



## **BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **MEETING OF THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2010, AT 6.00 P.M.**

**THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BURCOT LANE, BROMSGROVE**

**MEMBERS:** Councillors S. R. Colella (Chairman), D. L. Pardoe (Vice-Chairman), A. N. Blagg, Mrs. M. Bunker, R. J. Deeming, Mrs. R. L. Dent, Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, C. R. Scurrall, Mrs. C. J. Spencer, C. B. Taylor, C. J. Tidmarsh and L. J. Turner

### **AGENDA**

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest and whipping arrangements
3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 31st August 2010 (Pages 1 - 2)
4. Report on the Inquiry into the Alvechurch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) (Pages 3 - 46)
5. The Community Safety Partnership Plan (Pages 47 - 90)
6. Scrutiny of the Crime and Disorder Protocol (Pages 91 - 108)
7. The Appointment of a Crime and Disorder Advisor to the Board (Pages 109 - 114)
8. Presentation - Planning Policy Development Process (Head of Planning and Regeneration)
9. Worcestershire Hub Joint Scrutiny Task Group - verbal update
10. Work Programme and Meeting Schedule 2010/11 (for information only) (Pages 115 - 124)

11. Discuss Questions for Witnesses at meeting to be held on 23rd November 2010
12. To consider any other business, details of which have been notified to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services prior to the commencement of the meeting and which the Chairman considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting

K. DICKS  
Chief Executive

The Council House  
Burcot Lane  
BROMSGROVE  
Worcestershire  
B60 1AA

27th September 2010

## **BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **MEETING OF THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**TUESDAY, 31ST AUGUST 2010 AT 5.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillors S. R. Colella (Chairman), D. L. Pardoe (Vice-Chairman), A. N. Blagg, Mrs. M. Bunker, R. J. Deeming, Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, C. R. Scurrall, Mrs. C. J. Spencer, C. B. Taylor, C. J. Tidmarsh and L. J. Turner

Officers: Ms. J. Pickering, Mr. C. Santoriello-Smith, Mr. M. Carr and Ms. A. Scarce

14/10 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. R. L. Dent.

15/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

Councillor Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths declared a personal interest in the MUGA Inquiry, as she had previously appeared as a witness and withdrew from the Board for this item.

16/10 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 22nd July 2010 were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

17/10 **INQUIRY INTO THE ALVECHURCH MULTI-USE GAMES AREA (MUGA)**

Members of the Board received a report of the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services on the Inquiry into the Alvechurch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and noted the progress so far. Members of the Board noted the written evidence and oral evidence so far received by the Inquiry and considered if any further evidence was required for consideration by Members of the Inquiry before they conclude their investigation. The Scrutiny Officer said that he would send pictures of the MUGA from the site visit carried out on the 20th July 2010. It was generally agreed that the Inquiry had considered a comprehensive amount of evidence from different perspectives and that it should now consider its conclusions and recommendations and report back to the Board on 5th October 2010.

Members considered the possible options for the Inquiry and the future of the MUGA. It was reported that the police were carrying out impromptu surveillance of the area and it was suggested that this should be more widely publicised. Options for the MUGA identified included:

- leaving the MUGA facilities in situ with appropriate re-landscaping of the physical environment to minimise opportunities for ASB and maximise surveillance of the area, subject to a 6 - 12 month review
- removal of the MUGA facilities.

Members of the Inquiry would now consider the full range of options available and the costs and feasibility implications and make recommendations to the Board.

18/10 **VERBAL UPDATE ON WORCESTERSHIRE HUB JOINT SCRUTINY TASK GROUP (COUNCILLOR C. B. TAYLOR)**

Members of the Board received a progress report from Councillor C. B. Taylor on the Worcestershire Hub Joint Scrutiny Task Group at Worcestershire County Council. Cllr Taylor was one of the representatives appointed by the Board to the Worcestershire Hub Joint Scrutiny Task Group.

Councillor Taylor expressed disappointment with the administration of the Task Group. It was recalled that on the on 15th June 2010 the Board had resolved that the Chairman of the Worcestershire Hub Joint Scrutiny Task Group be invited, by Councillor Taylor, to a future meeting of the Board. The Scrutiny Officer was requested to follow this up with a formal written invitation.

**RESOLVED** that the Scrutiny Officer be requested to write to the Chairman of the Worcestershire Hub Joint Scrutiny Task Group to invite him to a future meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board.

The meeting closed at 6.10 p.m.

Chairman

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5th October 2010

#### ALVECHURCH MULTI-USE GAMES AREA INQUIRY REPORT

Responsible Portfolio Holders	Councillors: Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community
Responsible Head of Service	Mrs. A. Heighway – Head of Community Services
Responsible Head of Service for Overview and Scrutiny	Mrs. C. Felton – Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services

#### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To consider the findings and recommendations contained within the attached report relating to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB) investigation undertaken by the MUGA Inquiry.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are requested to:
- (a) consider and approve the attached report and the recommendations contained within it (attached at Appendix A); and
  - (b) submit the attached report to the Cabinet for consideration of the recommendations.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Meeting of the JOSB on 15th June 2010, it was decided that an Inquiry should be established to consider the reported crime and disorder problems around the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) site at Swanslength, Alvechurch. The terms of reference and membership of the Inquiry was also agreed.
- 3.2 The full terms of reference agreed by the JOSB at this meeting are included within the report attached at Appendix A.

#### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Financial and Resource implications of the recommendations are detailed in the Summary of Recommendations of the appended report.

4.2 In some instances the report recommendations state that costs are being ascertained. It is intended that further financial details will be reported at the meeting of the Board and then be incorporated within the final version of the report prior to its submission to the Cabinet.

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

**6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

6.1 This report links to the Council's Objectives of Improvement and One Community.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

7.1 The risk of not implementing the recommendations contained within the attached overview report is that the Council may not comply with its statutory duties under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

**8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 If the recommendations were approved and implemented, residents living in Alvechurch may benefit from improved wellbeing and a reduction in anti-social behaviour, which would have an emphasis on customer satisfaction.

**9. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no implications directly relating to this report for the Council's Equalities and Diversity Policies. Equalities issues relating to amenities to young people and the fear of crime and disorder, especially to older people, have been taken into consideration within the body of the report attached at Appendix A.

**10. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no value for money implications directly relating to this report.

**11. CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 None

**12. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Procurement Issues – None
Personnel – None
Governance/Performance Management – None

Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 These are addressed within the body of the report attached at Appendix A
Policy – None
Biodiversity – None

**13. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Portfolio Holder	<b>No</b>
Chief Executive	<b>No</b>
Executive Director (Leisure, Environment & Community Services) and Deputy Chief Executive	<b>No</b>
Executive Director (Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory, Housing Services)	<b>No</b>
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)	<i>Consulted on the financial and resources implications set out in the summary of recommendations.</i>
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	<b>No</b>
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	<b>Yes</b>
Head of Resources	<b>No</b>
Head of Environment	<b>No</b>
Head of Leisure	<b>No</b>
Head of Community	<b>Yes</b>
Head of Housing	<b>No</b>
Head of Business Transformation	<b>No</b>
Corporate Procurement Team	<b>No</b>

**14. WARDS AFFECTED**

Alvechurch.

**15. APPENDICES**

Appendix A Report of the MUGA Inquiry.

**16. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**CONTACT OFFICER**

Name: Michael Carr, Scrutiny Officer  
E Mail: m.carr@bromsgrove.gov.uk  
Tel: (01527) 881407





# Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board

## Alvechurch Multi-Use Games Area Inquiry

**OCTOBER 2010**  
**JOINT OVERVIEW AND**  
**SCRUTINY BOARD**

Supporting Officer: Michael Carr



**Bromsgrove**  
District Council

Page 7  
[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)





# CONTENTS

	<b>Page Number</b>
Summary of Recommendations	1
Members of the Inquiry	5
Aims and Objectives of the Inquiry	7
1 Introduction	9
2 Options for the MUGA	11
3 Consultation and Engagement	15
4 Young People in Alvechurch	19
5 Anti-Social Behaviour at Swanslength	21
6 Planning for the Future	25
7 Conclusion	29
Appendices	
Appendix 1 – <i>Witnesses</i>	
Appendix 2 – <i>List of Documentary evidence</i>	
Appendix 3 - <i>Temporal map to show the intensity and location of ASB 12 months prior to and 12 months following the installation of the MUGA facility.</i>	



## Summary of Recommendations

### **Recommendation One**

#### ***The Future of Alvechurch Multi-Use Games Area Facility***

That the Alvechurch MUGA be left in situ.

### **Financial Implications**

Most of the remedial measures associated with leaving the MUGA in situ would have to be met within existing budgets.

There are ongoing costs already budgeted for the MUGA, including site inspection, cleaning and repairs. As an estimate, changing one seat per year would cost of £162 pa. Annual inspection costs are estimated at £50 pa. The line marking within the area needs reapplying every 3 years at an approximate cost of £200.

The depreciation costs of the facilities would be approximately £3,500, based on a life expectancy of 15 years.

### **Resource Implications**

No significant resource implications for the Council are envisaged. Regular visits to the site would be required with or without the MUGA as there is another play facility on the recreation ground.

### **Recommendation Two**

#### ***House Calls***

That the Community Safety Officers for Alvechurch make periodic house calls to vulnerable residents living in close proximity to the MUGA.

### **Financial Implications**

No financial implications are envisaged.

### **Resource Implications**

No significant resource implications are envisaged.

### **Recommendation Three**

#### ***The Alvechurch Youth Club***

That the Alvechurch Community Together (ACT) Trust consider extending the opening hours of the Alvechurch Youth Club until the later time of 10pm in the evening for the older teenagers to actively discourage young people from socialising around the MUGA area late in the evening.

**Financial Implications**

*Potential financial implications are being ascertained from ACT.*

**Resource Implications**

*Potential resource implications are being ascertained from ACT.*

**Recommendation Four**

***Engaging With Young People***

That the Alvechurch Youth Club carry out targeted outreach work on the MUGA itself to engage with the young people who use the site as a social meeting point in the evening after dusk to engage with the young people to encourage acceptable usage of the facility and challenge anti-social behaviour, alcohol misuse and rowdy behaviour that adversely effects the quality of life of Alvechurch residents.

**Financial Implications**

*Potential financial implications are being ascertained from ACT.*

**Resource Implications**

*Potential resource implications are being ascertained from ACT.*

**Recommendation Five**

***Monitoring Anti-Social Behaviour***

That the Performance Management Board monitor the levels and types of reported Anti-Social Behaviour at Swanslength over the next 12 months to assess the levels of reported ASB compared to the previous 12 months. This should also be compared to general ASB trends across the district.

**Financial Implications**

No financial implications are envisaged.

**Resource Implications**

No significant resource implications are envisaged.

**Recommendation Six**

***The Community Safety Partnership***

That Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership monitor the levels of reported Anti-Social Behaviour around the MUGA to identify emerging issues of ASB and coordinate remedial action in partnership with the local police service and the

Bromsgrove District Council Community Safety Team.

**Financial Implications**

No financial implications are envisaged.

**Resource Implications**

No significant resource implications are envisaged.

**Recommendation Seven**  
***Police Presence***  
That West Mercia Police allocate a higher level of uniformed presence of the Swanslength area between 9pm and 1am at night.

**Financial Implications**

No financial implications are envisaged for the Council.

**Resource Implications**

*Potential resource implications are being ascertained from West Mercia Police.*

**Recommendation Eight**  
***Street Lighting***  
That the street lighting located near to the MUGA facility be relocated further away from the MUGA site to discourage this area from being a social meeting point for people in the evening.

**Financial Implications**

*Potential financial implications are being ascertained.*

**Resource Implications**

*Potential resource implications are being ascertained.*

**Recommendation Nine**  
***The Wall***  
That the full length of the perimeter wall running alongside Swanslength be removed and the ground re-banked to remove the makeshift seating that the wall provides for people using the MUGA area as a social meeting point in the evenings.

### **Financial Implications**

- a. To remove the small section of wall near to the MUGA, to remove the trees and hedging between the wall and the MUGA and to level/bank and re-seed - estimated cost £1,000. or
- b. To remove the long section of wall running from the Junior/Toddler natural Play area to the MUGA area and level/bank with topsoil, remove the trees and hedging between the wall and the MUGA and re-seed - estimated cost £2,000.

There is no existing budget provision to meet the above costs and therefore the Cabinet is requested to categorise such works as high priority as part of the budget process for 2011/12 and to recommend that the necessary financial provision be made available.

### **Resource Implications**

No significant resource implications are envisaged.

### **Recommendation Ten**

#### ***Landscaping***

That a programme of landscaping be completed to create an open space recreation ground to increase visibility of the site and reduce the number of ASB acts that are obscured by undergrowth.

### **Financial Implications**

Financial implications are encompassed within recommendation nine, if contracted within the same job.

### **Resource Implications**

No additional resource implications are envisaged.

### **Recommendation Eleven**

#### ***MUGA Modifications***

That the seating panels provided as part of the MUGA facility be removed and replaced with blank panels and the swing frame and seat be removed altogether.

### **Financial Implications**

*Potential financial implications are being ascertained.*

### **Resource Implications**



## Members of the Inquiry



Councillor  
S. R. Colella  
(Chairman)



Councillor  
A. N. Blagg



Councillor  
Mrs. M. Bunker



Councillor  
R. J. Deeming



Councillor  
Mrs. R. L. Dent



Councillor  
D. L.  
Pardoe



Councillor  
C. R. Scurrell



Councillor  
Mrs. C. J.  
Spencer



Councillor  
C. B. Taylor



Councillor  
L. J. Turner



Councillor  
C. J. Tidmarsh



# Aims and Objectives of the Inquiry

## *Aim:*

To investigate the crime and disorder issues highlighted by residents and to consider the future options for the Multi Use Games Area facility at Swans Length, Alvechurch.

## *Objectives:*

- i. To investigate the reported crime and disorder issues around the MUGA
- ii. To consider the value of the MUGA to local residents
- iii. To identify the possible options and associated costs and benefits for the MUGA.



# 1 Introduction

- 1.1. On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010 the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB) received 3 petitions on the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Swanslength in Alvechurch. One petition called for the MUGA to be removed and claimed that it attracted anti-social behaviour into the local neighbourhood. The two others supported the MUGA facility as a community resource that should remain at its present location.
- 1.2. The JOSB resolved that an Inquiry be held into the future of the MUGA facility to investigate the reported crime and disorder issues and the future options for the MUGA and to make recommendations to Cabinet.
- 1.3. The Swanslength MUGA was installed in June 2008 by Bromsgrove District Council following a request from the Alvechurch Local Neighbourhood Partnership to increase access to youth facilities in the village. Available funding enabled the installation of additional equipment in the form of a climbing facility to complement the MUGA facility.
- 1.4. The installation of the MUGA has however, in the opinion of a number of residents, had a negative impact on the well-being and quality of life of residents who live closest to the facility. This has been highlighted through engagement with local residents, as well as the many letters received in response to the Inquiry.
- 1.5. Many residents feel that the removal of the MUGA is the most effective way to improve the quality of life of those who live closest to the facility and to address their fears and concerns. This has to be balanced against the needs of young people to have access to safe and accessible recreational play facilities, such as the MUGA provides and the Inquiry has attempted to weigh up these competing priorities and to find a way forward.
- 1.6. The Inquiry has considered written and oral evidence from key stakeholders and conducted site visits of the Alvechurch MUGA site. At the beginning of the Inquiry, an open invitation was made for people to submit written evidence to contribute to the investigation and Members of the Inquiry have received a substantial amount of correspondence and submissions of written evidence from local residents, both for and against the MUGA and all submissions have been taken into account.
- 1.7. On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010 each of the petition organisers was allowed up to 5 minutes to introduce their petition and were questioned by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board and this evidence has been taken into account. On 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010 Members of the Inquiry heard evidence from a range of key witnesses including the police, Bromsgrove District Council community safety officers, ward councillors, local residents representatives, Bromsgrove District Housing Trust and Worcestershire County Council Youth Support. For a full list of those

interviewed during the Inquiry see Appendix 1. For a list of the documentary evidence considered see Appendix 2.

1.8. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local council and police authorities, in partnership with other agencies, to consider crime and disorder reduction and community safety when undertaking all of their duties and responsibilities.

1.9. Section 17 states:  
*"Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area".*

1.10. Community safety issues impact on all areas of local government services. The responsibilities placed on all local government departments by Section 17 provides the impetus for them to consider how their service area can contribute to reducing crime and disorder, as well as their impact on social and community factors that affect crime levels.

1.11. The Inquiry has contributed to meeting the requirements under Section 17 by considering the reported anti-social behaviour issues around the MUGA site and making recommendations on how these might be ameliorated.



*Aerial view of Swanslength Open Space*

## 2 Options for the MUGA

- 2.1. The Inquiry has considered various options for the MUGA, including, in particular, removal and storage of the MUGA, removal of the MUGA to an alternative site and leaving the MUGA in situ with various other remedial measures taken to alleviate ASB in the vicinity. The costs and benefits of each of the key options identified by the Inquiry have been taken into account.
- 2.2. The Inquiry explored the possibility of the removal and storage of the MUGA. This would remove the facility altogether in the hope of removing the associated anti-social behaviour reported around the site. This would of course also remove the recreational play facilities for young people without re-installing them anywhere else and salvage the equipment use at an alternative site elsewhere in the District, should the need arise at some point in the future.
- 2.3. Removal and storage of the MUGA would entail estimated financial costs of £5,500 to remove the facility in a manner which will allow it to be reused elsewhere and re-instate the land back to open space. This cost could be met within the existing budgets of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership. Costs for re-location would however have to be determined if/when a suitable alternative site can be found.
- 2.4. There would also be associated financial savings such as a reduction in staff costs that are currently incurred to deal with street cleansing, maintenance of the facility and possibly the costs of responding to reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (depending on the effectiveness of removal on reducing ASB in the area).
- 2.5. The Inquiry explored the possibility of removal of the MUGA to an alternative site. This would be to remove the facility in the hope of removing the associated anti-social behaviour reported around the site, but moving the facilities to a more favourable site elsewhere in Alvechurch.
- 2.6. The problem with this option is that the main alternative sites available, which were assessed prior to the installation of the MUGA, were found to be less favourable locations. The risk assessment of the main alternative site “the Meadows” considered in 2008 by PC Stan Baker of West Mercia Constabulary assessed the Meadows as being “very close to residential properties. I feel they will suffer from noise and potentially anti-social behaviour”. Swanslength by comparison was assessed as “some distance from the nearest residential property and so there will be a reduced impact”. The assessment concluded; “my preferred option that would provide a safe facility for the young people and reduce the risk of incidents of crime and disorder is the Swanns Length site”.
- 2.7. The cost to remove and relocate the MUGA; to remove the ball court (but not the tarmac base) and relocate, create a new base and re-install elsewhere was quoted to be at approximately £60,000.

