



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2019
AT 6.00 P.M.

PARKSIDE SUITE - PARKSIDE

MEMBERS: Councillors M. Thompson (Chairman), J. Till (Vice-Chairman),
A. J. B. Beaumont, R. J. Deeming, S. P. Douglas, M. Glass,
C.A. Hotham, R. J. Hunter, A. D. Kriss and C. J. Spencer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence and Named Substitutes
2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Arrangements

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.
3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 21st October 2019 (to follow)
4. Scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership (Pages 1 - 50)
5. Finance and Budget Working Group - Update
6. Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Update
7. Cabinet Work Programme (Pages 51 - 58)
8. Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme (Pages 59 - 64)
9. 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, by reason of special circumstances, considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting.

K. DICKS
Chief Executive

Parkside
Market Street
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4th November 2019



INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

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Elected Member



BRIEFING NOTE

To: Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

From: Bev Houghton
Dept: Community Safety
Contact Info: 01527 534187

CC: Cllr Phil Thomas – Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services & Community Safety
Sue Hanley – Deputy Chief Executive
Judith Willis – Head of Housing & Community Services

North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership 2018/19

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the progress of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (NWCSP) during 2018/19 and to date.

2. Background

- 2.1 NWCSP has been in existence since May 2013, following a merger of the three district CSPs in Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest. The community safety teams that support and administer the Partnership continue to sit within the respective local authorities.
- 2.2 Local representation on NWCSP is fulfilled through a number of positions. Bromsgrove District Council's Elected Member representative is the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services and Community Safety, Councillor Phil Thomas. Sue Hanley, the Council's Deputy Chief Executive is Chair of NWCSP and Judith Willis, Head of Housing & Community Services is Bromsgrove District Council's Responsible Authority representative on the Partnership. The Council's Community Safety Manager, Bev Houghton provides organisational support to NWCSP.
- 2.3 Scrutiny arrangements for the CSP remain unchanged with local authorities having a statutory duty to scrutinise the work of its local CSP, under Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
- 2.4 Alongside the relationship the Council has with the CSP, there is also a direct role in holding the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to account through the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP). The Bromsgrove District Council representative on the PCP is Councillor Adam Kent, with Councillor Andrew Beaumont as named substitute.

3. Current Position

3.1 Partnership Structure

CSP district operational groups are identified as Safer District Groups and are known as Safer Bromsgrove Group, Safer Redditch Group and Safer Wyre

Forest Group. There are also a number of other sub-groups as illustrated in **Appendix 1**.

3.2 The Partnership Plan 2017-20

NWCSP has a statutory duty to produce a three year rolling plan outlining how the Partnership intends to address key crime and community safety priorities, as identified through its annual Strategic Assessment.

The Strategic Assessment gathers research, evidence and intelligence from national and regional sources, as well as drawing on professional expertise of those working locally. It is designed to be a point of reference and guidance to resource community safety initiatives among partner agencies across the area.

The Strategic Assessment is used to inform the Community Safety Partnership Plan and the priorities that the CSP will focus on for a 3 year period. The partnership agreed its priorities for 2017-20 in Dec 2016 and they are:-

- I. Reducing Violence and abuse: including sexual offending and domestic abuse (to include Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE))
- II. Reducing Theft and Acquisitive crime: including shoplifting, thefts and burglaries
- III. Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, Damage and Nuisance: including criminal damage, environmental issues and deliberate fires/arson
- IV. Protecting vulnerable communities: including harassment and threatening behaviour
- V. Reducing Offending and Drug and Alcohol Misuse are cross cutting themes which impact on all priorities

The 2019 Strategic Assessment is currently being produced by the CSP Analyst team based at West Mercia Police HQ. This statutory document was presented in draft to the Partnership in September 2019 and a summary of its initial findings are as follows:-

Crime Type	Data
All Crime	From April 2018 to March 2019 North Worcestershire recorded a total of 21,066 offences, equating to an average of 1750 offences a month. Offences rose significantly in July 2018 (n = 1932) but this increase was not observed during August to September. 24% of all crime across West Mercia (n = 21,081, 24%) took place in North Worcestershire, comparable volume with South Worcestershire (n = 21,338, 25%).
Domestic Abuse	During 2018 to 2019 there were 5,575 Domestic Abuse Incidents in North Worcestershire, an increase of 4% compared to the previous

	<p>year. The most Domestic Abuse Incidents were recorded in July 2018, with the likely contributing factors of the Football World Cup, increased alcohol consumption and warmer weather leading to increased reporting. The majority of incidents occurred in residential properties whilst 20 incidents occurred in bars, pubs or nightclubs.</p>
Hate Crime & Targeted Harassment	<p>In 2018/19 there were a total of 158 Hate Incidents and 41 Race or Religiously Aggravated Fear Offences recorded in North Worcestershire. Racial Hatred accounted for the most Hate Incidents (n = 80), followed by Homophobic incidents (n = 38). As hate crime often targets those who traditionally are more reluctant to report being the victim of an offence for a variety of reasons increases in reports are viewed as a positive, reflecting greater confidence by victims to come forward. Additionally, mobile communication devices are allowing offences to be reported sooner after offences occur. There were a total of 92 Harassment Offences and 51 Racially or Religiously Aggravated Offences recorded. The majority of Harassment Offences were considered intentional (n = 51) and were reported to involve verbal abuse and the use of racist terms and offensive language. Offences often occurred in the street or in shops and supermarkets (n = 11, 12%)</p>
Night Time Economy Violence	<p>For the purpose of the Strategic Assessment, offences associated with the night time economy or NTE are categorised as having occurred between 18:00hrs and 06:00hrs and at premises such as bars, clubs, pubs and on the street. All residential properties are excluded from the analysis. NHS Assault data from October 2018 to March 2019 showed that the majority of assaults occurred at night and were located in Bars or Pubs (n = 50). The most frequent method used was “punch with fist” (n = 92). Often the victim refused to give suspect relationship details to the NHS (n = 61), this may be due to domestic abuse, loyalty or fear of reprisal. Where a relationship was described, most offenders were recorded as ‘strangers’ (n = 53). The majority of the offences occurred in the Street (n = 63), closely followed by Licensed Premises (n = 58).</p>
Residential Burglary	<p>Between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019 there were a total of 1,443 residential burglary offences recorded. October 2018 recorded the highest volume of residential burglary (n = 164). The majority of victims of residential burglaries were older people, likely perceived to pose less of a risk of confrontation to the offender. The most frequent methods of entry were: forced doors (28%), damaged locks (23%), property unsecure (16%) or smashed windows (12%). Garden tools and farm equipment were the most frequently stolen items (13%) alongside cash, cards, wallets and purses (13%) car keys (10%) electrical items (8%) and jewellery (8%) It is highly likely that items are quickly resold and converted to cash and it is widely believed that these items are stolen to fund drug use. There were 136 car key burglaries in the period, most of which involved high value vehicles valued at over £15,000. Improved technology means that cars may now be stolen without the need for keys, referred to as Electronic Compromise Offences or ECOs. Vehicles are entered using an electronic device, often mimicking the electronic key code. Many car key burglaries are believed to be linked to Organised Crime Group (OCG) activity in the West Midlands Police area.</p>

Theft From Store	There were a total of 2,341 offences of Theft from Store recorded across North Worcestershire in 2018/19, which was an increase of 12% in comparison with 2017/18. The volume of offences fluctuated throughout the year with activity between April and August 2018, peaking in May. Overall there were fewer offences during the Autumn and Winter. Most offences occurred at Supermarkets and Shops (n = 1,487, 64%). Commercial garages recorded the next highest volume of offences (n = 41). Items most frequently taken were Alcohol (14%) and Meat (13%).
ASB	There were 9,876 incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in 2018 to 2019 which showed a 5% decrease compared to the previous year. Incidents were highest in July 2018 (n = 1,070, 11%) and then slowly declined until a slight increase in October 2018. This indicates a seasonal trend in activity during the summer months and school holidays, as well as October Half Term and Halloween. Qualifiers are recorded against incidents when the key factors that relate to each incident are described. Over half of the reports (54%) had no qualifier recorded. Of the remaining reports (n = 4,501), the following qualifiers were the most frequently recorded; Youth (n = 804), Drugs (n = 572) and Alcohol (n = 516). A key word search of these reports showed the most common themes were Neighbour issues, Noise, and Drugs.
Youth ASB	Youth related incidents accounted for 8% of all ASB (n = 804). Incidents were often reported in town centres in part due to increased visitor population. Youth related ASB decreased by 24% in comparison to the previous year. However, this is likely due to differences in the application of qualifiers or markers. Most youth related ASB occurred in May 2018 and was likely attributable to the warmer weather but not the two bank holidays. Most youth related ASB incidents involved noise complains (n = 65), followed by incidents involving deliberate fires (n = 39).

Further analysis into key areas is currently being undertaken and the results will be used to develop NWCSP's new three-year Partnership Plan for 2020/23.

3.3 John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner

John Campion was elected as the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia on 5th May 2016. The PCC has a duty to co-operate with CSPs to reduce crime and disorder and there is a reciprocal duty on CSPs to collaborate with the PCC. The PCC and the CSP must have regard to each other's priorities within their respective plans. The PCC's Safer West Mercia Plan was published in October 2016 and his vision will be reflected in the NWCSP Partnership Plan, which the partnership will contribute to delivering at a local level. The PCC's vision is focused on four key areas:

- I. Building a More Secure West Mercia: CSE, domestic abuse, vulnerable people, sexual offences, ASB, drugs and alcohol, reducing reoffending, road safety

II. Reassuring West Mercia's Communities: feeling safe as well as being safe, engaging with the public, protecting from cyber-crime, making voices heard around rural crime

III. Putting Victims and Witnesses First

IV. Reforming West Mercia

Tracey Onslow is the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, appointed in July 2016. Her role is to represent the PCC in communities across West Mercia. Her portfolio includes cyber, rural and business crime, victims' services and commissioning. CSPs have worked closely with the Deputy PCC as the PCCs new commissioning model continues to develop. The first commissioning areas to be considered by the Deputy PCC were CCTV Upgrades and CSP funding for Data Analysis support. Both reviews have been completed and substantial funding has been provided to deliver in both of these key Community Safety areas.

Data Analyst Support - The PCC has taken CSP analytical support directly into the Office of the PCC using a proportion of the ring-fenced funding from each of the West Mercia CSPs plus some additional PCC funding. There is now a team of 3 CSP analyst posts that deliver data and information products for all of the West Mercia CSPs. This includes products such as regular CSP Crime and Data Overviews, Serious & Organised Crime Profiles and the annual Statutory Strategic Assessments.

CCTV Upgrade - In 2017-18 NWCSF was allocated £195,000 of PCC funding over a 3 year period for improvements to the area's CCTV scheme. On behalf of the three Local Authorities, the CSP developed a proposal to use this capital contribution to modernise the CCTV infrastructure that serves the three district areas. The plans will see an upgrade of the current scheme to support to Internet Protocol Recording and will therefore upgrade the technological capabilities of the current scheme to digital processing. This will greatly increase the current CCTV scheme, including enhanced digital capability, improved image quality and greater capacity to expand the scheme and/or link to other digital systems across the region.

In March 2018, NWCSF agreed to allocate a proportion of its ring-fenced revenue grant from the PCC to the project, as the CCTV grant is separate to NWCSF's core funding allocation. Then, January 2019 the PCC provided an additional £50,000 of capital CCTV funding to each CSP in West Mercia.

Given the amounts involved, this project is the most ambitious undertaken by the Partnership and the project is also being match funded by the three District Councils with additional revenue, capital and in-kind contributions being provided to support the project. The total amount of NWCSF funding allocated to the project is £339,000 and work has now begun to implement the scheme upgrade. A technical consultant has been commissioned to design the specification for the upgraded scheme and the tender for the installation and maintenance contract has been published and awarded via a national procurement framework. The project has challenging timescales as the

NWCSP funding has to be spent by 31st March 2020; however, the Project Management Team is confident that all milestones will be achieved and the project successfully completed on time.

3.4 Grant Funding from the PCC 2018/19

Throughout 2018, NWCSP allocated its core-funding received from the PCC to various projects and activities across the three district areas. The amount of funding provided to the CSP is based on previous year's allocations and the table below shows the projects currently being supported by NWCSP.

