the committee to identify alternative or additional actions to improve performance; such recommendations will need to be referred to the partnership for

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
Adrian Turton, Learning & Development Officer (HSCB/ HSAB/ HCSP) on Tel (01432) 383522

aturton@herefordshire.gov.uk

consideration having regard to the availability of resources and in light of available evidence of need.

## Reasons for recommendations

3. To scrutinise the work and activity of the Herefordshire community safety partnership (CSP) in accordance with the statutory requirement for the CSP to ensure effective mechanisms for scrutiny of crime & disorder are in place. (Statutory requirements of the CSP are listed in appendix 2.)

## Key considerations

4. Councillor Patricia Morgan, the chair of the CSP (along with council officers and Partnership colleagues) will give a presentation to the committee on the activity of the CSP.

CSP Background and Introduction:

5. The CSP has agreed that it should focus on 5 strategic priorities:

- Reduce re-offending/bring offenders to account (adults and youths)
- Address the harm caused by alcohol and drugs
- Address domestic violence and abuse
- Promote community cohesion and reduce anti-social behaviour
- \*Address the harm from sexual exploitation

\*The 5<sup>th</sup> priority is delegated to the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) as to address child sexual exploitation is also a priority of the HSCB.

6. The current CSP strategy (that agreed the 5 priorities above) is due to expire April 2017. The CSP is due to consider the CSP Strategic Assessment in March 2017 to agree the 3 year community safety strategy for 2017 – 2020. The CSP has directed the strategic assessment to particularly focus research on domestic violence in the county. The CSP is to focus on the added value the partnership can bring to address crime and disorder in Herefordshire.

Funding for the CSP

7. The funding into the CSP includes a grant of £80,000 from the office of the police and crime commissioner (OPCC) that is allocated against CSP priorities and projects. For 2016/17 £30,000 was allocated to address domestic violence, £15,000 to address antisocial behaviour and community cohesion, £20,000 to reducing reoffending and £15,000 to purchase analytical support.
8. Other OPCC grants can be accessed directly from the OPCC to fund initiatives in line with reducing business and rural crime. These are allocated directly to projects and not via the CSP.

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- 9 The CSP is supported by the business unit that is based in Herefordshire Council. The business unit supports the safeguarding children and the safeguarding adults boards along with the Herefordshire community safety partnership. This unit is funded by statutory agency contributions.

What difference is the CSP and the CSP strategy having?

- 10 The importance of lead managers from key agencies coming together to strategically discuss community safety matters is not to be underestimated. On a strategic level, key organisational restructures and transformations have been shared and discussed with partners. This includes organisational changes affecting West Mercia Police, probation services and the youth offending service.
- 11 Projects that have helped make a difference this year include; a project to provide accommodation for prison leavers, a night time noise nuisance project carried out over the summer months, an initiative to protect residents from cold calling, rogue traders and scams, targeted training for professionals on the Prevent (anti-terrorism) programme, specific interventions around the night time economy, funding for a domestic violence survivor network, the women's refuge and a continued initiative to train staff to identify domestic violence and provide support for victims.
- 12 Challenges facing the CSP include increasing demands placed on individuals as part of their 'day job' with less time available to be dedicated to partnership work. The csp has discussed with the PCC the benefit long term funding would bring to project delivery as opposed to time constrained one year pots of single funding. Similarly, it is difficult to measure outcomes from csp interventions as they will become apparent over time and not immediate. For example, any interventions to support an offender will only be clear if that offender stops reoffending over a period of time.
- 13 Officers will present at the GOSC meeting addressing specific questions on particular topics as put to the csp by the chair of GOSC. Topics to cover, domestic violence and abuse, offender management – recidivism rates, probation and youth offending models, and restorative justice.

## Community impact

- 14 Community safety is essential to the quality of life of people in Herefordshire. It is an outcome rather than a service, and strongly influenced by the quality of services and efficiency of service delivery.
- 15 Community safety relates to people's sense of personal security in the places that they live, grow up in, work or where they spend their leisure time. One's view of community safety therefore affects how people value their neighbourhoods, and what factors make a neighbourhood a good or bad place to live and grow up in. Feeling unsafe in one's own neighbourhood or community can have devastating effects on individuals and neighbourhoods, impacting on health and wellbeing. It can lead to social isolation and contribute to people feeling even more vulnerable. The Community Safety Annual Assessment (2015) found that Herefordshire is generally a

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
Adrian Turton, Learning & Development Officer (HSCB/ HSAB/ HCSP) on Tel (01432) 383522

aturton@herefordshire.gov.uk

safe place to live with low levels of crime although there are still some challenges to reduce crime in urban areas and in domestic abuse settings.

- 16 Crime has a high health and social cost to individuals and communities, as well as associated costs to the NHS and wider health economy. The overall rate of recorded crimes has steadily decreased since 2010, although 2015 has seen an increase. In 2013-14 there were 45 crimes recorded in Herefordshire for every 1,000 people in the county compared to 66 for every 1,000 people across England and Wales.

## Equality duty

- 17 The Equality Duty 2010 has 3 aims (general duty)
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the act
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
  - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those that who do not.
- 18 The Public Sector Equality Duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying “due regard” in our decision making in the design of polices and in the delivery of services.
- 19 The community safety strategy and the work of the partnership supports these aims in much of the work that it carries out particularly around its community cohesion work, by working with communities, fostering those good relations and building an awareness and understanding. The work the partnership does around anti-social behaviour, hate crime, raising awareness and eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation is very important. The community safety work demonstrates that the council and its partners take the Equality Duty seriously.

## Financial implications

- 20 The support function for the CSP is delivered by the business unit (hosted by the council) that also supports both the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children’s Board and the Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board. The business unit is funded by the council and other partners. Currently, there are no financial risks associated with this support function.
- 21 CSP interventions are financed by grants obtained from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The grant allocations are subject to PCC policy and budget restrictions. There is an annual risk to this funding stream, although currently the CSP has a positive relationship with the PCC.
- 22 Other CSP activity is funded as part of individual agency responsibilities, whilst working together in partnership to achieve agreed outcomes.

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from  
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aturton@herefordshire.gov.uk



## **Legal implications**

- 23 The overview and scrutiny committee has the power under section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 (as amended) to (a) review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions; and (b) to make reports or recommendations to cabinet with respect to the discharge of those functions.

## **Risk management**

- 24 There is little risk to the CSP delivering its statutory requirement. But as highlighted in financial implications (section 12) above, the impact of the CSP will be dependent on the availability of resources to deliver and complete agreed action plans.

## **Consultees**

- None.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1. - Presentation

Appendix 2 - HCSP Roles & Responsibilities

Appendix 3. – Executive Summary Strategic Assessment

Appendix 4. – Probation in herefordshire – the new model

Appendix 5 – Youth justice Service Report

Appendix 6 – Youth justice Data

Appendix 7 – Domestic Violence Briefing

## **Background papers**

None identified



# Community Safety Update

## GOSC – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

- **Update the General Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the Herefordshire Community Safety Strategy & Related Performance.**

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# Community Safety Update

## GOSC – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

### Present:

- Cllr Patricia Morgan (Chair of HCSP)
- Supt Sue Thomas – West Mercia Police (Vice Chair HCSP)
- T/Detective Chief Inspector Jon Roberts – West Mercia Police
- Jo Davidson – Director, Lead for Community Safety, Herefordshire Council
- George Branch – Head of Service –West Mercia CRC
- Keith Barham - Head of Service - West Mercia Youth Justice Service
- Steve Eccleston – Business Manager, HCSP/ HSCB/HSAB
- Adrian Turton – Learning & Development Officer, HCSP/ HSCB/HSAB

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# Role of General, Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- To carry out the scrutiny role for Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership

“The Community Safety Partnership has a statutory requirement to ensure effective mechanisms for scrutiny of crime & disorder in connection to the discharge of the responsible authorities functions around crime and disorder.”

