

BRIEFING NOTE

COUNCIL MEETING – 15TH JULY 2015

PORTFOLIO HOLDER REPORT TO COUNCIL– CLLR MARGARET SHERREY

RESPONSIBLE FOR: HEALTH & WELLBEING, COMMUNITY SAFETY & PARTNERSHIPS

Aligned to the Strategic Purposes of:

- Help Me Live My Life Independently
- Keep My Place Safe & Looking Good (Community Safety)

I am pleased to present an update report to the Council about the areas covered by my portfolio as follows, and in doing so I would like both to look back over recent events and forward to emerging issues. I will cover the following:-

1. Bromsgrove Partnership.
2. Strategic work of the NWCSP and Community Safety issues for Bromsgrove.
3. Safeguarding
4. Child sexual exploitation.
5. Acute Services Review.
6. Focus on a Service Area – Lifeline & CCTV.

1. BROMSGROVE PARTNERSHIP

1.1	BACKGROUND
	<p>The Bromsgrove Partnership is the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the District of Bromsgrove.</p> <p>An LSP is a voluntary partnership which brings together different organisations from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. Instead of each organisation working separately in isolation, the Bromsgrove Partnership provides a forum for local organisations to come together and address issues that are important to those living, working and visiting Bromsgrove District in a more effective and cohesive way.</p>

	<p>Bromsgrove Partnership's vision is: "<i>We will make Bromsgrove District the place to live, do business and to visit.</i>"</p>
1.2	<p>BROMSGROVE PARTNERSHIP BOARD</p> <p>Bromsgrove Partnership operates a Strategic Board with Theme Groups underneath. The Partnership is made up of representatives from a number of organisations.</p> <p>As well as Bromsgrove District Council, which is represented via myself as Leader of the Council and Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive, other agencies represented on the Board include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act on Energy • Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) • Bromsgrove District Housing Trust (BDHT) • Heart of Worcestershire (HOW) College • Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFRS) • NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group (RBCCG) • West Mercia Police • Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils (CALC) • Worcestershire County Council <p>In the recent past the Board has been: overseeing the work of the Sunrise Project; responding to consultation around the Enhanced Primary Mental Health Care Service Redesign; looking at how partners can work together to better address and support local people who are classed as NEET (not in education, employment or training); and considering how collectively partners can address the needs of older people and in particular creating Bromsgrove as a Dementia Friendly Community, cold weather planning in partnership, and tackling social isolation and loneliness.</p> <p>Looking forward, a new Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board have recently been appointed - Mick Cadman, North District Commander from Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, and Kelvin Nash, Vice-Principal at Heart of Worcestershire College, respectively. I expect there to be some changes afoot to ensure we continue to maintain strong Partnership working within the District going forward and no doubt we will start at reviewing our current partnership priorities.</p>
1.3	<p>BROMSGROVE PARTNERSHIP THEME GROUPS</p> <p>There are three theme groups which are aligned with the current overarching Bromsgrove Partnership priorities which are: Economic Growth; Balanced Communities; and Better Environment.</p> <p><u>Economic Development Theme Group</u> This currently has eight local business sector representatives and it is anticipated that one of the business representatives will be appointed as the new Chair at the next meeting. Recently the Theme Group has been</p>

	<p>focusing on providing input into forming the economic priorities and aspirations for the District which were discussed and approved at the July Cabinet meeting. The Theme Group are due to look at next steps which include: forming and overseeing a work programme consisting of actions to deliver the agreed priorities; considering a suite of measures of success; and considering baseline data/information.</p> <p><u>Balanced Communities Theme Group</u> This is the largest of the Theme Groups with representatives from a variety of public and voluntary sector organisations around the table. It is recognised as the Local Children’s Trust for the District but has a wider remit not just covering children and young people but also health inequalities and older people. At a County Level, it links into the new Worcestershire Children, Young People and Families Strategic Group (which has replaced the Worcestershire Children’s Trust Executive Board) as well as the Worcestershire Health Improvement Group (HIG) which is a sub Group of the Health and Wellbeing Board. I am the District Council representative on the County groups and the link between them and our local partnership group.</p> <p><u>Better Environment Theme Group</u> This is chaired by Act on Energy, which is a ‘not for profit’ organisation and a registered environmental charity. The Theme Group has been looking at how collectively we can reduce CO2 emissions through improved energy efficiency in housing and businesses; protect and promote biodiversity across the district; and ensure shared priorities are delivered in a cohesive way. More recently the Theme Group has been looking at the Corporate Social Responsibility of businesses and linking up the work happening in the private sector which helps the communities, improves health outcomes as well as having a positive impact on the environment.</p>
1.4	BROMSGROVE PARTNERSHIP - SUNRISE PROJECT
	<p>At an away day in September 2013, Bromsgrove Partnership took a collective decision to trial a new way of working and BDHT agreed to be the lead partner. The aim of the Sunrise Project was to form an integrated partnership of like-minded agencies to support vulnerable people to a better independent and sustainable future. It also aims to support the wider concept of agencies working as one body to close the gaps between their individual areas of established responsibility. To provide better collective value for money for partners and improved outcomes for customers.</p> <p>The Sunrise project team were in place March/April 2014 and a review took place October/November 2014. The Sunrise Project is going well but we still have much to learn and partners are keen to continue to try and transform services in partnership.</p> <p>Due to the similarities around the principle of transforming services in partnership, we are keeping a watching brief on ‘Connecting Families’ which is a Worcestershire County Council led initiative that is being piloted in Redditch initially.</p>