- 2.8. The Inquiry explored the option of leaving the MUGA in situ and implementing a range of remedial measures to alleviate the risk of ASB in the vicinity. This would retain the amenity of recreational facilities for young people in Alvechurch, which in many ways may also help to alleviate the general problem of ASB and nuisance behaviour of young people with nowhere else to go and nothing to do. It would, however, mean that community partners would have to find other ways of dealing with reported ASB and find ways to discourage anti-social and nuisance activities around the site.
- 2.9. Some of these remedial measures would have to be met within existing budgets, but could be carried out by giving extra focus to the MUGA and the young people who congregate there. There may be an increased role for the youth service, the police and Community Safety Officers (CSOs) in engaging with young people in that area in the evening. It could also entail “designing out” ASB by looking at the site and re-landscaping features that may encourage anti-social or nuisance activities.
- 2.10. There are ongoing costs already budgeted for the MUGA, including site inspection, cleaning and repairs. Regular visits to the site would be required with or without the MUGA as there is another play facility on the recreation ground. Bromsgrove District Council has spent £324 so far in replacement parts (such as vandalized seats due to fire damage). As an estimate, changing one seat per year would cost £162 pa. Annual inspection costs are estimated at £50 pa. The line marking within the area needs reapplying every 3 years at an approximate cost of £200.
- 2.11. The depreciation costs of the facilities would be approximately £3,500 pa based on a life expectancy of 15 years. The structure also includes a tarmac base which is difficult to assess for life expectancy.
- 2.12. The Inquiry has balanced the needs and concerns of the community for a safe and secure environment and with facilities for young people in the village and on balance has concluded that more can be done to alleviate the reported anti-social behaviour around the site without actually removing the facility altogether. Although it is important to deal with the concerns of the residents who feel aggrieved at the impact of nuisance and ASB around the site, it is also important to consider the views of the local residents who value the site. It is also apparent that, due to the focal point created by the nexus of the recreation ground and footpaths, this area may well be a natural meeting point for young people with or without the MUGA and nuisance and ASB may well persist even if the MUGA were to be removed. The adjacent road is also likely to contribute as it provides a parking space where people might pull up in their cars playing loud music or to meet people congregating around the site.



“Removing the MUGA will not remove the teenagers who wish to gather to socialize it will only mean that they will meet elsewhere. The problem is not with the MUGA but with the few who will persist in anti social behaviour” – *An Alvechurch resident*

- 2.13. It is therefore recommended that the Alvechurch MUGA be left in situ (Recommendation One). The evidence for this conclusion and the remedial measures recommended to reduce the risk of ASB and nuisance behaviour are explored further in this report.



### 3 Consultation and Engagement

- 3.1. Installation of the MUGA facility at Swanslength was carried out after consultation with local residents and other stakeholders. Consultation was carried out with young people in October 2007, which identified that a MUGA facility was the preferred choice<sup>1</sup>. Other options were a skate park and a climbing facility. The consultation gave three locations in Alvechurch for young people to state their preference for such a facility: the Wiggin Memorial (sometimes referred to as “the Meadows”), George Road and Swanslength Open Space. The Wiggin Memorial Ground was the preferred location with young people followed by George Road and then Swanslength.
- 3.2. Consultation was carried out with local with residents, contractors and the crime risk manager for West Mercia Police. Feedback from contractors and the Crime Risk Manager identified Swanslength Open Space as the most suitable location of those available based on build feasibility, user safety; the views on the suitability of both the Wiggin Memorial and Swanslength Open Space were given to residents as part of the residents’ consultation.
- 3.3. There was a consultation with local residents through a postal survey during the early part of 2008. 1600 households were consulted within the village. 21% (339) of residents responded of which 65.5% (222) of respondents were in favour of the facility being built on Swanslength Open Space<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.4. After consultation with residents, young people and stakeholders, and the assessments from contractors, a MUGA was built at the preferred location at Swanslength and officially opened in June 2008.
- 3.5. During the summer of 2009 there was an increase in reported ASB complaints to Bromsgrove District Council and West Mercia Police and this prompted the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to hold a special meeting of the Steering group to discuss the issue. The group decided to deliver a programme of community engagement including door to door surveys, targeted patrols to engage with residents and young people and an Open Public Forum.
- 3.6. On 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009 an Open Public Forum was held in the village to offer all residents an opportunity to voice their concerns of ASB in Alvechurch Village. A select panel of officers representing various agencies undertook this exercise and residents vocalised their concerns. This meeting was attended by over 60 local residents.
- 3.7. All residents concerns from the Open Public Forum were noted and 20 residents were nominated by the forum to form a focus group. The focus group met on 4 occasions and prioritised the concerns that had been raised and considered options for addressing the issues raised with the Swanslength MUGA and the available provisions for young people in the village. A small group of young people intermittently attended the focus group meetings.

- 3.8. The focus group considered all available locations for the MUGA within Alvechurch. A crime risk analysis conducted by the Crime Risk Manager from West Mercia Police identified however that each location was inappropriate due to its proximity to residential areas or hazardous to the safety of the facilities users.
- 3.9. The focus group requested Bromsgrove District Council officers to compile a report for Cabinet which highlighted the concerns of residents. This report was considered by Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010. Cabinet will consider the issue again in the light of this report.
- 3.10. The Inquiry welcomes the attempt to consult local residents, including young people specifically, on the location of the MUGA and the subsequent consultation and engagement on the reported anti-social behaviour problems around the site. There were however found to be aspects of the consultation process which could have been carried out better.
- 3.11. In particular, the consultation with local residents carried out in April 2008 “An Opportunity to Give Your Views.... MUGA and Risk Play”, whilst it provided options for the 2 key possible sites, does not appear to have offered residents the choice of “No MUGA”, which might have been informative if many residents felt there was either no suitable site for a MUGA in the village. This consultation also only provided 2 options for the site and no room to suggest alternative locations.
- 3.12. It appears that no map was included in this consultation, which may have been helpful as many Alvechurch residents may have been unaware of the precise location of the sites mentioned. Indeed, the sites mentioned are frequently referred to by different names; the “Wiggin Memorial” is also known locally as “the Meadows”. So some residents may have been unable to take an informed view based on location.
- 3.13. The evaluations of the sites provided with the consultation form as advice could also be viewed as extremely leading and gave a clear preference for the Swanslength site. Of all of the “Pros” and “Cons” listed for each site in the evaluations by Bromsgrove District Council and the police, there are no “Cons” listed for Swanslength whatsoever, only “Pros” and the alternative option (Wiggin Memorial Park) lists several. In the absence of alternative information (such as a clear knowledge of where the sites are), this could have led consultees to favour the Swanslength site. Indeed, in view of the amount of risks highlighted it may be that the Wiggin Memorial site was not a viable option in the first place.
- 3.14. The consultation with young people carried out on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007<sup>3</sup> revealed that Swanslength was not in fact the favourite site for young people consulted. The Wiggins Memorial playing field and the George Road site were more favoured in the consultation. A significant 33% of consultees responded with “Other” indicating another site or possibly even no site for a MUGA.

- 3.15. The consultation with local residents did however return a clear preference for the Swanslength site and in addition to the risk assessment by West Mercia Constabulary probably provided enough evidence to show that Swanslength was and still is the most suitable location.
- 3.16. It is important that consultation and engagement with local residents is continued and particularly engagement with young people socialising around the MUGA in the evenings and local residents directly next to the MUGA facility. It is likely that a lot of the problems of nuisance behaviour can be challenged through direct engagement with young people at the site after 9pm and issues picked up through engagement with residents directly facing onto the MUGA. In particular, it is recommended that a Bromsgrove District Housing floating support service make periodic house calls to vulnerable residents living in close proximity to the MUGA (Recommendation Two).



## 4 Young People in Alvechurch

- 4.1. The MUGA facilities were introduced to provide recreational play facilities for teenagers and young people in Alvechurch village. A need for these facilities was identified after consultation with local residents and part of the rationale was in fact to reduce incidents of ASB by giving young people something to do and somewhere to go.
- 4.2. The Inquiry considered the provision of recreational play facilities for young people in Alvechurch and the role of the MUGA in supporting these. It has also considered the views of the wider village that use the MUGA facilities in the appropriate manner, including young people and families that would be disappointed to see the facility removed. Many residents have written in to say how much the MUGA facilities are valued by young people in the village.

This play area is for all age groups, I have seen toddlers through to teenagers using this facility. It's just not fair to take it away as the vast majority of children who use it have done nothing wrong, so why should they be punished" - *An Alvechurch resident.*

- 4.3. Two of the petitions presented to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board in June 2010 were supporting the preservation of the MUGA as a valued community resource and facility for young people. One of the petitions, presented by Miss Emily Wightman (herself a teenager) entitled "Join if you want to keep the MUGA in Alvechurch" was signed by over 100 people, mostly teenagers. Another petition, presented by Mr Alex Cooke, was also signed by nearly 100 people and encouraged the Council to keep the MUGA.
- 4.4. It is important to note that not all of the consultation with local residents or correspondence submitted by local residents to the Inquiry was concerned about ASB on the site; indeed some residents were from their experience unaware of ASB around the MUGA or thought that it had been exaggerated. One local resident told the Inquiry "I feel that the young people of Alvechurch get a really bad press from some local residents and they have expressed to me that they feel that certain residents are worse than the Victorians in their attitudes to young people".

I live at xx Birmingham Road with my garden backing onto the playing field – albeit some 50 metres away from the MUGA – but I have never heard or experienced the antisocial behaviour described by other residents" – *An Alvechurch resident.*

- 4.5. The Inquiry heard from Kim Caves, Team Manager for Bromsgrove and District Youth Support, who has been associated with the delivery of youth work in Alvechurch. She was asked for feedback from young people on the MUGA. She said; "Not all of them use it, those that do, use it for its designed activity and enjoy it. They are aware of the feelings within the village and some are reluctant

to go up there for fear of being ostracised or moaned at by older people in that area”.

4.6. A new youth club opened in the village in June 2010<sup>4</sup>. This currently operates once a week through the Alvechurch Community Together (ACT) Trust. This youth group has been set up as a social enterprise organisation. The youth club is well attended and in the first four sessions delivered between April and May 2010 an average of 50 young people attended aged 12-17 years old, although the main contingent of attendees are aged between 12 – 14 years old.

4.7. The Inquiry received a written statement from ACT, supporting the MUGA;

“The directors of ACT strongly urge the Scrutiny Committee and Bromsgrove District Council to abolish plans to remove the MUGA from Alvechurch”.

ACT supports the MUGA not only as an important part of the recreational facilities in Alvechurch, but also as part of the package to discourage ASB. “we strongly believe that removing the young people’s recreational facilities will actually make the situation worse, not better”.

4.8. The youth club can play an important role in encouraging young people in Alvechurch to get involved in more sociable social activities and away from nuisance behaviour and in mediating between young people and local residents. It also provides young people with somewhere to go and something to do in their spare time other than congregate on the street.

4.9. It is recommended that the Alvechurch Community Together (ACT) Trust consider extending the opening hours of the Alvechurch Youth Club until the later time of 10pm in the evening for the older teenagers to actively discourage young people from socialising around the MUGA area late in the evening. (Recommendation Three). It is also recommended that the Alvechurch Youth Club carry out targeted outreach work on the MUGA itself to engage with the young people who use the site as a social meeting point in the evening, to engage with the young people to encourage acceptable usage of the facility and challenge anti-social behaviour, alcohol misuse and rowdy behaviour that adversely effects the quality of life of Alvechurch residents (Recommendation Four).

“The Youth Group seems to have the right approach and I hope they can engage young people effectively – no easy task and needs very careful thought and support from the community at large” – An Alvechurch resident.



## 5 Anti-Social Behaviour at Swanslength

- 5.1. The main concern of people petitioning for the removal of the MUGA at Swanslength is the reported rise in anti-social behaviour around the site and its impact on local residents. A year after the installation of the MUGA, during the summer of 2009, there was an increase in reported Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) complaints to Bromsgrove District Council and West Mercia Police. The reports came from residents who live in close proximity to the Swanslength Open Space and consisted of youth related ASB, alcohol misuse, vehicle related nuisance, inappropriate sexual activity, litter and noise.
- 5.2. The Home Office defines ASB as “any aggressive, intimidating or destructive activity that damages or destroys another person's quality of life”<sup>5</sup>. As such, it is a very broad category and there is a lot of scope for differing perceptions about what is ASB in practice. There is also scope for “nuisance” behaviour, such as socialising in residential areas and making noise, to be perceived as ASB, alongside more serious or criminal ASB. It is important to distinguish between different kinds of nuisance and ASB, but what is also significant is the perception of local residents who may feel intimidated or whose quality of life is significantly diminished by the activities around the MUGA in the evening.
- 5.3. The Inquiry has considered a great deal of correspondence submitted from local residents concerned about anti-social behaviour at Swanslength around the MUGA, as well as testimony submitted by residents in previous consultations. This has demonstrated a genuine concern by many residents with anti-social behaviour from a large number of residents.

“I have to convey to you the level of anti-social behaviour outside my house. There is high levels of noise, large groups of 15+ of children/young adults, there is total disrespect for people trying to sleep in their houses. This often occurs from 11pm onwards up to 2pm”.

- 5.4. The Inquiry has considered the reports of ASB around the MUGA over a 12 month period; July 2009- June 2010. Figure 1 below shows the type of ASB incidents reported in the Swanslength area. It shows that by far the most frequently reported incidents (69%) are to do with rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour. 20% of reported incidents on the MUGA site mention alcohol and most of these were between July and September on Thursday, Friday or Saturday evenings.

ASB Category	No. of Reported Incidents
Rowdy / Inconsiderate Behaviour	94
Vehicle Related Nuisance	17
Malicious Communications	8
Nuisance Neighbours	3
Abandoned Vehicles	2
Noise	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>

Figure 1: Incidents by ASB Recording Category, Swans Length area, July 2009 to June 2010<sup>6</sup>

5.5. 20% or 15 reported cases of ASB around the MUGA over this period were alcohol related, 8 of which were located on the MUGA itself. It is illegal for all young people under the age to consume alcohol and the whole of Alvechurch is a Designated Public Place Order (Alcohol Free Zone), so drink drinking around the site is prohibited.

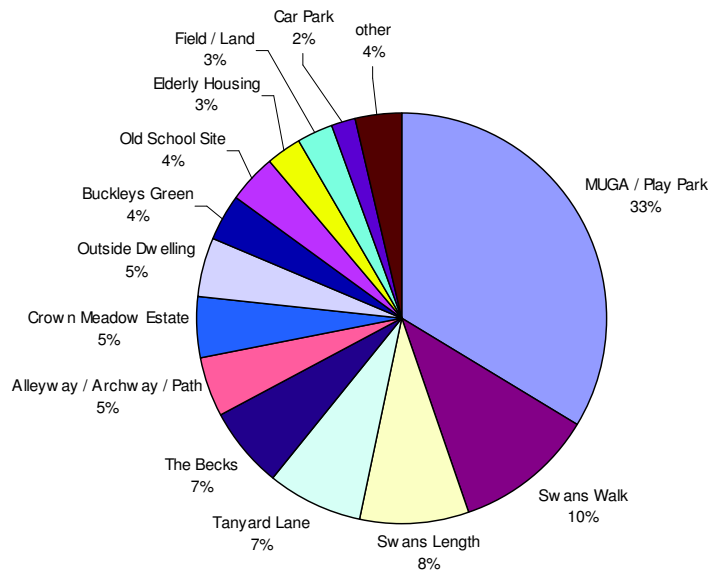


“Alcohol Free Zone” signage next to the MUGA site, Alechurch.

5.6. It is recommended that the Performance Management Board monitors the levels and types of reported Anti-Social Behaviour at Swanslength over the next 12 months to assess the levels of reported ASB compared to the previous 12 months. This should also be compared to general ASB trends across the District (Recommendation Five). It is expected that, if the remedial measures recommended in this report are put in place, there should be a fall in ASB over this period, but monitoring by PBM will help to see if these measures are working.

5.7. It is also recommended that the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership monitor the levels of reported Anti-Social Behaviour around the MUGA to identify emerging issues of ASB and coordinate remedial action in partnership with the local police service and the Bromsgrove District Council Community Safety Team (Recommendation Six).

5.8. It should be noted that not all ASB reports relate to the MUGA itself, although the MUGA has become a focal meeting point and a site frequently mentioned in reports. 40 out of 108 relevant reported incidents in the Swanslength area expressly mentioned the play facilities and only 19% specifically mention the MUGA facility. The chart below gives a picture of the reported ASB incidents in the Swanslength area from July 2009 to June 2010. It shows that about a third relate to the MUGA facilities. 42 reported incidents came from 5 repeat complainants over the 12 month period<sup>7</sup>. The disproportionate effect of ASB on the small number of residents living directly opposite the MUGA should also be taken into account.



5.9. The peak time for ASB reports for this period was between 6pm and 11pm in the evening and reported incidents that specifically relate to the MUGA were most frequent after 8pm. Circumstantial evidence suggests that this is a time when older teenagers and young people hang around the area socialising. It is also a time of night when noise and disturbance to local residents may be exacerbated.

“anti-social behaviour tends to occur at night when noise becomes exaggerated. Many residents feel intimidated by the youngsters particularly when they are in large groups and fuelled by alcohol. Many residents feel threatened and distressed. The area of the MUGA is in darkness, so when looked at through windows of near by homes, it can appear threatening, especially at night”.

*Sarah Morgan – Petition organizer – statement to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

5.10. A breakdown of the reported data by days of the week show that reported incidents were fairly evenly spread over the course of the week with a slight prevalence from Thursday to Saturday.

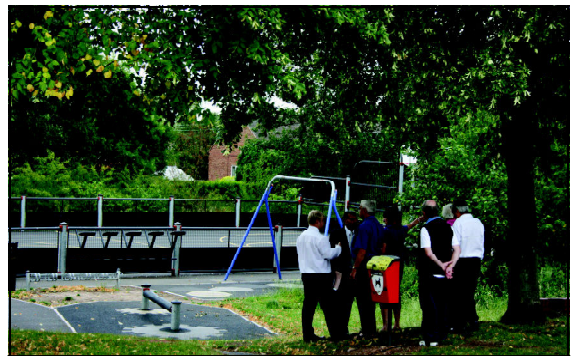
5.11. The Inquiry interviewed Chief Inspector Angie Burnet, PC Stan Baker, Crime Risk Manager and Inspector Julian Smith, a district police inspector. They informed the Inquiry that the police had been carrying out a higher level of patrols around the Swanslength area in recognition of the reported ASB. They are determined to involve other agencies, partners and the community in resolving the problem. One problem is that the Community Safety Officer who patrols the area only works until 10pm and a lot of the reported ASB occurs after this time.