Project	Funding Amount
North Worcs CSP Contribution to the West Mercia Analyst Team	£20,000
Bromsgrove & Redditch Schools Respect Programme	£28,125
Wyre Forest Keeping Safe Project	£48,125
North Worcs Street Pastors Schemes – Redditch / Wyre Forest	£7,333
North Worcs Young Citizens Challenge 2019	£1,000
North Worcs CCTV Scheme Upgrade (CSP Revenue)	£94,000
North Worcs CCTV Scheme Upgrade (PCC Capital)	£245,000

The progress of the grant funded projects is reported quarterly to the PCC and at the end of the financial year there is a requirement for the CSP to provide a comprehensive evaluation of all funded projects. This includes a breakdown of project expenditure and the outputs/outcomes achieved against the PCCs Plan.

3.5 Local Delivery, Key Projects and Progress

The report will now provide an update on some of the key community safety project activity that took place in 2018/19.

The Council's Community Safety Team continues to monitor and respond to district community safety issues, co-ordinating local operational delivery with partners via the Safer Bromsgrove Group. The team is a first point of contact for residents and partners with concerns about local crime and community safety issues and officers are able to call upon other community safety partners when local concerns require a multi-agency response. The Safer Bromsgrove Group meets on an 8 weekly basis to monitor district activity and performance and to review local operational delivery of projects and initiatives.

Bromsgrove Community Safety Project Officer (CSPO)

David Rischmiller, the Bromsgrove CSPO delivers a number of community safety projects and initiatives and liaises with local communities and groups on crime prevention and personal safety issues. David works with many local community groups (and individual residents) to offer guidance and information

about a variety of community safety concerns. These include Neighbourhood Watches, residents' representative groups, student support events and specific health groups such as dementia support and carers associations. After these wider community events follow-up home and business security visits have been conducted to offer crime prevention advice.

David is a fully qualified Crime Prevention and Design Advisor through the National College of Policing, is one of very few non-serving Police Officers to hold these qualifications.

The CSPO has also responded to a number of ad-hoc calls from residents expressing concern about aspects of crime, ASB and community safety in their neighbourhood where he has offered appropriate advice, contacted other agencies on their behalf and provided additional support as necessary.

For example, In the Lowes Hill Ward, a group of individuals had established themselves on a route used by school and college pupils and significant anti-social behaviour was being reported to be taking place including litter, graffiti and drug dealing. There was a clear risk to young people and the resident's quality of life was being seriously affected. The Project Officer conducted a crime reduction site survey and a number of environmental and physical alterations were identified to discourage the anti-social activity. A site meeting was arranged with the relevant partners and actions identified and tasked. The works were completed with an extensive but attractive line of metal railings put in place to deny offenders access to adjoining land. The removal of the previous wooden fence prevented the area being used as a casual seating and gathering location and the extensive cutting back of the trees and shrubbery has opened up the area to natural surveillance and a general clean-up of the area has taken place. As a consequence the problem has been resolved and no further complaints are being received from residents.

More recent enquiries include reports of a regular gathering of young car racers and associated ASB in the Sidemoor Ward, request for measures to address fear of crime in alleyways in the Charford Ward and provision of support for a targeted victim of crime and ASB in the Catshill ward with engagement with a number of partner agencies to pursue options for a resolution.

In the Rubery shopping centre area, the Project Officer utilised his specialised crime prevention training skills to examine an access alleyway which had been raising concerns for the local traders. A detailed report was prepared outlining constraints and opportunities for designing out crime was provided to the interested parties for consideration.

The Project Officer has also progressed with a number of Community Trigger applications received by the Partnership:-

In Wythall, multiple residents initiated a Trigger following a number of ASB complaints around parking and the sale of commercial vehicles in a residential estate. This resulted in the drafting of a Community Protection Warning which is currently on hold due to the offender moving out of the area during the process. Residents had stated that they felt unsupported by other agencies

and that their concerns were being disregarded and David identified that it was a priority to rebuild their confidence in agencies, which has now been achieved.

In North Bromsgrove, complaints concerning littering, public urination and nuisance associated with vehicles parking in a lay-by near to housing were investigated as part a Community Trigger application. Relevant partners with responsibilities at the location were brought together to look at possible solutions. A number of actions were suggested to try to improve the situation but unfortunately, the Applicant's request for significant changes to the road layout and additional traffic management orders in the area could not be accommodated.

Multiple complaints concerning long standing noise and odour nuisance from a commercial facility formed the first Community Trigger application in the district in June 2018. The complaints have been fully investigated over a prolonged period with a wide range of other enforcement and regulatory agencies being engaged. Investigations by some of these agencies are still ongoing and the Trigger remains open whilst we await further information from relevant agencies.

Whilst not a Community Trigger, a Community Protection Warning is also being considered in relation to an unoccupied, neglected and deteriorating property in the Charford ward which is compromising the amenity of the surrounding area.

Town Centres Management Group

Following a crime and ASB data presentation to the Safer Bromsgrove Group (June 2016) highlighting an increase in alcohol related disorder in the town centre, the group was established to focus attention on partnership activities that could reduce this trend. Led by Cheryl Welsh, the Bromsgrove Town Centres Manager, the group works closely with the CSPO and brings together the Police, local Licensees and Businesses, WRS Licensing Officers and Place Teams to identify community safety issues in the Town Centres and, in particular, the Night Time Economy. The group has had much success in revitalising the local Pub Watch group, revising and modernising its practices and promoting the use of an online information sharing platform that allows the police, licensed premises and businesses to share crime prevention and community safety information and intelligence to other members in a confidential way. The group reports to Safer Bromsgrove as a sub-group but also has a dual function of improving and encouraging footfall in the Town Centres as part of the Council's Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy.

The group has initiated a 'Best Bar None' Scheme within the Town centre licensed sector. This national scheme seeks to raise standards and, by a process of accreditation, help licensed businesses to avoid crime and disorder problems and present themselves as safe and attractive venues.

The CSPO was commissioned by the group to conduct a review of the Town Centre retail area to establish the security of the retail units. Sporadic problems had been experienced with burglary and youths accessing the roof

areas. The review identified responsibilities for individual tenants and property owners and significant gaps in attention which are being raised with them for remedial action.

The Street Pastor Scheme is now into its 7th year of operation and remains a key resource in supporting the safety of the night time licensed sector in the town centre. The Council CSPO has conducted training session with them as part of the development of their skills and abilities.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

The Nominated Neighbour scheme, which aims protecting vulnerable residents from door step crime and rouge trader offences, continues to be a successful local initiative. Over 90 residents have signed up to the scheme to date and initial evaluation and monitoring suggests that not a single resident has had a cold caller after joining the scheme. The scheme is currently operating in Bromsgrove and Redditch but it is anticipated that it will be rolled out across the West Mercia Police area in the near future, featuring as part of their Economic Crime Unit's Prevention Strategy.

The Nominated Neighbour information pack is given to all scheme members and it has been further enhanced with the introduction of a Checkatrade leaflet, which provides a list of local vetted trades. This is particularly important to our most vulnerable residents who often do not have access to the internet but require work to be carried out by a trusted tradesperson. Checkatrade has also agreed to provide the Community Safety with refreshed leaflets for the scheme, each time they are updated.

The CSPO has been delivering presentations about the scheme and general personal safety to various groups that support vulnerable adults across the district. He has also visited banks and building society in the town centre liaising with the Managers, many of whom have agreed to promote the scheme in branches, whenever appropriate. Training in how to sign someone up to the scheme has also been provided to Police Community Support Officers and partners who are now able to promote the scheme in the course of their day to day duties.

Bromsgrove & Redditch Schools Respect Programme

The Respect programme continues to be successful in providing whole day community safety awareness sessions as part of school PHSE drop down days. The programme also provides bespoke classroom sessions on a number of subjects such as recognising and reporting hate crime, understanding healthy relationships/domestic abuse, the dangers of substance misuse and promoting respect and community responsibility. The Respect Programme also provides one to one therapeutic mentoring sessions to individual students who are felt to be at risk of becoming involved in crime and ASB or are at risk of becoming victims of crime.

In the last school year (Sept 18 to July 19), the project saw 334 students receive community safety information during school PHSE lessons and drop down days across Bromsgrove and Redditch. The programme received 187

referrals for 1 to 1 support through the therapeutic mentoring sessions and 39 students received information via targeted small group workshop sessions.

Bromsgrove Youth and Community Hub

The Hub is a Partnership project set up by the YMCA, New Road Baptist Church, the Community Safety Team, the Parenting and Family Support Team. The Hub can be found in the Basement at the Baptist Church and has been funded from various sources including the church itself, the New Homes Bonus, contributions from local businesses and a grant from the Safer Bromsgrove Group.

The Hub Co-ordinator, Sarah Mulhall was appointed May 2018 and the centre officially opened in July 2018. Since then the group has exceeded all expectations in terms of attendance by young people and a number of new groups have been established from the base. These include an LGBTQ+ group, Job Coaching sessions, a Gaming Group, an Arts & Crafts Group, a music group, a Mental Health Support group, a Life Coaching/Empowerment programme funded by Safer Bromsgrove and a Youth Council that takes responsibility for the management arrangements and scheduling of activities at the venue.

The Co-ordinator reports regularly to the Safer Bromsgrove group on progress and outcomes and the project is also supported by the multi-agency Children and Young People's group that meets regularly to manage and co-ordinate Positive Activities for young people in Bromsgrove.

Young Citizens Challenge

The Young Citizen's Challenge is an initiative that has been running in Bromsgrove and Redditch for over 10 years. The project provides community safety and personal safety messages and information to Year 6 pupils from middle schools across both districts. Students, accompanied by their teacher, are taken to a partner location to take part in a range of interactive workshops and activities, raising awareness of various community safety issues.

Young Citizen's Challenge 2019 took place in May and the project was delivered from Bromsgrove Police and Fire Station with 770 young people receiving a variety of community safety messages. Bromsgrove schools that took part in the initiative were Clent Primary, Beaconside Primary, Lickey Hills Primary, Meadow Green Primary, St Kenelms, Catshill Middle and Holywell Primary.

Evaluations received from the schools stated that it was a valuable learning experience for the students. Workshops were described as informative, well organised and enjoyable with, vital life skills areas covered and presented on the right level and in clear and interactive way.

Safe Place Scheme

The Safe Place Scheme is a CSP supported scheme that was set up by Our Way Self Advocacy in Wyre Forest in 2014. The scheme is now operating across Worcestershire and it offers vulnerable people a safe place to go if they have a problem or concern when out and about in the town centres. All

Safe Places are identified by a Safe Place sticker and the organisations employees receive training, so that they are able to give reassurance and help people contact appropriate support, if needed.

A directory of the Safe Places in Bromsgrove and across the county is available at <https://www.ourway.org.uk/our-way-projects/safe-place-scheme/> and there is also a free Safe Place Scheme app available for mobile phones. Downloads of “My Town Worcestershire” from the App Store, will show you your nearest “Safe Place” and can guide you to it via Google Maps.

Community Safety teams in Worcestershire work in partnership with West Mercia Police and Our Way Self Advocacy to support, develop and maintain the scheme across the county.

Hate Crime Awareness Week 2018

As part of national Hate Crime Awareness Week in October 2018, North Worcestershire Hate Incident Partnership organised a joint event for professionals and community members across the three districts. Community Safety teams managed to secure some high profile guest speakers to attend the hate crime conference including businesswoman and “The Apprentice” 2017 candidate Bushra Shaikh and Paralympic Gold Medallist Claire Cashmore MBE. Both speakers shared their experiences of hate crime and how they were able to overcome the barriers.

Over hundred professionals and members of the public attended and felt that the conference was powerful and informative. The conference and work of the partnership was recognised at the National British Muslim Awards in February 2019 where Nadia Rashid, Chair of North Worcestershire Hate Incident Partnership won the prestigious ‘Muslim in the Community Award’.

Hate Crime Awareness Week 2019 was more low key this year, due to a number of staff absences. The week was promoted via social media messages and web activity with individual partners supporting the campaign with promotional materials and leaflets at various events throughout the week.

White Ribbon Campaign 2018

As a part of the international White Ribbon Campaign and its ‘16 Days of Action’, the two NW Community Safety teams organised joint events with Woman’s Aid. The national 16 day campaign aims to increase recognition of domestic abuse and encourage and support people affected by it to seek the support that’s available.

The first event was an event for professionals, held at Parkside on 30th November 2018, focusing on promoting the many support services available for victims of domestic abuse. Over 100 people attended and feedback stated that participants felt the event was very informative and successful.