- Responsible Authorities:
  - Herefordshire Council
  - West Mercia Police
  - National Probation Service
  - Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
  - Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
  - Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue

# Community Safety Update

## GOSC – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

- **Contents:**
- HCSP Background and Introduction
- What difference is the CSP and the CSP strategy having?
- Domestic Violence and Abuse
- Offender Management – Recidivism Rates
- Probation and Youth Offending Models
- Restorative Justice

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# Priorities for Strategic Plan 2014/17

The 2013 Strategic Assessment led to the following priorities being agreed in the HCSP Strategic Plan 2014/17 (see Appendix 2 for executive summary)

1.Reduce re-offending / bring offenders to account (adults and youths)

39 2.Address the harm caused by alcohol and drugs

3.Address domestic violence and abuse

4.Promote community cohesion and reduce anti-social behaviour

•*Plus a joint priority with HSCB - Child Sexual Exploitation & Adult Sexual Violence and Abuse.*

•*Also being asked to support PCC priorities of Reducing Rural Crime and Business Crime*

# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

**Domestic Violence and Abuse**

**Probation and Youth Offending Models**

**Restorative Justice**

**Offender Management – Recidivism Rates**

**Overview – how effective is the Community Safety Partnership**

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# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

**Domestic Violence and Abuse –**

**Presented by: T/Detective Chief Inspector Jon Roberts**

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# 3. Address domestic violence and abuse – Lead Jon Roberts (West Mercia Police)

- Trend of increased DVA crimes and offences continues.
- West Mercia Police has refocused its investigative model to target the highest harm through THRIVE and with partners (NPS and CRC) is placing greater emphasis on DA in the IOM cohort.
- The year to Jan 2016 saw 4.9% increase in DA crime and 11.7% increase in DA incidents compared to the previous year in Herefordshire and a Force increase of 9.5% and 6.7% respectively.
- 15% of calls for police service in Herefordshire are High Risk. Highest in Force.
- 40 people have called for service 2 or more times in 12 mths. Lowest in Force.

# Address domestic violence and abuse –

- From Dec 2015 – Nov 2016 - 1009 people referred to WMWA (15% increase on same period previous year)
- Number of Herefordshire calls to and from WMWA helpline was 5542 (39% increase)
- 76% of children exposed to DA have been exposed 3 or more times.

# Address domestic violence and abuse

## Key achievements in 2016

- Healthy Relationships Programme lesson plans developed and will be published shortly. Roll out to be supported by MASH Education Reps.
- Carried out 3 X Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's)
- MARAC Awareness Sessions x2 run. DV multi-agency staff training to be run this month.
- Data Orchard Research and event to share the findings.

### •Challenges:

- To support specialist provider to meet demand.
- Follow national trend and implement DA Triage process.

# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

**Probation and Youth Offending Models, Restorative Justice and Recidivism Rates**

**Presented by:**

**Keith Barham Head of Service - West Mercia Youth Justice Service**

**George Branch - Head of Service - West Mercia CRC**

**Supt Sue Thomas – West Mercia Police**

# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

## Transformation of Probation Services

### Presented by: Probation Services

- The Ministry of Justice launched Transforming Rehabilitation of offenders in June 2014.
- The new model divided the work of the Probation Service as follows:
- The Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) (in Herefordshire run by the organisation People Plus, a private company) became responsible for the supervision of lower risk offenders and for delivering interventions.
- The National Probation service (NPS) became responsible for managing higher risk offenders and for assessing offenders appearing before the court.

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# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

- The CRC and NPS staff work from a shared building in Herefordshire. This is unlike other parts of West Mercia where the CRC and NPS are now in separate accommodation.
- A shared building has enabled continued joint working between the two organisations.
- Information sharing is facilitated effectively for courts and other agencies.
- CRC and NPS run joint meetings and joint training events including for Herefordshire magistrates.

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# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

## Restorative Justice

Presented by: Supt S Thomas

### • What is Restorative Justice?

*Restorative processes bring those harmed by crime or conflict, and those responsible for the harm, into communication, enabling everyone affected by a particular incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward.*

[Restorative Justice Council, 2012]



## Benefits

- Many beneficial and positive outcomes for victims of crime who choose to participate in a restorative process:
- RJ allows the victim to be at forefront of the criminal justice process.
- 49 • It enables the victims to be in direct dialogue with their offender if they wish to do so.
- RJ gives the victim empowerment and a voice that can be heard

## Benefits

Evidence has also shown that the use of RJ has increased victim satisfaction and has aided their recovery.

Below are actual quotes from victims in Herefordshire that have been through the RJ process.

- *“The RJ process works well for people to understand other people’s feelings”*
- *“It was good, it felt like it made the offender realise the severity of what he had done”*
- *“It helped to get everything out in the open”*
- *“Things have worked out well since, a good process for both victims and offenders”*

- Dec 2015 – pilot scheme - multi agency staff + 5 coordinators
- Youth Justice Services, Victim Support and the Police.
- Jan 2016 – RJ skills to police staff in Safer Neighbourhood Teams, Patrol Teams, Integrated Offender Management staff and Safer School officers. 43 officers from Herefordshire.
- 5 • The RJ Team has provided information to victims following notifications from Victim Support (VS).
- Since the start of the scheme Herefordshire have received 56 VS notifications of which 13 cases have been referred back to the officer in the case (OIC) to inform that the victim would like to explore the possibility of a restorative process with the offender as the investigation continues.

## Police Officers

43 SNT and Patrol Police officers trained Level 1 one day foundation training, 12 went on to complete the Level 2 facilitator training.

- **Level 1 informal use** – dealt with ‘on street’ or by appointment bringing both parties together, low risk, outcome assured – *Level 1 trained officer*
- **Level 2 formal use** – High degree of congruence, more planning required, higher risk but potentially positive outcome anticipated - *Level 2 trained facilitator to be in attendance.*

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- There has been a total of 16 Level 2 Police referrals sent through to the Herefordshire RJ area co-ordinator. Of these 16 cases:
  - 15 victims were offered a restorative process
  - 13 victims had direct contact in a personal visit from an RJ trained facilitator, 6 of these contacts met the requirements and were appropriate to take to a full Level 2 face to face meeting between victim and offender

## Care Homes staff

- 30 staff undertook the Level 1 course which will enable them to work restoratively with young people to address their behaviours. Out of the 30 staff members 12 went on to complete the Level 2 course.
- Careful consideration was given as to who attended these courses, as the aim was to ensure that within each of the private care home companies there would be a 'pool' of trained facilitators who would be tasked to work across the different homes within their own company.
- Due to the training provided being funded by the pilot scheme, it is now the expectation and agreement that all care homes will provide a monthly RJ report for both Level 1 and Level 2 RJ activity. This information is then collated by the Care Home Co-ordinator within the designated Police Team.

## Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

- 4 based in Herefordshire. This will enable IOM officers who work with and monitor the most persistent offenders to explore their offending behaviours and to introduce a restorative approach within their case loads.
- The persistent offenders have multiple victims throughout their criminal pathway, the use of a restorative justice process could hold the harmers to account and accept responsibilities for their actions. It would also allow the victims an opportunity to meet with the person that has caused them harm if it was appropriate for them to do so. The use of RJ is proven to increase desistance within offenders,
- Use of RJ in care homes - With the use of the RJ process this would then result in less looked after children entering the Criminal Justice System and would also reduce the demand on Police involvement.

## The future of RJ within Herefordshire

- As this pilot draws to an end on 31st December 2016 it will then progress into a transition period for three months where the service structure and arrangements will be agreed.
- Within this time it is envisaged that all partner agencies will have a clear referral route to provide both victims and offenders throughout Herefordshire and the rest of the Alliance access to an RJ service.
- Commencement date for the new delivery across Warwickshire and West Mercia is planned for 1st April 2017.

# Reduce re-offending – Police Data

- 175 crimes show IOM nominals as defendants from Jan to 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015. Shoplifting is the top offence followed by malicious wounding, public order offences, drugs offences, criminal damage and burglary. Assault against police officers is also high.
- 177 IOM nominals have been arrested in this period with an average 50% charge rate.
- Future cohorts should see a greater number of 'high harm' offences due to the tighter focus on DA and MAPPA referrals.



# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

## West Mercia Youth Justice Service

### Presented by: Keith Barham

- Several changes to the West Mercia Youth Offending Service over the past 12 months.
- In April 2016 the service moved hosts from Worcestershire County Council to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner.
- Governance remains via the YOS Management board which sets the strategic direction, sets and monitors performance & quality standards.
- However transfer to the OPCC has offered the opportunity to review structures & establish a single set of staff conditions

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# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

## West Mercia Youth Justice Service

Presented by: Keith Barham

- Alongside the transfer to the OPCC the service has been restructured in order to meet the required savings, of in the region £580k for the year 2016/17.
- It is at an early stage to make comment on any changes to the effectiveness of the service.



# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

Key achievements in 2016

## **Alcohol and Drugs:**

- New treatment service in place

## **ASB and Community Cohesion:**

- Noise nuisance project
- Rogue trading/ scams
- Multi-agency tasking
- Implementation of Channel Panel
- Delivery of Prevent workshops
- Relaunch 'No Prejudice Here'

# What difference is HCSP and Strategy having?

## Moving forward:

- Produce new 3 year strategy 2017-20
- Establish clear objectives and outcomes that are measurable
- Produce added value from partnership working
- Greater collaborative working between agencies – shared buildings etc.

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# Moving Forward

- Priorities and future work plans will depend on the findings of the strategic assessment scheduled to be completed in 2017.
- 2 • The counter terrorism local profile due in 2017
- Prevent requirements and possible additional Prevent responsibility for local authorities to be considered in 2017
- The 2017 strategic assessment and subsequent 3 year strategy will be taken to Scrutiny during 2017.



## **Appendix 2 - Overview of role and responsibilities of Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership (HCSP)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Community safety partnerships (previously called crime and disorder reduction partnerships (CDRPs) are defined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as: “An alliance of organisations which generate strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area”. They are statutorily responsible for reducing crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in each single and lower-tier local authority area.

### **ROLE OF HCSP**

- (a) To identify ways in which the responsible authorities in the county area might more effectively implement the priorities identified in the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership’s Strategic Assessment and three year Strategy through coordinated and joint working; and
- (b) To identify how the responsible authorities in the county might otherwise reduce crime and disorder or combat substance misuse through coordinated and joint working.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Oversee strategic analysis of current activity appropriate at county level, including strategic assessments and ensure an evidence-based approach to priority-setting.
2. Agree key priorities at county level and ensure that there is a three year Community Safety Strategy and Plan to deliver actions against those priorities.
3. Keep a strategic overview of progress against delivery of objectives and provide constructive challenge in areas of underperformance at a county level as appropriate.
4. Contribute to the development and implementation of other local strategies and plans, such as health and wellbeing, which are aligned to the community safety agenda, particularly to reduce duplication of effort and identify and implement possible efficiencies and increase effectiveness.
5. Raise the awareness of key issues and facilitate the exchange of information between all organisations involved that are appropriate at a countywide level.
6. To ensure compliance with the statutory duties and responsibilities stated in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Police and Justice Act 2006, and in subsequent Home Office regulations.
7. Consult and engage with stakeholders and communities on the priority issues to be addressed.

8. Establish Domestic Homicide Reviews as appropriate (DHR) (as set out in the Domestic Violence and Crimes Act 2004).
9. Ensure that all authorities consider section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (review 2005) showing that crime and disorder, anti social behaviour; behaviour that adversely affects the environment and substance misuse issues are considered in policy and delivery.
10. Formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders.
11. Ensure effective mechanisms for scrutiny of crime and disorder (sec 19-21 Police and Justice Act 2006) in connection to the discharge of the responsible authorities functions around crime and disorder.
12. To co-operate with the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner assisting where appropriate to achieve the priorities identified in the West Mercia Police and Crime Plan and exploring opportunities for joint working.
13. To facilitate effective information sharing on behalf of all Responsible Authorities.
14. To approve the allocation of funding received as a community safety partnership and to explore coordinated use of other resources to achieve increased outcomes.
15. Review and explore developing relationships with other relevant bodies at regional and local level, such as the Local Criminal Justice Board, the Police and Crime Panel and the Health and Well Being Board.
16. Review the Terms of Reference and membership on an annual basis.



# Appendix 3 - Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership (HCSP): Strategic Assessment to inform 2014-17 Community Safety Strategy

## *Herefordshire Council Strategic Intelligence Team*

December 2016 Refresh

### Executive summary

- The Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership has commissioned the Herefordshire Council strategic intelligence team (SIT) to carry out the strategic assessment for 2017. This report is due in March 2017. The CSP has directed the SIT to analyse crime and disorder in Herefordshire but, in particular, focus research on domestic violence in Herefordshire. This will enable the partnership to develop the new strategic plan for 2017/20.
- The strategic assessment is an annual exercise to identify key crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse issues that affect Herefordshire. This assessment considers what needs to be achieved to improve or maintain community safety and how communities can feel reassured and have confidence that their concerns and fears are being addressed. The assessment is refreshed annually to ensure that priorities and strategic decisions remain relevant and effective. The completion of the Strategic Assessment involves scanning partner data, identifying where further analysis is required and identifying emerging issues, vulnerable locations and people. This exercise in 2013 informed a decision by the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership on the priorities for the Three Year Strategy and Plan (2014-17).

The current priorities agreed for 14/17 are: Reducing Reoffending, Promoting Community Cohesion and Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, Reducing the Harm from Domestic Violence and Abuse, and Reducing the Harm from Substance Misuse. A fifth priority was also agreed to be jointly overseen with the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board addressing Child Sexual Exploitation & Adult Sexual Violence and Abuse. In addition the HCSP has agreed to work with the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner to address Rural & Business Crime.

#### **Highlighted below are the main issues identified for 2014/17**

- Herefordshire generally has a **lower rate of crime** per head of population than across England and Wales (49 per 1,000 compared to 64 per 1,000). This is reflected in the individual crime types with only 3 crime types out of 17 ('sexual offences', 'miscellaneous crimes against society' and 'non-domestic burglary') having more offences committed per head of population than across England and Wales. The last three years have seen some convergence, with crime rates in Herefordshire decreasing more slowly than across England and Wales.

- **Total recorded crime** continues to decrease with all but ‘non-domestic burglary’, ‘miscellaneous crimes against society’, ‘shoplifting’, ‘violence without injury’, ‘domestic burglary’ and ‘drug offences’ decreasing between 2010 and 2013. The scale of decrease has not been as great as across England and Wales, but this may reflect a lower starting position.
- Crime is **concentrated in Hereford City and the market towns**, particularly Hereford City Centre. This is true for all crime types except ‘burglary other’ where the highest rate was in rural areas, particularly the Golden Valley.
- Based on the volume and **cost per crime** ‘violent crimes with injury’ and ‘sexual offences’ appear to cost the county the most in terms of preventing crime, the impact on victims and in response to the crime.
- The number of **sexual offences** in the county has increased considerably in the last two years, although this may be due to reporting of ‘non-recent offences’. The number of offences compared to other crime types is low, but the cost of these crimes to society (particularly the physical and emotional costs for victims) means that the number is not insignificant. The rate of sexual offences per head of population in the county is slightly above that nationally - one of only three offence types above the national rate. Some services have reported an increase in referrals for victims with complex mental health needs, but it is not clear whether this is due mostly to changes in the way agencies refer cases or whether it reflects a change in need.
- The **‘misuse’ of alcohol** in the county has impacts in a number of areas particularly for the police and health services. Alcohol is linked to a large proportion of violent crime and is particularly related to the night time economy. It is also implicated in domestic abuse. The health impacts of alcohol disproportionately affect deprived areas of the county. The number of violent crimes with injury and alcohol related assaults reporting to A&E have decreased over the last few years.
- The number of **domestic violence** and abuse offences and incidents is fairly comparable to other areas of the West Mercia force. However, there has been some increase in both DVA offences and incidents in the last two years, a fact which is reflected in violence against the person offenses.
- The number of **antisocial behavior** crimes and incidents in the county has seen a continual decrease in the last three years. The number of ASB incidents recorded by the police however, is still quite large (7,900 in 2012-13 - 15% of all incidents). In 2012-13 14% of people were fearful of antisocial behaviour in their area. Residents of the most deprived areas were most likely to think ASB was an issue. There is a need to further understand whether ASB is decreasing universally across the county or whether certain hot spots are bucking this trend.
- The number of **drug offences** committed in the county has increased at a far greater rate than any other type of crime, although rates remain below those nationally. Drug related admissions to hospital saw a considerable increase in 2012-13 and evidence suggests that drug related mortality is increasing. The number of problematic drugs users (per head of population) is similar to that nationally.
- The number of people **re-offending** over the last three years has been consistently higher than would be expected given the characteristics of the cohort, although not statistically significant.
- Herefordshire continues to have a significantly higher rate of first time entrants to the **youth justice system**. It is thought that this may be explained by the sustained significantly higher detection rate, coupled with a lower use of community resolutions.

