



Report subject	<b>BCP Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2023</b>
Meeting date	4 December 2023
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>This paper sets out elements of development and delivery by the BCP Community Safety Partnership (CSP), 'Safer BCP' and its constituent agencies. It provides Members with an update since the last report to Overview and Scrutiny Panel in December 2022.</p> <p>The Local Government Act 2000 includes crime and disorder scrutiny as one of the functions the council must ensure its scrutiny arrangements cover. Sections 19 and 20 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and related regulations require the Council to have a committee with the functions of reviewing and scrutinising decisions and actions in respect of the discharge of crime and disorder functions by "responsible authorities".</p> <p>The specifics of the duty are set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006, which also allows members to refer any "local crime and disorder matter" raised with them by anyone living or working in their area, to the Crime and Disorder Committee. The Board designated as the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee must meet at least once every 12 month period to conduct the functions.</p> <p>Guidance issued concerning how this role should be conducted include that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the role should be one of a critical friend, providing constructive challenge at a strategic level.</li> <li>• the focus should be on the entire partnership and if issues arise that relate specifically to a particular partner agency, it may be more appropriate to refer such issues to the governing bodies of that organisation.</li> <li>• the scrutiny of partners should be "in so far as their activities relate to the partnership itself."</li> </ul>
Recommendations	<p><b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i) Members note the progress of the Community Safety Partnership over the past year, to November 2023</b></li> <li><b>ii) Members note the BCP Community Safety</b></li> </ul>

	<b>Partnership's priorities under the Serious Violence Duty</b>
Reason for recommendations	<p>Overview and Scrutiny Board are updated and made aware of the Safer BCP Community Safety Partnership's activities and achievements over 2022/23, most notably the work undertaken on the Serious Violence Duty.</p> <p>The requirement for annual scrutiny is met.</p>

Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Kieron Wilson, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety
Corporate Director	Jillian Kay, Corporate Director for Wellbeing
Report Authors	<p>Kelly Ansell, Director for Housing and Communities;</p> <p>Cat McMillan, Head of Community Engagement and Community Safety</p>
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Update and Information

## Background

1. In line with guidance, the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) developed the three-year Community Safety Strategy 2022-25, which was adopted by BCP Cabinet in September 2022 and Full Council in November 2022. The strategy is delivered through the development and implementation of annual Strategic Assessments to ensure that we continue to focus on working in partnership on the issues that matter most to the BCP area, using an evidence-based approach.
2. Since the BCP Community Safety Partnership (CSP) reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel in December 2022, the Partnership has completed the Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder for 2021/22, the findings of which is attached at Appendix A, and available at [here](#).
3. The strategic priorities for the CSP are:
  - a. Tackle violent crime in all its forms
  - b. Keep young people and adults-at-risk safe from exploitation, including online risks
  - c. Work with communities to deal with antisocial behaviour (ASB) and crime hotspots, including ASB linked to substance misuse
  - d. Tackle issues relating to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)-  
*added July 2023*
4. Board Members will be aware that CSP's are statutory partnerships that comprise local authorities, the police, fire and rescue authorities, probation, and health. They have a reciprocal duty to cooperate with the Office of the Police and

Crime Commissioner, with responsibilities set out in legislation, to develop strategies and plans to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, and reoffending as required by Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended).<sup>1</sup>

5. Specifically, the current statutory obligations of CSP's may be summarised as follows:
  - To establish a strategic group to direct the CSP's work
  - To set up protocols and systems for sharing information
  - To identify priorities via an annual strategic assessment
  - To engage and consult the community about community safety priorities
  - To produce a Partnership Plan and monitor progress against it
  - To develop strategies to reduce re-offending, substance misuse and domestic abuse
  - To commission Domestic Homicide Reviews
6. The CSP also has oversight of the work to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism, although the statutory Prevent Duty is on individual organisations rather than the CSP itself.
7. The Serious Violent Crime Duty is a new requirement which came into effect in January 2023, and this is covered in further details later in the report.
8. The Partnership welcomed T/Chief Superintendent Heather Dixey as the new Chair for the CSP this year alongside Cllr Kieron Wilson as the Vice-Chair in his role as Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation with responsibility for Community Safety.

### **Summary of Crime and Disorder in 2023/3**

9. Appendix C, provides information regarding the data and Key Performance Indicators adopted by the CSP.
10. There was no statistically significant change in public place recorded violent crime between 2021/2 (2,594 records) and 2022/3 (2,655 records). Quarter 1 saw the highest number of recorded incidents (783) and Quarter 4 the lowest (580), indicating a potentially seasonal trend which will be further explored alongside location mapping as part of our work under the Serious Violence Duty.
11. In relation to Domestic Abuse Violent crimes, which includes assault, sexual assault and harassment offences within the context of domestic abuse, there was a -7.6% reduction between the number of recorded incidents in 2022/3 compared to 2021/2.
12. There was a -5% reduction in the total number of serious sexual offences when comparing 2022/3 (1,125) with 2021/2 (1,185). There was no statistically significant difference between the number of serious sexual offences in 2022/2 (528) compared with 2021/2 (534) where the offence was not classified as domestic abuse and the victim was aged over 18. Where the serious sexual offence was classified as domestic abuse and the victim was aged over 18 we saw a -20% reduction in reported incidents, from 249 in 2021/2 to 199 in 2022/3. Where the victim was aged 17 or under there was no statistically significant difference between the number of reports in 2021/2 (370) and 2022/3 (367).
13. There was a -12% decrease in the total number of all ASB reported to the police, with 10,952 reported in 2022/3 compared to 12,440 in 2021/2. A new

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/37/section/5> and <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/37/section/6>

performance indicator was established in July 2022 to record the total number of new ASB cases recorded by the Council's ASB team, with 173 cases being opened across Quarter 2-4. There was a -23% reduction in the number of reported cases of personal ASB to the police, with 1,280 reports in 2022/3 compared to 1,672 in 2021/2, matching the downward trend of all reported ASB to the police. Across all ASB reporting we see a seasonal trend with an increase in Quarter 2 as we move into the summer months with warmer weather and longer days.