- 5.12. In view of the particular problem of reported ASB at peak times, it is recommended that West Mercia Police allocate a greater presence in the Swanslength area between 9pm and 1am at night (Recommendation Seven), with routine impromptu visits during these times, targeted to deter ASB when reports are most prevalent.
- 5.13. The rise in reports of anti-social behaviour prompted the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to instruct the Community Safety Analyst to set up a Task Group to investigate and assess the impact the installation of this facility on Alvechurch Village and in particular Swanslength Open Space.
- 5.14. The investigation concluded that the level of reported ASB within the whole of Alvechurch village was of a similar volume following the installation of the MUGA when compared prior to the installation. Appendix 3 shows the intensity of ASB 12 months prior to the installation of the MUGA and the intensity of ASB 12 post installation for comparison.
- 5.15. The analysis also revealed a shift in the locations of ASB within the village. Since the installation of the MUGA, ASB had decreased around the village but had become more focused on Swanslength. For the 12 months following the installation of the MUGA reported ASB in Swanslength had increased by 29% when compared to the 12 months prior to the installation.
- 5.16. The analysis also identified that post installation of the MUGA there has been a reduced volume of reports of alcohol misuse, inappropriate ball games and trespassing but increased reports of noise, throwing incidents, criminal damage, youth gathering, verbal abuse, banging on doors, and ASB involving motorbikes and mopeds.
- 5.17. The prima face evidence suggests that the introduction of the MUGA may have reduced overall anti-social behaviour around the village but increased it around Swanslength. This is however an indicative picture only as the relatively low statistical base and level of repeat complainers could mean that that reported ASB may not provide a totally representative sample.

## 6 Planning for the Future

- 6.1. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) states that all relevant authorities have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area. The Act recognises the role of the planning system and police authorities in formulating and implementing strategies and guidance to reduce crime.
- 6.2. Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation section 17 says “Local authorities should: i. avoid any erosion of recreational function and maintains or enhance the character of open spaces”<sup>8</sup>. The Inquiry has considered how the MUGA facility might impact on ASB, as required by the Crime and Disorder Act and the impact of removing the MUGA on the erosion of the recreational function of the site.
- 6.3. The site inspection carried out as part of this Inquiry provided an insight into how the layout of the MUGA area may provide concourse and encourage young people to socialise in the evenings, how it might contribute to incidents of ASB and how it might impact upon residents living closest to the MUGA.

- 6.4. The MUGA facility is in fairly close proximity to residential dwellings, so it will impact on those living closest. If those residents have young children this may have advantages, but all residents living nearby will be adversely affected by noise and ASB in the evening. The pathway to and from the MUGA and



*Members of the Inquiry conducting a site visit of the Alvechurch MUGA*

Swanslength Open Space playing field runs right along the side in between the MUGA and the houses. This will contribute to noise and encourage people to congregate along the path.

- 6.5. A site visit was carried out on the King George playing field MUGA in Sidemoor and the Lytteton MUGA in Charford, by way of comparison. This helped to assess the logistics of the site and the surrounding area. The proximity of the MUGA to nearby houses was noted. The proximity of the MUGA to an adjacent no through road was noted and a half demolished derelict wall running to one side of the MUGA. There is clear “Alcohol Free Zone” signage around the site and the adjacent road.
- 6.6. All the way down the Swanslength foot path running in between the path and the MUGA and all the way along Swanslength there is a derelict wall. The derelict wall adds to a sense of dilapidation which may in itself encourage disrespect for the area and anti-social activities. The wall provides, in places, just enough height to be used as makeshift seating for people congregating by the MUGA.

6.7. There is a street lamp at one side of the MUGA at the head of the pathway, which increases visibility but may, in conjunction with the wall, encourage people to congregate in the evenings. It is therefore recommended that the street lighting located near to the MUGA facility be relocated further away from the MUGA site to discourage this area from being a social meeting point for people in the evening (Recommendation Eight). It is also



*Perimeter wall along Swanslength*

recommended that the full length of the perimeter wall running alongside Swanslength be removed and the ground re-banked to remove the makeshift seating that the wall provides for people using the MUGA area as a social meeting point in the evenings (Recommendation Nine).

6.8. There is an adjacent road running right next to the MUGA in between the MUGA and residential properties. It is possible that road contributes to reported ASB, as it provides an opportunity for people to park up to meet the people congregating around the site, possibly playing loud music or making engine noise late at night. As such, these contributory factors would remain with or without the MUGA facility.

6.9. There is an outgrowth of shrubbery and foliage to one side of the MUGA between the MUGA and the road. This diminishes visibility of the MUGA site and may encourage nefarious, criminal and anti-social activities to be carried out secretly obscured from view. It is therefore recommended that a programme of landscaping be completed to create open space at this section of the recreation ground to increase visibility of the site and reduce the potential number of ASB acts that are obscured by undergrowth (Recommendation Ten).

6.10. The MUGA itself consists of a ball court and climbing activity equipment on soft tarmac. There is a small amount of vandalism damage and graffiti, but it is generally in good condition. A swing frame is part of the facility, although the giant swing seat has been removed due to health and safety concerns. The MUGA facility provides seating, which may be useful in the daytime for proper use, but may be used inappropriately in the evening by people socialising around the site. It is therefore recommended that the seating panels provided as part of the MUGA facility be removed and replaced with blank panels (Recommendation Eleven). The giant swing and frame should be removed altogether.

6.11. 72 new dwellings are to be built on the old school site on Tanyard Lane which will immediately back onto the MUGA facility and the Inquiry has considered the likely impact of this development on the Swanslength MUGA area.

6.12. This new development may impact on the MUGA site in 2 key ways:  
1. it will increase the need for recreational facilities for children and young people in the area and

2. it may increase the usage of the site by children and young people in the area, along with other people who may be responsible for ASB in the evenings, along with the associated nuisance to local residents.

6.13. The new housing development will, in particular, encourage increased use of the Swanslength pathway to and from the MUGA next to residential dwellings. This could potentially add to the noise and unintentional nuisance of people going to and from the MUGA site in the evenings. This is already a concern.

“My wife and I suffer with anti-social behaviour. We are positioned at the top of the walk and crowds of youths very often gather outside our gate before going to or returning from the MUGA. They shout, girls scream, use bad language and damage the hedge. These problems only happened since the introduction of the MUGA” – *An Alvechurch resident.*

6.14. PC Stan Baker of West Mercia Police told the inquiry “We reviewed the planning application in January 2010 and made a report to the planning officers and raised concerns about the pedestrian links between the new site and the play facilities in view of ASB problems there”.

6.15. The impact on potential ASB around the MUGA site should have been taken into account in the consideration of the new housing development. The potential impact on ASB around developments should in future be given greater consideration in the planning stages of such developments. In the case of the Tanyard Lane development, this might have encouraged a different layout of the route to and from the MUGA facility, which could for example have re-directed the footpath away from the residential properties or other mitigating measures.

“on Swans Walk, en route to the MUGA, there is a sign which states ‘QUIET PLEASE ELDERLY PERSONS IN RESIDENCE’. It is the residents of this sheltered accommodation complex who I am most concerned about” *An Alvechurch resident.*





## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1. The Inquiry has considered a good ideal of evidence from local stakeholders, including local residents, the police, young people and youth services. It has considered the data for ASB around the MUGA and the Alvechurch area. It has examined other possible sites identified for the MUGA and the consultation carried out with local residents and young people on the location of the MUGA and the feasibility and risk assessments carried out by West Mercia Police and Bromsgrove District Council. It has carried out site inspections of the Alvechurch MUGA and other MUGA facilities in the District to assess how the geographical and structural dimensions of the sites might affect ASB.
- 7.2. There has clearly been an increase in reported anti-social behaviour (ASB) and complaints from residents who live within the proximity of the MUGA. This has led to extensive public engagement which has captured the impact this facility has had on local residents, which together with the three petitions has instigated the Inquiry by Bromsgrove District Council Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board.
- 7.3. The Inquiry has found, through analysis of reported ASB that the impact of the installation of the MUGA has not only resulted in Swanslength Open Space becoming a focal point for young people in the evening, but also for related ASB and nuisance behaviour, such as loitering and noise. Although levels of reported ASB around the Alvechurch Village has reduced since the installation of the MUGA the levels of reported ASB at Swanslength has increased.
- 7.4. The impact of ASB on residents of Swanslength has been further inflated as a result of other environmental factors and design such as street lighting and the location of natural seating areas such as the derelict perimeter wall, which attracts young people to congregate at the open space and several entrance and egress points to the open space which makes the area difficult to police.
- 7.5. Public engagement has explored the impact of this facility to the residents who live closest to the facility and also explored the views of residents who would be sad to see this facility go and expressed the importance to have provision for local young people. The Inquiry has weighed up evidence from the different perspectives and set out recommendations in this report.
- 7.6. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Council to consider the impact of the MUGA on crime and disorder in the area and to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime, disorder and re-offending in the area. This Inquiry has contributed to the fulfilment of that requirement and the recommendations put forward should, if accepted, contribute to a reduction in reported ASB over the following period. The evidence suggests that whilst there has been an increase in reported ASB around the MUGA site, there has in fact been a slight reduction in reported ASB in Alvechurch village overall.

- 7.7. The package of recommendations suggests ways in which Bromsgrove District Council, along with local partners and the local community can deal with nuisance and ASB problems without removing the MUGA facility altogether, recognizing that the MUGA is for many a valued community resource for young people in Alvechurch.
- 7.8. In addition to the specific measures outlined, there is a need for members of the Alvechurch community and community partners, including young people themselves to constructively engage with the young people congregating around the MUGA site in the evenings to encourage greater respect for local residents and to discourage ASB and nuisance behaviour around the site. Young people themselves involved in congregating in the evening should encourage a respectful attitude to local residents and discourage noise, loitering and should report any criminal activity (including alcohol consumption). Neighbourhood police, CSOs and youth workers should continue to engage with young people around the site to facilitate this relationship building.
- 7.9. Bromsgrove District Council should review its processes when installing open space facilities to capture the potential impact on local residents. The consultation with residents carried out prior to the installation of the Swanslength MUGA, identified a majority level of support for the facility to be installed at Swanslength. There should, however, have been more consideration given to those who live directly near to any proposed open space development, as they are disproportionately affected. Future consultation on such developments should also provide a more balanced view of the options and clearer information so that the consultation can be seen to be clear and objective.
- 7.10. It is hoped that the recommendations resulting from the Inquiry, if accepted, will ameliorate the ASB and nuisance behaviour reported around the MUGA site and improve the quality of life of local residents, as well as the young people who enjoy the MUGA facilities in the appropriate way. This should produce a reduction in the levels of reported ASB around the MUGA and additional monitoring by the Council's Performance Management Board and by the Community Safety Partnership should check and keep the situation under review.

## Witnesses to the Inquiry

Cllr Hollingworth – Ward Councillor, Alvechurch, Bromsgrove District Council  
Cllr Griffiths – Ward Councillor, Alvechurch, Bromsgrove District Council  
Cllr Luck – Ward Councillor, Alvechurch, Bromsgrove District Council

Stan Baker – West Mercia Police  
Angie Burnet – West Mercia Police  
Julian Smith – West Mercia Police

Kim Caves – Worcestershire County Council

Andy Humphries – The Village Society

Marie Green – Bromsgrove District Housing Trust

Sarah Morgan – Petitioner organiser  
Alex Cooke – Petitioner organiser  
Emily Wightman – Petitioner organiser

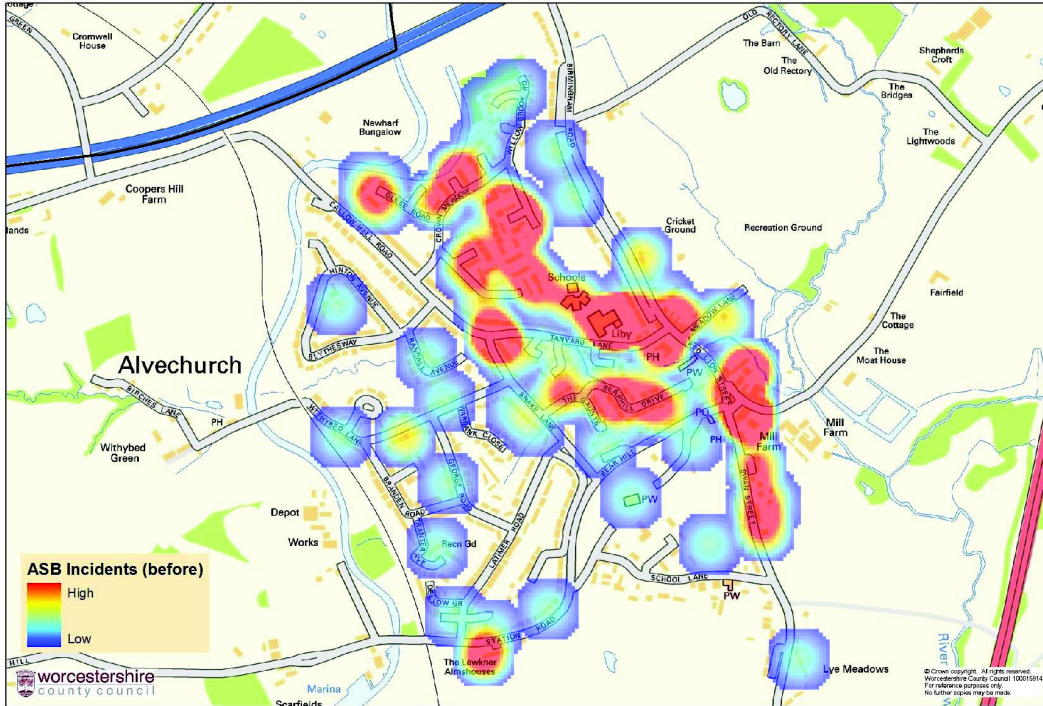
Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community, Bromsgrove District Council  
Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services, Bromsgrove District Council  
Chris Santoriello-Smith – Community Safety Officer, Bromsgrove District Council

**List of Documentary Evidence**

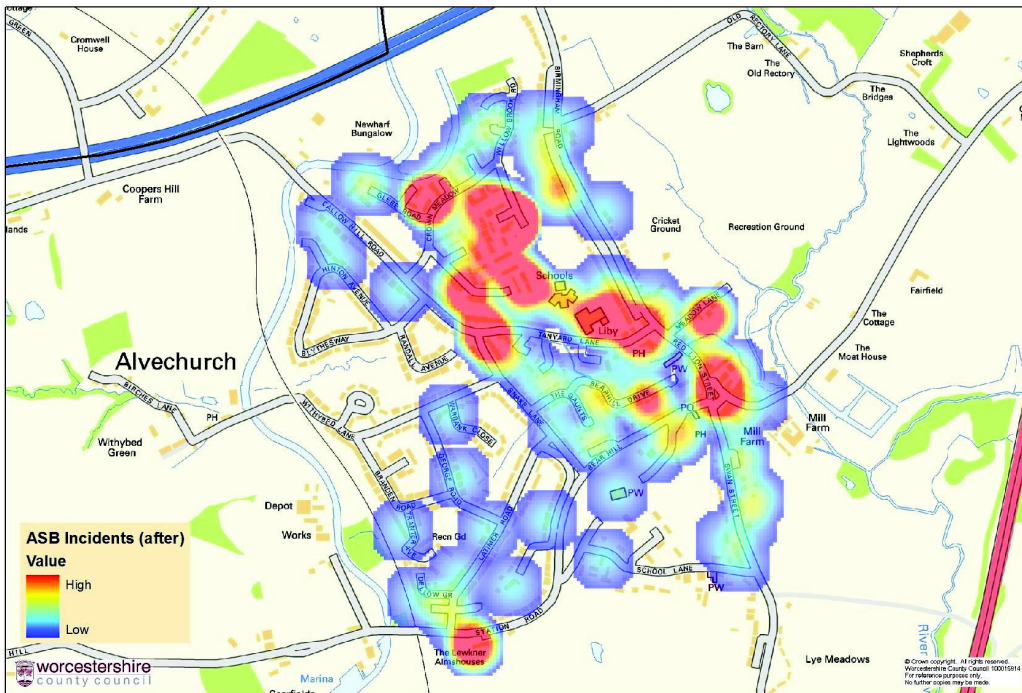
1. Alvechurch Youthink – Consultation 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007
2. Alvechurch Consultation – Multi Use Games Area and Risky Play Proposal, April 2008.
3. Site comparisons in Alvechurch, Memo from PC Stan Baker, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008.
4. Risk Assessment Swanns Length, Alvechurch – West Mercia Police, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009.
5. Open Public Forum – Alvechurch ASB, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009
6. Anti-Social Behaviour in Alvechurch Village, Update July 2010. Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership
7. Comparisons in Reported ASB between Alvechurch and other MUGA Sites in Bromsgrove.
8. Planning proposal (old school site)
9. Alvechurch Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010
10. ACT – Statement for Scrutiny Committee – Alvechurch MUGA
11. Extract from Village News magazine July / August 2010
12. Transcript of Petitioner One (Mrs Sarah Morgan) presentation to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010, submitted by Mrs Sarah Morgan.
13. Correspondence on the MUGA received 1<sup>st</sup> June -2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010

Temporal map to show the intensity and location of ASB 12 months prior to and 12 months following the installation of the MUGA facility.

Alvechurch ASB - 12 months before the MUGA: July 07 to June 08



Alvechurch ASB - 12 months after the MUGA: July 08 to June 09



## References

---

- <sup>1</sup> Alvechurch Youthink Consultation 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010
- <sup>2</sup> Alvechurch Consultation – Multi Use Games Area & Risky Play Proposal, Bromsgrove District Council April 2008.
- <sup>3</sup> Alvechurch Youthink Consultation 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007)
- <sup>4</sup> Kim Caves, evidence to the Inquiry 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.
- <sup>5</sup> Home Office Website [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/anti-social-behaviour](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/anti-social-behaviour)
- <sup>6</sup> Anti-Social Behaviour in Alvechurch Village Update July 2010, Bromsgrove District Council.
- <sup>7</sup> Anti-Social Behaviour in Alvechurch Village Update July 2010, Bromsgrove District Council.
- <sup>8</sup> Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation).





**This report can be provided  
in large print, braille, CD, audio tape  
and computer disc.**

"Need help with English?" Contact Worcestershire HUB, Bromsgrove 01527 881288

'Potrzebujesz pomocy z angielskim?' Skontaktuj się z Worcestershire HUB, Bromsgrove, tel.: 01527 881288

"İngilizce için yardıma ihtiyacınız var mı?" 01527 881288 numarayı arayıp Worcestershire HUB, Bromsgrove ile irtibata geçin

"ইংরাজির জন্য সাহায্য চাই ?" 01527 881288 নম্বরে উস্টাশায়ার হাব [HUB] ব্রমস্‌গ্রভ [Bromsgrove]-এ টেলিফোন করুন

"ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਵਿਚ ਮੱਦਦ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ?" ਵਰਸੈਸਟਰਸ਼ਾਇਰ ਹੱਬ [HUB] ਨੂੰ ਬਰੋਮਸਗ੍ਰੋ [Bromsgrove] ਵਿਖੇ 01527 881288 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ

"انگریزی میں مدد چاہتے ہیں؟" ورسیسٹر شائر ہب [HUB]، برومزگرو [Bromsgrove] میں 01527 881288 پر رابطہ کریں



**Bromsgrove  
District Council**

[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)



**EQUALITY  
FRAMEWORK  
FOR LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT  
ACHIEVING**

**Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services**

Bromsgrove District Council, The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1AA.