A second event, specifically for young people was held on 6th December 2018 at Parkside and focused on the impact of domestic abuse and Children Sexual Exploitation (CSE) on young people. The event was used to inform ‘at risk’ young people, identified by the schools across North Worcestershire about grooming, the signs of sexual exploitation and who to turn to for help, in

a sensitive and safe environment. It was extremely impactful and some disclosures were made by young people at the event which enabled them to get individual support from the professionals at the event.

3.6 New and Emerging Areas for the CSP

In July 2019, the then Home Secretary Sajid Javid announced a new legal duty on public bodies to prevent and tackle serious violence. The new 'public health duty' covers the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services and it aims to ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime. It will also allow them to target their interventions to prevent and stop violence altogether

As part of the new duty, the government will amend the Crime and Disorder Act to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships by making sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime. More details can be found here: [House of Commons Library Research Report](#)

This new public health duty was been created taking into account responses from professionals in health, education, police, social services, housing and the voluntary sector after an eight-week public consultation, the findings of which can be found at **Appendix 2**.

More details on the specific requirements of the new duty will be presented to Elected Members as they emerge.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 That progress made by the North Worcestershire CSP be noted.

5. Appendices

Appendix One: NWCSP Structure

Appendix Two: Home Office Consultation on Serious Violence Duty

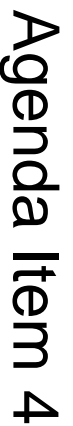
6. Background Papers

West Mercia PCC's Safer West Mercia Plan 2017/21

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Page 13



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Home Office

Consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence

Government response

Contents

Outline and contact details	2
Introduction: Government Approach	3
Background	5
Summary and next steps	6
Annex A: Summary of responses	12
Responses to specific questions	14
Part 1: General questions	14
Part 2: Current work in the area of serious violence	16
Part 3: Questions posed in the body of the consultation document	17
Part 4: Questions about the consultation options and their possible impact	22
Final questions relating to all options, for all respondents	26
Offline Responses	28
Annex B - Methodology	30
Annex C: Consultation principles	31

Outline and contact details

This document is the post-consultation report for the consultation paper, “Consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence”.

It will cover:

- introduction: Government approach
- the background to the consultation
- a summary of the consultation responses
- the next steps following this consultation
- a detailed response to the specific questions raised in the consultation

Further copies of this report and the consultation paper can be obtained by contacting the Serious Violence Unit at the address below:

Serious Violence Unit
Home Office
5th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
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This report is also available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/serious-violence-new-legal-duty-to-support-multi-agency-action>

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Complaints or comments

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Introduction: Government Approach

1. The Government's Serious Violence Strategy is clear that tackling serious violence is not only a law enforcement issue, it needs a multi-agency approach involving a range of partners and agencies such as education, health, social services, housing, youth and victim services with a focus on prevention and early intervention. Action should be guided by evidence of the problems and what works in tackling the root causes of violence. To do this, we must bring organisations together to share information, data and intelligence and encourage them to work in concert rather than in isolation.
2. The proposed new duty is a key building block of the Government's public health approach to preventing and tackling serious violence. We are also investing £100m extra funding in 2019/20 to support increased police activity to tackle knife crime. This includes the provisional allocation of £35m funding for the introduction of Violence Reduction Units in the 18 force areas most affected by serious violence. The proposed duty will complement and assist the Violence Reduction Units in their aim of preventing and tackling serious violence, by providing a strategic platform with the right regulatory conditions to support successful delivery of this multi-agency approach, including through the extended set of partners on whom the duty will fall.
3. Other building blocks to the approach include the £200m investment over ten years for the Youth Endowment Fund, which will focus on targeted early intervention with those children and young people most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence; and the establishment of the cross party, cross sector, Serious Violence Taskforce which is chaired by the Home Secretary, to provide additional oversight and external challenge of this critical work.
4. This all builds on the Government's Serious Violence Strategy which was published in April 2018. In particular, it builds on the analysis of the drivers and risk factors for serious violence set out in the Strategy, as well as the Strategy's commitments such as the investment of £22m in the Early Intervention Youth Fund which is supporting 40 projects in England and Wales; and the introduction of the National County Lines Coordination Centre which has already co-ordinated three separate weeks of intensive law enforcement action resulting in more than 1600 arrests, over 2100 individuals engaged for safeguarding, and significant seizures of weapons and drugs.
5. Noting the opportunities and challenges that have been described in response to the options in the consultation, the Government intends to bring forward primary legislation, when parliamentary time allows, to create a new duty on relevant agencies and organisations to collaborate, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence. In doing so, the Government will create the conditions for flexibility in local areas to allow agencies and bodies to determine how best to work together to address local need. The Government also recognises the important role of Community Safety Partnerships in this context, so we

will amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships.

6. The geographical scope of the proposed new duty is England and Wales, mirroring that of the Serious Violence Strategy. The Welsh Government supports this approach which recognises the importance of creating flexibility for local areas and the intention to complement the existing mechanisms that are already in place to tackle serious violence, and the different legislative and partnership landscape in Wales.

Background

7. The consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence was published on 1 April 2019. It invited comments on three options for achieving an effective multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence.
8. The three proposals set out in the consultation document were:
 - Option one: a new duty on specific organisations to have due regard to the prevention and tackling of serious violence. This was the Government's preferred option and would be achieved by introducing primary legislation to place a new duty on specific organisations to have due regard to the prevention and tackling of serious violence. The list of specific organisations would include local authorities, senior figures in criminal justice institutions, education, child care institutions, health and social care bodies and the police. It would not necessitate a specific multi-agency setting but would act to encourage and improve partnership working and information sharing.
 - Option two: a new duty through legislation to revise Community Safety Partnerships. This could be achieved through legislating to amend Community Safety Partnerships to ensure they have a strategy for preventing and tackling serious violence. This option would directly commit organisations to become members of a partnership (in this case, the Community Safety Partnership) rather than requiring organisations to have "due regard" to preventing and tackling serious violence.
 - Option three: a voluntary non-legislative approach. This approach would encourage areas to adopt voluntary measures to engage in a multi-agency approach instead of, or to complement, introducing a new statutory duty. This would mean a range of organisations would recognise they have an important role to play in preventing and tackling serious violence. The Government would support communities and local partnerships by facilitating the sharing of best practice across geographical boundaries and providing guidance where appropriate.
9. The consultation closed on 28 May 2019 and this report summarises the responses, including how the consultation process influenced the development of the policy consulted upon.

Summary and next steps

10. We have reviewed all responses received to the consultation, through the online questionnaire, postal and email submissions, a breakdown of the results, and findings from these have been set out in this consultation response document at Annex A. The responses indicated that there is clear support for the Government's description of an effective multi-agency 'public health' approach to preventing and tackling serious violence, however there was no clear consensus about which of the three options listed in the paper would best achieve this approach.
11. As set out in the introduction, the Government intends to bring forward primary legislation to create a new duty on organisations to collaborate, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence, and in recognition of the important role of Community Safety Partnerships in this context, we also intend to amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships.

Option One: New duty on specific organisations to have due regard to the prevention and tackling of serious violence

12. 37% of responses supported option one¹. Of respondents who provided information about their professional sector and favoured one of the three options, option one was the preferred option for the criminal justice sector, police and crime commissioners and the research sector. The police sector and members of the public supported equally options one and two.
13. Although some partnerships work well in tackling serious violence, in others there are gaps in performance in terms of competing priorities, strength of partnership, and/or a lack or absence of important elements such as data sharing and intelligence. Successfully dealing with this issue means ensuring that all relevant agencies are focussed on and accountable for preventing and reducing serious violence and a new duty is an important means of achieving this. This option has the advantage in that it places a new duty on specific organisations or authorities but leaves it to them to decide how best to comply. It therefore provides flexibility, but the logic of such a duty should mean that the relevant organisations will engage and work together in the most effective local partnership in that area.
14. We are clear that there is a need for a multi-agency approach involving partners and agencies. Primary legislation will place a statutory duty on specific organisations or authorities to ensure they are focussed on and accountable for preventing and

¹ This includes only online responses from those that did not respond "Yes" to any of the two alternative options, it also excludes any other responses other than "Yes" and "No", "such as "maybe" and "possibly".

reducing serious violence. We want to galvanise the partnerships that are not as effective at preventing and reducing serious violence currently by encouraging them to share data, intelligence and knowledge to generate evidence-based analysis of the problem and solutions.

15. Such a duty would create the conditions for relevant agencies and partners to collaborate and communicate regularly, to use existing partnerships and to share information and take effective coordinated action in their local areas. Ultimately, we want to reduce serious violence across England and Wales, ensuring that everyone can expect an effective collaboration and prioritisation wherever they live.
16. Along with increasing the consistency in terms of the prioritisation and accountability in organisations for preventing and reducing serious violence, respondents to the consultation also highlighted that option one would allow for local flexibility in deciding how to implement.
17. However, as with options two and three, option one did not have a majority of support from respondents to the consultation and we have considered the reasons given for this. As set out in Annex A, the majority were around the belief that existing duties and legislation are sufficient or suggesting funding and time pressures, however, the marked rise we have seen in serious violence since 2014 suggests that more needs to be done.
18. There were also respondents to the consultation who raised concerns that any duty would be placed on individual professionals. The intention has always been to introduce primary legislation that would place a duty on specific organisations, rather than on individual professionals to have due regard to the prevention and tackling of serious violence. However, we do understand the concerns raised where respondents to the consultation have understood option one to be similar to activities under the “Prevent duty”, set out in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which includes guidance detailing a range of activity for staff such as to undertake training to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas. In addition, some respondents raised concerns around the language proposed in option one, specifically having “due regard” being too vague or lacking clarity.
19. In considering these responses, we have re-visited how this new primary legislation will be framed and we have decided not to introduce legislation to “have due regard”, instead we will legislate to ensure that specific organisations or authorities have a duty to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence. This change will ensure that the duty is the responsibility of agencies and bodies rather than individual professionals and to provide the necessary clarity around what is expected, while still enabling those organisations the freedom to decide how to best discharge this duty in their local area.
20. We have heard through the consultation responses that the duty should be flexible enough to take account of the problem profile in local areas. Therefore, we propose

that it will be open to the local area to set its own reasonable definition of serious violence for the purpose of defining the scope of its activities. We expect that this definition should encompass serious violence as defined for the purposes of the Government's Serious Violence Strategy and include a focus on issues such as public space violent crime at its core.

21. The consultation asked if the list of specified agencies set out in Schedule 6 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 are the right organisations to work to tackle and prevent serious violence, with 62% of online respondents agreeing². However, 107 respondents made suggestions for potential additional partners. The most commonly raised suggestions for additional partners to those already included in Schedule 6 were for the voluntary, community and faith sector, clinical commissioning groups and the fire and rescue service to be included.
22. While we have considered these suggestions, we do not feel that it is appropriate to extend the duty to the voluntary sector, instead we intend to provide guidance and support to local areas to ensure that the voluntary, community and faith sectors are engaged in activity effectively, to allow for flexibility at a local level to include the most relevant organisations to tackle and prevent serious violence.
23. The Government will give further consideration to the representations made during the consultation about suitable organisations and authorities who should be subject to the new duty. We will work across government and carry out further informal targeted consultation with relevant organisations and bodies following the Government response, to finalise the list of specific organisations or authorities.

Option Two: New duty through legislating to revise Community Safety Partnerships

24. 40% of online respondents supported option two³. Of respondents who provided information about their professional sector and favoured one of the three options, option two was favoured by fire and rescue services, health and social care, local government, housing and construction sectors and multi-agency boards. The police sector and members of the public supported equally options one and two.
25. This option differs from option one as it directly commits organisations to become members of a Community Safety Partnership rather than placing a duty on specified organisations to preventing and tackling serious violence. This has the benefit of the clarity of legislating for Community Safety Partnerships becoming the lead partnership in fulfilling this key mission against serious violence.

² 117 respondents answered "yes" to this question and 72 responded "no".

³ This includes only online responses from those that did not respond "Yes" to any of the two alternative options, it also excludes any other responses other than "Yes" and "No", "such as "maybe" and "possibly".

26. We recognise that Community Safety Partnerships are stronger in some areas than others, and this variation may initially impact on the effectiveness of some Community Safety Partnerships in tackling violent crime, with a number of respondents raising this concern. In addition, the geographical reach of Community Safety Partnerships might mean they are not the optimum partnership model in all areas. However, a number of respondents⁴ did raise the positive work underway within their area.