14. The number of civil injunctions issued for ASB had remained fairly consistent, with 13 in 2021/2 and 11 in 2022/3. However, we have seen the number of Community Protection Warning letters decrease by more than a third (36%), with 78 issued in 2022/3 compared to 122 in 2021/2.

### **Development of the Community Safety Partnership**

15. At our last annual report to Overview and Scrutiny in December 2022 we reported on the new structure for the CSP, with two new strategic boards (Prepare & Prevent, Protect & Pursue) driving activity and reporting in to the CSP Executive Board. However, during the course of the year it became apparent that this was creating duplication with other boards that were statutory requirements and wasn't therefore making best use of our limited resources.
16. As a result, a development session was held in May 2023 where it was agreed to slim down the structure of the CSP, pausing the activity of these two groups whilst we undertook a mapping exercise of all the activity taking place and to enable us to focus on our duties under the Serious Violent Crime Duty. Work to address the key priorities of the CSP has also continued, as outlined later in this report.

### **Serious Violent Crime Duty**

17. As mentioned earlier in this report, the key area of focus for the CSP over the last year has been on the implementation of the Serious Violent Crime Duty. The duty came into effect on 31 January 2023.
18. Serious violence has a devastating impact on lives of victims and families. It instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society. Incidents of serious violence have increased in England and Wales since 2014. For example, offences involving knives or sharp instruments increased nationally by 84 percent between the year to June 2014 and the year to June 2020. In the 12 months to the end of December 2022, Dorset Police recorded 359 knife related crimes, representing an increase of 19.7% or 59 more crimes when compared to the number recorded in the previous 12-month period.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Police recorded knife related crimes</b>
12 months to December 2018	248
12 months to December 2019	264
12 months to December 2020	294
12 months to December 2021	300

12 months to December 2022	359
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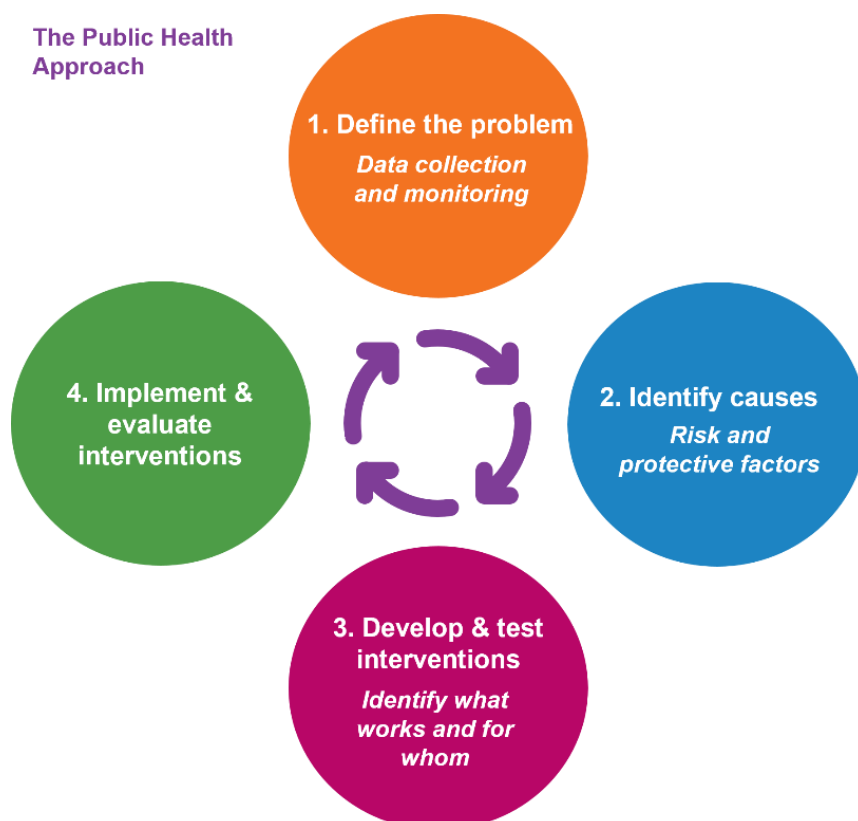
19. The Serious Violent Crime Duty (the Duty) aims to ensure that agencies are focussed on activity to reduce serious violence, working together in a local partnership for the BCP area. The specified authorities under the Duty must work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, adopting a Public Health Approach. This approach actively considers the wider drivers and systems that affect the whole community, as well as specific groups, and then takes a wider multi-agency response for short, medium, and long-term impact.
20. The specified authorities under the Duty are:
  - Police
  - Probation
  - Youth Justice
  - Fire & Rescue
  - Integrated Care System (health)
  - Local Authorities
21. Under the Duty we are required to identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in the BCP area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area. The Duty also requires the specified authorities to consult educational, prison and youth custody authorities for the area in the preparation of their strategy.
22. The Serious Violence Needs Assessment and Serious Violence Strategy must be written and approved ready for implementation on 31 January 2024. Funding is available for undertaking the requirements under the duty until the 31 March 2025. Funding is allocated to the geographical boundaries for the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner and therefore the following funding is for both the BCP Council and Dorset Council areas.
23. This is the Serious Violence Funding available for Dorset-
  - 2022/23- £30,000 staff costs
  - 2023/24- £180,000 staff costs, £112,301 for 'interventions'
  - 2024/25- £38,520 staff costs, £315,546 for 'interventions'
24. The Serious Violent Crime Duty does not require the creation of new multi-agency structures. Local senior leaders may use existing local structures to comply with the requirements of the Duty to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence in their local areas and, ultimately, to improve community safety and safeguarding.
25. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by section 97 and 98 of the Police Reform Act 2002, established Community Safety Partnerships in policing areas to address Crime and Disorder. Safer BCP is the statutory 'Community Safety Partnership' for the local authority area of Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole. Community Safety Partnerships are required to develop annual strategic assessments, identifying the types of crime taking place within the BCP to enable the Partnership to set its priorities for focus. The partnership is

therefore well practised in this type of work, and it has been agreed that the BCP Community Safety Partnership will undertake the role of implementing the Duty.