Telephone: (01527) 881288, Fax: (01527) 881414, DX: 17279 Bromsgrove

e-mail: [scrutiny@bromsgrove.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@bromsgrove.gov.uk)



## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board

5<sup>th</sup> October 2010

#### Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Michael Webb
Relevant Head of Service	Angela Heighway
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	
This report contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended	

#### **1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with an overview of the 2010/11 refresh of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan.
- 1.2 The contents of this report outline the main local priorities within the plan and briefly highlight some of the key challenges in tackling local priorities.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to:

- 2.1 note the priorities outlined within the 2010/11 refresh of the Community Safety Partnership Plan; and
- 2.2 Consider areas of interest within the plan that the crime and disorder scrutiny panel may wish to include in their future work programme for further investigation.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In community safety, it has become more evident that a range of organisations and agencies working together deliver more effective and long lasting solutions than any one agency working alone. It is recognised that all agencies have a part to play in tackling crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour; it is the role of the Community Safety Partnership to facilitate an environment for effective partnership working and coordinate delivery at a local level.
- 3.2 In place of nationwide mandates from Government, the onus is now on Community Safety Partnerships to understand the full breadth of crime and community safety issues in their local area and be able to demonstrate effective action to address them.

**Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board**

**5<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

- 3.3 Following recommendations arising from the review of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Community Safety Partnerships are now required to carry out an annual assessment of crime, disorder, and the harm caused by substance misuse to inform the development of a three year Community Safety Partnership Plan, refreshed annually.
- 3.4 An annual assessment ensures that the Community Safety Partnership is making intelligence-led and evidence-led decisions. This assists the partnership to work within defined budget and with a full range of community safety issues to address, the assessment helps priorities the partnership's efforts to reduce crime and disorder.
- 3.5 The annual assessment is conducted by the partnership's analyst who uses a variety of data sources from all of the partner agencies to build an understanding of local crime and community safety issues. The analyst will source data from police, the local authority, the fire and rescue service, the probation trust, local landlords such as BDHT, from PACT meetings, local surveys and many others. A summary of this assessment can be found in the 'Partnership Plan' pages 16-19 of appendix 1.
- 3.6 Once this assessment has been completed, the findings are discussed amongst partners who sit on the steering group. The assessment is considered alongside local, regional and national drivers; a set of local priorities are then created and adopted by the Community Safety Partnership.
- 3.7 The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011 is now in its third and final refresh. The latest strategic assessment identified four local priorities; they are youth related anti-social behaviour, acquisitive crime, violent crime and environmental crime.
- 3.8 For each priority The Community Safety Partnership Steering Group will provide a defined summary of the problem with an outcome measure and some perimeters for the Tasking Group to develop annual delivery plans. A summary of the priorities can be seen in the 'Partnership Plan' pages 20-25 of appendix 1.
- 3.9 The Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group will create a local delivery plan against each priority to coordinate the efforts and resources of partners to achieve the outcomes set by the steering group.
- 3.10 The partnership plan will also give a brief outline of the partner agencies, a description of key legislation, the current performance framework, a risk register and an outline of planned and opportunities for communications and community engagement.

3.11 The partnership plan is published on the Bromsgrove District Council website and is available to members of public on request.

**4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The youth related anti-social behaviour problem in Bromsgrove has been defined as: Youths hanging around recreation areas within St Johns, Charford, Alvechurch Rubery and Catshill often engaging in alcohol misuse, rowdy nuisance behaviour, and vandalism and criminal damage; predominantly between 6pm and 10pm on Fridays and Weekends during the spring and summer months; especially during school holidays.
- 4.2 The Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group has developed an action plan to tackle youth related ASB. This action plan includes providing additional positive activities in Sanders Park during the school summer holidays and activities in Catshill. The action plan focuses on tackling underage alcohol misuse by targeting premises to prevent proxy sales of alcohol and carrying out confiscations of alcohol in parks and open spaces. An additional project is in development which will enable the police to refer those who are persistently found misusing alcohol to a programme of education and support which will include a joint visit home from a police officer and youth worker to encourage parental responsibility.
- 4.3 The acquisitive crime problem within Bromsgrove has been defined under three strands: firstly dwelling burglary often linked to known offenders in hot spot areas such as Cofton Hackett/Barnt Green, Rubery, Wythall, Alvechurch as well as Charford and Whitford – Offences are more common in the second half of the financial year.
- 4.4 Secondly, non-dwelling burglary occurs more frequently through the summer months in Wythall, Catshill, Stoke Prior and Lickey end – offences involve sheds including allotment and other buildings in secluded areas.
- 4.5 Finally, theft from motor vehicles occurring in beauty spots during weekends and holiday periods as a result of valuables left in vehicles – there are also TFMV offences occurring in residential areas such as Charford, Sidemoor, Catshill, Rubery and Wythall.
- 4.6 The Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group has developed a delivery plan, which focuses on offering reassurance to residents as the volume of domestic burglary offences around the district are relatively low but the fear of becoming a victim continues to be high. There is a hot spot area across

## **Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Wythall and Alvechurch which the tasking group is considering a local SMARTwater campaign.

- 4.7 Neighbourhood Wardens will be delivering a targeted campaign at allotments and stables using advice and practical support to assist people to make their sheds and buildings less vulnerable.
- 4.8 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens will be delivering a programme of high visibility presence at the beauty spot car parks around the District at key times to deter opportunistic thieves in a bid to reduce the volume of thefts from motor vehicles.
- 4.9 The Violent Crime problem within Bromsgrove is two fold, firstly assaults with less serious injury are often alcohol related and connected with the night time economy on Friday and Saturday evenings – offences occur in the Town Centre and on route to local dwellings in Sidemoor and Charford between midnight and 2am; offenders are mostly male between 14 – 24 years old. Secondly domestic violence offences equates to nearly a third of all violent crime and occurs mostly in Charford, Sidemoor and St Johns (Burcot Lane); repeat offences and multiple victims increase the volume of reported domestic violence.
- 4.10 The Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group has developed a local delivery plan to tackle Violent Crime. This plan includes conducting research into the problem to clarify the true nature of the problem. An analysis into domestic violence within the Charford area is being completed as well as assessment of the current strategies which are used to manage the night time economy.
- 4.11 The tasking group are also planning to develop a domestic violence project targeted at both victims and offenders within the Charford area once a problem profile has been completed and zero tolerance to violence campaign in the town centre.
- 4.12 The environmental crime problem has been defined as issues such as litter, graffiti and damage to fences and public property are linked to young people hanging around during Friday evenings, weekends and school holidays. There is also a link with litter from hot food takeaways and damage in relation to the night time economy. Main areas of concern are St Johns (Bromsgrove Town Centre), Charford and Rubery.
- 4.13 The tasking group have yet to create a delivery plan to tackle the environmental crime issues in Bromsgrove but this will be completed following their tasking meeting in October. It is likely that the delivery plan

will include specific actions to clear areas of historical graffiti and develop strategies to manage graffiti in the long term.

- 4.14 In addition to the challenges of operating within a changing financial, policy and legislative climate, there are a number of key local challenges facing the Community Safety Partnership to effectively tackle the priorities outlined in the partnership plan.
- 4.15 Following national media coverage anti-social behaviour has become a high profile subject in the public domain. This has raised awareness of the impact of ASB on communities and raised expectations amongst residents to take firmer action against perpetrators.
- 4.16 Since April 2010 Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory responsibility to reduce reoffending. Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership are awaiting steer from County in meeting this statutory duty which will involve developing a local strategy or being part of a County strategy. A large proportion of acquisitive crime is committed by re-offenders and in Bromsgrove there is a particular problem with tackling cross border crime from re-offenders in Birmingham and Sandwell.
- 4.17 Violent Crime is a crime type which Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership has failed to reduce within the District over recent times. This is due the influence of alcohol within the night time economy and within the community. This year alone (2010/11) violent crime offences have increased by 22% when compared to the same period last year (2009/10).
- 4.18 All of these challenges have to be taken into consideration alongside the tightening and in some cases reductions of budgets across all partners, and within a evolving climate of policy and legislative change.

**5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None

**6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan meets all legislative requirements including:
- a) Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
  - b) Police and Justice Act 2006; and
  - c) Policing and Crime Act 2009

**7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None

**8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

8.1 Council Objective 3: One Community

**9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

9.1 None

**10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan aims to improve the quality of life to make Bromsgrove a safer place to live, work and visit. The contents of the plan give direction to partner agencies to coordinate efforts and resources by setting priorities and parameters for the deliver of crime and disorder reduction activities.

**11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 This report is to inform members of the content of the Community Safety Partnership Plan which will itself have an equality impact assessment completed. There are no equality and/or diversity implications on this scrutiny report.

**12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT**

12.1 None

**13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY**

13.1 None

**14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 None

**15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

15.1 None

**16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

16.1 Decisions taken by Bromsgrove District Council with regard to the level of commitment towards the Community Safety Partnership Plan will directly affect the levels of crime and disorder within the District as will the delivery of community safety and environmental services provided by the authority in line with this plan.

**17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

17.1 None

**18. LESSONS LEARNT**

18.1 None

**19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

19.1 The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan has input from all of the agencies that make up the partnership. The plan is adopted formally by the responsible authorities at the Community Safety Partnership Steering Group.

19.2 The plan is available for the community to view through the Bromsgrove District Council website and available to members of the public on request.

**20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Portfolio Holder	
Chief Executive	
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural, Environmental and Community Services	
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Head of Service	YES
Head of Resources	
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	
Corporate Procurement Team	

**21. WARDS AFFECTED**

All wards affected

**22. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11 (2010/11 Refresh)

**23. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**24. KEY**

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

Name: Chris Santoriello-Smith  
E Mail: c.santoriello-smith@bromsgrove.gov.uk  
Tel: 01527 88 1485



# Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Community Safety Plan 2008 - 2011 2010 Refresh

Keeping Bromsgrove Safe ... and feeling safe



## Contents

Introduction	3
Vision	5
District Profile	6
Partner Roles	8
Performance Matters	
• National Drivers	10
• Local Performance Framework	12
Strategic Assessment Summary	16
Local Delivery Plans - Bromsgrove Priorities	
• Youth Related Anti-social Behaviour	20
• Environmental Crime	22
• Acquisitive Crime	23
• Violent Crime	25
Risk Register	26
Communication and Community Engagement	29
Equalities Statement and Assessment	33
Appendix A: Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Structure	34
Appendix B: Worcestershire Substance Misuse Action Team Structure	35
Appendix C: Community Safety Abbreviations	36

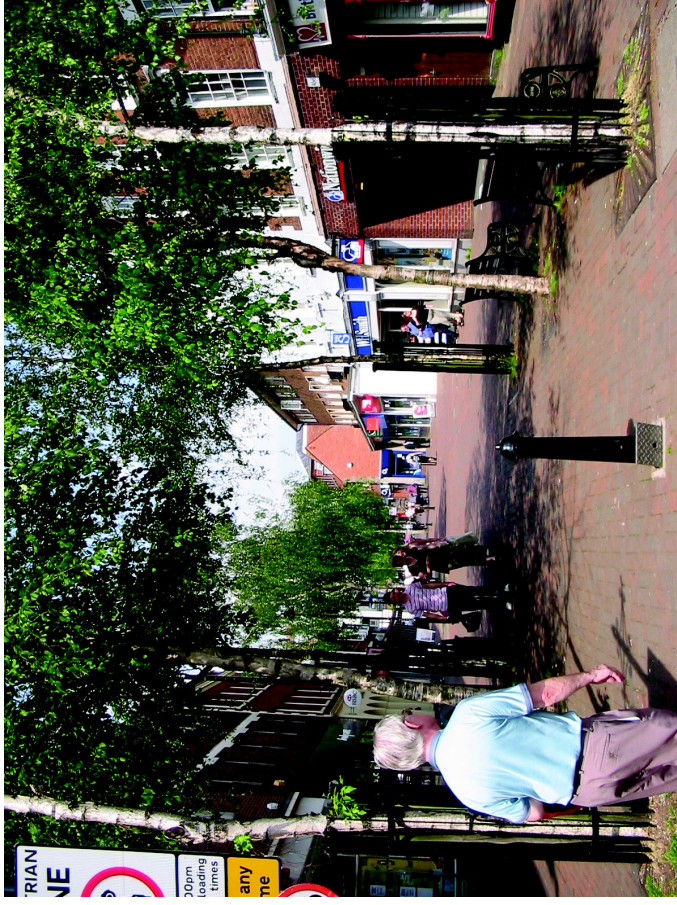
## Introduction

The review of the Crime and Disorder Act and Partnership Working has introduced a requirement for Community Safety Partnership to produce a strategic assessment and partnership plan. These will replace the three year audit and Crime and Disorder Strategy. This document is the Partnership Plan for Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and covers the period from 2008-2011. This plan is reviewed and amended annually to align itself with current priorities set out in the annual Strategic Assessment; this year the Partnership Plan has undergone its second review to become the strategic plan for year three within its three year life span.

This plan will build on the work undertaken in year two but will also include new priorities highlighted through the last strategic assessment; these priorities are acquisitive crime and violent crime although violent crime is closely linked with last year's alcohol related crime priority. This year the plan will also take into account new challenges facing the partnership including the development of minimum standards in dealing with anti-social behaviour, achieving all 6 Hallmarks of effective partnership working, and taking on the new statutory duties on reducing reoffending.

The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership was formed as a direct response to the Crime and Disorder Act to deliver a sustainable reduction in crime and fear of crime within local communities. It brings together five responsible authorities and a range of co-operating organisations to meet the requirement of the act and achieve the partnership vision of making Bromsgrove a safe place to live, work and visit.

Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership meets quarterly to discuss national drivers and set strategic direction for the partnership. The group monitors performance against priorities and targets, and allocate funding and resources to partnership activities. The group also receives regular updates from the Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group.



Bromsgrove's Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group, is the delivery arm to the partnership. The purpose of this group is to deliver the actions within this plan against the priorities identified in the strategic assessment. It will also respond to emerging issues that may arise. The Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group will meet monthly and bring together responsible authorities and welcome the support of cooperating members.

The main body of this document will set out the countywide and local priorities for 2010-2011, as identified by the Strategic Assessment; an outline of actions will be set out against each priority. This year there will be an additional focus for the partnership to improve communication and engagement with the Bromsgrove communities; this will hopefully be clearly evident throughout this plan.

## Vision

The vision of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership is “to improve the quality of life to make Bromsgrove a safer place to live, work and visit.”

This vision is underpinned by the following:

- To address the wider causes of crime and fear of crime
- To encourage community cohesion
- To reduce alcohol related harm
- To identify opportunities to reduce substance misuse
- To promote a community where domestic abuse and the fear of domestic abuse is not tolerated
- To promote a community where hate crime is unacceptable and those victims of hate crime are supported
- To provide effective, strategic leadership generating effective partnership working
- To deliver measurable outcomes
- To develop BCSP to become a forward looking partnership with a strategy that tackles the whole aspect of community safety as opposed to crime and disorder.

## District Profile



Covering an area of 83.9 square miles, Bromsgrove District is a mixture of urban and rural communities, with the Clent and Lickey Hills providing a dividing line from the industrial West Midlands. The town of Bromsgrove accounts for just over a third of the total population of the District, with other population clusters in the towns of Hagley, Rubery and Wythall.

The District is served by railway lines and major roads including the M5 running north and south, the M42 and M40 to the east with further links to the M6 north. The area has a predominantly rural and agricultural appearance, but also supports a varied economy based on a range of small and medium sized businesses.

### **Demographics**

The Bromsgrove District population has experienced growth from 87,800 in 2001 to 92,300 based on mid-2007 estimates. This is an increase of 4,500, roughly 5%. Based on ONS projections, the population of Bromsgrove is likely to remain fairly similar in the next few years, and then decline slightly over time.

The largest increases in the population of Bromsgrove for 2001-07 can be seen in the 15-19 and 60-64 age groups, increasing by 1,100 and 1,300 people respectively within this time-period. In contrast, the 30-34 age groups showed a decrease of around 1,100.

Despite the projected decrease in total population in future years, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures predict there will be large increases in the over 60 population of the district with a total increase of 8,400 by 2026. In comparison, projections suggest the corresponding decrease will be felt most strongly in the age brackets 30-45 and 5-19 years, totalling an 8,000 and 2,600 decreases respectively.

### **Ethnicity**

Ethnicity figures from 2006 show that 94.8% of the population of Bromsgrove are White, including 92.1% White British, and 2.2% Other White/Irish. That leaves only 5.2% of the population from other ethnic backgrounds. The largest ethnic group within the District is the Indian group, which constitutes 1.2% (1,100) of the total population.

### ***Migration***

Between 2001 and 2006 Bromsgrove has been experiencing net gains in population year on year, with an increase of, on average, roughly 500 people per year. This is largely due to internal migration, with a net loss on average due to international migration.

### ***Deprivation***

Based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007, there are 2 Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Bromsgrove, one in Charford and one in Sidemoor that are in the top 30% most deprived SOAs nationally. However, Bromsgrove also contains the least deprived areas in Worcestershire, including Barnet Green, The Oakalls and Harwood Park area, The Forelands area and Hagley. Unemployment in Bromsgrove is currently at about 2.4%<sup>1</sup> (December 2008), a figure that has been steadily rising for the last 12 months, but is below average for the County.

## Partner Roles



**Bromsgrove**  
District Council  
[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)

**Bromsgrove District Council (BDC)** is a responsible authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Council is fully committed to partnership working in tackling anti-social behaviour, crime, and disorder. BDC has adopted a coordinated common approach and performance standards in responding to anti-social behaviour across the council. There is a commitment to embed Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act in the Council to exceed our statutory obligations and to deliver enforcement activities in accordance with corporate priorities. Regular contributors to the CDRP Process from Bromsgrove District Council include the following departments:

- Community Safety & Neighbourhood Wardens
- Licensing
- Sports Development
- Parks and Recreation
- Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance
- CCTV and Lifeline
- Environmental Health

**West Mercia Police** is totally committed to the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership. West Mercia Police is represented at the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group by Bromsgrove's Chief Inspector and by Bromsgrove's Local Policing Inspector at the Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group. Resources are committed to Partnership activities as necessary.



## Worcestershire



Primary Care Trust

**Worcestershire Primary Care Trust** recognises the importance of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership in improving the health and wellbeing by working on the safety agenda across a broad range of issues. The PCT is actively engaged in particular areas which have a high impact on health, namely reducing alcohol-related harm, tackling domestic violence, and substance misuse. In all these areas effective action can only be achieved through effective partnership working.



**Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue** is fully committed to Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership. Full support is given to the function of the Partnership through attendance at both the strategic and tasking groups by a senior officer.



### **West Mercia Police Authority**

**West Mercia Police Authority** is an independent body, made up of 17 members including local councillors, magistrates and local people. Their role is to set the policing budget and priorities taking into account the view of local people.