- **Hate crime** has seen a considerable increase in the last two years. The total volume of crimes is still fairly small, but there is a need to understand the reasons for the increase and monitor the trend.
- Evidence indicates there are **certain groups of people and families** that make a disproportionate call upon a number of services from different providers. Further work to understand how individuals (single people and those within families) interact with these services, could bring advantages in terms of effectiveness of intervention, especially if adopting a “whole family approach”.
- Herefordshire remains a safe county, however, there has been an increase in total recorded crime for Herefordshire in 2015. This has come about due to a number of factors, including a change to crime recording protocols.



## Appendix 4 - Probation in Herefordshire – The New Model:

1. The Ministry of Justice launched Transforming Rehabilitation of offenders in June 2014.
2. The new model divided the work of the Probation Service as follows:
  - i) The Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) (in Herefordshire run by the organisation People Plus, a private company) became responsible for the supervision of lower risk offenders and for delivering interventions such as unpaid work and group-work programmes including Building Better Relationships (DV programme), the Thinking Skills programme, the Drink Drivers' Programme and RESOLVE (a general violence programme).
  - ii) The National Probation service (NPS) became responsible for managing higher risk offenders and for assessing offenders appearing before the court and then allocating offenders assessed as lower risk at that stage to the CRC. Where risk increases during the course of an order or Licence the CRC are required to risk escalate the case to the National Probation Service for ongoing management,
3. Staff from the NPS team are also responsible for managing all MAPPA eligible cases and for making referrals to MAPPA 2 and MAPPA 3 panels.
4. Both CRC and NPS staff make referrals to MARAC and both are responsible for managing any of their cases subject to MARAC action plans. Both organisations also work closely as participants in the Integrated Offender Management project. All cases managed at MAPPA level 2 or 3 where the offender is a violent offender are also now allocated an IOM police offender manager to reinforce joint working between NPS and police to ensure robust management of the offender. Sex offenders managed at MAPPA levels 2 and 3 are already allocated a police offender manager as they are sex offender registered.
5. CRC and NPS staff work from a shared building in Herefordshire. This is unlike other parts of West Mercia where the CRC and NPS are now in separate accommodation. A shared building has enabled continuing good relationships between the two organisations and any potential disagreement can be resolved at the earliest opportunity. Information sharing is facilitated so that courts and partnership agencies can be provided with a speedy and accurate picture. CRC and NPS run joint meetings and training events for Herefordshire magistrates.
6. There is always room for improvement in co-working arrangements. CRC have now developed the capacity to provide a full range of offender rehabilitative group-work interventions and the NPS are in turn developing their capacity to make full use of those interventions by recommending them to courts as part of sentencing and using them as Licence conditions on NPS prison releases as appropriate. The CRC are also offering a mentor service to all Herefordshire prisoners at Hewell and Featherstone prisons. Awareness about the opportunities offered under this scheme is rising in the NPS team and therefore it will be more effectively used in future for NPS supervised prisoners.

Ursula Smith  
SPO-NPS Hereford

6/12/16



## Appendix 5: Information to feed into the Herefordshire Council General Overview and Scrutiny Committee (GOSC) Review of CSP - 17 January 2017

There have been several changes to the West Mercia Youth Offending Service over the past 12 months.

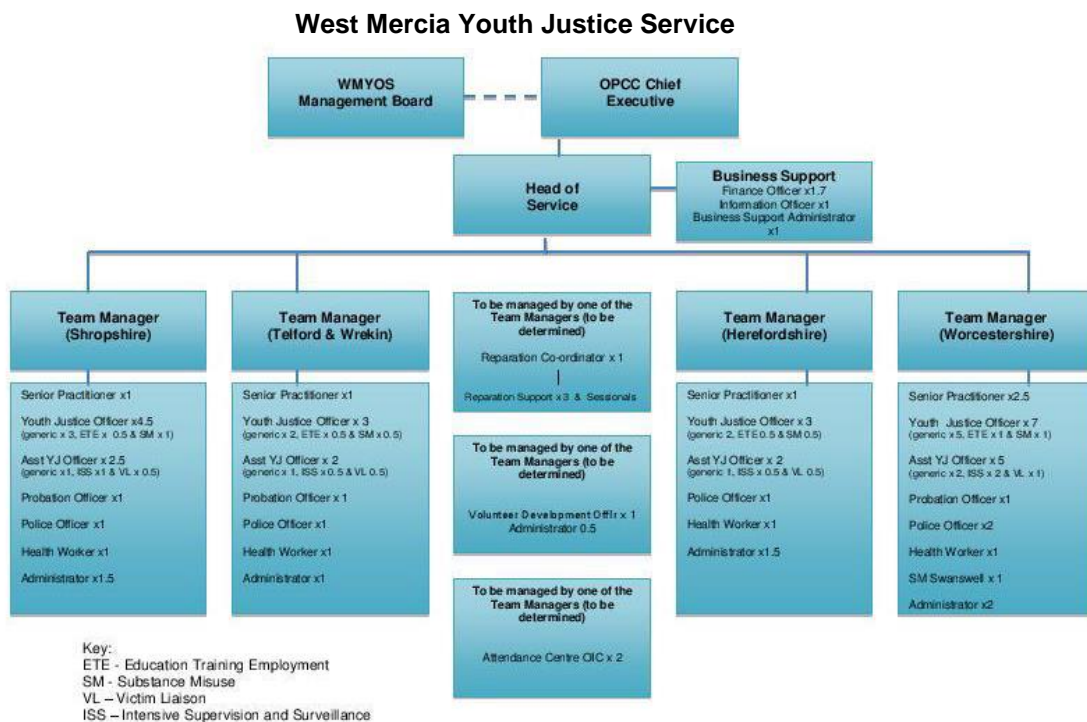
In April 2016 the service moved hosts from Worcestershire County Council to the Office of the police & Crime Commissioner. This has made no difference to the accountability for the service as regards the local authority who continue to have legal responsibility for the provision of the service.

Governance remains via the YOS Management board (in which Herefordshire is represented by the Director of Children’s services) which sets the strategic direction, sets and monitors performance & quality standards.

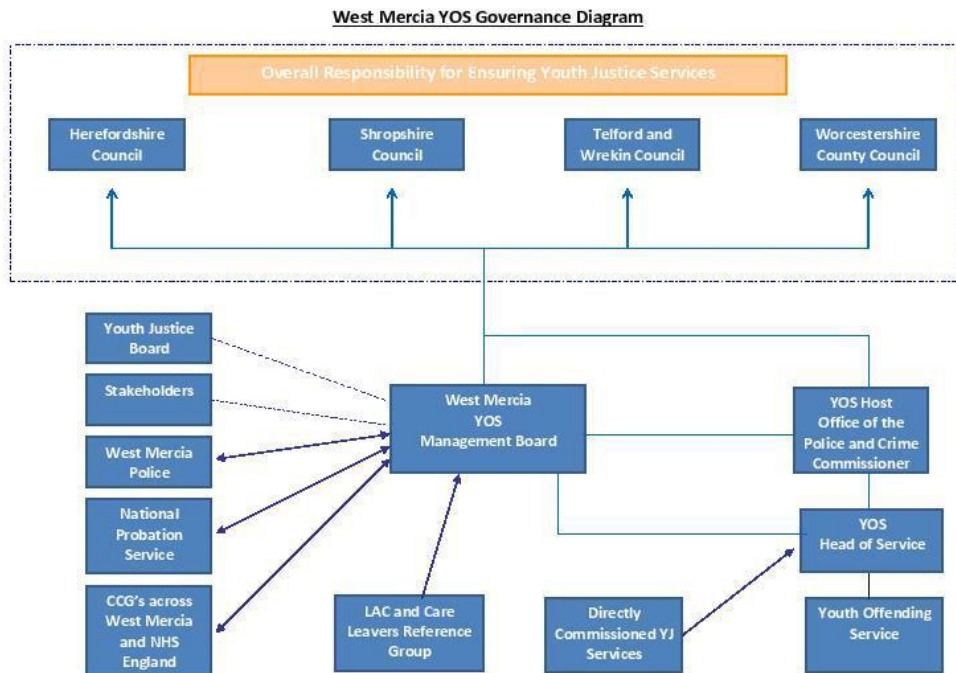
However transfer to the OPCC has offered the opportunity to review structures & establish a single set of staff conditions –compared to the previous variety of terms & conditions.