26. The BCP Community Safety Partnership have agreed the definition of serious crime for the purposes of undertaking a Serious Violence Needs Assessment in the BCP area as:

*“Homicide, knife crime, and gun crime and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in gangs and county lines drug dealing, manslaughter, GBH (S18 and S20), rape, sexual assaults, aggravated burglary, robbery, domestic abuse and arson with intent to endanger life.”*

27. The duty requires the CSP to use a public health approach to addressing serious violent crime. The Public Health Approach aims to prevent crime by exposing a broad segment of the population to prevention measures to reduce and prevent violence at a population level and target specific groups for certain interventions. It also involves working in partnership with different organisations in a multi-agency way to achieve maximum benefit.



28. Under the Public Health Approach, different levels of intervention are used depending on the level of focus, as shown in the table below.

Levels of prevention	Types of intervention
Primary – preventing incidents before they happen, i.e., to reduce the number of new incidents of crime in the population	Universal – aimed at the general population

Secondary – immediate response to incidents to decrease prevalence after early signs of problem	Targeted selected – targeted at those more at risk of victimisation
Tertiary – to intervene once the crime problem is evident and causing harm	Targeted indicated – Targeted at those who perpetrate offences

Source: Adapted from Local Government Association, 2018

29. Following the agreement of the definition of 'serious violent crime' as detailed at paragraph 21, the data relating to those individual crime types was collected and analysed to inform the priorities for the duty in BCP. A serious violence task and finish group was established to drive forward the operational aspects for the development of the strategy and includes representation from the specified authorities and other partners as appropriate to the discussions taking place. Specific sessions have been held around subjects such as young people, knife crime, and sexual assaults and rape, with attendance ranging from schools and pupil referrals units, the prisons and youth justice service, community and voluntary sector organisations and the specified authorities under the duty.

30. The following table shows a breakdown of police reported 'serious violent' crime in BCP in 2022/3, following the definition of serious violence as defined in this report.

Crime Type	Count in BCP in 2022/3	Percentage
Sexual Assault	389	23.1%
Robbery	300	17.8%
Rape	292	17.3%
Domestic abuse flagged serious violence offences	207	12.5%
VATP Knife offences	182	11.5%
GBH S18	142	10.8
GBH S20	72	4.3%
Firearms VATP	16	0.9%
Arson with intent	16	0.9%
Aggravated Burglary	15	0.9%

Figure 1 - Table 1 - Breakdown of Serious Violent Crime by type in BCP 2022/23

31. The data from the Serious Violence Needs Assessment identifies that the main offences the CSP will focus on as part of the Serious Violence Duty are:

- Sexual offences (sexual assault and rape)
- Violence Against the Person- Knife related offences
- Robbery
- Domestic Abuse

32. In relation to Domestic Abuse, we already have a significant programme of work which is undertaken through the Domestic Abuse Act Duty, which is overseen by the BCP Domestic Abuse Strategic Group. To avoid duplication, the intelligence relating to Domestic Abuse will move across to the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group for consideration and intervention as required. In contrast, there is less

intervention work being done around sexual offences, robbery and knife related occurrences and these will form the focus of the BCP Serious Violence Strategy.

33. Following the CSP's agreement that these are the key crime types for the focus of the duty in BCP, further analysis was undertaken to gain a better insight into victim and offender profiles, with a view to identifying the 'cause of the cause' which will enable the development of targeted interventions. The following provides some of the key insight gained, and in many cases further analysis will be taking place as quite often the data led to more questions in order to develop targeted interventions.

### **Priority 1- Sexual Assaults and Rapes**

34. The evidence in the Serious Violence Needs Assessment shows us the following key themes:

- 22% of respondents in BCP, in comparison to 13% of respondents in Dorset were worried about being sexually assaulted in their local area.
- There are associations between sexual assaults and rapes and the evening and night time economy.
- 44% of all sexual assault victims were aged 10-19.
- 35% of all rape victims were aged 10-19.
- The most common age for sexual assaults was 14-16 (20%).
- When the victim of sexual assault was aged 14-16, 67% of victims and offender were known to each other, with at least 17% through school relationships.
- The most common location for sexual assaults and rape was Central Bournemouth.
- Those who identify as female are significantly more likely to be a victim of sexual assaults and rape.
- A quarter of rapes were considered to involve domestic abuse.

### **Priority 2- Violence Against the Person-Knife Related Offences**

35. The evidence in the Serious Violence Needs Assessment shows us the following key themes:

- 32% of respondents in BCP, in comparison to 31% of respondents in Dorset, were worried about people carrying items such as knives or airguns.
- 66% of knife related GBH S18 incidents involving 10–19-year-old suspects involved repeat suspects, or victims who were also a repeat suspect.
- 24% of GBH S18 occurrences, and 32% of GBH S20 occurrences were alcohol related.
- 23% of GBH S18, and 25% of GBH S20 occurrences had domestic abuse flags.
- Concerns about the long wait times between a young person being charged with a serious violent offence and the court hearing starting may send the message to the young person that there are no consequences to the serious offence.
- Of the 194 knife flagged violence against the person occurrences, 27 were alcohol related (14% of the data).

### **Priority 3- Robbery**



36. The evidence in the Serious Violence Needs Assessment shows us the following key themes:

- Robbery rates have remained consistent over the last 5 years, with the exception of 2020/1 during the pandemic when they were significantly lower.
- The vast majority of Robbery was personal robbery.
- Robbery trends tended to be higher in the summer months and lower in the winter months.
- Just under a third of robberies took place in Central Bournemouth.
- The vast majority (79%) of victims were male.
- 88% of identified robbery suspects were male.
- 59% of identified robbery suspects were aged 10-19.
- 73% of occurrences involved no relationship between victim and offender.

