

Title of report: Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership Update

Meeting: Health and Wellbeing board

Meeting date: 16 September 2024

Report by: Superintendent Helen Wain

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

For the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to note:

1. Strategy and priorities

Herefordshire CSP (HCSP) agreed new priorities for 2024-27 in March 2024. The priorities are documented in the Strategy document which is available on the Herefordshire Council website (see link in appendices to this report). The priorities are:

- Domestic Abuse
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Misuse of Drugs
- Neighbourhood Crime

Alongside these priorities the partnership agreed cross cutting themes of serious violence, serious and organised crime, prevention and community engagement. HCSP remains signed up to the West Mercia Serious Violence Strategy to tackle the most prevalent and risky forms of serious violence.

2. Subgroups

During 2023 a detailed review of HCSP and its governance structures was completed, alongside the review of priorities, to ensure that the partnership could continue to deliver effectively against the new

priorities, and to work in an efficient, evidence-led and structured manner to deliver effective community safety. The governance structure is included in the appendices below.

The HCSP subgroups are aligned to its priorities and alongside the new strategy, HCSP has implemented a new reporting structure for sub-groups, to ensure that it effectively monitors progress, allocated HCSP funding and holds the partnership to account for delivery. Each subgroup reports to the quarterly HCSP on progress, to include taking a participatory approach to engaging with communities. This is a key requirement of CSPs under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and HCSP seeks to strengthen its engagement activity in neighbourhoods, consolidating existing engagement tools used by single agencies. This engagement will be a key indicator as to whether or not HCSP is making a difference to crime and perceptions of crime and antisocial behaviour in local communities.

In order to effectively meet the priority around neighbourhood crime, and the cross cutting themes in respect of prevention and serious and organised crime, the Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination Group (MATAC) has significantly revised its terms of reference, scope and membership to ensure that this is a fit for purpose tactical arena from which to deliver against the strategic priorities of HCSP, tasking into multi-agency operational delivery to tackle organised criminality, anti-social behaviour, neighbourhood crime and hate crime. The first full meeting of MATAC under these revised terms took place in August 2024 and will continue to develop.

Responsibility for Domestic Homicide Reviews sits with the JCR subgroup, which manages DHR, Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews on behalf of the CSP, Adults and Children's partnerships.

3. Funding

HCSP is allocated funding annually from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, and also has been allocated a proportion of the West Mercia Serious Violence Duty grant funding. Work is ongoing with the HCSP sub-groups to allocate this funding. In 2022/3 and 2023/4 HCSP underspent the OPCC grant and is keen to ensure all the funding is allocated and spent this year. So far grants have been awarded to the Sanctuary Scheme and a joint project to deliver DA and sexual violence training through a training programme, White Ribbon conference and SafeLives training for MARAC governance and attendees, which was a recommendation from the commissioned SafeLives review of the multi-agency approach to DA within the county.

West Mercia Police are currently running a Home Office funded hotspot programme, where identified hotspots for anti-social behaviour and serious violence are subject to 'saturation' of uniformed patrols and, in some cases, additional problem oriented policing. There is funding available to CSP partners to support both high visibility patrols by uniformed partnership staff and problem solving activity. Some funding has been awarded to Vennture for additional street pastor patrols and the MATAC partners are considering other opportunities to become involved.

4. Performance

Domestic Homicide Reviews – DHRs 9 and 10 were presented to HCSP during the June 2024 meeting and the recommendations agreed and returned to the Home Office. DHR09 had no identified learning for the partnership or single agencies. DHR10 has partnership and single agency recommendations which are accepted and will be progressed through Joint Case Review meeting and DA Local Partnership.

One challenge for HCSP has been to establish a multi-agency data set to support crime profiles for the county. Data from Health has been a particular challenge but some data is now starting to be received.

Herefordshire received its intra youth serious violence product in July 2024, this has yet to be discussed at CSP and will be brought to the September meeting. Findings indicate an increase in intra youth SV from 2021-22 to 2022-23, the reason for which is unclear, but no change in volume between 2022-23 and 2023-24. Between March and May 2024 30% of youth SV offenders were from out of force, and there are therefore limited opportunities for prevention and diversion. The 6 recommendations will be reviewed and allocated to sub-groups accordingly.

5. HCSP support

Currently HCSP is supported by the Safeguarding Business Unit, which is funded by the partnership. In previous years there was a dedicated support role to HCSP within this team, however this post was deleted by HC in 2023. A new Community Resilience Team is being created within Public Health to comprise a Community Resilience Manager, Community Safety Lead and Community Safety Coordinator. Emergency planning will also sit beneath the Manager role. HCSP has sought to use OPCC CSP grant to fund the Coordinator role and the outcome of this bid is awaited. Recruitment is complete for the Manager role and ongoing for the Lead. These posts will better align Community Safety and Resilience and provide a dedicated support role to HCSP.

Recommendation

That:

- a) **The Health and Wellbeing Board notes the update report.**

Community impact

1. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, the council achieves its intended outcomes by providing a mixture of legal, regulatory and practical interventions. Determining the right mix of these is an important strategic choice to make sure outcomes are achieved. The council needs robust decision-making mechanisms to ensure its outcomes can be achieved in a way that provides the best use of resources whilst still enabling efficient and effective operations and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review.

Environmental Impact

2. There are no general implications for the environment arising from this report.

Equality duty

3. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

- c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
4. 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. Our Health providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation.

Resource implications

5. There are no resource implications associated with this report. The resource implications of any recommendations made by the HWB will need to be considered by the responsible body or the executive in response to those recommendations or subsequent decisions.

Legal implications

6. Health and wellbeing boards are responsible for encouraging integrated working between health and social care commissioners, including partnership arrangements such as pooled budgets, lead commissioning and integrated provision.
7. Their purpose is to establish collaborative decision making, planning and commissioning across councils and the NHS, informed by the views of patients, people who use services and other partners.
8. The functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board are set out in paragraph 3.5.24 of the constitution. There are no specific legal implications arising from the proposed Terms of Reference.

Risk management

9. There are no risk implications identified emerging from the recommendation in this report.

Consultees

None

Appendices

HCSP Governance structure 2024



HCSP Governance
Structure 2024.pdf

HCSP Strategy 2024-27

<https://www.herefordshiresafeguardingboards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/HCSP-Strategy-24.27-Final.docx>

Background papers

None identified.