“The Community Safety Partnerships are well established with extensive cross-fertilised networks and embedded working practices across the field of community safety, criminal justice, health, safeguarding and the third sector. There has been around 20 years accumulated knowledge, skills, expertise, policy and practice developments across its broad portfolio, that can act as a solid foundation for the introduction of an additional duty and a reinvigoration of the Community Safety Partnership status.”

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

27. We believe that wherever possible, existing partnerships and structures should be used to bring relevant organisations together to prevent and tackle serious violence. While Community Safety Partnerships are not the only partnership to have responsibility for drawing together relevant partners, as an established multi-agency partnership they have a vital role to play in tackling and preventing serious violence.
28. That is why we intend to introduce legislation to amend section 6(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which sets out the strategies Community Safety Partnerships must formulate and implement, to explicitly include serious violence. By ensuring Community Safety Partnerships formulate and implement a serious violence strategy it would ensure that it remains a priority at a local level. Combining this amendment to the Crime and Disorder Act, with a new duty on specific organisations or authorities, would also enable Community Safety Partnerships to raise the issues to a higher strategic level as necessary given that in some local areas there are a significant number of Community Safety Partnerships and this may make it difficult for other partners to engage with them effectively.

Option Three: A voluntary non-legislative approach

29. 23% of online respondents supported option three⁵. Of the respondents who provided information about their professional sector and favoured one of the three options, option three was favoured by the voluntary and community sector and the education and childcare sector.

⁴ 38

⁵ This includes only online responses from those that did not respond "Yes" to any of the two alternative options, it also excludes any other responses other than "Yes" and "No", "such as "maybe" and "possibly".

30. A voluntary non-legislative approach was the option in the consultation document that the fewest respondents felt would be the best approach to tackle and prevent serious violence. Some (25) respondents used the consultation to provide detail about voluntary approaches being taken in their areas, and while there are some voluntary arrangements which work well, a high number of respondents (87) highlighted concerns that without legislation the partnerships in some areas would be weaker than in others.
31. On 18 June 2019, the Home Secretary announced the provisional allocation of £35 million to Police and Crime Commissioners in 18 areas to set up Violence Reduction Unit. These will bring together community leaders and other key partners with police, local government, health and education professionals to identify the drivers of serious violence and develop a response to them. Violence Reduction Units will ensure there is effective planning and collaboration to support a longer-term approach to preventing violence. The proposed duty will complement and assist the Violence Reduction Units in their aim of preventing and tackling serious violence, by providing a strategic platform with the right regulatory conditions to support successful delivery of this multi-agency approach, including through the extended set of partners on whom the duty will fall.
32. We have been working closely with other Government departments and partner agencies, including the police and existing Violence Reduction Units, to develop the core set of requirements that those in receipt of Violence Reduction Unit funding will need to deliver. This has allowed us to provide a clear steer to local areas on how we expect Violence Reduction Unit funding to be applied.

Additional considerations

Inspection, accountability and enforcement

33. It is clear from the majority of online responses to the consultation that responsible authorities subject to the duty would best be held to account through inspections, either joint thematic inspections or by individual inspectorates through their existing inspection powers. We will undertake an informal consultation with inspectorates to scope options for an inspection regime. For example, through joint thematic inspections.
34. There will also be an expectation on relevant agencies, including for any public authorities for which there is no existing inspection body, to publish details of how they carry out their responsibilities under the duty, for example through existing monitoring arrangements or through local multi-agency plans. Finally, the Government will continue to consider what enforcement action for non-compliance might be required.

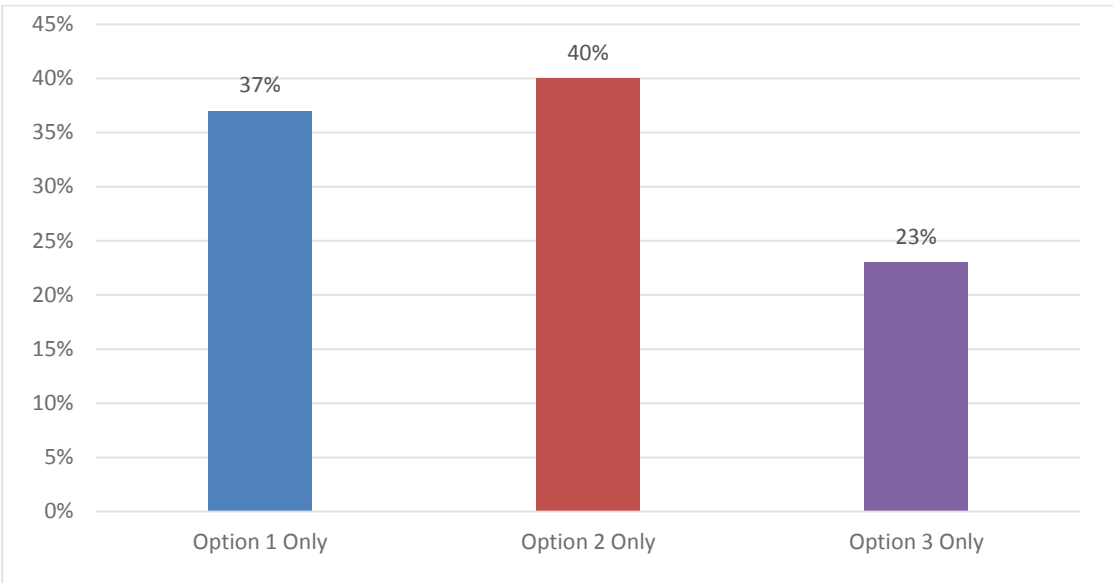
Guidance and support for local areas

35. The Government will publish guidance supporting the new legislation to assist statutory agencies to effectively deliver a multi-agency public health approach. The guidance will highlight best practice and explain how different partnership models can work in practice, including with Violence Reduction Units. In doing so, we will emphasise the importance of involving the voluntary, community and faith sectors, recognising the key contribution that they are able to make in this area, but also allowing for flexibility to ensure that appropriate organisations are working together to tackle the specific challenges faced across England and Wales.

Annex A: Summary of responses

1. A total of 225 responses to the consultation paper were received⁶. Of the 221 respondents who answered the question⁷, 57 (26%) reported that their agency or organisation was in the local government sector, 31 (14%) reported their organisation was in the voluntary and community sector and 29 (13%) reported their agency or organisation was in the police sector.
2. The consultation document provided three options for ways to tackle and prevent serious violence. Of the responses provided to the consultation paper, while there was overall support for the vision to use a multi-agency approach to tackle and prevent serious violence, there was no single option proposed to achieve this that garnered a majority of support.

Table 1: Options Preference



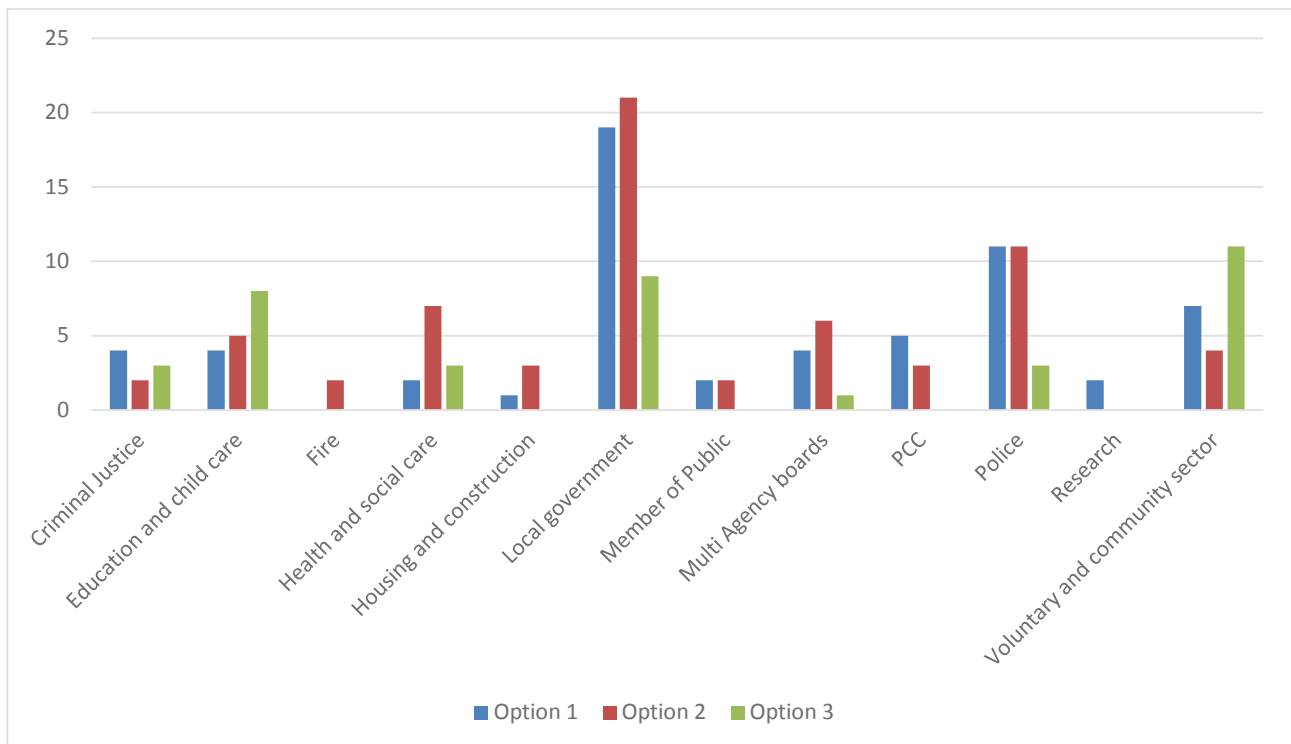
For each option, the graph includes the response for only those that have not responded "Yes" to any of the two alternative options. This chart excludes any other responses other than "Yes" and "No", "such as "maybe" and "possibly".

3. The below chart shows the options favoured by each organisation or agency, where respondents indicated a preference and selected a profession or area in which their organisation worked.

⁶ We received a total of 288 responses to the consultation. 207 responses were received via the Home Office online survey tool, and 81 survey responses were received offline either by completed offline questionnaire, letter or email. 18 of these responses had been filled in to mirror the consultation document and these were added to the 207 and these 225 were analysed together. 63 responses have been analysed separately as "offline responses".

⁷ Excludes 4 responses that did not answer this question

Table 2: Option preference by organisation/agency



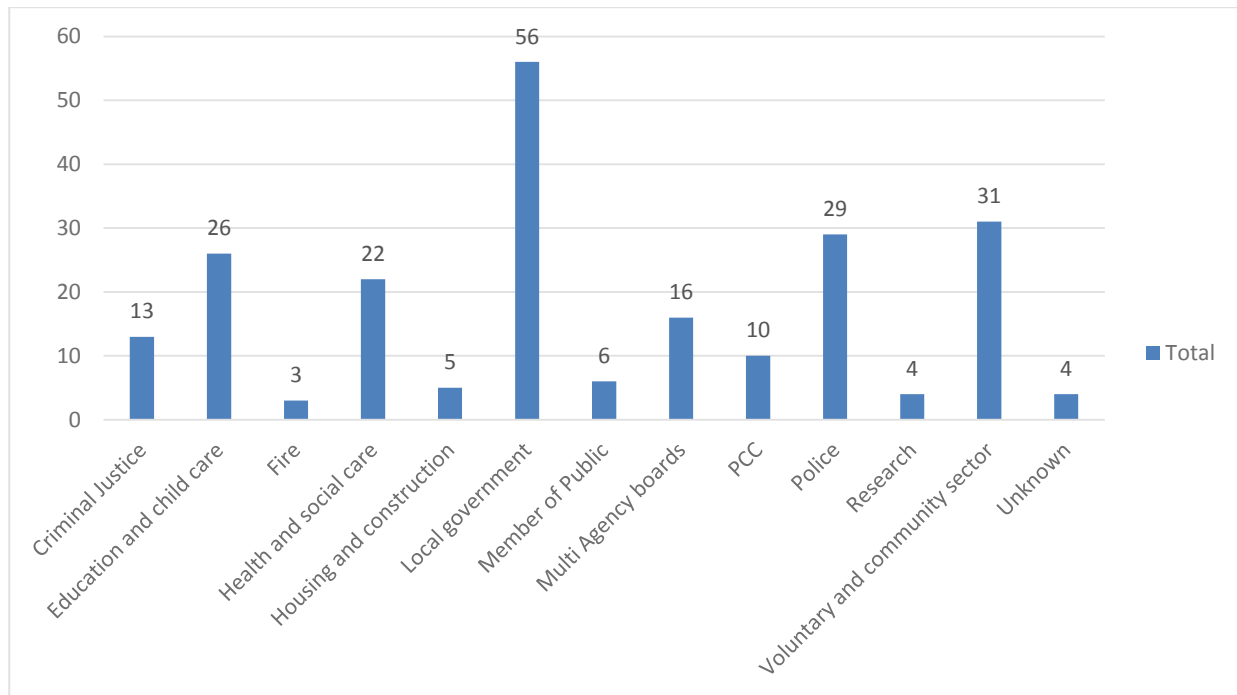
This chart excludes, those that answered yes to multiple options

Responses to specific questions

Part 1: General questions

What sector does your agency/organisation represent?