#### **Priority 4- Domestic Abuse**

37. The evidence in the Serious Violence Needs Assessment shows us the following key themes:

- 23% of GBH S18, and 25% of GBH S20 occurrences had domestic abuse flags.
- 8% of sexual assaults in BCP in 2022/23 were considered to involve domestic abuse (32 actual), in contrast 25% of rape offences occurring in BCP in 2022/23 were considered to involve domestic abuse.
- 84% of victims for domestic abuse flagged occurrences explored were female (173 actual), in comparison to 16% who were male (32 actual). The gender of 1 victim was unidentified.
- 89% of identified suspects of domestic abuse flagged occurrences were male (185 actual), and 10% were female (22 actual).

#### **Next steps for the Duty**

38. In developing the Strategy, engagement has taken place with a wide range of partner organisations, including schools and pupil referral units, community and voluntary sector organisations and through engagement with the community at a number of events across the summer. Now that the strategic assessment has been completed, further work will be undertaken to engage with communities to enable us to codesign interventions and solutions using lived experiences. In addition, a multi-agency community safety survey is planned for 2024 to assist all partners in the direction of their work and ensure that we are using both qualitative and quantitative data, and focussing on the issues that matter most to our communities.

39. Following completion of the BCP Serious Violence Strategic Assessment, a Serious Violence Strategy has been drafted in line with the duty guidance and will be taken to the CSP Executive Board on the 29 November for approval and adoption by the specified authorities under the duty. The Strategy and Needs Assessment are then submitted to the Home Office via the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner, ready for the implementation date of 31 January 2024.

40. Progress against the strategy and its Key Performance Indicators will be monitored through the CSP Executive Board which will meet bi-monthly in 2024. The operational Task & Finish groups will focus on the development and implementation of the interventions to address the crime types, ensuring

wherever possible that they are embedded in sustainable approaches due to the uncertainty over any future funding for the duty beyond March 2025.

41. Whilst the implementation of the Serious Violence duty has been the key area of focus over the last year, significant progress has also been made in other areas which we will highlight here.

### **Work relating to young people**

42. The CSP has stood up a multi-agency Serious Violence Young Persons Task and Finish Group which leads on project and intervention work and aims to reduce serious violent offences committed by young people. Both our Detached Youth Work colleagues and our Turnaround Case Workers contribute towards several strategic initiatives that inform approaches to youth violence, this multi-agency taskforce adds value to the tactical groups that already review and plan responses to crime and ASB hotspots.
43. In response to a young person knife related incident in early 2023, knife crime resource packs were sent out to all dedicated safeguarding leads in all schools and to social workers of children in relation to working with young people around the dangers of carrying a knife. We are developing an enhanced victim package for young victims of knife crime with Victim Support and a parents/carers guide and webpage around 'keeping your young person safe'.
44. The Dorset Police Safer Schools Team are developing a programme to be offered to all schools/pupils in the 23/4 school year in relation to any suspensions/exclusions relating to offensive weapons. Multi-agency task and finish groups have been established to respond to youth violent crime and/or ASB in specific areas of BCP.
45. The BCP 'Keeping Our Young People Safe' conference will take place on the 14 November, targeted at educators and people working with young people such as Youth Justice Service, Childrens Social Care and the Youth Service and focussing on practical measures that can be utilised to help keep young people as safe as possible.
46. Further work is being carried out on alcohol and drugs and weapon offences as grounds for exclusions and suspensions within schools and a survey is being planned with schools to assess what this looks like in terms of numbers to see whether further intervention is needed, being mindful of young people being more vulnerable to exploitation or at risk of harm when excluded from school.
47. The young people's serious violence task and finish group has been looking at expanding and improving the current offer around knife crime to schools. They have visited the A & S Blades Project which incorporates a knife injury medical consequences aspect with trained medical staff and are currently looking at enhancing existing packages with a video by a medical professional, and for any very high-risk schools, a visit in person by a medical member of staff.
48. In January 2023, we introduced the Missing, Exploited and Trafficked (MET) panel where Police, Social Care and other colleagues consider our most vulnerable young people in BCP. It meets fortnightly to consider concerns about all forms of child exploitation, particularly focussing on identifying the links between young people, places they go to and the people who exploit them.
49. The most serious incidents in BCP continue to be perpetrated mainly by adults, however there is a recognition that the adversity and therefore trauma that can lead to individuals becoming disaffected start in childhood. This is why so much focus is being placed in ensuring our Early Help system is able to deliver to our communities, and clear pathways to access the right service and support at the right time.

## First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System

50. There is a national and local priority to reduce the number of children entering the justice system. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) publishes quarterly data showing the rate of 10-17 year-olds entering the justice system in the local population. The YJB recently changed its counting methods, switching from Police National Computer data to using the information on local Youth Justice Service databases. The change in counting methods saw the Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service (DCYJS) performance improve from being above regional and national averages to a position below the national average and close to its comparator group, aligning with local data and understanding of our performance. The following table shows the rate per 100,000 10-17 year-olds and reflects the change in the counting methods

Year	DCYJS	YJS comparator group
July 22- June 23	143	134
July 21- June 22	228	138
Percentage change	-37.1%	-3.5%

51. DCYJS monitor local data for first-time entrants on a monthly basis. The data shows a notable reduction in first-time entrants in the period April to October 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. The reduction has been particularly marked in the Poole area:

Area	01/04/22 - 31/10/22	01/04/23 – 31/10/23
Bournemouth	20	17
Christchurch	4	4
Poole	22	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>29</b>

52. One reason for the reduction in First-Time Entrants in 2023 is the implementation of the Turnaround programme. The Ministry of Justice have provided funding for local areas to provide assessments and interventions for 'children on the cusp of the justice system'. This funding has been used locally to recruit a worker in the early help Targeted Support Service and a part-time Speech and Language Therapist to work with children who have been diverted from the justice system. The Turnaround programme is also available for children who are showing repeat anti-social behaviour, although the success of the local Community Consequences scheme means that repeat anti-social behaviour by children has reduced.