The Police Authority is a statutory partner of the Community Safety Partnerships. At its annual meeting the Police Authority appoints a named member to act as a representative at each of the Community Safety Partnerships for the coming year. Members report back to the Police authority through the inclusivity and engagement panel.



**Worcestershire County Council (WCC)** is fully committed to the Bromsgrove Community Safety agenda. Lead officers from Children's Services, Education, Youth Offending Services and Trading Standards are represented at the strategic and tasking groups and bring a range of resources to the Partnership table. WCC are committed to ensuring that preventative activities are available for young people within the district of Bromsgrove to divert them from crime and disorder. WCC will support the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership to enable young people and their families to enjoy life and to make a positive contribution to their community.



**West Mercia Probation Trust** works with different people who have committed different types of offences such as burglary, violence, car crime and sexual offences. They provide probation supervision, offender behaviour programmes, and specialist support services which can help reduce reoffending. From April 2010 West Mercia Probation Trust have gained responsible authority status within the Community Safety Partnership and therefore have adopted the statutory duties which come with being a responsible authority.

Other Co-operating organisations include:

- Worcestershire Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- Bromsgrove District Housing Trust
- West Mercia Crown Prosecution Service
- British Transport Police
- London Midland Trains
- Private and Voluntary Organisations

## Performance Matters

There are a number of performance measures and requirements that drive and guide the work of the Partnership, at a national, regional, County-wide and District level. The following outlines some of these drivers and how they affect the work of the CDRP.

### **National Drivers**

Key National drivers to combat crime and disorder are:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
- Police and Justice Act 2006;
- Policing and Crime Act 2009;
- Public Service Agreements; and
- National Indicators.

### **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

This legislation placed a duty on local authorities and police authorities to form Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, now known as Community Safety Partnerships and implement a strategy for reducing crime and disorder. Section 17 of the act places a duty on local and police authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of their activities, and to do all they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act also gives provisions for disclosure and sharing of information in any case it is necessary or expedient for the purpose or provision of the Act.

### **Police and Justice Act 2006**

The partnership provision of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been amended in the Police and Justice Act 2006 to make Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and Community Safety Partnerships more effective at tackling crime, anti-social behaviour, behaviour that adversely affects the environment and substance misuse (drugs & alcohol) within communities.

Schedule 9 of the act expanded the scope of section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to include anti-social behaviour, behaviour that adversely affects the environment, and substance misuse (including drugs and alcohol). Schedule 9 also enables the Home Secretary to introduce regulations regarding the working of CDRPs and CSPs. As a

result of this a framework of national minimum standards were introduced which included a set of 6 hallmarks for effective partnership working. They are:

- Empowered and effective leadership
- Intelligence-led business processes
- Effective and responsive delivery structures
- Community engagement
- Visible and constructive accountability
- Appropriate skills and knowledge

Schedule 9 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 also strengthened the duty of partners to share depersonalised information for the purpose of reducing crime and disorder as set out in section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The regulations outlined a minimum data set that CDRPs will be legally obliged to share, including whom it should be shared with and in what format.

### **Policing and Crime Act 2009**

Section 108 of this act places a new duty on Community Safety Partnerships to formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders. The legislation also changes the status of the Probation Service to a Responsible authority on the CSP having previously been a co-operating body.

As well as these changes for CSPs, Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act has also been extended to include reoffending. These changes come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. The way in which Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership will be reducing reoffending will be covered in later parts of this document.

### **Public Service Agreements (PSA)**

PSAs set out the government's priorities and measures of success for both the public and practitioners. The two key PSAs for 2008-11 for crime reduction and community safety are; PSA23: make communities safe; and PSA25: reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs.

### **National Indicators (NIs)**

Part of the new performance frameworks for local areas this year are a set of 195 National Indicators which will be used to monitor performance in a range of areas. NIs has been derived from PSAs. The National Indicator set provides a clear statement of the Government's priorities for delivery by local councils and partners. NIs provides clarity about the balance between national and local priorities and also presents a robust performance framework, all of which form a basis for the

Local Area Agreement (LAA). There are a total of 37 Indicators in the Community Safety remit, of which 7 have been adopted through the Worcester Local Area Agreements and make up the 'Communities that are safe and feel safe' thematic block. More information on these specific indicators is provided under Local Performance Frameworks.

### Local Performance Framework

Since April 2008, a new set of national indicators for use in monitoring CDRP performance have been introduced. The National Indicator set and the Association of Police and Community Safety (APACS) frameworks have established a new set of indicators for which Community Safety Partnerships are responsible. Locally, the most significant of these are the indicators that are contained within the 2008-2011 Worcestershire LAA, but there are a number of other indicators that will need to be taken into consideration.

Figure 1: 2008-2011 LAA Indicators and Targets (where applicable)

Target	Baseline			10-11
	08-09	09-10	10-11	
NI 2: Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	61.4%	n/a	n/a	63.0%
NI 17: Perceptions of ASB	12.3% <i>bdc</i>	n/a	n/a	11.4% <i>bdc</i>
NI 18: Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	Unavailable			
NI 20 / LI4 : Assault with less serious injury crime rate	4.67 per 1,000*	4.67	4.65	4.63
NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about ASB & crime by the local council and police	27.8% <i>bdc</i>	n/a	n/a	32.5% <i>bdc</i>
NI 39: Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates	Removed from the Community Safety LAA Set and moved to the Health and Well-being LAA set.			
NI 195a: Improved street & environmental cleanliness (litter)	11%*	10%	9%	8%

\* 2007/08 baseline

\*\* 2006/07 baseline

*bdc*: Bromsgrove Disaggregated Target

A countywide Safer Communities Performance Group has been established in Worcestershire, and they will report on the performance of each of the CDRPs up to the Safer Communities Board (the community safety theme group of the upper tier LSP – the Worcestershire Partnership).

The following information provides further detail on the LAA National Indicators, including how they are measured and how often they will be reported on.

Indicators NI 2 (Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood), 17 (Perceptions of ASB), and 21 (Dealing with local concerns about ASB & crime by the local council and police) are fairly self explanatory and can be established by questioning residents regarding their neighbourhood and local area. As perception measures, performance is difficult to predict, and can be affected by a wide range of factors. Specifically, these indicators will be measured using the new Place Survey, which is a biennial resident survey that has replaced the Best Value Satisfaction Survey. NI 17 and 21 will also be monitored nationally through the British Crime Survey. The first results from the Place Survey will be available in early 2009, so targets have not been set for these indicators. In Bromsgrove, the biennial residents' survey conducted by the District Council can be used as an interim measure and indicator of performance against NI 2, 17, and 21. This will be a valuable resource for use in the years between place surveys.

NI 18: Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision provides the rate of proven re-offending of all offenders on the probation caseload over the relevant quarter. An offence is counted as a proven re-offence if it is committed within three months of the end of the quarter and is proven by conviction or caution within six months of the end of the quarter, regardless of where that offence occurred. These time delays mean that the data required to measure NI 18 will not be available until 2009, so the target and baseline setting for this indicator has been deferred. All offenders on the probation caseload and aged 18 or over at the end of each quarter are included in the analysis.

Performance against NI 20 (Assault with injury rate) will be monitored by a quarterly report produced at a county level and filtered down to individual CDRPs. The figures will be taken from police recorded crimes information on iQuanta. This indicator is a proxy measure for alcohol related violence offences.

NI 195 (Improved street & environmental cleanliness (litter, graffiti, detritus and fly-posting) is measured as the percentage of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having deposits of litter, graffiti, detritus and fly-posting that falls below an acceptable level. Monitoring takes place quarterly through surveys along transects throughout the District.

The National Indicator set also includes a further 30 Indicators that are contained within the remit of Community Safety

- 15 – Serious Violent Crime rate
- 16 – Serious Acquisitive Crime rate
- 19 – Proven rate of re-offending by young offenders
- 22 – Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for behaviour of their children in the area
- 23 – Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and dignity
- 24 – Satisfaction with the way Police and local Council dealt with ASB
- 25 – Satisfaction of different groups with the way Police and local Council dealt with ASB
- 26 – Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence
- 27 – Understanding of local concerns about ASB and crime issues by the Local Council and Police
- 28 – Serious Knife Crime rate
- 29 – Gun Crime rate
- 30 – Re-offending rate of Prolific and Priority Offenders
- 32 – Repeat incidents of domestic violence
- 33 – Arson Incidents
- 34 – Domestic Violence – Murder
- 35 – Building resilience to violent extremism
- 36 – Protection against terrorist attack
- 37 - Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area
- 38 – Drug related (class A) offending rate
- 39 – Alcohol Related Hospital Admissions
- 40 – Drug users in effective treatment
- 41 – Perceptions of drunk and rowdy behaviour as a problem
- 42 – Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem
- 43 – Young people in Youth Justice System receiving conviction in court and sentenced to custody
- 44 – Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals
- 45 – Young offenders engagement in suitable education, employment and training
- 46 – Young offenders access to suitable accommodation
- 47 – People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- 48 – Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- 49 – No. primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties, excluding precautionary checks
- 196 – Improved street and environmental cleanliness (fly-tipping)

These indicators will be monitored on a quarterly basis (where possible) and reports will be made at Full Partnership meetings to specifically monitor Bromsgrove CDRP performance. Where indicators are, or are likely to become, off target the issue will be referred to the tasking group for further investigation into the causes of the dip in performance, and the instigation of an appropriate response. However, it is important to note that a number of these indicators are based on crime rates, and therefore give the partnership the opportunity to tackle issues outside of the Partnership Plan priorities. Therefore, the above list of indicators gives an example of the wide ranging nature of the work in which CSPs can, and are likely to, become involved in.



## Strategic Assessment Summary

The aim of the Strategic Assessment is to identify strategic priorities for Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership which is evidence based and intelligence-led. Furthermore, the document enables the Partnership to plan activity for 2010/11 through the production of the Partnership Plan. The Strategic Assessment is also the first step in enabling the appropriate measures of success, and identifying how these measures relate to local and national performance measures, particularly the LAA.

As was the 2008 Strategic Assessment, the 2009 document continued to focus on issues that strongly influence public perception and fear of crime. As such, performance against the priorities is harder to measure than simply reductions in volume of crime. Due to the volume of recent reductions in all crime types across the county, it is difficult to achieve sustained improvement on current position. Furthermore, the public continue to indicate that they feel crime is an issue in their local area. As a consequence, an emphasis leaning towards tackling perceptions and disorder are more appropriate.

### **Bromsgrove Priorities**

#### **PRIORITY 1: Youth Related ASB**

A total of 6203 anti-social behaviour incidents were reported in Bromsgrove between 01 August 2008 and 31 July 2009<sup>2</sup>, of which approximately 38% were youth related. Rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour was the most commonly recorded category, accounting for over three-quarters of youth-related incidents, and frequently including complaints of youths gathering with alcohol, vandalism, verbal abuse/intimidation and stone throwing. The pattern of incidents is seasonal; the frequency increasing through the spring and summer, and decreasing after Halloween and through the winter, though in some areas, the level of reporting through the winter months is on the increase. Incidents are most likely to occur between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. and over the weekend (the pattern of incidents over time varies from area to area and with months of the year). The number of incidents is strongly influenced by school holidays and the weather. Incidents are more common in urban areas, specifically in St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor, Rubery, and Catshill, as well as in the village areas of Alvechurch, Wythall and Hagley. Incidents are most likely to occur in open spaces and recreation areas, and on residential streets. Target individuals are teenagers, specifically those youths who are not involved in provisions elsewhere through school or youth clubs.

---

<sup>2</sup> Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2009





Survey data indicates that 40% of Bromsgrove resident feel that teenagers hanging around on the street is an issue in their local area. Youth related ASB is thought to be the product of a lack of youth facilities in the District. There are also underlying cultural issues, as well as links to social inclusion.

It is important to note that there is sometimes a difference between perceived anti-social behaviour and actual incidents, and the management of this perception is essential to reassure residents.

### **PRIORITY 2: Environmental Issues**

NI 195 transect data indicates that there is room for improvement in graffiti and litter scores across the district with specific focus in recreation and commercial areas. Furthermore, environmental ASB reports indicate that litter in the form of food and drink waste is more common around the town centre and the main residential wards. Criminal damage to other property is dominated by damage to fences, and damage to equipment and facilities in public areas, such as play equipment and bus shelters. The key causal factors in this type of damage seem to be either groups of youths gathering, sometimes with alcohol, or adults on or returning home from public houses. The high proportion of deliberate fires that are started in bins also suggests a strong link to groups of young people. Temporal analysis suggests that these issues occur most frequently over the weekend and in the evenings, and are most commonly reported in open spaces/recreation areas, town centre streets. A substantial amount of the damage caused is also linked to the night time economy with litter in the town centre related to hot food takeaways, and damage both in the town and on the main walking routes back to housing areas. Many litter issues can also be linked to gathering youths. The increase in reports of flytipping of “green waste” may be linked to the introduction of charging for garden waste removal.



According to the Place Survey, a slightly higher than the county average number of residents in Bromsgrove feel that both rubbish or litter lying around and vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage are an issue in their local area. Specific areas for focus include Charford, St Johns and Rubery. In the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey 27% of respondents thought that clean streets need improving in Bromsgrove, 56% of respondents agreed rubbish or litter lying around was a problem in their local neighbourhood, and 50% thought vandalism, graffiti and other damage was.



### **PRIORITY 3: Acquisitive Crime**

Though current NI 16 performance is assess as green for the District, there is potential for increases in offending towards the second half of the financial year, and there was an increasing in offending throughout the last financial year. In more recent month, there has been an increase in offences of burglary non-dwelling – a crime type that is not included under NI 16. Theft from motor vehicle has also increased in recent months. There was a large increase in dwelling burglary offences towards the end of the last financial year, though the level of offending has since decreased again. Taking into account volume, trend, comparisons to neighbouring districts and community impact/concern, the three acquisitive crime types identified for CDRP focus are: dwelling burglary, non-dwelling burglary and theft from a motor vehicle.



All 3 of the focus crime types seem to be slightly more likely to occur on a week day than at the weekend. Offences are generally more common overnight, but there are a number of factors that affect the temporal pattern of offending. For example, in the winter months, as the hours of darkness increase, offending increases in the late afternoon and in the summer, there are more theft from motor vehicle offences at local beauty spots where victims leave items in their cars whilst out enjoying the country side. TFMV in beauty spots is also slightly more common on weekends and during holiday periods. The level of acquisitive crime offending is also highly influenced by repeat offenders and PPOs.

Dwelling burglary, non-dwelling burglary and theft from motor vehicle are all more common in the more rural and affluent wards of the district. Domestic burglary hotspots include: Cofton Hackett/Barnt Green, Rubery, Wythall and Alvechurch, as well as areas of Charford and Whitford. Non-dwelling burglary is more frequent in Wythall as well as Catshill, Stoke Prior and Lickey End. Theft from motor vehicle hotspots include the Lickey and Clent Hills country parks, as well as the main residential areas (especially along walking routes) of Bromsgrove including Charford, Sidemore, Catshill, Rubery and Wythall.

The most commonly stolen property in the district is cash or cards from wallets of purses. Theft of tools from vehicles or sheds/outhouses is also a repeated MO in the district. Car key burglary and subsequent theft of motor vehicles has also been a concern in the district, especially in affluent areas near to the motorways in the north of the district.

Offenders tend to be fairly local to the area, though this can include those living in the bordering Birmingham conurbation. Of those offenders that were charged with



offences committed during the study period, most lived within the Bromsgrove District, mainly in Charford, Whitford, Sidemoor and Waseley wards. Though it must be noted that an offender was identified for a very small proportion of total offences and so these patterns may be misleading.

#### **PRIORITY 4: Violent Crime**

Performance in all 4 of the violent crime related national indicators monitored under PSA 25 is either red or amber suggesting poor performance and a worsening trend. NI 20 (Assault with less serious injury) increased dramatically in quarter 2 of 2009/10. As this category accounts for over 63% of total violent crime in the district, this is a cause for concern.

A total of 601 assaults were recorded in Bromsgrove District between 01 August 2008 and 31 July 2009, accounting for 11% of total crime across the district. Almost half (49.25%) of all violent crimes in Bromsgrove were alcohol related, and a quarter of all assaults took place in the town centre ward of St Johns. Violent crimes in the town centre are most common on a Friday and Saturday evening, and peak between midnight and 2 a.m. Offences are most likely to be committed by and against males aged between 14 and 24 years of age. Influencing factors include alcohol, figures of authority, places where people may congregate (such as clubs, pubs and food outlets). The pattern in offending is slightly seasonal with increases during the summer, and in the other holiday periods around Easter and Christmas.

Domestic violence makes up a greater proportion of total violent crime in Bromsgrove (31%) than the average for the county (27%). Offending is more common in the more deprived areas of the district including the residential areas of St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor and Whitford. Repeat offenders and victims, and single incidents resulting in multiple offences can lead to increased volume of overall violent crime.

Though the actual level of violent crime in the district is comparatively low – equivalent to just 12 offences per week district wide – drunken behaviour and assaults are a key concern to the public, especially in the town centre, according to various survey data.