Table 3: Number of responses by agency/organisation



4. Of the 221 respondents who answered the question, 57 (26%) reported that their agency or organisation was in the local government sector, 31 (14%) reported their organisation was in the voluntary and community sector and 29 (13%) reported their agency or organisation was in the police sector.

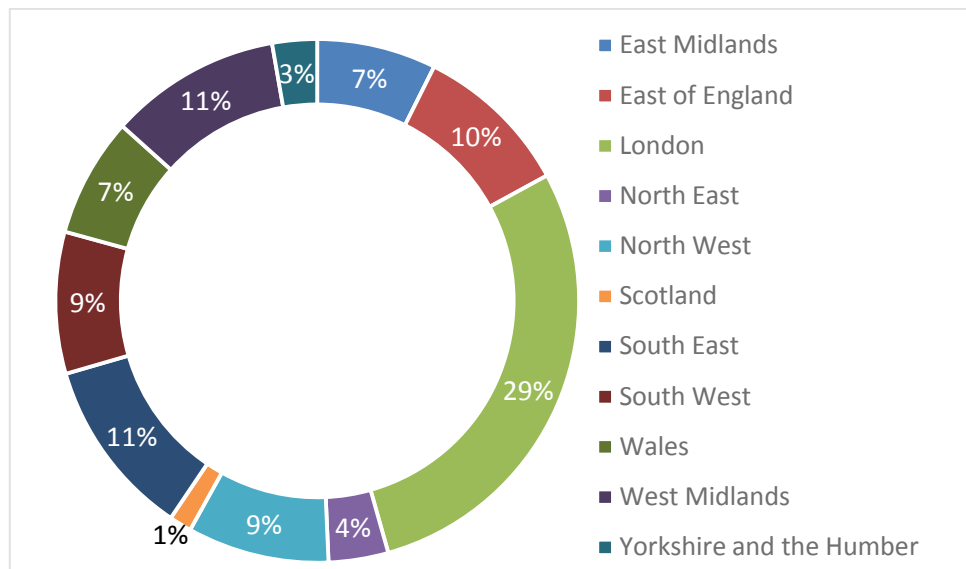
Is your agency/organisation part of or does it work with any existing multi-agency partnership such as a Community Safety Partnership?

5. 76% of those responding to the question reported that their organisation or agency either is currently part of, or works with, an existing multi-agency partnership.

Where is your agency/organisation based?

6. With the exception of Northern Ireland, responses were received from those working in organisations or agencies across the UK. The largest number of responses for any one area came from London with 62 (29%) of the 216 respondents who answered the question. The fewest responses received in England and Wales came from Yorkshire and the Humber with only 6 (3%).

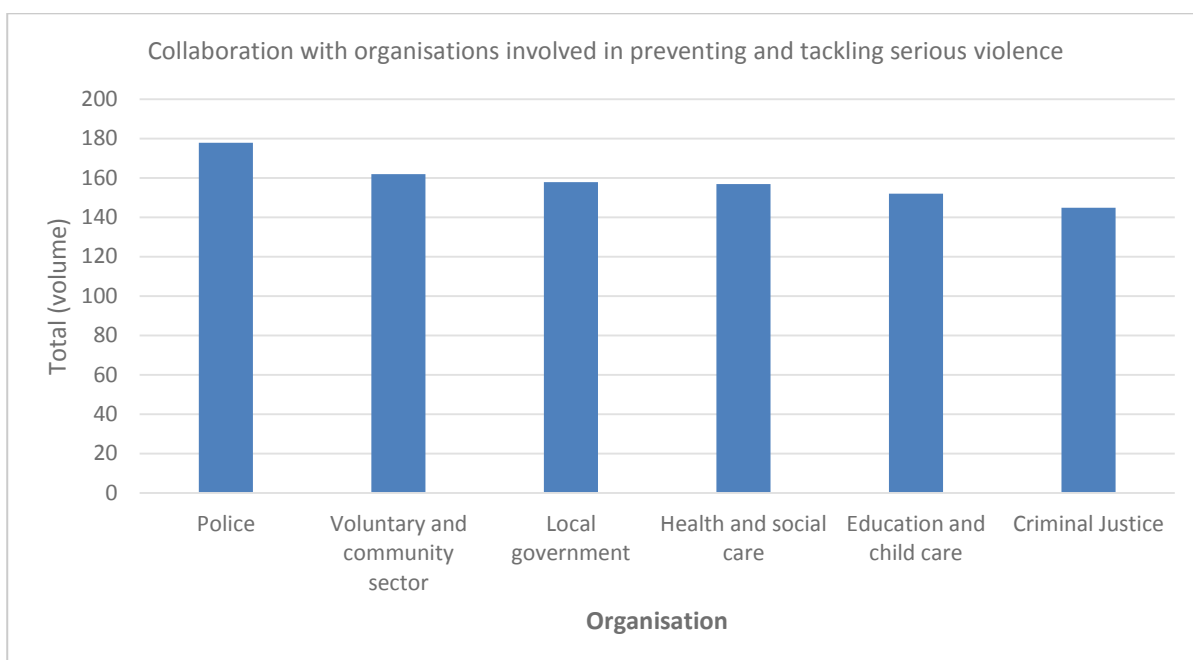
Table 4: Percentage of responses by region



What agencies/organisations do you work closely with to prevent and tackle serious violence in your area? Multiple answers possible

7. Of the respondents that indicated they work with other organisations in preventing and tackling serious violence, the most commonly selected organisations or sectors were: police, voluntary and community sector, local government and health and social care. However, the majority of respondents indicated they worked with all the organisations listed.

Table 5: Number of respondents working in collaboration with other organisations

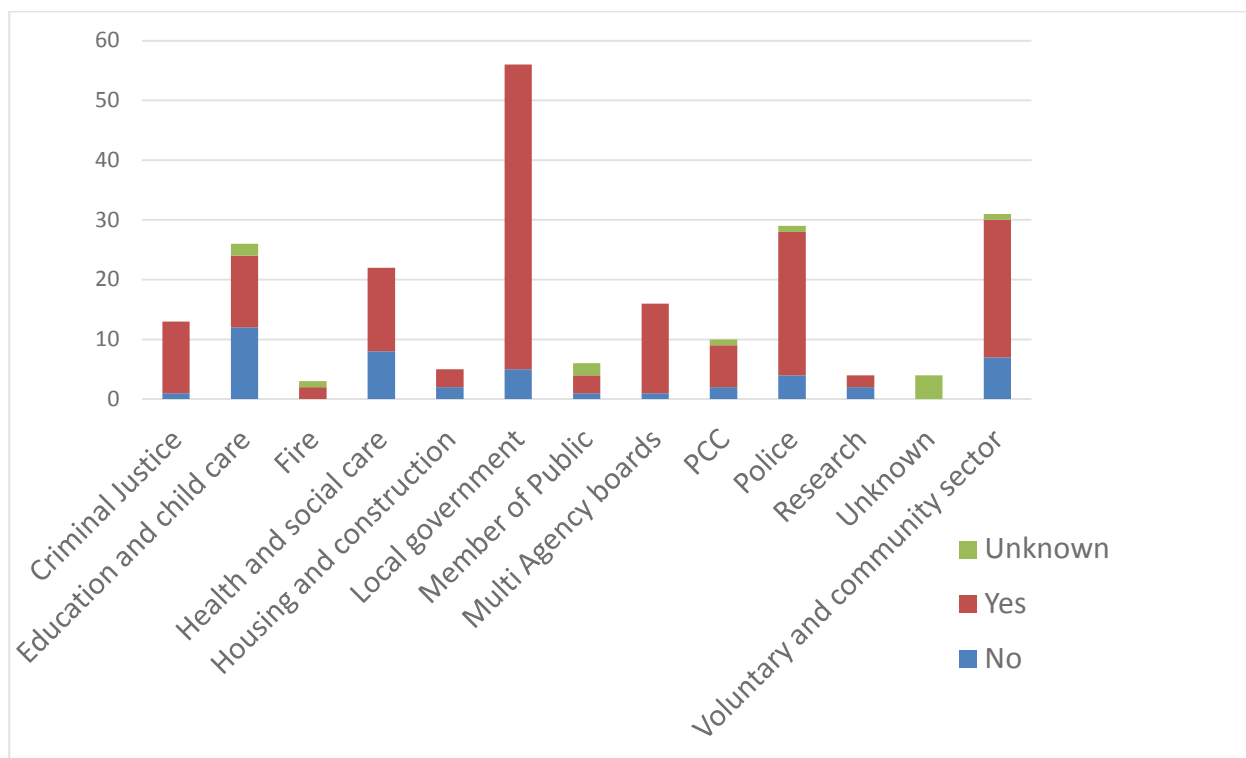


Part 2: Current work in the area of serious violence

Does your agency/organisation currently have activities in place to prevent/tackle serious violence?

8. The majority of those responding to this question (79%) answered yes to this question that there are currently activities within their organisation or agency to prevent and/or tackle serious violence. The chart below provides a breakdown per agency or organisation responding. Out of the 24 respondents from the education and childcare sector that provided an answer, 50% reported that their agency/organisation does not currently have activities in place to prevent/tackle serious violence.

Table 6: Number of respondents with current activities in place



If you are currently working in an agency/organisation with an interest in serious violence:

What kind of activity do you undertake in preventing and tackling serious violence?
Multiple answers possible.

9. The most commonly raised activities respondents answering this question said that they were undertaking were early intervention and preventative initiatives for root causes e.g. education and funding for intervention and prevention services e.g. youth services and drug/alcohol centres.

If you currently do not have activities in place to prevent/tackle serious violence, what activities do you feel would be beneficial to address serious violence in your area? Open question.

10. Of those responding to this question, some raised concerns in their responses that preventing or tackling serious violence was not part of their role and took the opportunity to express their dislike for the policy proposals outlined in the consultation document. The most common point raised in these responses was that preventing or tackling serious violence was not part of the role of the individual responding or organisation (for example educational or health professionals).
11. Of those responding suggesting activities that would be beneficial, the suggestions included early intervention and prevention initiatives, including increased funding to support initiatives and further funding for the police.

“Early intervention programmes to reduce the known risk factors among vulnerable children and young people.”

Central Bedfordshire Council

“Local Authority ring fence funding on prevention services aimed at preventing underlying causes of serious violence, and in particular drug treatment services”

Office of the Durham Police & Crime Commissioner

Part 3: Questions posed in the body of the consultation document

Do you agree that the vision and focus for a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence is correct? If not, please explain why.

12. The clear majority of respondents (86%) to the consultation indicated support for a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence.
13. Of those providing an open question response, the majority reiterated their support for a multi-agency approach or from those providing positive work underway in their area or supporting academic research.
14. The most commonly raised reasons for not supporting the vision for a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence were the concerns that it does not focus on the broader or underlying issue causing serious violence, or concerns around the lack of funding or time organisations and staff have.

"I think more needs to be done at the early intervention stage by other agencies in conjunction with police there are opportunities that are missed to divert people getting involved in serious violence"

Met Police Officer

"... we do not consider that the vision developed in this consultation fully represents a public health approach to serious violence. The public health approach considers serious violence as an epidemic that has to be treated with the same whole system preventative approach as an epidemic disease."

Safer London

**Do you consider that Option One would best achieve the consultation vision?
Please explain why.**

15. 37% (61) of respondents stated that Option One was their preferred option. The most commonly raised explanations for either agreeing or disagreeing with Option One were that existing duties and legislation were sufficient to tackle serious violence (39) or a dislike for taking a legislative approach. Respondents also raised concerns around the lack of funding or time organisations and staff have.
16. Respondents also expressed that Option One would allow for local flexibility in deciding how to implement and that it could have a positive impact on consistency across England and Wales in terms of the prioritisation and accountability in organisations for tackling serious violence. A number of respondents also highlighted the positive work they are doing with regard to tackling serious violence or suggestions for how Option One could work in their area.