Naturally there is a settling down period. Staff have only been transferred to new terms & conditions and job profiles from 1/10/16 so it is at an early stage to make comment on any changes to the effectiveness of the service.

The structure is outlined below.



Alongside the transfer to the OPCC the service has been restructured in order to meet the required savings, of in the region 580k for the year 2016/17.



In relation to CSP governance there is no direct legal responsibility for the direction of youth justice services which remain the province of the management board which is legally constituted. However the DCS and Head of the YJS attend to join up the process

Finally the service has been renamed as the West Mercia Youth Justice Service with a new logo.

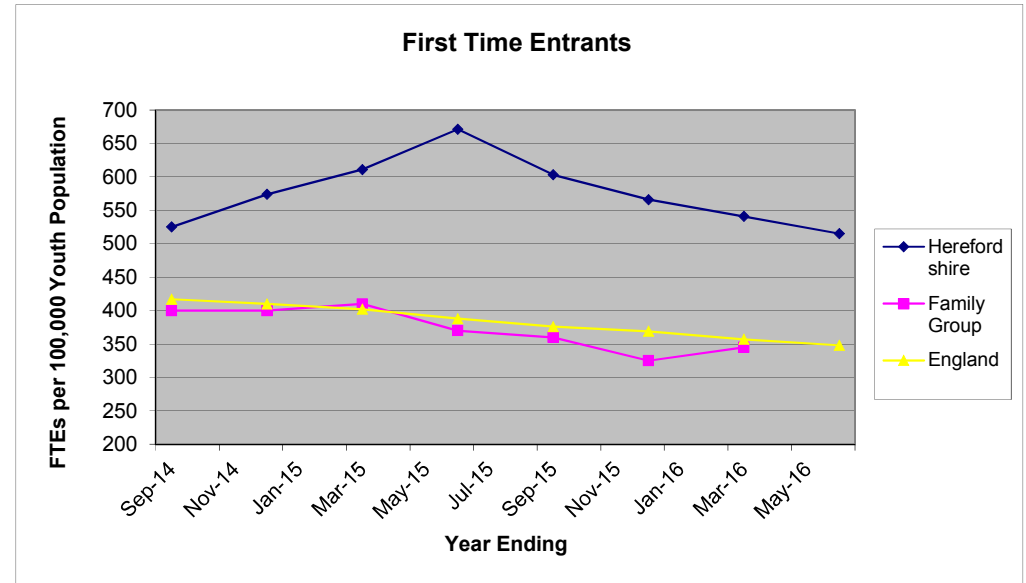




## Appendix 6. Youth Justice Offending Data

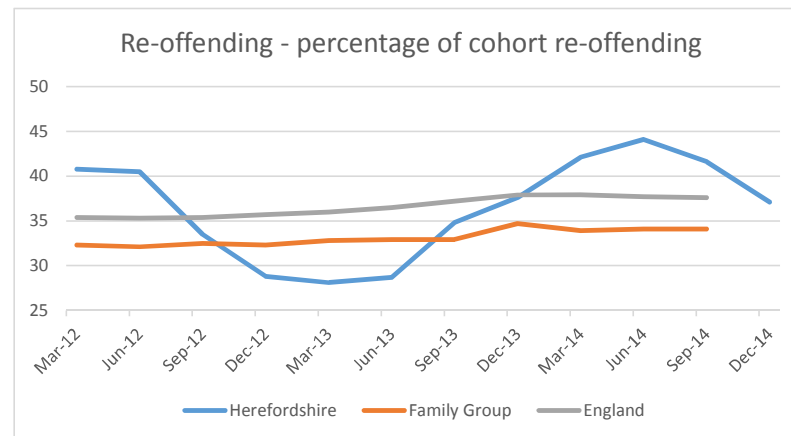
### Youth Offending First Time Entrants

		Herefordshire	Family Group	England
	Sep-14	525	400	417
	Dec-14	574	400	410
	Mar-15	611	410	402
	Jun-15	671	370	388
	Sep-15	603	360	376
	Dec-15	566	325	369
	Mar-16	541	345	357
	Jun-16	515		348



### Youth Re-offending

	Herefordshire	Family Group	England
Dec-14	37.1		
Sep-14	41.6	34.1	37.6
Jun-14	44.1	34.1	37.7
Mar-14	42.1	33.9	37.9
Dec-13	37.6	34.7	37.9
Sep-13	34.8	32.9	37.2
Jun-13	28.7	32.9	36.5
Mar-13	28.1	32.8	36
Dec-12	28.8	32.3	35.7
Sep-12	33.5	32.5	35.4
Jun-12	40.5	32.1	35.3
Mar-12	40.8	32.3	35.4





## **Appendix 7 - Domestic Violence Briefing for GOSC 17 January 2017.**

**Aim:** To provide a brief update on the current domestic violence and abuse work in Herefordshire.

### **Prevalence**

Domestic violence is no more prevalent in Herefordshire than elsewhere. However, it is clear that the impact of domestic violence puts a high demand and cost on services in Herefordshire. Domestic violence accounts for 25% of all recorded crime in Herefordshire.

For the financial year 2015/16 referrals to West Mercia Women's Aid (WMWA) increased by 24% and the calls to and from the help line increased by 55%. The increase in the number of referrals and help line business has put significant pressure on the service. The reason for the increase is unknown, but may reflect an increased confidence in victims seeking help to escape abuse.

Recent data shows that these numbers have levelled off with no further significant increase.

Similarly, West Mercia Police domestic violence data suggests crimes and incidents in Herefordshire appear to have remained constant over the past 12 months.

We do know, however, that significant numbers of children witness or experience domestic violence.

### **Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership (HCSP)**

- DV is a key priority for HCSP; a delivery group has key multiagency stakeholders attending the meetings and co-ordinating activity across Herefordshire.
- The Delivery group also has a delegated responsibility to the CSP to address DV on behalf of the Herefordshire Adult and Childrens Safeguarding Boards.
- As part of the funding received from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) they currently fund 3 projects.
  - 1) Survivor network to help fund a post to co-ordinate the network and support volunteers.
  - 2) Funding has been put aside to help equip the new refuge which will be built early 2017.
  - 3) Funding for DV awareness activity including training on DVA issues to the workforce and stakeholders and also to promote healthy relationship education in schools. Recently the Delivery Group hosted the 'Silent Victim' conference, highlighting the hidden barriers Black, Asian and other minority ethnic group victims of domestic

violence face. Barriers such as language difficulties, no family or support group, a lack of access to money, poor awareness of specialist support services for victims and other cultural beliefs/ attitudes towards domestic violence. The conference heard speakers from Data Orchard (the organisation that carried out the research), a Gypsy, Traveller, Romany specialist, a Muslim woman and a survivor of domestic violence who located to Herefordshire from Central and Eastern Europe. The conference was attended by over 140 professionals.

- The Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership are currently completing the strategic needs assessment and this will have a specific focus on DV which will underpin the development of a new DV strategy for the county, this will be completed early in the new year.

### **Commissioned Services**

Herefordshire Council Adults Wellbeing currently commission a domestic violence and abuse support service, and currently has a 3 year contract in place with West Mercia Women's Aid (WMWA) until the 31 March 2019. This includes 1-2-1 support, group work, refuge support and a helpline service.

Children services also contribute to this contract to have a specific Safeguarding post and support to children coming into service.

This contract includes support to high risk victims known as Independent Domestic Violence and Abuse Advisors (IDVA's). This is contributed to by the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and is a shared agreement across West Mercia.

The council and WMWA are working closely together to shape and ensure the sustainability of the service now and in the future.

### **New refuge**

A new refuge is being built and will be ready in the spring 2017. It will have self-contained units enabling Herefordshire to meet the needs of victims and their children in a supported environment.



<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 January 2017</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Draft 2017/18 budget movements</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Interim director of resources</b>

## Classification

Open

## Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

## Wards affected

County-wide

## Purpose

To update the committee on the movements in the 2017/18 draft base budget.

## Recommendation

**THAT: in the light of the movements in the draft 2017/18 budget set out in the report, the committee determine whether to make any further recommendations to cabinet.**

## Alternative options

- 1 It is open to the committee to recommend alternative spending proposals or strategies; however given the legal requirement to set a balanced budget should additional expenditure be proposed compensatory savings proposals must also be identified.

## Reasons for recommendations

- 2 To update the overview and scrutiny committee in the movements in the draft 2017/18 budget being presented to Cabinet on 19 January.