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2. NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

2.1	BACKGROUND
	<p>In May 2013 a single North Worcestershire CSP (NWCSP) was created. The Partnership provides a strategic and co-ordinated approach between agencies and communities across the area to address local community safety issues. Its vision is to keep North Worcestershire a safe place to live, work and visit. Local representation on the NWCSP is fulfilled through myself as Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.</p> <p>At a District level there is a Safer District Group – Safer Bromsgrove. The North Worcestershire Hate Incident Partnership and the Bromsgrove and Redditch Safeguarding Adults Group are also sub-groups of NWCSP.</p> <p>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 established West Mercia Police and Crime Panel. Again I am the Bromsgrove District Council’s representative on the panel as Council Leader and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.</p>
2.2	NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN
	<p>NWCSP has a statutory duty to produce a three year rolling plan outlining how it intends to address key crime and community safety priorities, as identified through its annual Strategic Assessment report.</p> <p>The Strategic Assessment gathers research, evidence and intelligence from national and regional sources, as well as drawing on the 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.</p> <p>The current North Worcestershire CSP priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Social Behaviour: Work to reduce the number of anti-social behaviour incidents and bring perceptions in line with the downward trend in reported incidents • Burglary and Home Security: Work to promote home security to reduce incidences of dwelling and non-dwelling burglary and improve residents’ feelings of safety in their homes • Business and Rural Crime: To support local delivery of the West Mercia PCC’s Business and Rural Crime Strategies • Reducing Re-offending: Work to increase our understanding of the

reasons for re-offending in North Worcestershire and reduce the offending behaviour of targeted individuals through continued support of the Integrated Offender Management approach

- **Violence and Abuse:** Working to ensure residents are safe in their local neighbourhoods and at home without having to suffer violence, domestic abuse or hate crime.

2.3 CSP FUNDING 2014/15 AND 2015/16

Last year in 2014/15 North Worcestershire CSP had to apply to the PCC for funding. The amount of funding available was £150,000 based on previous year's allocations received from Central Government with Bromsgrove directly receiving slightly over a third of this funding £50,990.

Examples of projects that were funded include:

CSP Priority	Project/Initiative	Amount
All	NW Analytical and Research Support	£15,000
Violence & Abuse	Domestic Abuse White Ribbon Campaign – 25 Nov to 10 Dec 2014	£5,000
Violence & Abuse	NW Hate Incident Partnership – Hate Crime Awareness Week Activities in October 2014	£3,000
Reducing Re-Offending	Reducing Re-offending Activities	£5,000
Burglary & Home Security	Safer Bromsgrove Secure Homes Initiative	£22,990
	TOTAL	£50,990

During the course of the year, the PCC also invited CSPs in West Mercia to apply for additional funding towards CCTV and to support the delivery of the West Mercia Police Business and Rural Crime strategies. This has enabled us to appoint a new Rural/Business Crime Co-ordinator who took up post in June 2015.