## Domestic Abuse

53. The BCP Domestic Abuse (DA) Strategy 2020- 2025 which can be seen [here](#) details the Partnership's approach to meeting the requirements under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The accompanying action plan details the partnership activity to take place in order to meet the requirements of the Act. Funding is received from the government for the provision of services to support victims and survivors of domestic abuse (and their families where appropriate) and work to address perpetrating. The work is overseen by the Domestic Abuse Strategic

Group (DASG) with task & finish groups taking place around housing pathways, perpetrators, training.

54. We have developed and published a BCP DA Toolkit for practitioners working with families. It has been designed to assist professionals working in a range of settings to develop increased confidence and knowledge in being able to identify and engage with families living with domestic abuse. The toolkit acknowledges that each family has its own individual set of circumstances unique to them and it is therefore important to recognise that one tool or approach will not meet the needs of all. Practitioners are encouraged to work with the families they are supporting to enable them to identify the most appropriate resources for their circumstances.
55. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) is the weekly meeting that is held to discuss the most high risk cases of domestic abuse and to share information and to plan how to safeguard a victim. Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a set of statutory arrangements to assess and manage the risk posed by certain sexual and violent offenders. MAPPA bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services to form the MAPPA Responsible Authority for each MAPPA Area. A review was carried out into the triage process linked to MARAC and also between the links with MARAC, MAPPA and the Multi-Agency Risk Management (MARM) framework to ensure that the process are robust and joined up.
56. We have reintroduced DA training for BCP Council staff. This includes both a 2.5 hr general DA awareness course that is available for all staff and also a whole day course for front line practitioners. An additional DA training package has also been drawn up through the Community Safety Team which offers a package to front line practitioner teams around DA, professional curiosity, MARAC and the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) timeline.
57. We have developed DA resources which have been shared in key locations which detail the support that is available to victims and survivors of domestic abuse, with a view to ensuring that there as many referral or self-referral routes as possible for people to access support. Alongside work to support victims and survivors of domestic abuse, we also provide pathways for offenders who want to change their behaviour. We have developed guidance on the different DA perpetrator pathway for practitioners and these have also been shared in key locations such as police stations.
58. We have appointed a DA Commissioning manager to help with the redesign of the BCP DA Services for both the refuge accommodation and community services. We are exploring whether a joint approach across the BCP and Dorset area would help to provide a more joined up approach for victims and survivors and the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner has commissioned Safe Lives, the leading DA charity, to review all services across the BCP and Dorset area to help inform our commissioning. We have also appointed an Independent MARAC Chair to ensure that we are undertaking due diligence in line with the duty.
59. We were recently visited by Nicole Jacobs, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, who praised the significant strength of our partnership working which was evident to her during her visit. She also took away our concerns over the lack of clarity around the funding for the provision of DA services which is currently only confirmed until March 2025.
60. The DA Forum has re-started and currently offers a training/network session for all DA practitioners in BCP. They have covered topics such as male victims,

perpetrator services, victims services and more sessions are planned throughout the year.

61. We are engaging with victims/survivors of domestic abuse, now and/or in the past, to gain valuable insights into their 'lived experiences' and needs. By understanding these experiences we can work to ensure that victims/survivors receive the support and services they need to heal and recover. We are also asking to hear about any experiences children have had as a result of domestic abuse and/or when accessing support services. The survey is live until the 19 November and can be accessed [here](#).

## MARAC

62. Marac meets weekly in BCP to review referrals for high risk domestic abuse victims and survivors. The table below details the case numbers for 2022/3.

Monthly data for BCP MARACs 2022/2023	No. of Cases	Average case number Per MARAC	Cases listed with children on referral		Repeat Cases Listed	
			No.	%	No.	%
Apr-22	48	12	33	69%	9	19%
May-22	59	15	35	59%	16	27%
Jun-22	65	13	41	63%	25	38%
Jul-22	61	15	31	51%	15	25%
Aug-22	58	15	29	50%	14	24%
Sep-22	62	12	33	53%	14	23%
Oct-22	53	13	23	43%	8	15%
Nov-22	58	15	33	57%	11	19%
Dec-22	54	11	35	65%	12	22%
Jan-23	51	13	33	65%	7	14%
Feb-23	76	19	56	74%	15	20%
Mar-23	80	16	52	65%	12	15%
1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023	Total No. of Cases		Average no. of cases with children listed		Average no. of repeat cases at each MARAC	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
52 MARACs	725	14	434	60%	158	21.8%

63. We have seen a reduction in referrals between 2021/2 (743) and 2022.3 (725), however despite the overall drop in cases compared to the previous year, there has been a significant rise in the number of cases in the months of February and March. The average number of cases per BCP MARAC (14) falls just below the predicted range of 15 to 20 cases per week. This is the same figure as the average of 14 cases per MARAC in the previous year. 91% of the incidents referred to MARAC involved domestic abuse between partners or ex partners.
64. 91% (662) of victims were female, 9% (63 cases) were male victims. 49 were female offenders (in total for all cases, not just for cases with male victims). During this period there were 14 same sex couples and 22 other family

relationships, with siblings being the main category, and the male victims having a mix of perpetrators: female perpetrators from an intimate relationship, male perpetrators from same sex relationships, parent child relationships and also other family relationships such as siblings.