"It is believed that the existing duty to consider crime and disorder in all aspects of service delivery is sufficient and a further specific duty would simply duplicate this."

Oldham Community Safety & Cohesion Partnership

"I think that the partnership landscape is complex and becoming ever more so. Statutory footing would ensure that partners had clear deliverable frameworks and would give the ability to challenge and hold each to account."

Avon & Somerset Police, Safeguarding Team

"This enables agencies to prioritise the issue of serious violence but to be creative in creating bespoke multi agency solutions that work for the local area"

Cheltenham Borough Council, Strategy & Engagement

"We consider Option One to be the best means of achieving the consultation vision. Establishing a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach provides both focus and accountability for partners to prevent and tackle serious violence."

Office of Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner

Do you consider the specific agencies listed in Schedule 6 to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 the right partners to achieve the consultation vision? If not, please explain why.

17. Of the 185 respondents who provided a definitive "yes" or "no" to this question, 111 felt that the agencies listed in schedule 6 were the right partners to achieve the consultation vision, 74 respondents did not. However, 107 respondents then went on to answer the second part of the question. The majority of those responding to this question felt that the list of organisations as set out in Schedule 6 needed to be updated. The most commonly raised suggestions for additional partners to those already included in Schedule 6 were for the voluntary, community and faith sector (23), clinical commissioning groups (19) and the fire and rescue service (15).

"There is a significant role for the wider voluntary, community and faith sector in relation to delivering sustainable long-term outcomes for the vision.

Sefton Council, Communities Team

"CCG's should be an integral core member, if they don't commission the right services (with the most effective measures), there could be a fractured offer across the piece."

Avon & Somerset Police, Safeguarding Team

"Consideration may also need to be given to including Fire and Rescue Authorities given their role in prevention."

Welsh Local Government Association

Do you consider that Option two would best achieve the consultation vision? Please explain why.

18. 40% of respondents felt that option two would best achieve the consultation vision. However, there were concerns expressed including the lack of funding or time organisations and staff have. There were also concerns raised about the inconsistency, both geographically and in terms of reach, that community safety partnerships had, that the option targeted the wrong agencies or made suggestions for alternative target agencies and that the current duties and legislation were sufficient to tackle serious violence.

19. Again, some respondents provided examples of how they believed option two could work and of positive work underway in their area or organisation.

“As noted in the consultation document, the geographical reach of Community Safety Partnerships differs across the country and in many cases means that they are not the optimum partnership model as decision making may be more effective at a higher strategic level.”

Devon County Council, Communities Team

“...partnership established would be insufficient to achieve consistency cross sector. This would not be in line with existing practices including the partnership established through the OPCC. There would be concerns that this would lead to geographical inconsistency by not harmonising the approach across PCC areas.”

East Sussex County Council, Communities Team

“Community Safety Partnerships are in a key position to challenge serious violence as a contextual safeguarding arena. However, the issue cannot be addressed just through these partnerships and need health providers and education, amongst others, to work effectively together, to avoid exclusion and put in services at the Early Help level.”

Devon County Council, Communities Team

Should the list of Statutory Partners in Community Safety Partnerships be added to so that they can adequately prevent and tackle serious violence in local areas? If so, what organisations?

20. The majority of those responding believed that the list of statutory partners in Community Safety Partnerships should be added to with 116 respondents definitively responding “yes” to the first part of this question and 68 responding “no”. However, 131 respondents went on to provide a further response, with the most commonly seen suggestions being educational establishments (schools, colleges etc), the voluntary, community and faith sector and residential homes and social landlords.

“Education – particularly when working on these issues due to the links between gang involvement and exclusions/off rolling. Working with young people in PRUs is key when considering this agenda.”

Safer Wolverhampton Partnership, City of Wolverhampton Council

“The communities and the young people affected by violence who are not represented in any of the available options.”

MAC UK

“If option 2 is selected, we feel that a wide range of third sector organisations must be involved, including equality organisations”

Diverse, Cymru

“All housing providers should have a greater statutory role in crime prevention and all health agencies should have more explicit duties placed on them with regard to information and data sharing.”

Redditch Borough Council & Bromsgrove District Council

**Do you consider that Option Three would best achieve the consultation vision?
Please explain why.**

21. This was the least preferred option with only 23% of respondents believing that option three would be the best approach. The most frequently cited reasons for it not being the best approach were that the respondent either did not think that a voluntary approach to tackling serious violence would work as it was weak or that legislation was needed.

“There was no support for a voluntary, non-legislative approach. In the current financial climate where resources are stretched so thinly it was felt that there needed to be an element of compulsion and if there was not, then organisations would simply opt out.”

Northumbria Police

“This would be a backward step. We need the strength of legislation to tackle a national problem”

Haybrook College

“In order to engage all necessary partners included within this vision we believe a requirement to participate is necessary.”

Office of the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex

What other measures could support such a voluntary multi-agency approach to tackling serious violence, including how we ensure join up between different agencies?

22. Of the 150 people/organisations responding to the question about what other measures could support a voluntary multi-agency approach, a number of points were raised including funding, information and intelligence sharing, the requirement for a strong and clear lead or governance structure to be in place and the need for timely and therapeutic interventions.

23. As with previous options, some respondents provided examples of work being done, and models used within their area or by their organisation.

“Easier information sharing processes and regular meetings to discuss areas of concern.”

OneLife Suffolk

“Have a national body lead that is recognised and has authority. Doesn’t need to be directly linked to government like Home Office.”

Met Police Officer

Part 4: Questions about the consultation options and their possible impact

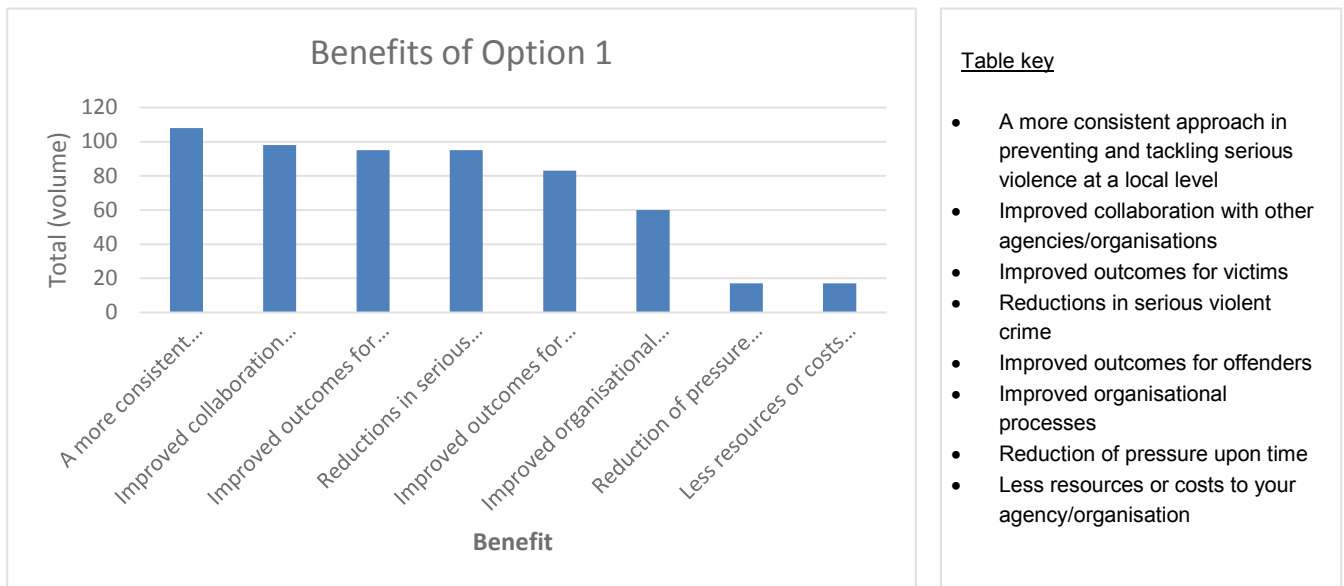
24. Many of the responses provided to the questions in Part 4 of the consultation document (time/resource, staff and other costs) have been used to inform our impact assessment which has been published alongside this response document. For further details please see the published impact assessment.

Option 1: a new duty on specific organisations to have due regard to the prevention and tackling of serious violence

What, if any, benefits do you envisage under the proposed option? Multiple answers possible.

25. Of the respondents that envisaged benefits under option one, the most commonly selected benefits were a more consistent approach in preventing and tackling serious violence at the local level, improved collaboration with other organisations and improved outcomes for victims and reductions in serious violent crime.

Table 7: Benefits of Option 1

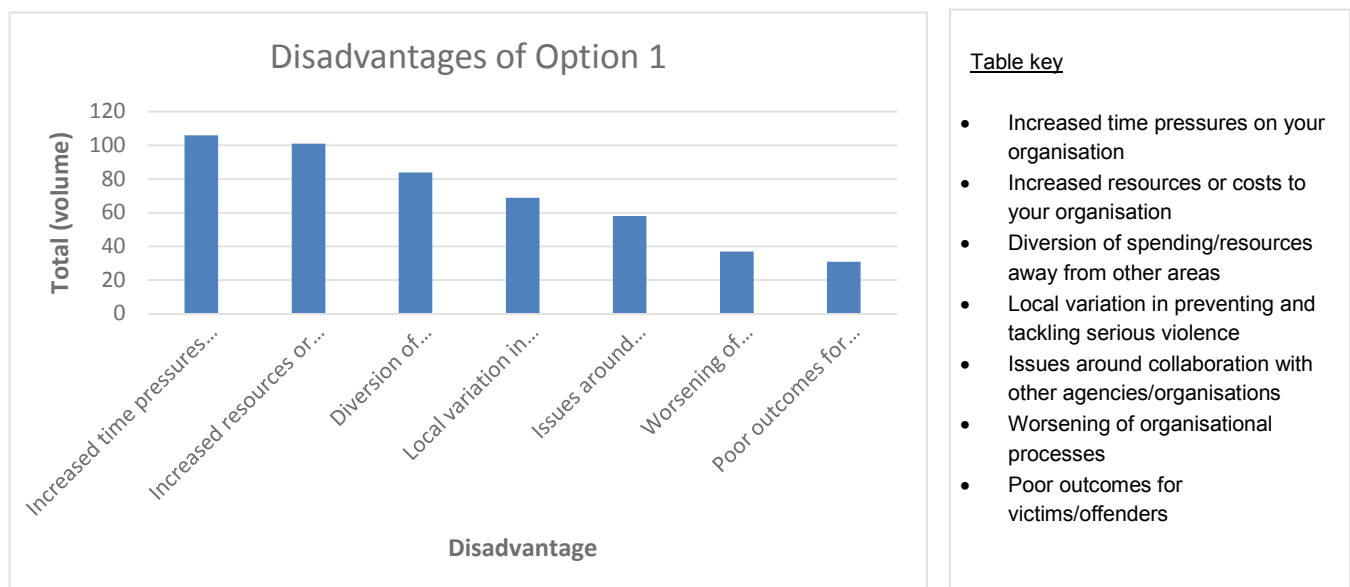


What, if any, disadvantages do you foresee arising from the proposed option?

Multiple answers possible.

26. Most respondents ticked 'no' for this question and did not identify any disadvantages with this option. Where concerns were raised these included potential time pressures and costs.