Looking forward into 2015/16, a total of £150,00 has been approved from the PCC as follows:

CSP Priority	Project/Initiative	Amount
All	NW Analytical and Research Support	£35,000
Violence & Abuse	NW Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Domestic Abuse Project – Bromsgrove and Redditch	£10,000
Violence & Abuse	NW Hate Incident Partnership	£3,000
Multiple	Safer Bromsgrove	£24,595
Multiple	Safer Redditch	£38,406

	Multiple	Safer Wyre Forest	£44,249
		TOTAL	£155,250
	Plus CCTV Funding 2015/16 for North Worcs		Amount
			£40,810
2.4	NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY DATA AND PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK		
	<p>The North Worcestershire CSP receives a detailed data and performance report at its quarterly meeting. The data is compiled by the CSP analyst and is broken down into each district. The CSP uses this performance framework to monitor the overall progress and success of various projects and initiatives against the CSP plan.</p> <p>Alongside this, Worcestershire County Council's Research and Intelligence Unit works with West Mercia Police to produce monthly District Crime Profiles based on local political boundaries. These profiles provide information at a District level, with a further break down of key crime types at a Ward and Electoral Division level. Bromsgrove's report can be accessed via the following link:-</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20078/community_safety</p>		
2.5	FUTURE KEY ISSUES - REVIEW OF CSP ARRANGEMENTS		
	<p>A review of the CSP arrangements is due to take place later this year and is being led by the Worcestershire Safer Communities Board. The purpose of this review is to undertake a wide review of governance arrangements and links with other Boards including Health & Wellbeing and Criminal Justice. The review is proposed to take place in September 2015 and will be a peer review from a colleague organisation and will incorporate good practice from other areas in the country.</p>		

3. SAFEGUARDING

	<p>Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults is a responsibility of us all. As a Ward Councillor or representative of the Council, you are the eyes and ears of the community and we all have a duty to act in we have any concerns. To support this responsibility the Council is represented on the Worcestershire Children's Safeguarding Board by Kevin Dicks and District representation is just being established on the newly formed Activity Groups set up by the Board in May 2015.</p> <p>As a Council we take our duties seriously in respect of our responsibilities under the Children Act 2004. We have in place a Safeguarding Policy which was reviewed in January 2015 alongside safer recruitment, inter-agency working and information sharing processes. Work also took place during 2014/15 to enhance and promote safeguarding duties with housing providers. Our primary duties are contained with Section 11 of the 2004 Act</p>
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and last year we submitted our bi-annual Section 11 self-assessment to the Children's Safeguarding Board.

In the year ahead, enhanced links with the recently reviewed Worcestershire Adults Safeguarding Board are to be established. Alongside this we will participate in any audits undertaken by both the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards and devise appropriate action plans arising from the findings. Training will continue to be provided to new Officers and Members, with the addition of promoting our role as 'Corporate Parents' to ensure that our 'Looked After Children' receive the best possible services. We will also continue to support work to deliver against the Children's Safeguarding Boards Strategic priorities of:

- Robust core safeguarding practice, with a particular focus on domestic abuse, mental ill-health, substance abuse and all forms of exploitation;
- Evidenced partnership effectiveness so that the Board is in a strong position to make a positive safeguarding assurance statement in its annual report;
- Improvement through learning with an evidenced culture shift that results in high quality performance.

4. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) STRATEGY

During 2014 Worcestershire has focussed a lot of work on ensuring children are safe from child sexual exploitation. The Council has supported this work in a number of ways including: rolling at training to Members and Officers to raise awareness of CSE and procedures to follow if anyone has a concern; and contributing to the Worcestershire CSE Strategy and Action Plan.

The key focus for Worcestershire in the forthcoming year is:

1. Producing a communication strategy including a public CSE awareness campaign;
2. Producing a training strategy including raising awareness in schools;
3. Reviewing the CSE pathway aimed at referral, assessment and decision making;
4. Developing a sharing of information protocol related to CSE that results in effective practice and in the production of a good multi agency data set that clearly shows patterns and trends;
5. Identifying gaps in the provision of specialist support for victims and families including transition to Adult Services, for commissioning purposes;
6. Establishing wider links with key partnerships and other Authorities to co-ordinate approaches to CSE including licencing authorities;
7. Identifying current and potential perpetrators, strengthening controls to prevent CSE, and working effectively with offenders.

As a District Council we will support these actions, particularly through our

work with the Community Safety Partnership, WRS and Early Help.

5. **ACUTE SERVICES REVIEW**

As Leader and Portfolio Holder, I have represented Bromsgrove in respect of the ongoing Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Review. This has been a difficult and protracted review and has necessitated regular dialogue with Leaders, the Acute Trust, the Clinical Commissioning Group and Save the Alex Group.