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from Mark Taylor, interim director of resources on tel (01432) 383519

## Key considerations

- 3 An initial draft 2017/18 budget was presented to the committee in November, this was reflected upon and an update was provided to the committee in December following which the provisional financial settlement has been received. This report addresses the recommendations made in relation to all base budget movements and asks the committee to note the changes.

	£000	£000
<b>November GOSC base budget</b>		<b>139,695</b>
Reclassification Movements:		
Government grant; business rates compensatory S31 grant presented as financing		5,323
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>145,018</b>
Intra directorate Movements:		
Adults wellbeing; budget virement from children's towards performance team costs	166	
Childrens wellbeing: budget virement to adults towards performance team costs	(166)	-
Childrens wellbeing: restructure of safeguarding staffing in 18 months rather than 6 months	150	
Centralised corporate costs; pension deficit and housing benefit administration costs	609	
Other central budgets; interest and investment income projections	(759)	-
<b>December GOSC base budget</b>		<b>145,018</b>
<b>Movements in budget following draft settlement:</b>		
Lost new homes bonus grant	(1,066)	
New adult social care support grant	885	
Increase in 2017/18 council tax base	188	7
<b>Current draft 2017/18 budget</b>		<b>145,025</b>

- 4 The provisional financial settlement announced on the 15 December confirmed the following:
- Confirmation of the 2% council tax referendum principle
  - Confirmation of an additional 2% adult social care precept and ability to raise the adult social care precept to 3% in 2017-18 and 2018-19 but no more than 6% over the next three years
  - Reduction in the number of payment years for the new homes bonus from 6 years to 5 years in 2017/18 and to 4 years in 2018/19. Bonus will also only be paid above a 0.4% housing growth baseline.
  - Savings from the new homes bonus to be allocated to local authorities through an adult social care support grant
- 5 The gross budget will be updated following the final financial settlement expected in February, when confirmation of the final allocations for the following grants is expected:
- Education Services Grant
  - Extended Rights for Home to School Travel Grant
  - Homelessness Grant

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from Mark Taylor, interim director of resources on tel (01432) 383519

## **Community impact**

- 6 The draft budget demonstrates how the council is using its financial resources to deliver the priorities within the agreed corporate plan.

## **Equality duty**

- 7 The Public Sector Equality Duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying “due regard” in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.
- 8 A number of service specific equality impact assessments are completed for the service specific budget proposals to assess the impact on the protected characteristic as set out in the Equality Act 2010.
- 9 The duty means that the potential impact of a decision on people with different protected characteristics is always taken into account when these assessments have been completed then we will consider mitigating against any adverse impact identified.

## **Financial implications**

- 10 As set out in the report.

## **Legal implications**

- 11 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires a council to set a balanced budget. To do this the council must prepare a budget that covers not only the expenditure but also the funding to meet the proposed budget. The budget has to be fully funded and the income from all sources must meet the expenditure. The act also covers the legal issues around council tax setting.
- 12 Best estimates have to be employed so that all anticipated expenditure and resources are identified. If the budget includes unallocated savings or unidentified income then these have to be carefully handled to demonstrate that these do not create a deficit budget. An intention to set a deficit budget is not permitted under local government legislation.
- 13 Local authorities must decide every year how much they are going to raise from council tax. They base their decision on a budget that sets out estimates of what they plan to spend on services. Because they decide on the council tax before the year begins and can't increase it during the year, they have to consider risks and uncertainties that might force them to spend more on their services than they planned. Allowance is made for these risks by: making prudent allowance in the estimates for services; and ensuring that there are adequate reserves to draw on if the service estimates turn out to be insufficient.

## **Risk management**

- 14 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the S151 officer to report to Council when it is setting the budget and precept (council tax). Council is required to take this report into account when making its budget and precept decision. The report must deal with the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of reserves.
- 15 The draft budget has been updated using the best available information, current spending, anticipated pressures and draft financial settlement.

## **Consultees**

- 16 Consultation on the budget proposals commenced on 29 July and completed on 7 October, with the public responses being shared at the committee meeting held on 14 November.

## **Appendices**

None

## **Background papers**

- None identified.





<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 January 2017</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Draft work programme and task and finish groups</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Governance services</b>

## Classification

Open

## Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

## Wards affected

Countywide

## Purpose

To consider the committee's work programme and related scrutiny activities.

## Recommendation

**That: the draft work programme as set out at appendix 1 to the report be approved, subject to any amendments the committee wishes to make.**

## Alternative options

- 1 It is for the committee to determine its work programme to reflect the priorities facing Herefordshire. The committee needs to be selective and ensure that the work programme is focused, realistic and deliverable within existing resources.

## Reasons for recommendations

- 2 The committee needs to develop a manageable work programme to ensure that scrutiny is focused, effective and produces clear outcomes.

## Key considerations

### Draft work programme

- 3 The work programme needs to focus on the key issues of concern and be manageable allowing for urgent items or matters that have been called-in.

- 4 Should committee members become aware of any issue they think should be considered by the Committee they are invited to discuss the matter with the Chairman and the statutory scrutiny officer.

### **Executive responses**

- 5 An executive response is awaited to the report on the Community Infrastructure Levy.

### **Tracking of Recommendations Made by the Committee**

- 6 A Schedule of Recommendations made and action in response to date is attached at appendix 2.

### **Forward plan**

- 7 On a number of occasions in discussing the work programme Members have referred to the desirability of having the Forward Plan available to inform that discussion. The current Forward plan is available to Members through the Councillors' handbook intranet site. Forthcoming key decisions are also available to the public under the Forward plan link on the council's website:

<http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&Next=true&H=1&META=mgforthcomingdecisions&V=1>

## **Community impact**

- 8 The topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

## **Equality duty**

- 9 The topics selected need to have regard for equality and human rights issues.

## **Financial implications**

- 10 The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources. It should be noted the costs of running scrutiny will be subject to an assessment to support appropriate processes.

## **Legal implications**

- 11 The council is required to deliver an overview and scrutiny function.

## **Risk management**

- 12 There is a reputational risk to the council if the overview and scrutiny function does not operate effectively. The arrangements for the development of the work programme should help mitigate this risk.

## **Consultees**

- 13 The Chairman and Statutory scrutiny officer meet on a regular basis to review the work programme.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Draft Work Programme

Appendix 2 – Schedule of general overview and scrutiny committee recommendations made and action in response

## **Background papers**

None identified.



## General Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Draft Work Programme 2016/17

Tuesday 7 March 2017 at 10.00 am	
School examination performance	To consider school performance for summer 2015.
Discussion with Welsh Water	To discuss a range of issues (minute 37 “7 September 2016 refers)
Task and Finish Group Review - Devolution	To make recommendations to Cabinet following the task and finish review.

April 2017	
Annual Work Programme Workshop	

Tuesday 9 May 2016 at 10.00 am	

**Task and Finish Groups**

<b>It is suggested that the following task and finish groups be considered:</b>	Status:
Devolution	Scoping statement presented 27 September 2017. Review underway and due to report in March 2017.
Community infrastructure levy	Executive response awaited

**Briefing Notes**

<b>The following topics shall be dealt with via briefing notes for committee members:</b>	issue	Status:
Planning / Enforcement	Briefing note on current approach, with a view to a possible spotlight review later in the	

	year.	
Culture and tourism	Briefing note to be produced on Town and Parish Council roles, role of Chamber of Commerce in producing destination management strategy and the work of the Courtyard partnership group.	

### Seminars / Workshops

<b>It is suggested that the following be dealt with in the form of a seminar or workshop for committee members:</b>	Status:
Phosphates issues e.g. levels in water courses and impact	Invitation to Weslh Water to be issued for March 2017. Further seminar with Powys also to be requested.

Future matters	
Annual Review of Economic master plan - September 2017?	(see gosc decision 26/7/16)
Minerals and waste policy	Consider after consultation on draft plan has been received and plan revised.
Travellers' Sites Development Plan "	To be considered prior to consideration by Cabinet and Council.
Edgar Street Stadium, Hereford	(gosc 14 november 2016) further report setting out the long term proposals for the Edgar Street stadium following an appraisal by the football club, council and potential development partners of the options.