## Local Delivery Plans

### Bromsgrove Priorities

#### PRIORITY ONE: Youth Related ASB

<b>The Problem</b>	Youth hanging around recreation areas within St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor, Rubery and Catshill often engaging in alcohol misuse, rowdy nuisance behaviour, vandalism and criminal damage; predominantly between 6pm and 10pm on Fridays and Weekends during the Spring and Summer months; especially during school holidays.
<b>Outcome/Aim</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> To significantly reduce the level of reported youth related anti-social behaviour to the police by local residents within the wards of St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor, Catshill, Marlbrook, Waseley and Beacon compared to the same period during 2009/10. <b>National Indicators:</b> NI 17, NI 2, NI 21
<b>Response</b>	<b>Outputs</b>
<b>Actions</b>	<p><b>WHAT:</b> Implement pro-active strategies to deal with youth related ASB through the use of effective ASB tools and powers. <b>WHEN:</b> July 2010 <b>WHO:</b> BDC Community Safety / WMP Local Policing</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Implement CSP responses to current emerging issues of youth related ASB within priority neighbourhoods at key times within the year. <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011 <b>WHO:</b> BDC Community Safety / WMP Local Policing</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Encourage the provision of positive activities and support services for young people currently not within mainstream activities through targeted youth work. <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011 <b>WHO:</b> Targeted Youth Support</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASB Strategy which includes guidance on dealing with youth related ASB</li> <li>• An increase in the number of ASB tools and powers used to tackle youth related ASB.</li> <li>• CSP tasking delivery plans with consideration to youth related ASB.</li> <li>• Delivery of targeted youth work within key areas.</li> </ul>



	<p><b>WHAT:</b> Tackle underage sales of alcohol  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> WCC Trading Standards / BDC Licensing</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Tackle underage drinking in parks  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> West Mercia Police / Target Youth Support</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Challenge negative perceptions of young people through delivery of the Bromsgrove Local Strategic Partnership High Level Action plan for Intergenerational Activities.  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> Various Partners (See HLAP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in youth, alcohol related reports to the police</li> <li>• Reduction in youth, alcohol related reports to the police</li> <li>• Delivery of the High Level Action Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an intergenerational focus group involving local residents from varied generations.</li> <li>• interactive 'youthink' consultations as required</li> <li>• Feedback from young people involved in positive activities</li> <li>• PACT Meetings</li> </ul>	
<b>Communications</b>	<p>Communications for this priority to be developed as part of the CSP Communication Strategy and subsequent Communication Plan.</p>	



**PRIORITY TWO: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

<b>The Problem</b>	Environmental issues such as litter, graffiti and damage to fences and public property are linked to young people hanging around during Friday evenings, weekends and school holidays. There is also a link with litter from hot food takeaways and damage in relation to the night time economy. Main areas of concern are St Johns (Bromsgrove Town Centre), Charford and Rubery.
<b>Outcome/Aim</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> To significantly reduce the level of graffiti, litter and reported criminal damage in the wards of St Johns, Charford, Waseley and Beacon during 20010/11 when compared to 2009/10 according to police reported data and NI195 transect data. <b>National Indicators:</b> NI 195, NI 17, NI 21
<b>Response</b>	<b>Outputs</b>
<b>Actions</b>	<p><b>WHAT:</b> Develop a multi-agency graffiti management strategy for Bromsgrove District.  <b>WHEN:</b> March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> BDC Environment Services</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> To deliver a programme of environmental improvements in the three key areas through environmental action weeks including graffiti removal, litter picking and repairs of public property.  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> BDC Community Safety Team</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> To develop strategies to deal with the effects of the night time economy in relation to environmental issues.  <b>WHEN:</b> March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> BDC Community Safety Team / WMP Local Policing</p>
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitation for residents to report environmental concerns leading up to each environmental action week followed by a 'you said – we did' local newsletter.</li> <li>• Opportunities for members of the public to get involved with Environmental Action Weeks as volunteers.</li> <li>• PACT Meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Communications</b>	Communications for this priority to be developed as part of the CSP Communication Strategy and subsequent Communication Plan



**PRIORITY THREE: ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

	<p>Dwelling Burglary often linked to known offenders in hot spot areas such as Cofton Hackett/Barnt Green, Rubery, Wythall, Alvechurch as well as Charford and Whitford – Offences are more common in the second half of the financial year.</p> <p>Non-Dwelling Burglary occurs more frequently through the Summer months in Wythall, Catshill, Stoke Prior and Lickey end – offences involve sheds including allotment and other buildings in secluded areas.</p> <p>Theft from Motor Vehicles occurring in beauty spots during weekends and holiday periods as a result of valuables left in vehicles – there are also TFMV offences occurring in residential areas such as Charford, Sidemoor, Catshill, Rubery and Wythall.</p> <p>Acquisitive crimes occur in spouts throughout the year.</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> To significantly reduce the level of police reported dwelling burglary, non dwelling burglary and theft from motor vehicle during 2010/11 compared to 2009/10</p> <p><b>National Indicators:</b> NI 16, NI 21</p>
<p><b>The Problem</b></p>	
<p><b>Outcome/Aim</b></p>	
<p><b>Response</b></p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Develop and deliver a shed security project for allotmentees and other shed owners within Bromsgrove District.  <b>WHEN:</b> October 2011  <b>WHO:</b> West Mercia Police ALO / BDC Community Safety Team</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Support the expansion of Neighbourhood Watch schemes within the priority areas for Dwelling Burglary to use as a network for the distribution of support, guidance and advice.  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 – March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> Divisional Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator – West Mercia Police</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Increase guardianship at vulnerable locations for TFMV offences at key times.  <b>WHEN:</b> April 2010 - March 2011</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increase in number of sheds target hardened</li> <li>• Increase in the number of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and members</li> <li>• Delivery of targeted support and advice</li> <li>• Increased presence at vulnerable locations for TFMV offences</li> </ul>	



	<b>WHO:</b> WMP Local Policing / BDC Community Safety Team	
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance at key Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators meetings.</li> <li>• Direct engagement with allotmentees and users of the beauty spot car parks when delivering campaigns</li> <li>• PACT Meetings.</li> </ul>	
<b>Communications</b>	Communications for this priority to be developed as part of the CSP Communication Strategy and subsequent Communication Plan	





## PRIORITY FOUR: VIOLENT CRIME

<b>The Problem</b>	<p>Assaults with less serious injury which are often alcohol related and connected with the night time economy on Friday and Saturday evenings – offences occur in the Town Centre and on route to local dwellings in Sidemoor and Charford between midnight and 2am; offenders are mostly male between 14 – 24 years old.</p> <p>Domestic Violence offences equates to nearly a third of all violent crime and occurs mostly in Charford, Sidemoor and St Johns (Burcot Lane); repeat offences and multiple victims increase the volume of reported domestic violence</p>
<b>Outcome/Aim</b>	<p><b>Outcomes:</b> To significantly reduce the level of police reported assaults with less serious injury and domestic incidents during 2010/11 in comparison to the 2009/10 in the key areas.  <b>National Indicators:</b> NI 16, NI 21</p>
<b>Response</b>	<b>Outputs</b>
<b>Actions</b>	<p><b>WHAT:</b> To improve the regulation of the night time economy to reduce alcohol related harm.  <b>WHEN:</b> March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> BDC Licensing Team / West Mercia Police</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Tackle sexual violence and harassment linked to alcohol abuse  <b>WHEN:</b> March 2011  <b>WHO:</b> PCT / DAAT</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Develop and implement strategies local to Bromsgrove to tackle the Domestic Violence problem as identified by a problem profile.  <b>WHEN:</b> September 2010  <b>WHO:</b> DA Coordinator / DAAT</p>
<b>Community Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement with licensees through the pub watch scheme</li> <li>• PACT Meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Communications</b>	Communications for this priority to be developed as part of the CSP Communication Strategy and subsequent Communication Plan



# Risk Register

In developing this risk register, we have adopted the following matrix

Likelihood	Impact
High	Critical
Significant	Major
Medium	Marginal
Low	Low

Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Control	Risk Owner
A Risk is any event likely to adversely affect the ability of the project to achieve the defined objectives.	A description of the likelihood of the risk eventuating	A description of the impact on the project if the risk eventuates.	A brief description of any actions that should be taken to prevent the risk from happening and in the event that the risk occurs, any actions that should be taken to minimise its impact.	Identify those responsible for managing the risk identified.
Failure to achieve the current Local Area Agreement (2008-11) targets	Major (3)	Significant (3)	Regular monitoring and evaluation of performance through the partnership strategic group. Feedback local performance to the Safer Communities Board Performance Group.	Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Group
Loss or reduction of external community safety funding streams	Critical (4)	Significant (3)	Ensure resources are used appropriately, proportionally and based on intelligence based evidence. Ensure that a strong link is maintained with the Safer Communities Board to ensure that Bromsgrove CSP is well represented	Chair of CSP Tasking Group CSP Tasking Group Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group



				Explore all funding opportunities for the mainstreaming of key posts	Community Safety Team
				Implement projects that are sustainable or develop an exit strategy for partnership projects	CSP Tasking Group
Increase in public perceptions of crime and safety.	Major (3)	High (4)		Regular engagement with local communities to identify neighbourhood concerns.	All Partners
				Develop a coordinated communication and engagement plan/strategy to address public reassurance. This should include pro-active and reactive communications.	Communication and Community Engagement Sub - Group
Unexpected crime types/issues emerge that have not been accounted for within the Partnership Plan.	Marginal (2)	Medium (2)		Ensure new emerging issues are raised at tasking for consideration, and appropriate interventions put in place.	CSP Tasking Group
Changes in key staff/project officers	Major (3)	Medium (2)		Ensure all progress on partnership activities/initiatives are documented and sufficient handovers take place.	Community Safety Team
Changes in legislation could lead to a change in focus for the partnership	Critical (4)	Low (1)		Ensure the strategic group are informed of any emerging changes in legislation that may impact upon the Community Safety agenda. Advice from relevant legal departments may be needed.	Community Safety Team Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group.
Changes in government could lead to different	Major (3)	Low (1)		Ensure BCSP remain political aware of	Community Safety Team



<p>priorities/focus for CDRPs/CSPPs</p>	<p>A change of priorities/targets within partner agencies, and/or a reduction in resources/funding/staff may result in failure to assist in the delivery of the Partnership Plan.</p>	<p>Major (3)</p>	<p>Significant (3)</p>	<p>local/national influences on Community Safety, and keep all members informed.</p>	<p>Ensure that the partnership Plan is monitored and resourced through the BCSP Strategic Group. Re-prioritise actions within the partnership plan accordingly if necessary Encourage 'buy in' to the partnership plan at a strategic level</p>		<p>Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Strategic Group</p>
---	---	------------------	------------------------	--	---	--	--



## Communication and Community Engagement

Putting our customers at the heart of all we do is crucial. Only if we do this can we provide an excellent service that will meet the needs of our customers. It is important that we develop ways and increase opportunities for our communities to engage with us, encouraging and empowering more people to grasp these opportunities and take an active part in assisting the Community Safety Partnership in setting priorities and tackling community safety issues within their own community.

There are many different terms and definitions which describe the levels of public participation from the traditional view of sharing information with people to helping people transform their lives and bring about change in their communities. The four levels of engagement are often identified as:

- **Informing:** Providing public information about what is going on
- **Consulting:** Asking for public feedback about services and policies
- **Involving and Collaborating:** Involving the public through out the process, understanding and taking on board considerations and concerns and collaborating with the community in every aspect of the decision-making process.
- **Empowerment:** helping people to develop the skills that will enable them to take control of their communities and services

This year our aim is; 'To improve the range and effectiveness of how we inform and consult with our communities.' For the third year of this plan, and the subsequent plan, our aim will be for: 'Greater participation and empowerment by people within their community to work in collaboration with the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership to achieve our aim, to make Bromsgrove a safer place to live, work and visit.'

This year we will concentrate on strengthening our lines of communication with our communities. This will set the foundation for us to evolve our community engagement strategy for future years; developing opportunities to involve and collaborate with our community and ultimately explore ways to empower communities to make Bromsgrove a safe place to be.

In 2010/11 the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership has committed a budget towards communications and community engagement including budget to employ marketing and communication officer to coordinate this complex, specialist are of work on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership; this post will be filled in 2010/11. Below is an outline of some key opportunities to communicate and engagement that we could develop: in



Informing Communities		
Greater Involvement with PACT Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance from a Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership representative at priority areas.</li> <li>Feedback to residents the success of work undertaken by the partnership in dealing with concerns raised through PACT.</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team Senior Officers Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership
Improved use of BCSP pages on Bromsgrove District Council Web Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular updates to be provided including declaring emerging issues raised at Tasking, success stories and other relevant information</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team BCSP Community Engagement Sub-Group
Utilising elected members as a link to their communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide Community Safety updates on the fortnightly BDC members update publication.</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team
Increase communications specific to young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribute information through Neighbourhood Wardens at drop-in sessions operated at Secondary schools during lunchtimes.</li> <li>Develop key messages for young people to be shown on Plasma screens within schools.</li> <li>Investigate the feasibility to invest in youth notice boards at key locations within the District.</li> <li>Disseminate information and resources for young people through the annual HIGH 5 event.</li> </ul>	Neighbourhood Wardens Community Support Officers  Community Safety Team  CSP Tasking Community Safety Team  Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership
Better use of local newspapers and publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a communication plan to coordinate community safety press releases amongst the BCSP.</li> <li>Establish a regular feature/column within a local newspaper to communicate community safety key messages and raise the profile of BCSP.</li> </ul>	BCSP Community Engagement Sub Group  CSP Tasking Chair CSP Analyst



Addressing the Fear of Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design a Reassurance communication plan.</li> <li>Household leaflet drop with local reassurance information in areas with highest fear of crime levels.</li> <li>Creation of a CDRP Community Engagement Sub Group.</li> <li>Creation of a long-term Communication Plan</li> </ul>	BCSP Community Engagement Sub Group  BCSP Community Engagement Sub Group Community Safety Team  BCSP Community Engagement Sub Group
Better coordination of partnership and tasking communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of including a topic discussion board on the public web site.</li> <li>Publish the draft 2009/2010 Strategic Assessment for public comment for designing reviewing the Partnership Plan.</li> <li>Support and use WCC's Plug and Say once operational.</li> <li>Investigate existing channels of communication with young people through partners to consult on community safety concerns and fear of crime.</li> <li>Gather views and information through Neighbourhood Wardens at drop-in sessions operated at Secondary schools during lunchtimes, and Youth PACT.</li> <li>West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey</li> <li>West Mercia Fear of Crime Survey</li> <li>BDC Place Survey</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team  CSP Analyst  WCC Youth Support Community Safety Team  Community Safety Team  Neighbourhood Wardens Local Policing Teams  CSP Analyst

### Consulting Communities

Improved use of BCSP pages on Bromsgrove District Council Web Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of including a topic discussion board on the public web site.</li> <li>Publish the draft 2009/2010 Strategic Assessment for public comment for designing reviewing the Partnership Plan.</li> <li>Support and use WCC's Plug and Say once operational.</li> <li>Investigate existing channels of communication with young people through partners to consult on community safety concerns and fear of crime.</li> <li>Gather views and information through Neighbourhood Wardens at drop-in sessions operated at Secondary schools during lunchtimes, and Youth PACT.</li> <li>West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey</li> <li>West Mercia Fear of Crime Survey</li> <li>BDC Place Survey</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team  CSP Analyst  WCC Youth Support Community Safety Team  Community Safety Team  Neighbourhood Wardens Local Policing Teams  CSP Analyst
Improved Consultation with Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of including a topic discussion board on the public web site.</li> <li>Publish the draft 2009/2010 Strategic Assessment for public comment for designing reviewing the Partnership Plan.</li> <li>Support and use WCC's Plug and Say once operational.</li> <li>Investigate existing channels of communication with young people through partners to consult on community safety concerns and fear of crime.</li> <li>Gather views and information through Neighbourhood Wardens at drop-in sessions operated at Secondary schools during lunchtimes, and Youth PACT.</li> <li>West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey</li> <li>West Mercia Fear of Crime Survey</li> <li>BDC Place Survey</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team  CSP Analyst  WCC Youth Support Community Safety Team  Community Safety Team  Neighbourhood Wardens Local Policing Teams  CSP Analyst
Use of Secondary Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey</li> <li>West Mercia Fear of Crime Survey</li> <li>BDC Place Survey</li> </ul>	CSP Analyst

As previously mentioned in the third year of the Partnership Plan we will build on the success of the actions outlined in the 'informing Communities' and 'Consulting Communities' by developing strategies to Involve and Collaborate with Communities and to Empower Communities. Some of the actions that these strategies may include are:



- To involve and collaborate with Neighbourhood Area Committee's to feed information into the tasking process and help priorities BCSP priorities and resources at a local level. This would be applicable to those areas which are priority areas for BCSP that also have an established Neighbourhood Area Committee.
- To involve and collaborate with Neighbourhood Watch Committees and Resident Associations.
- To involve and collaborate with residents through the creation of a CDRP Resident Panel.
- To involve and collaborate with young people through the creation of a CDRP Youth Sub Group.
- To empower members of the community by identifying and developing through training and support 'community safety advocates'.
- To empower members of the community by creating a system for community members to forward innovative ideas to tackle local community safety concerns and receive the necessary support to implement worthwhile ideas.

### Internal Communications

At Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership we recognise the importance of communication lines for effective partnership working; this is why this year we will be aiming to develop communication to partners which in turn may aid communication amongst partners. Some of the actions we will be exploring this year are set out below:

Internal Communications		
Access to Partnership Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of all relevant partnership and tasking documentation to be made available on the Community Safety internal portal on BDC web site.</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team
Consultation with Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion boards to be set up on Community Safety internal portal on BDC web site to forward views and opinions</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team
Partnership Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Community Safety internal portal to be made available to a wide range on employees within each agency as possible.</li> <li>• Bimonthly internal newsletter (electronic) to be distributed amongst partnership</li> <li>• Audit to be carried out amongst</li> </ul>	Community Safety Team  Community Safety Team  CSP Analyst





	<p>partnership to measure awareness of the Community Safety Partnership and set a bench mark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of information on Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership amongst internal communications and intranets.</li> <li>• Creation of a Community Safety Partnership Directory</li> <li>• Creation of general Community Safety email address for wider internal use.</li> </ul>	<p>Community Safety Team</p> <p>Community Safety Team</p> <p>Community Safety Team</p>
<p>Communication Lines</p>		<p>Community Safety Team</p>

## Equalities Statement & Assessment

“Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership is dedicated to equality and values diversity within the community. The Partnership will at all times strive to use communication and engagement methods which are inclusive of the whole community.”

During 2010/11 the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership will conduct an equality impact assessment; this will be published in the subsequent Community Safety Partnership Plan.