65. 60% of cases were listed with children linked to the victim and/or perpetrator on referral. This compares to 61% in the previous year. The repeat case rate (158) for the 2022/3 is 21.8%, compared to a 20.5% rate in the previous year. [Safe Lives](#) have determined that the 'national average' range for numbers of repeat victims is between 28-40%.
66. The data collected demonstrates that almost two thirds of the victims (63%) were listed as living in Bournemouth on referral – a 1% decrease compared to the previous year (64%). There has been a 1% rise in the number of victims recorded as living in the Poole area on referral, which is less than a third (29%), compared to 28% recorded in the previous year. There has been a 1% rise in the number of victims living in the Christchurch area on referral (9%), compared to 8% the previous year.
67. The majority of domestic abuse victims (32%) of victims falling in the 30-39 age group range, and 30% in the 20-29 age group range. 1,730 tasks were allocated to the BCP MARAC multi-agency representatives. All actions allocated through MARAC between April 2022 and March 2023 are completed.

## UP2U

68. The Up2U: Creating Healthy Relationships is an innovative programme initially developed by Portsmouth City Council for people who use domestically abusive behaviours in their intimate partner relationships. It is an assessment led intervention programme responding to individual need, risk and responsivity by offering a tailored made package of support to both the perpetrator and also the partner. This work is for both male and female perpetrators from the age of 16 years and can also be delivered to people who use domestically abusive behaviours in same sex relationships. We currently operate the scheme across both BCP and Dorset, managing the service for Dorset Council. The table below details the performance for the service within the BCP area for 2022/3.

Category of Participant	Bournemouth	Christchurch	Poole	BCP Total
Total number of referrals ( 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 )	24	4	13	41
Number of successful completers	10	1	9	20
Number on Programme currently	5	1	2	8
Number in Assessment stage	5	2	2	9
Number that has disengaged or on hold	6	1	1	8
Number of no contact/no engagement	7	0	2	9
Number of not suitable for programme	1	0	2	3

69. A cost benefit analysis is carried out on all completed cases. This is done by using the Greater Manchester New Economic Unit cost database. This brings together more than 600 cost estimates in a single place, most of which are national costs derived from government reports and academic studies and is the recognised tool to use when carrying out a cost benefit analysis such as this. Below is an example of the cost benefit of one case involving children, where both parents were committing DA on each other. Following their completion in the course no further incidents of DA have been reported to the police to date.

Action	Saving
Children placed with paternal grandparents- prevented from going into care	£135,754
Abstinent from alcohol for 1 year	£2,113
Improvements in Mental well-being	£2,530
Reduction in domestic abuse, incidents x1	£3,253
<b>Total saving</b>	<b>£143,650</b>

The following table details the cost benefit for the UP2U service for the BCP area in 2022/3.

The total estimated saving for cases completed in 2022/3:	£627,982
Total estimated spend on the UP2U over a 12-month period:	£90,000
<b>Estimated saving to BCP Council and Law Enforcement:</b>	<b>£537,982</b>

### Domestic Homicide Reviews

70. We have not had any new Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) to undertake over the last 12 months, but have been working on 3 from previous years. We have been notified that we will have two DHRs to undertake in the future once court proceedings have taken place.

### Violence Against Women and Girls

71. We held the 'Violence Against Women and Girls: Social Justice in Action' conference in partnership with the Soroptimists and Bournemouth University in June this year with over 200 professionals attending. The aim of the conference was to raise awareness of issues relating to violence against women and girls, bringing together diverse professionals, NGOs, charities and interested others to share knowledge, explore limitations and seek solutions to sustain social justice. We had some excellent speakers from Unity in Vision, True Honour and White Ribbon, a number of workshops led by researchers and practitioners and the day was introduced by Kate Adie. It provided an opportunity for agencies across BCP to come together and focus on how to reduce serious violence.
72. The '16 Days of Action' is an international campaign that encourages action and awareness against all forms of violence against women and girls. BCP Council have teamed up with Soroptimist and Safer BCP to hold a series of activities and events for this in November and December. Activities include training for professionals around honour based abuse, healthy masculinity training, stalking, healthy conversations and arguing better, drop-in sessions, art exhibitions and the Twin Sails bridge will be lit up orange as part of the recognition of the event.

73. Work is taking place with BU and other members on the Night Time Economy Strategy Group on a communication campaign around staying safe whilst out in the evenings. This ran alongside a week of awareness undertaken with the universities and university accommodation providers around alcohol and consent in the lead up to freshers week this autumn. Work also took place to support a member of youth parliament on a campaign raising awareness about street harassment for women and girls. Working with [Chalk Back](#) we obtained permission to chalk local young women's experiences of street harassment in public places in BCP. [Poole teenager writes messages against sexual harassment on floor | Bournemouth Echo](#)
74. Working with the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner, Dorset Police and Dorset Council we have recently been successful in achieving a Safer Street Round 5 funding application for just under one million pounds in total, of which £400,000 is for activities across BCP including:
- Continue to work with the Night Time Economy on specific campaigns around alcohol and consent, building on the existing partnership work that is already in place
  - Installation of new CCTV in hot spot locations
  - Expansion of the existing voluntary sector night time community guardianship scheme for Bournemouth Town Centre
  - With the Universities and students, develop a student led peer community guardianship scheme to cover the Lansdowne area linking Bournemouth Town Centre to the University accommodation blocks
  - Establishment of Women and Girl's Night Safety Charter with local businesses
  - Establish and deliver through STARS an Alcohol Consent Engagement Officer to work with universities and accommodation providers

## **Prevent**

75. Local authorities have a specific duty under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act to put in place measures to prevent people being drawn into Terrorism. The CONTEST Counter Terrorism [Strategy](#) (2023) details the role of Local Authorities under the PREVENT strand of activity. Local authorities should engage in multi-agency work to co-ordinate CONTEST activity and manage local risk. Local authority should also use the existing counter-terrorism local profiles assess individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
76. The independent review of PREVENT was concluded in the spring of 2023 and subsequent revised PREVENT guidance was issued in September 2023. The PREVENT guidance includes clear standards of the activity that Local Authorities should undertake in order to mitigate the risk of non-compliance and these are due to be reviewed by the Corporate Management Board prior to the implementation date of 31 December 2023.
77. The Pan-Dorset PREVENT Partnership, led by BCP Council, provides the overarching framework for PREVENT activity, informed by the Counter Terrorism Local Plan (2023). The Partnership has a pan-Dorset PREVENT Plan which responds to the local intelligence picture and reports to the CONTEST Board.
78. Channel is a key component of PREVENT and is led by the local authority. It provides a multi-agency forum to support individuals who are susceptible to being drawn into terrorism. Individuals who have been referred in to PREVENT are assessed by Counter Terrorism police and if appropriate referred into Channel for support, with their consent.