Schedule of General Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations made and action in response

Meeting	item	Recommendations	Action	Status
10 June 15	Executive Response – Review of lease restructuring with Hereford United	<b>RESOLVED: That</b> <b>(a) the Executive’s responses be noted;</b>		Completed
	Executive Response – Balfour Beatty Living Places – Public Realm Services	<b>RESOLVED: That</b> <b>(a) the Executive’s responses be noted; and</b> <b>(b) a briefing note on progress with the responses to the task and finish group report on Balfour Beatty Living Places - Public Realm Services be provided within six months.</b>	Briefing note on customer contact statistics issued 8 September 2015.  Briefing note on highway maintenance plan issued September 2016. A further update on the Public Realm actions potentially required	Completed  ongoing
	Task and Finish Group Report – Development Management Planning	<b>RESOLVED: That</b> <b>(a) Subject to the amendments to recommendations 1, 12 and 18 above, the report of the task and finish group on Development Management (Planning) be agreed for submission to the Executive; and</b>  <b>(b) The Executive’s response to the review be reported to the first available meeting of the committee after the Executive has approved its response.</b>	Submitted to executive  Reported to Committee 21 July 2015. Update issued via briefing note on 18 December 2015.	

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			Further update to be issued for 26 July 2016.	Completed
	Work Programme	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) the draft work programme, as amended, be noted;</b></p> <p><b>(b) a task and finish group on the smallholdings estate be established to undertake the work outlined in the draft scoping statement; and</b></p> <p><b>(c) scrutiny activity on football provision be considered at a future meeting.</b></p>	<p>Group established and work completed.</p> <p>Report scheduled for November 2016</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>ongoing</p>
21 July 2015	Executive Response to Committee Recommendations on School Examination Performance	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) the Executive response be noted; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) a briefing note be prepared on the Herefordshire Food Strategy and its linkages to schools.</b></p>	Briefing note issued 18 December 2015	Completed
	Executive Response to the Task and Finish Group Report on Development Management (Planning)	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) the draft Executive response be noted; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) a briefing note on progress with the response be provided within six months.</b></p>	Update issued 18 December 2015	Completed



30 September 2015	The Development of a Schools Capital Investment Strategy	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That it be recommended to the executive that the Schools capital investment strategy principles:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. include reference to the need to be responsive to anticipated growth and reductions in communities, including the key role of local schools in the sustainability of growth villages in Core Strategy policies RA1 and RA2;</b></li> <li><b>2. (within principle 8) take school journey distance, mode and time into account, not only in terms of environmental and transportation impacts but also the effect of journey times on pupils, with schools encouraged to keep school travel plans up-to-date;</b></li> <li><b>3. recognise what schools can and should offer, outside school hours, to local communities – such as libraries, information hubs, meeting venues, open space etc.;</b></li> <li><b>4. provide assurance that the authority would provide backing and support for academies to make bids for central funding to improve infrastructure;</b></li> <li><b>5. include consideration of county boundary transitions, including dialogue with adjoining authorities to ensure that provision was not considered in isolation;</b></li> <li><b>6. clarify how the authority would assure itself that ‘There would be an appropriate number of</b></li> </ol>	<p>Incorporated into strategy and being taken forward in its implementation on a local area basis.</p> <p>Briefing note issued 18 December giving further information on school places and travel plans.</p>	Completed

		<p>faith places' (principle 3); and</p> <p>7. revise principle 11 e. to 'Participatory budgeting as a means of enabling local communities to assist in supporting a local school'.</p>		
	Work Programme	A briefing note be prepared on digital issues.	Issued September 2016.	Completed
27 October 2015	Task and Finish Group Report – Smallholdings Estate (County Farms)	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) That the report and recommendations of the task and finish group: smallholdings estate (county farms) be agreed for submission to the executive subject to:</b></p> <p><b>i. the removal of Councillor Harvey's name from the group's composition (page 3 of the report);</b></p> <p><b>ii. the deletion of option b) from recommendation 1 (page 13); and</b></p> <p><b>iii. the removal of the words 'on the remaining estate should be let' from recommendation 5 (page 14).</b></p> <p><b>(b) The executive's response to the review be reported to the first available meeting of the committee after the executive has approved its response.</b></p>	<p>Submitted to the Executive</p> <p>Briefing note including response issued 18 December 2015</p>	Completed
17 November	Budget and medium Term Financial Strategy	<b>RESOLVED: That it be recommended to Cabinet that consideration be given to the merits of a rise</b>	Council did levy an additional 2% precept at	Completed

2015	– Draft prior to Funding Announcement	<b>in council tax of more than the 1.9% cap, with consideration given to the best mechanism for advancing this should Council agree to this measure reflecting the wishes of the significant response to the priorities and budget consultation, particularly in relation to retention of specific non-statutory services.</b>	in respect of adult social care in response to a Government initiative.	
19 January 2016 (am)	Update on home to School Transport Provision	<b>Resolved That: A) The relevant officers work to produce a briefing note on home to school transport to present to the General Overview and Scrutiny Committee for July 2016 B) The item be returned to the scrutiny committee for another annual review in January 2017 C) It be investigated what other scrutiny activity would be of benefit regarding home to school transport</b>	Briefing note issued July 2016. Listed in Work programme. To be reviewed in January 2017.	Completed  Completed  ongoing
	Local Transport Plan	<b>Resolved that: The following recommendations be put to cabinet regarding the Local Transport Plan: A) A recommendation be made that the Local Transport Plan (LTP) be subject to a review every five years in accordance with Department for Transport guidance B) LTP4 Vision to be amended to include the objective “and reduce congestion and increase accessibility by less polluting and healthier forms of transport than the private car.”</b>	Reported To Cabinet. Confirmed at Council on 20 May that recommendations would be reflected in Plan.	Completed

19 January 2016 (pm)	Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership Strategy and Related Performance	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>a) it be recommend that an all member briefing be arranged on the CSP and related matters including the office and Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable, the Superintendent of Herefordshire and other CSP partners.</b></p> <p><b>b) that the chair and vice chair investigate what areas of the CSP it may be of benefit to conduct further scrutiny work.</b></p>	Seminar scheduled for 21 November 2016	Ongoing
8 March 2016	School Examination Performance	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p><b>a) The committee makes recommendations to cabinet on how they might improve the efficiency of the school improvement framework and strategy, especially in relation to governance in light of likely reduced resourcing in future.</b></p> <p><b>b) Council responsibilities for education are clarified and sufficiently resourced. Additionally, that the monitoring of governing bodies in meeting performance standards also be sufficiently resourced. Should the Director at any time find that resources are not sufficient, this must be reported to Cabinet and the General Overview and Scrutiny Committee at once.</b></p> <p><b>c) A briefing note be produced in regard to authorised absences to inform future recommendations of the committee.</b></p> <p><b>d) The committee consider the findings of the</b></p>	<p>The council responsibilities form part of the Herefordshire School Improvement Framework and are based on statutory duties.</p> <p>Further consideration of the role and resourcing of the local authority will form part of the local authority's response to the national consultation on schools funding formula 2016 and the further national work on the roles and responsibilities of councils in relation to education</p>	ongoing

		<p><b>Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee's early years provision task and finish group in relation to referral rates for speech and language development.</b></p> <p><b>e) The committee's suggestions in regard to the teaching of phonics be brought to the attention of the early years task and finish group reporting the health and social care overview and scrutiny committee.</b></p>	(d and e have been done)	
	Marches Local Enterprise Partnership	<p><b>Resolved: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) the committee commend and encourage further the engagement of small businesses within the activity of the Marches LEP.</b></p> <p><b>b) The work of the Marches LEP in cooperation with neighbouring and other Local Enterprise Partnerships, in particular the equivalent bodies across national borders be encouraged.</b></p> <p><b>c) That the Marches LEP ensure that the delivery of accounts and reporting is made more clear and the availability of such documentation to the public is ensured.</b></p> <p><b>d) That the committee recommend to the board of the Marches LEP that a summary of accounts be published in conjunction with the annual report on the activity of the Marches LEP.</b></p>	<p>2015/16 accounts are in process of being completed and will be placed on the LEP website. Draft accounts will be going to the LEP Board on 3 August.</p> <p>Annual report published with Marches Enterprise joint Committee papers on 31 May 2016.</p>	completed