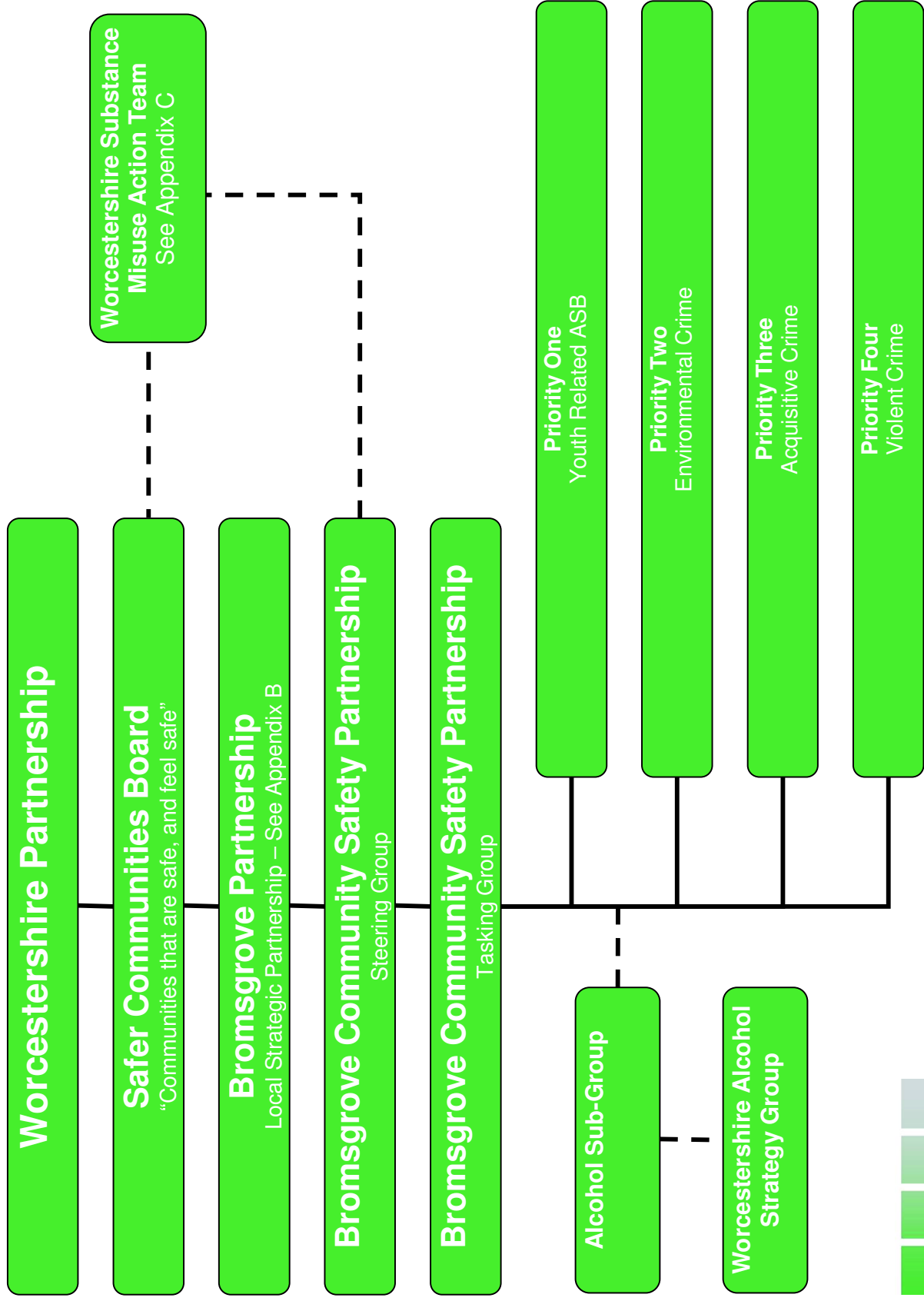
- END -

For more information on the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan and the work of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership, please contact:

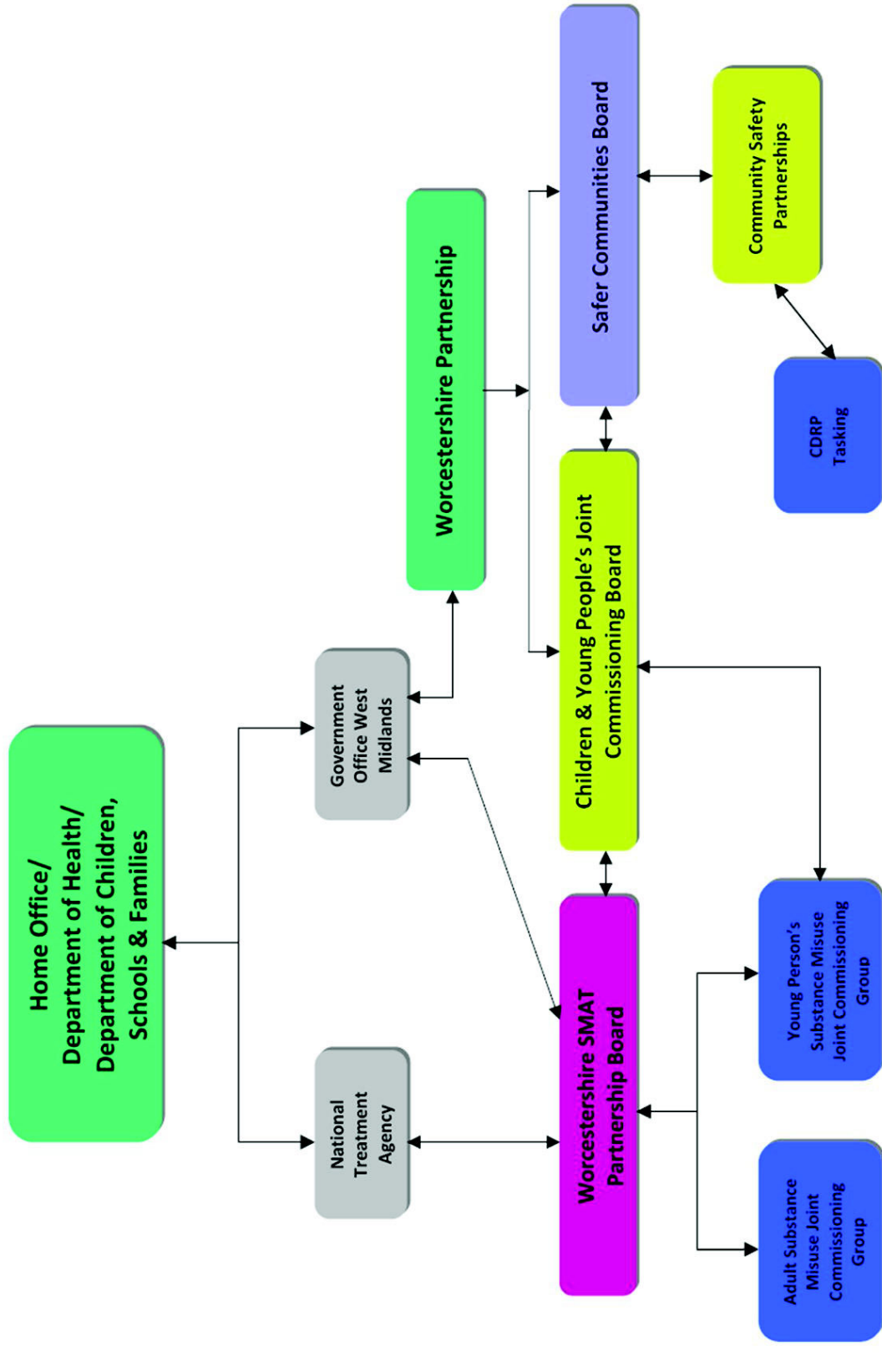
Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership  
c/o Community Safety Team  
Bromsgrove District Council  
The Council House  
Burcot Lane  
Bromsgrove B60 1AA  
Telephone: 01527 88 1288  
Email: [communitysafety@bromsgrove.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@bromsgrove.gov.uk)



# Appendix A: Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Structure



# Appendix B: Worcestershire Substance Misuse Action Team



## Appendix C: Community Safety Abbreviations (used in this document)

BCSP	Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
SOA	Super Output Area
ONS	Office of National Statistics
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivations
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
WCC	Worcestershire County Council
BDC	Bromsgrove District Council
SMAT	Substance Misuse Action Team
WMP	West Mercia Police
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PACT	Partners and Communities Together (Meetings)



## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5th October 2010

#### SCRUTINY OF CRIME AND DISORDER - PROTOCOL

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Cllr G. N. Denaro
Responsible Head of Service For Overview and Scrutiny	Mrs. C. Felton – Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Non-Key Decision	

#### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to brief Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board on the statutory provisions for the scrutiny of crime and disorder and agree a protocol between the Community Safety Partnership and the Board.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Members note the requirements and role for the scrutiny of crime and disorder.
- 2.2. That the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Protocol (attached at Appendix One) be agreed.
- 2.3. That the protocol be submitted to the Community Safety Partnership for formal agreement.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Sections 19 – 21 Police and Justice Act 2006 (effective as from 30th April 2009) and the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 refer to the requirement to introduce procedures for the scrutiny of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs), including the introduction or designation of a scrutiny committee for this purpose. In Bromsgrove the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB) has been designated as the committee responsible for scrutiny of the CDRP.
- 3.2. The statutory powers a crime and disorder scrutiny committee has are:
- To scrutinise how the CDRP partnership members are discharging their crime and disorder functions,
  - To require information to be provided by partners, and require attendance at meetings, and
  - To require partners to respond to reports and 'have regard' to recommendations.

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

# JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5th October 2010

- 3.3. Legislation requires the members of the local CDRP to take part in the Overview and Scrutiny process. This includes the main CDRP partners ('responsible authorities'): the Council, the police authority and police force, the primary care trust, the fire and rescue authority, plus the 'co-operating bodies': probation, parish councils, NHS trusts, proprietors of independent schools, further education institutions.
- 3.4. In Bromsgrove, the JOSB has been designated as the crime and disorder scrutiny committee. At its meeting on Wednesday 29th April 2009, the Council made amendments to the Overview and Scrutiny functions and resolved:

"(a) that a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board be created to enable the Council to discharge the following functions: Councillor Calls for Action, Crime and Disorder Calls for Action, Petitions, scrutiny of the budget; and that it be designated as the Crime and Disorder Committee in accordance with the Police and Justice Act 2006".

## 4. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIPS

- 4.1. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) are partnership bodies made up of the key statutory organisations involved in tackling and preventing crime and disorder in the local area. In Bromsgrove the CDRP is known as the **Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership**.
- 4.2. The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act established partnerships between the police, local authorities, probation service, health authorities, the voluntary sector, and local residents and businesses. According to the Home Office, "these partnerships are working to reduce crime and disorder in their area by:
- Establishing the levels of crime and disorder problems in their area, and consulting widely with the population of that area to make sure that the partnership's perception matches that of local people, especially minority groups, such as gay men and lesbians, or members of ethnic minorities.
  - Devising a strategy containing measures to tackle those priority problems. This is to include targets, and target owners for each of the priority areas. The strategy will last for three years, but must be kept under review by the partnership". (Home Office)
- 4.3. In Bromsgrove the Community Safety Partnership includes: Bromsgrove District Council (including the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and The Head of Street Scene & Community, the Community Safety team,

## **BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

Neighbourhood Wardens and Local Strategic Partnership Officer), West Mercia Police, the West Mercia Police Authority, the West Mercia Probation Trust, Worcestershire County Council, Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Housing Trust, Worcestershire PCT and Worcestershire Drug Alcohol Abuse Team (DAAT).

## **5. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

- 5.1. According to the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, section 4, "A crime and disorder committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions as the committee considers appropriate but no less than once in every twelve month period".
- 5.2. It is currently envisaged that the JOSB will continue to act as the crime and disorder scrutiny committee and will meet around 4 times a year to consider crime and disorder matters. The JOSB would also be able to establish Task Group reviews to consider specific crime and disorder issues in depth and report back to the main committee, in accordance with current constitutional arrangements.
- 5.3. Extra meetings of the JOSB have been scheduled during 2010-2011 in order to carry out the scrutiny of crime and disorder function.

## **6. ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- 6.1. In discharging its scrutiny of crime and disorder functions, the JOSB will require the attendance before it of relevant officers, employees or members of a responsible crime and disorder body or partner organisation to answer questions or otherwise provide information. In such a case, representatives will be requested to attend in the normal way (see the Overview and Scrutiny Guidance published by Bromsgrove District Council). This process is clarified in the crime and disorder protocol Section 5.
- 6.2. According to the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, section 6(1), "a crime and disorder committee may require the attendance before it of an officer or employee of a co-operating person or body in order to answer questions" and at (2) "the crime and disorder committee may not require a person to attend... unless reasonable notice of the intended date of attendance has been given to that person".

## **7. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

7.1. According to the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, section 5(1), where a crime and disorder committee makes a request for information relevant to the exercise of its functions to the responsible authorities or the co-operating persons or bodies, the authorities must provide such information. Such information “must be provided no later than the date indicated in the request save that if some or all of the information cannot be reasonably be provided on such date, that information must be provided as soon as reasonably possible”. The information provided to scrutiny committees must be depersonalised first. This process is clarified in the crime and disorder protocol Section 6.

### **8. SCRUTINY REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1. Overview and scrutiny committees may decide, upon consideration of a matter, to make a report and recommendations to the responsible authority and decision maker(s), in accordance with the usual Overview and Scrutiny process (as set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Guidance published by Bromsgrove District Council).

8.2. Overview and scrutiny committees cannot make any executive decisions, but they may make recommendations to any statutory partner or other organisations, including members of the Community Safety Partnership (or CDRP). Scrutiny reports usually aim to set out the context and findings of a scrutiny investigation and set out any recommendations, along with the evidence to support those recommendations.

### **9. THE EXECUTIVE RESPONSE**

9.1. When scrutiny recommendations are put forward to any organisation or partnerships, overview and scrutiny committees usually request an Executive Response. In the case of recommendations to Bromsgrove District Council, the Executive Response is usually requested from the Cabinet. In the case of other organisations, an Executive Response may be requested to the decision making body of the agencies to which recommendations have been addressed.

9.2. An Executive Response usually outlines the broad response to the report and recommendations put forward by the scrutiny committee along with an Executive Decision for each of the individual recommendations for which it has authority. An Executive Decision may either: agree, reject or amend a scrutiny recommendation. An Executive Response may also include an



## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

action plan and timetable for the implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations.

- 9.3. According to the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, section 7 (1), “where a crime and disorder committee makes a report or recommendations to a responsible authority or to a co-operating person or body.... the responses to such report or recommendations of each relevant authority, body or person shall be:
- a. in writing; and
  - b. submitted to the crime and disorder committee with a period of 28 days from the date of the report or recommendations or, if this is not reasonably possible, as soon as possible thereafter”.
- 9.4. This process is clarified in the crime and disorder protocol Section 9. The template for (Cabinet) Executive Response is included at Appendix Two.

### **10. MONITORING AND REVIEW**

- 10.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Boards at Bromsgrove District Council, like most other local authority scrutiny committees, routinely monitor and review the implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations. This enables all parties to check on the implementation status of agreed recommendations and helps to monitor the effectiveness of the scrutiny process.
- 10.2. According to the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, section 7 (2), “the crime and disorder committee shall review such responses and monitor the action (if any) taken by the relevant responsible authorities, co-operating persons or bodies in accordance with its powers”.
- 10.3. In order to do this, the responsible agencies will be requested to provide a periodic update on the implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations, until all of the agreed recommendations have been fully implemented. Where the responsible agencies have provided an action plan as a part of their Executive Response, this can be used as a tool to effectively monitor implementation. This process is clarified in the crime and disorder protocol Section 11.

### **11. SCRUTINY OF CRIME AND DISORDER PROTOCOL OR GUIDANCE**

- 11.1. In order to ensure that there is a clear process for discharging the scrutiny of crime and disorder function, there is a need to establish appropriate procedures, protocols or guidance for how it should be carried out. There may also be a need to amend the Council Constitution to reflect this.

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

11.2. According to the Home Office Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England, Implementing Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, local authorities and CDRP partners should “consider developing a short, flexible and meaningful protocol which lays the mutual expectations of scrutiny members and partners of the community safety members and partners of the community safety scrutiny process”. (Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England p.25).

11.3. Attached at Appendix 1 is a draft protocol for agreement by the Board and by the CSP. This is intended to establish and agree outline procedures and clarify expectations on how the scrutiny of crime and disorder will work. It is not envisaged as a straight jacket to the practical working of the process.

### **12. INVOLVEMENT OF THE WEST MERCIA POLICE AUTHORITY**

12.1. According to the Home Office Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England, Implementing Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, “local authorities should, in all instances, presume that the police authority should play an active part at committee when community safety matters are being discussed” (p.29). It goes on to outline different options that may be followed to involve police authorities in the process, including the cooption of a member of the police authority or the appointment of a member of the police authority as an advisor to the crime and disorder scrutiny committee. The latter option is given in the guidance as the probable preference for most district authorities an advisor to the JOSB on crime and disorder matters has been identified. A standing invitation to attend JOSB when crime and disorder issues are being discussed will be made and requested to attend when expert advice is envisaged to be required.

12.2. The appointment of a crime and disorder advisor to the JOSB will be considered by the JOSB on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

### **13. KEY ISSUES**

13.1 The agreement of a protocol.

### **14. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 There are no financial implications envisaged for the purposed of this report.

### **15. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

15.1 The following legislation, regulations and Government Guidance is relevant to the discharge of the scrutiny of crime and disorder function, as outlined in this report:

- The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act.
- Police and Justice Act 2006 Sections 19 – 21.
- The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.
- The National Support Framework, Delivering Safer and Confident Communities, guidance for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters – England.

### **16. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

### **17. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

17.1 The scrutiny of crime and disorder links to the Council Objective Three: One Community.

### **18. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

18.1 If the Council fails to adopt a policy and procedure for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters, this could result in a failure to comply with a legislative requirement; the loss of an opportunity to improve or achieve an outcome for local communities with regards to crime and disorder issues; and it would affect the Council's reputation.

18.1. These risks are being managed through the designation of a crime and disorder scrutiny committee and through the proposals to establish an agreed approach and protocol between the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Community Safety Partnership.

### **19. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

19.1. The recommendations contained in this report will involve engagement with statutory and non-statutory partner organisations which may be involved in the Overview and Scrutiny process and specifically in the scrutiny of the crime and disorder partnerships. This will help to inform and engage with Council partners in a constructive process to reduce crime and disorder

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

19.2. Council partner organisations may, as part of the Overview and Scrutiny process, be invited to attend Overview and Scrutiny meetings to give evidence as part of a scrutiny inquiry, they may be requested to provide written evidence to a scrutiny committee, or they may be asked to respond to Overview and Scrutiny recommendations on their area of service provision. All of these things are already possible under previous legislative arrangements, but the proposals set out in this report will reinforce this role and provide more formalised arrangements for the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships.

19.3. Implications for local residents may include local public inquiries into crime and disorder matters, which may result in the consideration of crime and disorder issues of public concern being raised within a local democratic and public forum, with the view of tackling these issues to improve community well being.

### **20. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

20.1 The consideration of crime and disorder issues by Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Committees will routinely give extra consideration of the equality and diversity implications of matters under consideration, including identification of particular issues for minority groups and access to services by all sections of the community.

### **21. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT**

20.1 There are no value for money implications for the purpose of this report.

### **22. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY**

22.1 There are no climate change and carbon implications for the purposes of this report.

### **23. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

### **24. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The proposals set out in this report will further develop the governance arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny through the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships.

**JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

**25. COMMUNITY SAFETY INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

The protocol will help facilitate the process of scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships and thereby help to reduce crime and disorder in the District.

**26. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

There are no health inequalities implications arising from this report.

**27. LESSONS LEARNT**

None for the purposes of this report.

**28. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

The protocol will help facilitate stakeholder engagement through the Overview and Scrutiny process in the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships.

**29. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THIS REPORT**

Portfolio Holder	No
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director - Partnerships and Projects	No
Executive Director - Services	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

**JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

**30. WARDS AFFECTED**

All Wards.

**31. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Draft Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Partnerships Protocol  
Appendix 2 Executive response Template  
Appendix 3 Overview and scrutiny Recommendations Action Plan  
template

**32. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.
- The National Support Framework, Delivering Safer and Confident Communities, guidance for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters – England.

**CONTACT OFFICER**

Name: Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer  
E Mail: m.carr@bromsgrove.gov.uk  
Tel: 01527 881407

## The Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Partnerships Protocol - DRAFT

### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this protocol is to describe the roles and relationships of the bodies involved in the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships and to outline the process for how this will work, in order to help build the relationships between the crime and disorder partnership bodies and the Overview and Scrutiny committees at (Local Authority Name) Council. It is not intended to provide a rigid standard and should be interpreted flexibly where necessary to accommodate the partner agencies involved through mutual agreement.