79. Compliance with PREVENT and Channel is monitored by the Home Office. We are currently assessed as meeting all of the requirements under the CONTEST strategy.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

80. The ASB team have geographical locations of work and work closely with partners, in particular, Dorset Police to take an engagement, education and enforcement focus to anti-social behaviour. The service holds a youth specific role, focusing on joint working with Children's Social Care to prevent anti-social behaviour and encourage suitable support.
81. Anti-social behaviour is a complex subject, with some victims and perpetrators having complex or entrenched needs and as such, the team undertake a significant amount of work with local support services. Tackling anti-social behaviour is a partnership priority across statutory agencies, with the Council holding the lead for investigation and enforcement.

### **Youth ASB**

82. In February this year the ASB Team made a positive move to focus on Early Intervention with our young people. Since then, compared to the same period last year, we have seen a 100% reduction in cases escalating through our Community Consequence Scheme. In 2022 we held 66 cases at a C1, 3 cases at a C2 and 5 cases at a C3 (highest level) between the period of March-November. This year, during the same period, we are holding 39 cases at C1, 0 cases at C2 and 0 cases at C3.
83. This positively shows that Early intervention has been a benefit in reducing ASB cases from escalating through our scheme. Being able to do Early Intervention home visits has also meant that we have been able to identify needs early for our families in the BCP community and work with our partners to offer support.

### **CSAS**

84. The Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) provides uniformed patrol officers across key locations. The officers undertake visible uniformed patrols to tackle street related anti-social behaviour, through the use of targeted police powers. The teams co-locate with Dorset police colleagues to ensure robust information sharing and relevant escalation of issues. The team are deployed on a data led approach, where incidents of anti-social behaviour are most prevalent. The team take an engagement and enforcement focus, with support referrals made to relevant charities and commissioned providers to engage clients who are homeless or have addition needs.

### **Town Team**

85. In August 2023, BCP Council and Dorset Police launched the 'town team' approach in Bournemouth Town Centre. The team objectives are to increase visible enforcement, increase engagement with the public and improve perception of crime and disorder. Since the inception of the team there have been a number of events held, including 'live' social media events detailing the work of the team. The team includes additional police officers and a multi-agency partnership approach across partners such as Bournemouth Town Centre BID. In the first month of the project, the team had over 300 engagements with those causing ASB, the CSAS team patrolled on average 145 hours per week, undertook 98 enforcement actions and made 26 support referrals.

86. The table below details the activity which took place as part of the Town Team activity between 17 August 2023 and 27 September 2023.

<b>Engagements</b>	<b>263</b>
Business Engagements	3
Use of powers	16
Legislation issued	8
Legislation Breached	41
Police Called	18
Sec 35	1
Ambulance Called	3
Referrals	26
Abandoned Belongings	7
Alcohol Seized	7
Missing	3
Wanted	7
Intel Submitted	7
Welfare check	17

87. Over the summer, engagement took place with residents, businesses and visitors around their ideas for Bournemouth Town Centre, including their thoughts and idea around community safety. Participants were asked to share what they thought was good about the town, what needed improving and share ideas for activities that worked well elsewhere. These ideas and comments are currently being reviewed and will be brought back as part of a Town Centre Summit in the Autumn.

### **Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Team**

88. The Partnership, with coordination by the Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Team (DACT), have been working to address the needs of the estimated 1500 individuals with opiate and crack misuse in BCP and the 700 individuals who potentially have a dependency on alcohol. Based on the estimates of individuals with problems against the individuals engaging in treatment, BCP has an estimated unmet need of 77.9 % for primary alcohol misusers, and 51.3% estimated unmet need for opiate misusers. In the Government Drug Strategy 2021, Bournemouth was highlighted as having the ninth highest rate of opiate and crack misusers in England, 12.4 per 1,000 working adults, and being the eighth highest ranked area for individuals with multiple and complex needs - 15.05 per 1,000.
89. Of those accessing treatment between 01 April 2023 and 31 July 2023, 34 people accessed treatment on Drug Rehabilitation Requirement Court Orders. The number of people on an Alcohol Treatment Requirement Court Order was 17. Court orders are for a six month to three year period, as determined by the presiding magistrate or judge.
90. Since the start of the Naloxone project (2016) up to 31 October 2023, 2,120 kits have been issued to people in drug treatment and 1,249 to people not in drug treatment (family, friends, people who use opiates but who are not in treatment). 186 kits have been issued to front line workers. BCP Council staff who come in to contact with people at risk of opiate overdose can now voluntarily chose to attend naloxone training and subsequently carry a kit. Council staff are offered a choice to carry Nyxoid (nasal naloxone) or Prenoxad (injection naloxone).

91. Between 2018 and 2020 drug related deaths remained static at under 30 deaths per annum. However, in 2021 there was an increase in drug related deaths nationally and locally – with 43 suspected drug related deaths in BCP. This decreased by 1 in 2022 to 42 drug related deaths in BCP.
92. Other future work for the CSP currently includes:
- Working with schools and Dorset Police Safer Schools Team, to develop a healthy, respectful relationships programme that can be delivered in house by school designated safeguarding leads
  - Working across the system to develop a communication campaign around Violence Against Women and Girls
  - Promotion of Bystander Training
  - Training sessions with front line/sea-front staff, both regular and seasonal, so that they can recognise signs of predatory behaviour and also understand about safeguarding victims using trauma informed approaches
  - Expansion of the Safe Places scheme with business and the community and voluntary sector to include Safe Places for all and to advertise the scheme
  - Provision of signage throughout the hotspot areas advertising both the Safe Places and also the CCTV systems – in a positive targeted campaign aimed at highlighting to potential offenders that we have processes in place to monitor them whilst being positive about Bournemouth being a safe place.
  - Planning for 'Sexual Violence Awareness Week' in February 2024, where we will be holding a BCP wide week of action and awareness raising during this national week. The proposal includes training professionals to understand a trauma informed approach, events held at local colleges and the Universities and other events advertising the support available for people who are victims.
  - Establishing a Violence Reduction Network to ensure delivery against the Duty and ensure we are working in a co-ordinated and effective manner.