Table 8: Disadvantages of Option 1

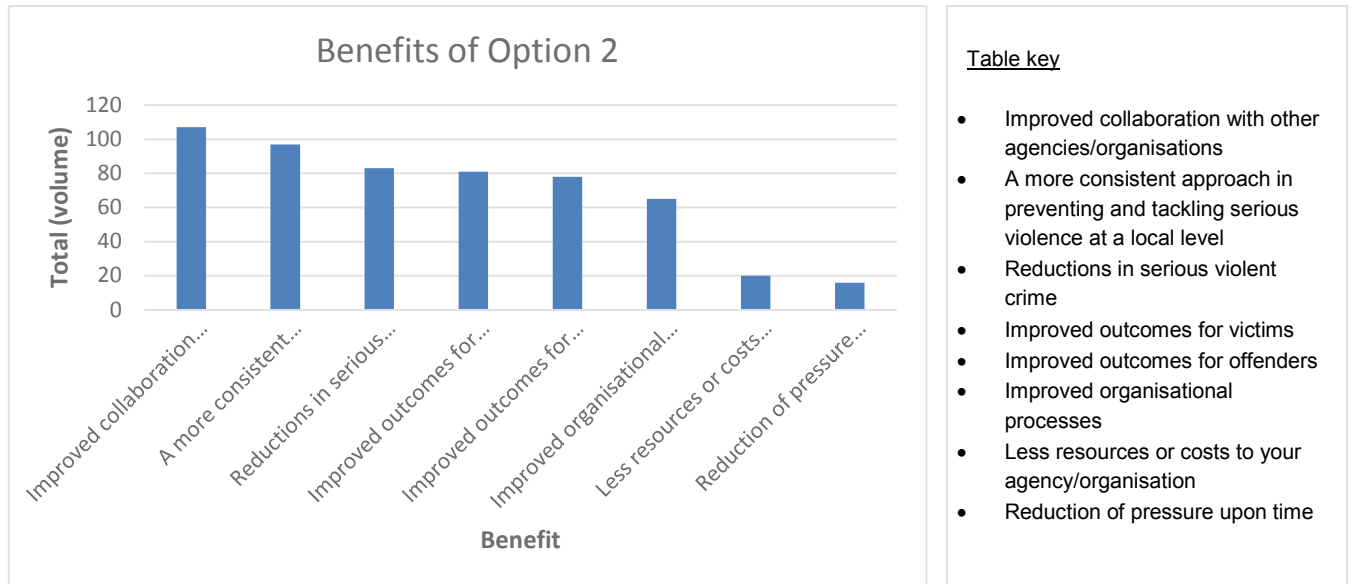


Option Two: New duty through legislating to revise Community Safety Partnerships

What, if any, benefits do you envisage under the proposed option? Multiple answers possible.

27. As with option one, of the respondents that envisaged benefits under option two the most commonly selected benefits were improved collaboration with other organisations and a more consistent approach in preventing and tackling serious violence at the local level. However, most respondents ticked 'no' for the listed benefits of option two.

Table 9: Benefits of Option 2



What, if any, disadvantages do you foresee arising from the proposed option?
Multiple answers possible.

28. Most respondents ticked 'no' for this question and did not identify any disadvantages with this option. Where concerns were raised these included potential time pressures and costs.

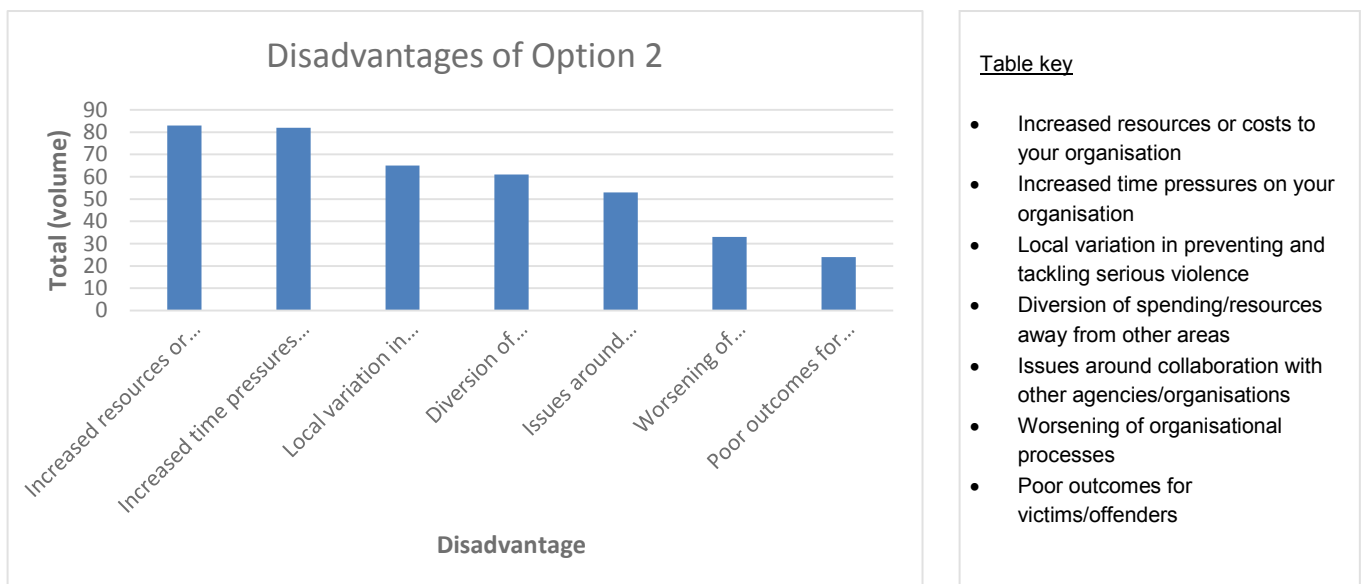


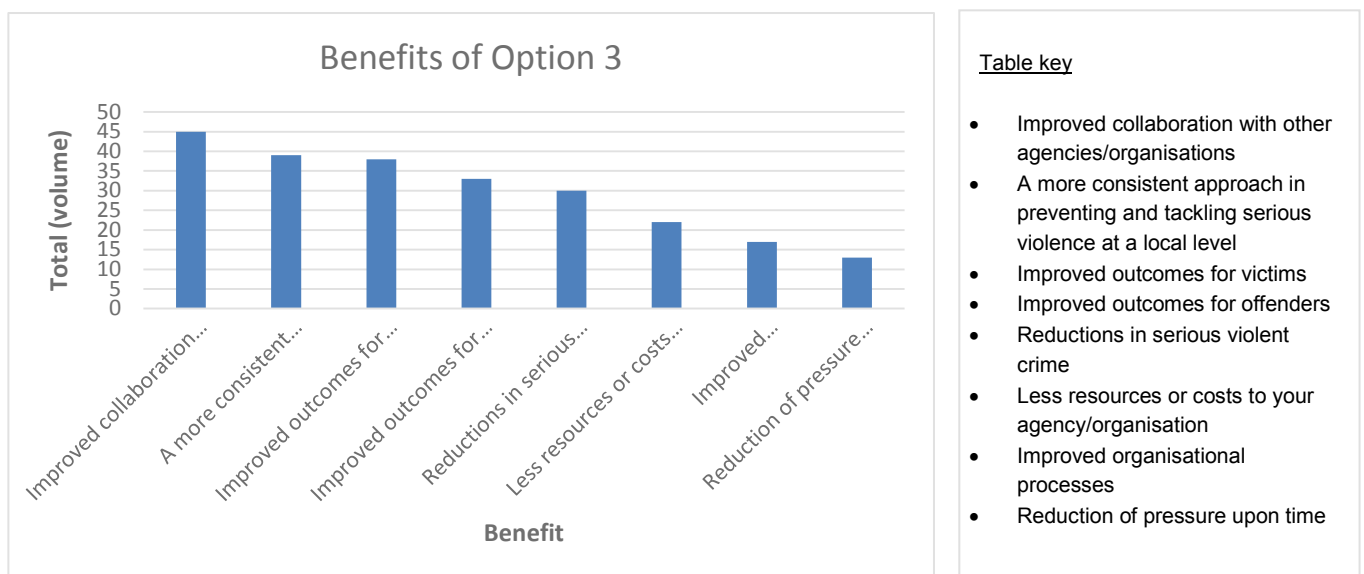
Table 10: Disadvantages of Option 2

Option Three: A Voluntary Non-legislative approach

What, if any, benefits do you envisage under the proposed option? Multiple answers possible.

29. As with options one and two, of the respondents that envisaged benefits under option three the most commonly selected benefits were improved collaboration with other organisations, a more consistent approach in preventing and tackling serious violence at the local level and improved outcomes for victims. It should be noted that this option had fewer responses indicating benefits compared with options one and two.

Table 11: Benefits of Option 3



What, if any, disadvantages do you foresee arising from the proposed option? Multiple answers possible.

30. Most respondents ticked 'no' for this question and did not identify any disadvantages with this option. Where concerns were raised, these included local variation in preventing and tackling serious violence; and issues around collaboration with other organisations.

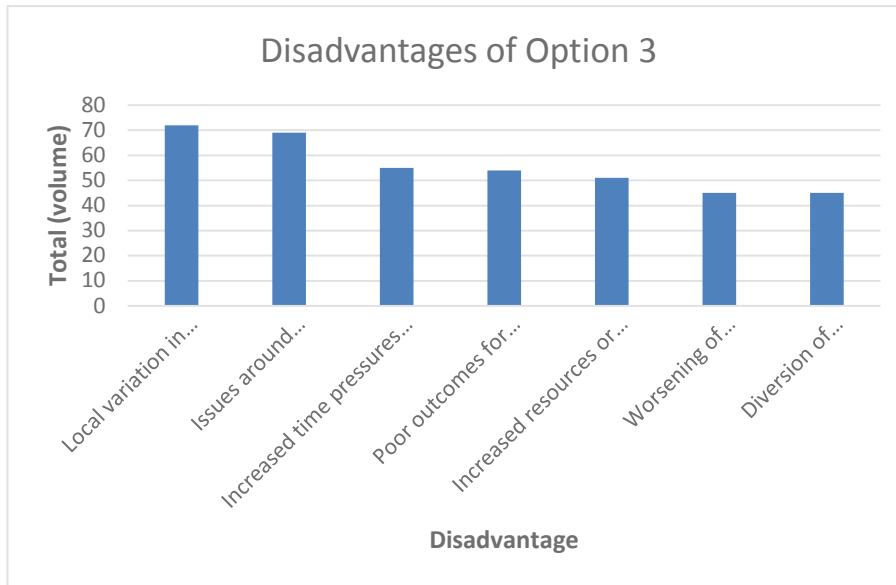


Table key

- Local variation in preventing and tackling serious violence
- Issues around collaboration with other agencies/organisations
- Increased time pressures on your organisation
- Poor outcomes for victims/offenders
- Increased resources or costs to your organisation
- Worsening of organisational processes
- Diversion of spending/resources away from other areas

Table 12: Disadvantages of Option 3

Final questions relating to all options, for all respondents

How can the organisations subject to any duty or voluntary response be best held to account?

31. Of the 196 respondents to this question, the majority thought that organisations subject to a duty or a voluntary response would be best held to account through inspections (either joint or by individual inspectorates), as suggested in the consultation document.
32. Other responses given included suggestions of self-reporting for organisations (for example through annual reports or self-assessments), through reporting against clearly defined performance measures or via existing accountability regimes and mechanisms.

“Through inspection processes in addition to performance frameworks that are robustly managed and monitored”

Office of Police & Crime Commissioner, Cleveland

“Supported by a meaningful national performance framework that measure positive impact over action and allows for consistency and baselining to identify good practice and struggling areas.”

Northamptonshire Police

“Submission of self-audit tools, action plans and remedial updates”

Safer North Hampshire

Aside from your answers given in previous sections, are there any other considerations that you would like to raise regarding one or more of the proposed options? Open question.

33. Of the 115 responding to this question, the most commonly raised response was, as seen in previous questions, concern around funding or time pressures faced by their organisation – a number of respondents also expressed the view that greater accountability or leadership was needed from the Government.
34. Again, a number of respondents took the time to inform us of local approaches being taken or to provide research or data.

Offline Responses

35. Alongside the online survey tool, we received a number of responses directly through the published email address inbox and one through the postal address.⁸ Of these, 63 responses were submitted in a format incompatible with the overall analysis and as such we have had to consider these separately here.
36. Of the 59 respondents who provided information about the sector that their agency/organisation represented, 25% were from the police sector, 22% from the local government sector, 12% were from the health and social care sector, 8% from both the education and childcare sector and the voluntary sector and 5% from the criminal justice sector. 18% were categorised as “other”, this included members of the public, unions, the Children’s Commissioner and housing bodies.
37. Of the 81 offline responses the majority, 78%, explicitly stated that they supported tackling and preventing serious violence through multi-agency working.
38. Where respondents expressed support for one of the options outlined in the consultation document, 14 respondents agreed with or supported option one, 15 respondents supported option two and 15 respondents supported option three. Seven respondents expressed support for a combination of options, for example option one and option two, option one and option three or option two and option three.
39. Some respondents also expressed disagreement for the options outlined in the consultation paper, with 21 disagreeing with option one, 15 disagreeing with option two and 13 disagreeing with option three.
40. Those responding offline, raised similar concerns to those responding online. Nine respondents did not support the adoption of a legislative approach and 10 respondents suggested that existing duties or legislation were sufficient to tackle and prevent serious violence. 20 respondents suggested that they needed further clarity on how the options would work and 19 raised the need for best practice sharing or guidance.
41. Regarding how organisations subject to any duty or voluntary response can be best held to account, 16 respondents provided an opinion. Seven advocated for joint or individual inspections, four suggested police and crime commissioners have governance and oversight of any duty, two respondents suggested accountability through clear performance measures and reporting and two respondents suggested that accountability should take place via existing accountability regimes.