### 2. Roles and Responsibilities

#### **The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership**

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) known as the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership was established in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to deliver a sustainable reduction in crime and fear of crime within local communities. It brings together five responsible authorities and a range of co-operating organisations to meet the requirements of the Act and achieve the partnership vision of making Bromsgrove a safe place to live, work and visit\*.

#### **The Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee**

At Bromsgrove District Council the crime and disorder scrutiny committee has been designated as the **Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB)**. This Board may also establish crime and disorder scrutiny to subcommittees or Task Groups, as required, examine particular issues in detail.

The role of the crime and disorder scrutiny committee is to examine how the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership members are discharging their crime and disorder functions and where appropriate, to make reports and recommendations to the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership partners.

### 3. Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee Meetings

The JOSB meets at least 4 times a year. Subcommittees and/or Task Groups may be established by the committee that report back to the main committee and additional meetings may be convened for this purpose.

---

\* The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008 – 2011.

## **Representation of the West Mercia Metropolitan Police Association**

The West Mercia Metropolitan Police Association (WPMPA) will be invited to nominate a Crime and Disorder Advisor to the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, who will have a standing invitation to attend meetings of the committee and any subcommittees.

## **4. The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership should be requested annually to report to the JOSB on the key crime and disorder issues in the Bromsgrove District and key targets for the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership. This should help to identify the key issues where the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee can make a constructive and useful contribution to the work of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership.

The JOSB should, in consultation with the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership, decide which key issues of crime and disorder to consider during the year and these topics should be added to the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme as a part of the normal Overview and Scrutiny work planning process.

Additional topics for consideration may arise during the year. These could either be brought up by the JOSB or referred to the scrutiny committee by the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership. Crime and disorder issues for consideration by the Board may also arise from a Councillor Call for Action, referral from the Council or from the Leader and Cabinet or from a proposal submitted by a member of the public.

## **5. Attendance Requests**

The JOSB, subcommittees or Task Groups may request the attendance of a representative of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership or a member body of the partnership. This should be made in writing, giving at least one month notice and outline the reasons for the request.

## **6. Requests for Information**

The JOSB, subcommittees or Task Groups may request written information from the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership or a member body of the partnership, eg a report on a particular crime and disorder issue. The request should be made in writing, giving at least one month notice, describing precisely what information is requested and outlining the reasons for the request. If it is not possible for the information to be provided within the timescale required, the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership body should write back giving the



reasons for this and giving a time when the information will become available and any alternative information available instead.

## 7. Reviewing Community Safety Partnership Performance

The JOSB should request the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership to report on its performance annually. This should include performance against its key targets and performance indicators.

## 8. Scrutiny Reports and Recommendations

The JOSB may make recommendations and/or a report to the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership or a member body. Recommendations should be recorded in the minutes of the JOSB and referred to the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership (and where appropriate, specific board members), **within 5 working days**. Recommendations may be accompanied by a report where an issue has been considered in depth.

Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations are made through the Bromsgrove District Council Cabinet. Recommendations should be made to the lead agencies responsible for making the executive decisions, identifying the lead agency and referencing other partner agencies involved.

## 9. The Executive Response

The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership and other executive decision makers identified in the scrutiny recommendations should respond **within 6 weeks** with an Executive Response and Executive Decisions.

The Executive Response should briefly outline the response of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership and/or the other executive decision makers identified and the Executive Decisions should either **agree, amend or reject** each recommendation.

## 10. The Overview and Scrutiny Action Plan

The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership and other executive decision makers identified should also provide a long with the Executive Response or **within 3 months**, an Action Plan outlining the specific actions they intend to take for each agreed or amended recommendation and identify the completion date for each. An Action Plan template is provided at Appendix Three.

## 11. Implementation Tracking

The JOSB should ask representatives of the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership and other executive decision makers identified to report back on the implementation of the agreed or amended recommendations when all of the recommendations are due to be implemented.

The relevant Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership partners should provide a summary of the key actions taken and outcomes achieved in relation to the agreed recommendations. Where implementation spans over a long period of time, the JOSB may request an interim progress report.

The Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee should determine whether or not the recommendations are fully implemented and where recommendations are not implemented seek agreement on a new implementation date and reconsider the issue some time after this new date.

If it should be impossible to implement the recommendation, the decision maker should be asked to provide an explanation for this and what action they decide to take instead.

**Bromsgrove District Council**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Board**

**DATE**

**Executive Response to the \_\_\_\_\_ Report/Recommendations**

**From (*name of body or person*)**

Introduction

{Brief introduction/summary of the views of the Executive in relation to scrutiny work carried out.}

Response to recommendations

Please find below responses to the recommendations contained within the scrutiny report:

**Recommendation 1 – {State the recommendation}**

**AGREED/REJECTED/AMENDED** {delete as appropriate}

{Comments on the recommendation from decision maker i.e. state whether it was agreed, amended or rejected. If amended, the amended text should be detailed here. Agreed or amended recommendations are Executive Decisions. Full reasons for the decision should be included even if the recommendation was approved. However, it is particularly important to state reasons why a recommendation was rejected or rejected.}

**Recommendation 2 – {State the recommendation}**

{Same as above. Continue until comments have been made for all recommendations}

**AGREED/REJECTED/AMENDED**

**Recommendation 3 – {State the recommendation}**

{Same as above. Continue until comments have been made for all recommendations}

**AGREED/REJECTED/AMENDED**

Other comments

(This section is for any other comments the decision maker wishes to make which are not included elsewhere in the report. Could include what will happen next if recommendations have been approved.

*{Name of authorized person}*  
**Title/position**

# Title

## ACTION PLAN

Executive Decision	Key Actions	Who?	When?	
			from	to
<u>Recommendation One</u> Title description				
<u>Recommendation Two</u> Title description				
<u>Recommendation Three</u> Title description				
<u>Recommendation Four</u> Title description				

This page is intentionally left blank

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5th October 2010

#### SCRUTINY OF CRIME AND DISORDER – APPOINTMENT OF ADVISOR

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Cllr G. N. Denaro
Responsible Head of Service For Overview and Scrutiny	Mrs. C. Felton – Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Non-Key Decision	

#### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to agree the appointment of a Crime and Disorder Advisor to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Councillor Brandon Clayton be appointed as an Advisor on Crime and Disorder to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Sections 19 – 21 Police and Justice Act 2006 (effective as from 30th April 2009) and the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 refer to the requirement to introduce procedures for the scrutiny of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs), including the introduction or designation of a scrutiny committee for this purpose. In Bromsgrove the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB) has been designated as the committee responsible for scrutiny of the CDRP.
- 3.2. The statutory powers a crime and disorder scrutiny committee has are:
- To scrutinise how the CDRP partnership members are discharging their crime and disorder functions,
  - To require information to be provided by partners, and require attendance at meetings, and
  - To require partners to respond to reports and 'have regard' to recommendations.
- 3.3. In Bromsgrove, the JOSB has been designated as the crime and disorder scrutiny committee. At its meeting on Wednesday 29th April 2009, the Council made amendments to the Overview and Scrutiny functions and resolved:

“(a) that a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board be created to enable the Council to discharge the following functions: Councillor Calls for Action,

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

Crime and Disorder Calls for Action, Petitions, scrutiny of the budget; and that it be designated as the Crime and Disorder Committee in accordance with the Police and Justice Act 2006”.

- 3.4. According to the Home Office Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England, Implementing Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, “local authorities should, in all instances, presume that the police authority should play an active part at committee when community safety matters are being discussed” (p.29). It goes on to outline different options that may be followed to involve police authorities in the process, including the cooption of a member of the police authority or the appointment of a member of the police authority as an advisor to the crime and disorder scrutiny committee.
- 3.5. The option in the guidance as the probable preference for most district authorities is the appointment of an advisor on crime and disorder matters.

“The second option is for all other circumstances – covering most districts, and those counties and unitaries where having a police authority member on the committee will not be possible.

In these circumstances, a member of the police authority should be issued with a standing invitation to attend the committee as an “expert advisor”. Ideally this would be a police authority member”.

- 3.6. The appointment of an advisor on crime and disorder to the Board will also enhance the capacity of the Board to carry out its scrutiny of crime and disorder functions more effectively.
- 3.7. Councillor Brandon Clayton has been indentified as a suitable person, being both a member of the police authority and with experience of serving on a crime and disorder reduction partnership. Councillor Clayton is also a County Councillor at Worcestershire County Council and personal profile is available at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk)
- 3.8. Upon the appointment of Councillor Clayton as advisor to the Board a standing invitation to attend JOSB when crime and disorder issues are being discussed will be made and requested to attend when expert advice is envisaged to be required.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

The appointment of an advisor on crime and disorder to the JOSB.



## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications envisaged for the purposes of this report.

### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The following legislation, regulations and Government Guidance is relevant to the discharge of the scrutiny of crime and disorder function, as outlined in this report:

- The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act
- Police and Justice Act 2006 Sections 19 – 21.
- The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.
- The National Support Framework, Delivering Safer and Confident Communities, guidance for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters – England.

### **7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

### **8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

8.1 The scrutiny of crime and disorder links to the Council Objective Three: One Community.

### **9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

9.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The consideration of crime and disorder issues by Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Committees will routinely give extra consideration of the equality and diversity implications of matters under consideration, including identification of particular issues for minority groups and access to services by all sections of the community.

## **JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

### **12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT**

12.1 There are no value for money implications for the purpose of this report.

### **13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY**

13.1 There are no climate change and carbon implications for the purposes of this report.

### **14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

### **15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The proposals set out in this report will further develop the governance arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny through the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships.

### **16. COMMUNITY SAFETY INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

The appointment of an advisor on crime and disorder to the JOSB will help facilitate the process of scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships and thereby help to reduce crime and disorder in the District.

### **17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

There are no health inequalities implications arising from this report.

### **18. LESSONS LEARNT**

None for the purposes of this report.

### **19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

The appointment of a member of the police authority as an advisor to the Board will help facilitate stakeholder engagement through the Overview and Scrutiny process in the scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships.

### **20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THIS REPORT**

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

5th October 2010

Portfolio Holder	No
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director - Partnerships and Projects	No
Executive Director - Services	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

**21. WARDS AFFECTED**

All Wards.

**22. APPENDICES**

None.

**23. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.
- The National Support Framework, Delivering Safer and Confident Communities, guidance for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters – England.

**CONTACT OFFICER**

Name: Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer  
E Mail: m.carr@bromsgrove.gov.uk  
Tel: 01527 881407

This page is intentionally left blank

## JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME AND MEETING SCHEDULE 2010/11

October 2010

### The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board

The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board (JOSB) joins up the work of the Overview Board and the Scrutiny Board and undertakes some important cross-cutting work of its own. It has responsibility for receiving Councillor Calls for Action, scrutiny of the Council Budget, receiving petitions and the scrutiny of crime and disorder.

#### 1. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS (INCLUDING UPDATES)

##### 1.1 Schedule of meetings and agenda items

See Appendix 1 - Schedule of meetings and agenda items.

##### 1.2 Standing Items

The following items will be considered at regular intervals, as indicated.

- Recommendation Tracker

A quarterly report monitoring the implementation of overview recommendations. Considered every quarter.

#### 2. JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD TASK GROUPS

##### 2.1 Current Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board Task Groups

See Appendix 2a - Current Overview Board Task Groups

##### 2.2 Task Group Reviews

Consideration of the implementation progress of JOSB Task Group recommendations agreed by the Cabinet, considered by the reconvened Task Group.

See Appendix 2b - JOSB Task Group Reviews

Appendix 1 - Schedule of meetings and agenda items

2010/2011 MUNICIPAL YEAR				
5th October 2010				
Agenda Item / Topic	Terms of Reference	Witnesses <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	Documents	Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date
<b>Bromsgrove Planning Policy 1</b>  <b>Ref from OB for further investigation</b>	To consider the Council's planning policy framework the planning process and opportunities for local democratic influence over the development of local planning policies and strategies.	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mrs J Dyer – Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration <b>Executive Director:</b> John Staniland, Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory, Housing Services <b>Head of Dept:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration  <b>External Witnesses:</b>		The Cabinet
<b>The Crime and Disorder Protocol</b>	To approve the protocol for scrutiny of the CDRP (Community Safety Partnership).	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community <b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services <b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services <b>External Witnesses:</b>		JOSB  CSP
<b>The Appointment of a Crime and Disorder Advisor to the JOSB</b>	Cllr Brandon Clayton	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community		JOSB

		<p><b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services</p> <p><b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services</p> <p><b>External Witnesses:</b></p>		
<p><b>Inquiry – Alvechurch Multi Use Games Area Report and Recommendations</b></p>		<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services</p> <p><b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community</p> <p><b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services</p> <p><b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services</p> <p><b>External Witnesses:</b></p>	<p>A draft report of the JOSB to set out the conclusions and recommendations of the Inquiry.</p>	<p>The Cabinet</p>
<p><b>The Community Safety Partnership Partnership Plan</b></p>		<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services</p> <p><b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community</p> <p><b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services</p> <p><b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services</p> <p><b>External Witnesses:</b></p>		<p>The Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership</p>
<p><b>The JOSB Work Programme 2010-2011.</b></p>		<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer</p> <p><b>Portfolio Holder:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Executive Director:</b> Ms Jayne Pickering, Finance &amp; Corporate Resources</p> <p><b>Head of Dept:</b> Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities &amp; Democratic Services</p>		<p>JOSB 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010</p>



<b>Questions to Witnesses 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010</b>	To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board			
<b>26th October 2010</b>				
<b>The Government's Financial Settlement – Pre-Budget Update</b>		<b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr G. Denaro – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources <b>Executive Director:</b> Ms Jayne Pickering, Finance & Corporate Resources <b>External Witnesses:</b>		
<b>23rd November 2010</b>				
<b>Agenda Item / Topic</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Witnesses</b> <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date</b>
<b>Bromsgrove Planning Policy 2</b> To consider the Council's planning policy framework the planning process and opportunities for local democratic influence over the development of local planning policies and strategies.	A report to consider the outcome of the peer review of planning	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mrs J Dyer – Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration <b>Executive Director:</b> John Staniland, Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory, Housing Services <b>Head of Dept:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration  <b>External Witnesses:</b>		The Cabinet

<p><b>Licensing Policy in Bromsgrove</b> (link with Bromsgrove Planning Policy) To consider the Council's licensing policy and opportunities for local democratic influence over the development of local licensing policies and strategies</p>	<p>To consider the linkages between the Licensing and Planning process of the Council</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Sue Garratt, Licensing Manager <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr. P. Whittaker, Cabinet Member for Regulation, Strategic Housing &amp; Climate Change <b>Executive Director:</b> John Staniland, Planning &amp; Regeneration, Regulatory, Housing Services <b>Head of Dept:</b> Steve Jorden, Regulatory Services <b>External Witnesses:</b></p>		
<p><b>Recommendation Tracker</b> - Permanent Item -  Quarterly</p>	<p>A quarterly report monitoring the implementation of overview recommendations</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr G. Denaro, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources <b>Executive Director:</b> Ms Jayne Pickering, finance &amp; Corporate Resources <b>Head of Dept:</b> Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities &amp; Democratic Services <b>External Witnesses:</b></p>	<p><i>The Cabinet &amp; delegated persons (see Scheme of Delegation)</i></p>	<p>A recommendation may be deemed implemented and “case closed” or not implemented and referred to a future meeting of the OB for review or referred back to the decision maker</p>
<p><b>Questions to Witnesses</b> 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011</p>	<p>To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board</p>			
<b>30th November 2010</b>				
<b>Agenda Item / Topic</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Witnesses</b> <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date</b>

<b>The Draft Council Budget</b>		<b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr G. Denaro – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources <b>Executive Director:</b> Ms Jayne Pickering, Finance & Corporate Resources <b>External Witnesses:</b>		The Cabinet The Council
<b>Questions to Witnesses</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board			
<b>4th Jan 2011</b>				
<b>Agenda Item / Topic</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Witnesses</b> <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date</b>
<b>The Draft Council Budget</b>		<b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr G. Denaro – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources <b>Executive Director:</b> Mrs Jane Pickering, Finance & Corporate Resources <b>External Witnesses:</b>		The Cabinet The Council
<b>Recommendation Tracker</b> - Permanent Item -  Quarterly	A quarterly report monitoring the implementation of overview recommendations	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer  <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr G, Denaro, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources <b>Executive Director:</b> Ms Jayne Pickering, Finance & Corporate Resources <b>Head of Dept:</b> Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services  <b>External Witnesses:</b>	<i>The Cabinet &amp; delegated persons (see Scheme of Delegation)</i>	A recommendation may be deemed implemented and “case closed” or not implemented and referred to a future meeting of the OB for review or referred back to the decision maker

<b>Questions to Witnesses</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> February 2011</b>	To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board			
<b>1st Feb 2011</b>				
<b>Agenda Item / Topic</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Witnesses</b> <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date</b>
<b>Councillor Call for Action Procedure</b>	To consider a new Councillor Call for Action Procedure	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Michael Carr – Scrutiny Officer <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> N/A <b>Executive Director:</b> Jayne Pickering, Finance & Corporate Resources <b>Head of Dept:</b> Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	<i>A report of the Head of Legal, Equalities &amp; Democratic Services</i>	The Council
<b>Bromsgrove Planning Policy3</b> To consider the Council's planning policy framework the planning process and opportunities for local democratic influence over the development of local planning policies and strategies.	A report to consider the outcome of the peer review of planning	<b>Lead Officer:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mrs J Dyer – Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration <b>Executive Director:</b> John Staniland, Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory, Housing Services <b>Head of Dept:</b> Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration  <b>External Witnesses:</b>		The Cabinet
<b>Alcohol and Anti-Social</b>		<b>Lead Officer:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of		

<b>Behaviour1</b>		<p><i>Community Services</i>  <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community  <b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services  <b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services  <b>External Witnesses:</b></p>		
<b>Questions to Witnesses</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2011	To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board			
<b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2011</b>				
<b>Agenda Item / Topic</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>	<b>Witnesses</b> <i>Department and Lead Officers Community Partners etc</i>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date</b>
<b>Alcohol and Anti-Social Behaviour2</b>		<p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services  <b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Cllr Mike Webb – Portfolio Holder for Community  <b>Executive Director:</b> Sue Hanley – Executive Director Leisure, Environmental and Community Services  <b>Head of Dept:</b> Angie Heighway – Head of Community Services  <b>External Witnesses:</b></p>		
<b>Questions to Witnesses</b>	To define advance questions to witnesses attending the next meeting of the Board			

**Appendix 2a - Current JOSB Task Groups**

Current Task Groups	Date Report Due	Terms of Reference

**Appendix 2b - JOSB Task Group Reviews**

Date	Topic	Terms of Reference	Witnesses <i>Department and Leader Officers Community Partners etc</i>	Decision Maker(s) / Decision Date	Possible Outcomes