## Summary

93. In summary, the CSP has undertaken a significant amount of activity across all partners over the past 12 months. The development of the Serious Violence Needs Assessment has enabled us to identify the cohorts of individuals who are disproportionately at higher risk of being a victim of a serious violent crime, ensuring that the interventions we develop are targeted using an evidence based and public health approach.
94. We have seen a reduction in ASB, domestic abuse violent crime, an overall reduction in sexual assaults and sexual assaults linked to domestic abuse. The reduction in the number of young people as first time entrants to the criminal Justice System has also significantly reduced. However, we must not be complacent and need to consider whether reductions in numbers could be associated due to reluctance to report, rather than an overall reduction in crime.
95. Our work around Violence Against Women and Girls is making good progress and will be further enhanced by the funding available through Safer Street 5 and the Serious Violence Duty.
96. Our domestic abuse lived experience survey and the work we are undertaking with Dorset Council, Dorset Police and the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner with Safe Lives to review all domestic abuse services across Dorset will help to shape and inform the commissioning of services which meet the needs of our victims and perpetrators.
97. The removal of funding for the Seasonal Response Programme has not prevented us from ensuring that we have a safe and visible presence in Bournemouth Town Centre, Lower Gardens and Seafront area. The Town Team

initiative shows how we can achieve positive activity by working together in partnership and pooling resources.

98. We continue to focus on activity to tackle exploitation of individuals working with partners such as local support agencies and charities to ensure we continue to develop our knowledge, identify vulnerable children and offer the best possible support to those affected.
99. Whilst we are proud of the work that has taken place across the last 12 months we are very conscious that there is still a lot of work ahead of us, particularly looking at how we can build on our existing community engagement activity and ensure that where ever possible we are co-designing interventions, using trauma informed approaches and including lived experiences.

### **Summary of financial implications**

90. Where additional activity is taking place across the system, it is being funded through the relevant duty and associated funding, including the Domestic Abuse grant, Serious Violent Crime grant and looking ahead, through the Safer Streets Fund. However, we are mindful that all of this funding is currently due to stop at the end of March 2025, which would have a considerable impact on our abilities to undertake the duties as required if further funding is not confirmed by Central Government.

### **Summary of legal implications**

100. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) 2011, established partnerships between police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation, and health. The purpose of these partnerships is to ensure that all these agencies work together to tackle local crime and disorder. The 1998 Act placed a central duty on these 'responsible authorities' to produce audits of the area's local crime problems and implement strategies to tackle them.
101. Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) gave a power to any person or body to share information with partners for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder. This was strengthened by paragraph 5 of Schedule 9 to the Police and Justice Act that introduces a new section 17A of the 1998 Act which is a duty to share certain sets of depersonalised information,
102. The introduction of the [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) and the [Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022](#) gives greater focus on violence, both within and outside the home, and on our collective ability to effectively safeguard and protect those within our communities who are vulnerable to these and other forms of harm. [From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives](#) is an ambitious and action-focused 10-year strategy to enable real and sustained change. Combating drugs is one of the government's top priorities and ministers across government are engaged and focused on delivering our strategy.
103. New guidance was issued in August 2023 for inspectors carrying out a [Joint Targeted Area Inspections \(JTAI\)](#) of the multi-agency response to children affected by serious youth violence in a local authority area in England. The agencies within the scope of this inspection are the police, children's social care, education, youth offending services and relevant health service. JTAI's will focus at a strategic level is on multi-agency partnerships' responses to serious youth violence. Inspectors will evaluate how effectively the local partnership strategic arrangements are working to address and prevent serious youth violence. This will include looking at the role of the community safety partnership (CSP),

violence reduction unit's (VRU) where relevant, and multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (MASA).

### **Summary of human resources implications**

104. The work of the CSP requires coordination and administration. This is largely met by council and police staff, utilising grant funding where eligible and appropriate. Measures are being pursued to involve staff from other partners, especially in providing data and analytical support.

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

105. The Partnership is developing a strength-based approach which will include residents in developing local solutions to local problems. This, coupled with the Public Health Approach, will improve sustainability through early intervention and building on the strengths in communities.

### **Summary of public health implications**

106. Public health and wellbeing are important by-products of a safer community. The work of the Partnership is to improve public health and community wellbeing by preventing crime and disorder, effectively tackling them when they occur, improving safety in the community, and reducing victimisation.

### **Summary of equality implications**

107. Crime and disorder are unevenly distributed across the conurbation, and generally in inverse proportion to income levels. The overwhelming majority of victims of domestic abuse are women and children. Minority groups, including Black & Minority Ethnic people, people with disabilities and people from LGBTQ+ groups can suffer from hate crimes and incidents. Young people are disproportionately represented among both victims of crime and offenders, and elderly people often suffer from exaggerated fear of crime.

### **Summary of risk assessment**

108. Data management resources and the unconfirmed nature of future funding pose the greatest risk to the effective functioning of the Partnership. However, measures are underway to strengthen this area.
109. We continue to struggle to receive data from health which would enable us to ensure that we are considering all information when undertaking our work.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix A- BCP Strategic Assessment 23-24
- Appendix B- BCP CSP Strategy 22-25
- Appendix C- CSP dataset and KPI update