1. ⁸ We received 81 offline responses either directly through the published email address inbox and one postal response. 18 of these responses had been filled in to mirror the consultation document and these 18 are included within the 225 responses considered within the overall analysis as set out in the previous chapter.

42. Additional suggestions raised by those responding offline included the need for early intervention, the need to involve the community, community groups and young people and the view that any response to serious violence should be based on evidence and research.

Annex B - Methodology

1. The consultation questions were developed by Home Office policy officials and analysts. Economists were involved in the questions relevant for the Impact Assessment.
2. We received a total of 288 responses to the consultation. 207 responses were received via the Home Office online survey tool, and 81 survey responses were received offline either by completed offline questionnaire, letter or email. 18 of these responses had been filled in to mirror the consultation document and these were added to the 207 and analysed these 225 were together. 63 responses have been analysed separately as “offline responses”. The analysis of the offline responses is further described in Annex A.
3. As the consultation was open for anyone to respond, it was not possible to calculate response rates.
4. Home Office analysts did not weight the findings as it was not possible to determine with confidence what responses were submitted in personal or professional capacity. In addition, the weighting would be arbitrary as there are various factors that could influence how much importance could be given to difference responses.
5. The open-ended questions in the online questionnaire and the other responses as submitted by email or post were coded into various themes to facilitate the analysis of large volumes of qualitative responses. The responses were predominantly coded following a ‘bottom-up’ approach in which the codes were developed based on the responses. The final coding framework as derived from the online coding then formed the basis for the offline coding, alongside any new codes that emerged from the analysis of the offline data.
6. Through this reiterative process a framework of common themes emerged, which were subsequently used for the analysis.
7. As a guiding principle, for each question the most frequently occurring responses were identified and reported accordingly.
8. The closed questions relating to the three options and their costs and benefits were analysed in Excel by two Home Office analysts and this analysis was subsequently checked for quality by two Home Office analysts not involved in the analysis previously.
9. The open questions relating to the costs and benefits of the three options were coded and analysed by one Home Office analyst in Excel. One Home Office analyst not

involved in the coding and analysis checked a random sample of 30 per cent of the coded responses and the final analysis.

10. The other open questions of the online questionnaire and offline responses as reported in this document were coded and analysed by policy officials in Excel. The coding was conducted by two policy officials for each set of online and offline responses, and one Home Office analyst not involved in the coding checked a random sample of approximately ten per cent of the coded responses.
11. The findings as presented in this document exclude the blank responses.
12. The findings from the open-text responses as presented in this document were not broken down by geography or sector due to a low number of responses per theme identified.

Annex C: Consultation principles

The principles that government departments and other public bodies should adopt for engaging stakeholders when developing policy and legislation are set out in the consultation principles.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>



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CABINET LEADER'S WORK PROGRAMME

1 DECEMBER 2019 TO 31 MARCH 2020

(Published as at 1st November 2019)

This Work Programme gives details of items on which key decisions are likely to be taken in the coming four months by the Council's Cabinet

The Work Programme gives details of items on which key decisions are likely to be taken by the Council's Cabinet, or full Council, in the coming four months. **Key Decisions** are those executive decisions which are likely to:

- (i) result in the Council incurring expenditure, foregoing income or the making of savings in excess of £50,000 or which are otherwise significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the district;

If you wish to make representations on the proposed decision you are encouraged to get in touch with the relevant report author as soon as possible before the proposed date of the decision. Contact details are provided, alternatively you may write to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, Parkside, Market Street, B61 8DA or e-mail: democratic@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

The Cabinet's meetings are normally held every four weeks at 6pm on Wednesday evenings at Parkside. They are open to the public, except when confidential information is being discussed. If you wish to attend for a particular matter, it is advisable to check with the Democratic Services Team on (01527 881443) to make sure it is going ahead as planned. If you have any queries Democratic Services Officers will be happy to advise you. The full Council meets in accordance with the Councils Calendar of Meetings. Meetings commence at 6pm.

CABINET MEMBERSHIP

Councillor K J May	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, the Town Centre and Strategic Partnerships
Councillor G N Denaro	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Enabling (including Governance/Policy and Performance/HR)
Councillor S Webb	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Housing and Health and Well Being
Councillor A Kent	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services
Councillor M Sherrey	Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services
Councillor P Thomas	Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services and Community

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
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Estate Management and Facilities Management Structure Proposals Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020	This report may contain exempt information which would need to be considered in private session.	Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services Tel: 01527 881429 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Fees and Charges 2020/21 Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Finance Monitoring Quarter 2 Report Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Housing Allocations Policy - Outcomes of Consultation Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Derek Allen, Strategic Housing Manager Tel: 01527 881278 Councillor S. A. Webb
Management Review Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Chief Executive	Kevin Dicks, Joint Chief Executive Tel: 01527 64252 Ext 3250 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Medium Term Financial Plan - Update Report Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
North Worcestershire Economic Growth Strategy Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020			Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development Tel: 01562 732192 Councillor K. J. May
Review of the Customer Access and Financial Support Service Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020	This report may contain exempt information and therefore might need to be considered in private session.	Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Jayne Pickering, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) Tel: 01527 881207 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Worcestershire Minerals Plan Statement of Common Grounds Key: No	Cabinet 4 Dec 2019 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Head of Planning and Regeneration	Mike Dunphy, Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager Tel: 01527 881325 Councillor A. D. Kent

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Essential Living Fund Policy Key: No	Cabinet 15 Jan 2020 Council 22 Jan 2020		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Lisa Devey, Customer Support Manager Tel: 01527 534162 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Housing Strategy Key: No	Cabinet Not before 15th Jan 2020		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Derek Allen, Strategic Housing Manager Tel: 01527 881278 Councillor S. A. Webb
Medium Term Financial Plan - Update Report Key: No	Cabinet 15 Jan 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Residual Waste Minimisation Business Case Key: No	Cabinet 15 Jan 2020		Report of the Head of Environmental Services	Matthew Austin, Environmental Senior Improvements Officer Tel: 01572 882537 Councillor M. A. Sherrey

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Homelessness Grant and Flexible Homelessness Support Grant Awards 2020/21 Key: No	Cabinet 15 Jan 2020		Report of the Head of Community Services	Derek Allen, Strategic Housing Manager Tel: 01527 881278 Councillor S. A. Webb
Members ICT Policy Key: No	Cabinet Not before 22nd Jan 2020		Report of the Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development	Mark Hanwell, ICT Transformation Manager Tel: 01527 881248 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Domestic Abuse Policy - Identifying Abuse and Responding Effectively Key: No	Cabinet 12 Feb 2020 Council 26 Feb 2020		Report of the Head of Community Services	Bev Houghton, Community Safety Manager Tel: 01527 64252 Councillor P. L. Thomas
Medium Term Financial plan - 2020/21 - 2023/24 Key: No	Cabinet 12 Feb 2020 Council 26 Feb 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Pay Policy Statement 2020/21 Key: No	Cabinet 12 Feb 2020 Council 26 Feb 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Council Tax Resolution Key: No	Cabinet 26 Feb 2020 Council 26 Feb 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Finance Monitoring Quarter 3 Report Key: No	Cabinet 18 Mar 2020		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Leisure and Cultural Services Strategy Key: No	Cabinet 1 Apr 2020 Council 22 Apr 2020		Report of the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services	Dave Cove, Interim Head of Leisure and Cultural Services Councillor P. L. Thomas

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

WORK PROGRAMME

2019/20

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board considers and agrees the work programme and updates it accordingly.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Date of Meeting	Subject	Additional Information
13th November 2019	Scrutiny of the Crime and Disorder Partnership NOTE: Liaise with the Community Safety Manager regards inviting relevant stake holders to this meeting.	There is a statutory requirement for the Board to have a meeting dedicated to this subject at least once a year.
2nd December 2019	Overview and Scrutiny – Select Committee Findings and Government Guidance	This item was first considered at the meeting on 10 th June and Members agreed to reconsider it at a later date.
	Review of Customer Access and Financial Support Service – pre-scrutiny	Picked up from the Cabinet Leader's Work Programme 1 st July – 31 st October 2019
	Estate Management and Facilities Management Structure Proposals	Picked up from the Cabinet Leader's Work Programme 1 st November – 29 th February 2020
	North Worcestershire Economic Growth Strategy – pre-scrutiny	Picked up from the Cabinet Leader's Work Programme 1 st Oct 2019 - 31 st Jan 2020
	*Speeding – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to call in representatives of the Safer Roads Partnership to discuss issues with speeding.	*These 3 items were raised as areas of interest at the Work Programme planning event held on 5 th June 2019.

Agenda Item 8

	*Recycling – the Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive information about what can and cannot be recycled and how to communicate this to the public.	
	*Dog Mess and Litter – a campaign. This should consider how many fines have been issued.	
	Working Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and Budget Working Group 	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
13th January 2020	Joint Staff Survey Task Group – update in respect of the outcomes of the previous staff survey together with information about the new Staff Survey.	Requested by Members at meeting held on 8 th July 2019. Next Staff Survey due early 2020
	Bromsgrove Sporting Task Group – Final Report and Recommendations	
	Working Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and Budget Working Group 	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
10th February 2020	Domestic Abuse Policy – Identifying Abuse and Responding Effectively - pre-scrutiny	Picked up from the Cabinet Leader's Work Programme 1 st Oct 2019 – 31 st Jan 2020
	Working Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and Budget 	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
30th March 2020	Overview & Scrutiny Board – Recommendation Tracker	
	Working Group Updates	

Agenda Item 8

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and Budget 	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
27th April 2020		
	Working Group Updates	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and Budget 	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	

Areas Identified at the Work Programme Planning Event held on 5th June 2019 and to be scheduled in to meetings on an as and when basis

Potential Task Groups

- Public Transport / Bus Routes / Community Transport - Members agreed that this subject should be reviewed by a Task Group. The review could focus on public transport provision in rural areas and would require Members to consult with both the bus companies, Worcestershire County Council and BURT.
- Affordable and Social Housing Task Group - This review could focus on the accommodation provided by social housing organisations, planning enforcement and housing development controls and the impact of planning on the green belt.
- WCC LPT4 – It was agreed at the O & S meeting on 2nd September 2019, that this would not be considered by the Strategic Planning Steering Group. Councillor Colella had made the proposal and he had felt that it merited having a Task Group and that it would be positive for newly elected Members to be involved in this Task Group.

Potential Items for Board discussion

- Protecting Local Shops – Members concluded that this was not a suitable subject for scrutiny as stated. However, Members agreed that the relevant Portfolio holder and the Town Centres Manager could be invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board to answer questions about town centre economic development. Members agreed that the focus should be on how to increase footfall in the town centres.
- Removal of Early Morning Bus Passes - Members expressed concerns that early morning bus passes had been removed impacting on those travelling to work. Members noted that that there was an ongoing review of public transport and consultation was being held over the summer of 2019. Members concluded that they could revisit the subject of bus passes after this consultation has been completed.
- Town Centre Congestion - A review of this subject should take into account planning enforcement.

Previous Task Groups to be revisited

- Pavement Parking – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from previous reviews of car parking.
- Anti-Social Behaviour and CCTV – the Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from the previous review of CCTV.
- Air quality – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from the previous review of air quality.
- Homelessness - The Overview and Scrutiny Board could revisit recommendations made by a previous Task Group on this subject.

Outstanding Items and Potential Items for pre-scrutiny

- Demonstration of modern.gov on an iPad together with data regarding paperless agendas.
- Worcestershire Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – To investigate whether HOSC is fit for purpose (possibly invite the Chairman of HOSC to a future meeting.)
- Bromsgrove Market Update – following presentation at the June 2019 meeting, it was agreed that a further update would be received in 12 months' time - schedule in for meeting in June 2020

When considering topics for investigations Members may wish to take into account the Council's Strategic Purposes as detailed below:

Our Strategic Purposes for Bromsgrove



Help me to live my life independently

Help me to be financially independent

Keep my place safe & looking good

Help me find somewhere to live in my locality

Provide good things for me to see, do & visit

Help me run a successful business

Support services enable us to deliver our purposes

For more information view the Council Plan at:
<http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/cms/council-and-democracy/council-plan.aspx>



**Bromsgrove
District Council**
www.bromsgrove.gov.uk