The most recent position is that the Worcestershire Acute Trust will receive the Care Quality Commission's Inspection Team this week (CQC).

Approximately 50 Inspectors will be on site from Tuesday 14th July to Friday 17th July to undertake a full inspection of hospitals and services. All of the sites, including the following, may be subject to inspection:-

- Worcestershire Royal Hospital in Worcester
- Kidderminster Hospital and Treatment Centre
- Alexandra Hospital in Redditch
- Community Hospitals in Evesham and Bromsgrove.

The CQC Inspectors will look at eight core services:-

- Urgent and emergency services;
- Medical care (including care of older people);
- Surgery;
- Critical care;
- Maternity and gynaecology;
- Children and Young People;
- End of Life Care;
- Outpatients and Imaging Services.

The Inspectors will check that all services are safe, effective, caring, responsive to people's needs and well led. The Inspection team will observe staff and speak directly to patients.

The full report will take approximately 51 working days to complete and publish, so not expected until later in the year in September or October. The report will rate the Worcestershire Acute Trust in one of the following categories:-

- Outstanding
- Good
- Requires Improvement
- Inadequate.

6. **FOCUS ON A SERVICE - LIFELINE/CCTV**

6.1	LIFELINE
	<p>Lifeline has had a very busy 12 months. April 2014 saw the end of Lifeline funding from a WCC stream called 'Supporting People'. Although BDC was not in direct receipt of funding, our biggest customer, Bromsgrove District Housing Trust, was.</p> <p>Supporting People funding had mainly been provided directly to social landlords to fund those people living in traditional sheltered accommodation, who were in receipt of Housing benefit. WCC decided to cease this style of block funding so that money could be directed to individuals with a critical or substantial need.</p> <p>The transition was a difficult one and required the Lifeline team to make contact with all its service users, many of which are vulnerable residents. The outcome was that approximately 50% of BDHT service users elected to continue the service, providing a positive increase in income of £35k.</p> <p>During the year the service started a process of transformation. One example of this was the monitoring of demand from customers. This focussed attention on maintenance of equipment in the service user's property and as a consequence savings of £25k per year have been achieved through a new 7 day a week operation and new maintenance contract. The saving is shared between Bromsgrove and Redditch council's.</p> <p>The service achieved Platinum Status Accreditation to the Telecare Services Association's Code of Practice for Strategic Framework, Referrals, Service Tailoring, Telecare Call Handling and Telecare Installations and European Technical Standards with no improvement requirements or recommendations noted.</p> <p>There are currently around 1600 Lifeline users in Bromsgrove. During the last year, 261 enquiries were received about the Lifeline service, resulting in 198 new installations.</p> <p>The year ahead will see the service looking to investigate and promote new technologies that will aid our ageing demographic. With new mobile technology becoming more reliable, the technology is changing to provide services away from the home.</p>
6.2	BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL CCTV SCHEME
	<p>CCTV is operated and monitored 24/7. It is the secondary function of the shared service monitoring centre based at Redditch Town Hall (Lifeline being the priority service).</p> <p>The BDC CCTV Scheme consists of 91 cameras located within Bromsgrove Town Centre, Rubery, Alvechurch. Barnt Green, Hagley, Wythall, and Aston Fields.</p>

Between April 2014 and April 2015 there were 1351 CCTV incidents recorded within the District, 466 of these were through proactive monitoring by a CCTV operator.

Liaison with Police and other agencies is integral to our CCTV operation. This includes representation at Safer Bromsgrove, Pubwatch meetings and Shopwatch meetings.

Agencies within regular contact include: West Mercia, Hereford and Worcestershire Fire service, Street Pastors, local licensees, local retailers, Probation Service, Housing Associations, Community Safety Team, Parking Enforcement, ASB Team.

A key priority for the service during 2015/16 is the review of systems due to legislative changes. The role of the Surveillance Camera Commissioner was created under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, appointed by the Home Secretary and independent of Government. The Commissioner is required to ensure that surveillance camera systems, such as CCTV, are used in accordance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice. This Home Office issued code outlines twelve guiding principles for using surveillance camera systems with a view to achieving surveillance by consent.

To ensure our compliance and robust management of CCTV within the District, we are currently working towards becoming compliant to BS7958, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Management and Operation –Code of Practice. External auditors will examine policy, procedure and practice. Recommendations will be made to ensure compliance.