4 May 16	Suggestions from the public	<b>RESOLVED: That a working party be set up by officers to discuss the detail of the issues surrounding the definitive Map</b>	Working party established.	ongoing
	Task and Finish Group Report – Community Infrastructure Levy	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p><b>(a) the report of the task and finish group: community infrastructure levy be approved and the findings be submitted to the executive</b></p> <p><b>(b) the recommendations of the task and finish group: community infrastructure levy be approved as follows:</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 1: The ‘Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule’ be carried forward unchanged as the ‘Draft Charging Schedule’;</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 2: Urgent consideration be given to the need for a robust governance structure to be developed for the administration of CIL in advance of CIL being adopted;</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 3: That Parish Councils be supported by clear advice to assist with the implementation of the CIL charging process prior to any collected CIL monies being spent;</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 4: That the CIL charging schedule and its implementation be kept under review.</b></p> <p><b>(c) subject to the review being approved, the executive’s response to the review be reported to the first available meeting of the committee after the executive has approved its response.</b></p>	Submitted to Executive.	Response awaited from the executive.
26 July 2016	Economic Master Plan	<b>the cabinet member–economy and corporate services be invited to consider the following recommendations:</b>	Submitted to the executive for	ongoing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration be given to ways of pooling ideas for economic development through less structured approaches such as a think tank.</li> <li>• An inventory should be made of the County's strengths and opportunities for synergy be then identified.</li> <li>• Clarity should be sought as to how the planning framework accommodates farm diversity proposals, for example in relation to semi-permanent structures such as log cabins and whether that framework is appropriate.</li> <li>• The invitation to a GOSC member to participate in meetings with chief executive, director and cabinet member on the development of the Masterplan be accepted.</li> <li>• The further report proposed to be submitted to the committee in September 2016 should include highlights of lessons learned in relation to the implementation of the 2011-16 economic development plan and how these might inform the development of the new Masterplan.</li> <li>• There should be cross-party engagement and engagement with all Members in developing the Plan.</li> <li>• An alternative word to masterplan should be found to describe the plan.</li> <li>• The plan should take account of the value of the arts and tourism to the County's economy.</li> <li>• Consideration should be given to how best to maximise the promotional opportunities for Herefordshire. and</li> </ul>	consideration.	
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		<p><b>(b) consideration of the draft economic masterplan be added to the committee’s work programme for September 2016 together with an annual review of the effectiveness of the plan thereafter.</b></p>	<p>Report considered on 27 September 2016</p>	
	<p>Communication Strategy</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>That (a) the communication protocols be subject to further clarification and consideration and a further report on them made to the Committee; and</b>  <b>(b) that, subject to a above, the following recommendations be made to inform cabinet’s consideration of the strategy communication strategy with associated communication protocols for the period 2016-2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the use of a chat facility on the website should be pursued taking into account how an operator’s time can most effectively be used;</li> <li>• the opportunity for the community to interact on-line quickly and easily should be fully explored;</li> <li>• clarification be provided as to how it is intended to implement the “spend within our means” approach outlined in section 3 of the strategy at appendix 1 to the report at p41 of the agenda papers: “making tough but necessary choices which will include ceasing to provide some services and working with communities to help them run services important to them”;</li> <li>• the wording of paragraph 5.13 of appendix 2 to the report relating to the access of the press to premises be reviewed and clarified.</li> </ul>	<p>Report made to Committee on 5 September.</p> <p>Matters referred to Cabinet for consideration.</p>	<p>Completed</p>



5 September 2016	Four Year Financial Settlement	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>That</b></p> <p><b>(a) in order to make a recommendation on whether or not to accept the 4 year funding settlement a further meeting should be convened to consider alternative options including information from comparator authorities; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) Cabinet be recommended to consider the points made by the Committee and the further information the Committee considered was required in order to make a recommendation to full Council on whether or not to accept the four year funding deal.</b></p>	<p>Further meeting arranged for 19 September.</p> <p>Report made to Cabinet on 21 September.</p>	Completed
	Statement of community involvement consultation, communications and programme to adoption	<p><b>RESOLVED: That Cabinet be recommended to consider amending the revised draft statement of community involvement to take account of the amendments proposed in the above table.</b></p>	<p>Considered by Cabinet on 3 November.</p>	Completed
	Communication Protocol for Members	<p><b>RESOLVED: That cabinet be recommended that further consideration be given to the following matters in relation to the communication protocol for members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• In relation to paragraph 3.1 of the protocol further clarification was needed on when it was appropriate to use the word “Council” in communications when referring to such matters as Council policy and when further distinction was needed between a decision taken at full Council and a decision taken by an individual cabinet member or an officer.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Report on Cabinet agenda for 21 September.</p>	Completed

27 September 2016	Customer Services and Libraries	<b>RESOLVED: That Cabinet be recommended to support option 3 – retained libraries and central service with an emphasis on making best use of them and community libraries as contact points for council services, extending service options and exploring new ways of working, and the report to cabinet should include a delivery plan.</b>	Considered by Cabinet 13 October 2016	Completed
	Economic Master Plan	<b>RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member be recommended to have regard to the points raised by the Committee in discussion and in particular the summary of the principal points set out above.</b>	To be reported to cabinet.	Ongoing
14 November 2016	Draft 2017/18 Budget And Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	<b>RESOLVED:</b> <b>That (a) the executive be recommended to work with Parish and Town Councils to explore options for service delivery;</b>  <b>(b) the executive be recommended to make representations to local MPs and others to ensure that the voice of the County is being heard in relation to the government's business rate proposals and the views of local MPs reported;</b>  <b>(c) the clarity of the budget report should be reviewed and officers requested that the report should be amended to include detail of gross income and expenditure, consistency of terminology, virements over the year to identify actual expenditure, analysis of the use of the Rural Services Delivery Grant, clarity over income; and</b>  <b>(d) the executive be asked to take full account</b>	In respect of items <b>a, b and d</b> , these were addressed to the executive who have reported back to GOSC their intention to develop closer working with Parishes, liaise with MP's to champion the County's issues and provide a response to the issues raised during budget consultation (summary provided to GOSC at December meeting)  <b>(c)</b> The clarity of budget report was reviewed and amended to ensure	completed  completed  completed  completed

		<b>of the consultation on the budget and reflect the views expressed in their budget proposals, indicating in the next report back to the overview and scrutiny committees the extent to which the consultation findings had influenced budget proposals, and, if the findings had been discounted, the rationale for taking that course.</b>	consistency and clarity in future presentations and reports. Further detail of gross income and expenditure will be provided in the budget book summary which will be prepared once all information on grants is confirmed with government. The impact of this review was provided to GOSC at their December meeting	
	Proposed 2017/18 Capital Budget	<b>RESOLVED: That written answers be provided to questions raised at the meeting and appended to the Minutes</b>	Answers published with minutes.	Completed
	Edgar Street Stadium, Hereford – Lease Proposals	<b>RESOLVED:</b>  That (a) the executive be advised that the Committee supports the proposed grant of a new lease to the current tenant for a term of 10 years, commencing at some point prior to the expiry the current lease; and  (b) a further report is presented to the Committee setting out the long term proposals for the Edgar Street stadium following an appraisal by the football club, council and potential development partners of the options.	Executive informed. Lease awarded.  Added to work Programme	Completed  Ongoing



			<p>councils under S137 of the local government act 1972 provide for flexibility in use of funds when no other specific power for expenditure exists. Parishes will need to satisfy themselves that any such expenditure meets tests in terms of community benefits and other provisions. It is worth noting that parish councils already benefit from direct powers to provide funding for public and community transport should they wish (Transport Act 1985 S106A as amended by Local Government and Rating Act 1997 S27).</p>	<p>ongoing</p>
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13 December 2016	Draft 2017/18 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	<p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p><b>That (a) the reconciliation showing the changes between the report made to the Committee in November and that presented in December be circulated to members of the Committee for information;</b></p> <p><b>(b) officers be requested to explore the principle of facilitating increased engagement with parish Councils and communities and revenue funding to support invest to save proposals in support of the delivery of some services in place of Herefordshire Council could be explored as part of the future review of the MTFs; and</b></p> <p><b>(c) if a substantive issue relevant to the budget warranting further discussion with the Committee emerged a further report be made to the Committee's meeting in January for its consideration.</b></p>	<p>Report submitted to committee January 2017.</p> <p>It was clarified at the meeting that an "invest to save" proposal could be considered at any time even though a specific "pot" was not allocated.</p> <p>Included in the reconciliation referred to in (a), reference was also made to the changes in the Autumn Statement in respect of New Homes Bonus and Adult Social Care Grant. In addition the report clarified the flexibility provided around the adult social care precept being up to 3% per annum subject to a maximum of 6% over three years.</p>	
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