

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD



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| Report subject | BCP Community Safety Partnership Annual Report |
| Meeting date | 23 February 2026 |
| Status | Public Report |
| Executive summary | <p>This paper sets out elements of development and delivery by 'Safer BCP', the BCP Community Safety Partnership (CSP), and its constituent agencies. It provides Members with an update since the last report to Overview and Scrutiny Panel in January 2025.</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"> • the role should be one of a critical friend, providing constructive challenge at a strategic level. • 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. • the scrutiny of partners should be "in so far as their activities relate to the partnership itself." <p>In the BCP area, the Overview and Scrutiny Board undertakes this function each December/January.</p> |
| Recommendations | <p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Members note the progress of the Community Safety |

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| | <p>Partnership during 2025</p> <p>b. Members note the compliance of the BCP Community Safety Partnership as set out in the relevant legislation.</p> |
| <p>Reason for recommendations</p> | <p>a. Overview and Scrutiny Board are updated and made aware of the Safer BCP Community Safety Partnership's activities and achievements during 2025.</p> <p>b. The requirement for annual scrutiny is met.</p> |

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| Portfolio Holder(s): | Cllr Kieron Wilson, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation with responsibility for Community Safety |
| Corporate Director | Laura Ambler, Corporate Director for Wellbeing |
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| Wards | Council-wide |
| Classification | For update or information |

Background

1. Safer BCP, the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for the BCP Council area undertakes its role through the development and implementation of an annual Strategic Assessment 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. This report details the findings of the current Strategic Needs Assessments which inform the work of the CSP, the progress that has taken place since the last update to Overview and Scrutiny Board and details the future planned activity.
3. Since the CSP reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel in January 2025, the CSP has completed the Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder, compiling and reviewing data for the financial year for 2024/25, the key findings of which are detailed in sections 63-71 and form the basis for the work of the CSP in 2025.
4. The strategic priorities for the CSP between January 2025 and October 2025 were:
 - 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)

It was agreed at the October CSP Executive Board, following a review of the annual Strategic Needs Assessment for BCP that the priorities going forward would be:

- a. To reduce serious violence
- b. To reduce VAWG
- c. To reduce ASB, drug related ASB and crime hotspots

Work is now taking place to develop a new set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor our work programme and impact.

5. 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).

6. 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 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

7. 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.

8. The CSP Chair is Chief Superintendent Heather Dixey, and the Vice-Chair is Cllr Kieron Wilson as Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation with responsibility for Community Safety.

9. A significant amount of activity has taken place through the CSP over the last 12 months and key elements are highlighted in this report.

10. This report sets out:

- a. The CSPs compliance with its statutory functions as set out at section 6
- b. Activity undertaken by the CSP against its priorities over the last 12 months
- c. The key findings from the refreshed Strategic Needs Assessment using the 2024-5 data
- d. The recommendations for targeted work in response to the findings of the Needs Assessments
- e. Other forthcoming work and areas of focus for the CSP

Overview and Scrutiny Board review of the CSP's functions

11. The following sections details the CSP's compliance and progress against the key functions of CSP's under the Crime and Disorder Act as set out in sections 5 and 6 of this report.

12. **Strategic Group to Direct the work of the CSP**- The BCP Community Safety Partnership was formed in 2019 following Local Government Review. The work is led by the Executive Board which consists of representations from the specified authorities under the Act:

- a. Dorset Police
- b. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service
- c. Dorset Probation Service and Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service
- d. Health

e. BCP Council (representation from Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regulation, Adults Services, Children's Services, Public Health & Communities and Housing & Public Protection)

f. Representation from the Office for the Police & Crime Commissioner for Dorset (non-voting capacity)

13. The CSP Executive Board currently meets bi-monthly in order ensure that we are able to incorporate the statutory responsibilities of the Serious Violence Duty alongside the core function of the CSP. In 2026, the Board will move to quarterly meetings due to the reduced serious violence funding and staff capacity. Meetings are recorded and minute'd and displayed on the Safer BCP website for openness and transparency. A risk register is maintained for the CSP highlighting any key risks to the work of the partnership, current risks remain the uncertainty around grant funding for domestic abuse and serious violence beyond the end of the current financial year.

14. **(CSPs should) set up protocols and systems for sharing information-** to enable the effective and timely operation of the CSP, appropriate information sharing protocols should be in place for the proportionate sharing of data to:

- facilitate the secure sharing of information between CSPs and partner agencies;
- govern the secure use and management of information by CSPs;
- enable the responsible authorities in a CSP to meet their legislative obligations effectively, e.g. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Policing and Crime Act 2009); and
- ensure that clear processes are in place for the partnership to respond to Freedom of Information requests, including those occasions when a request is made for information from one agency which originated from another partner agency.

15. Data is shared between the specified authorities of the CSP in order to disclose information to help to prevent or detect crime, or to help to catch, or prosecute offenders. Data may also be used to safeguard and support an individual from harm and/or exploitation. For example, the Council works in partnership with Dorset Police, Dorset Fire & Rescue Services and other local agencies to assist in Community Safety under the Crime & Disorder Act. This Act allows information to be shared in certain circumstances.

16. Both personalised and de-personalised data may be shared based upon the issues being addressed. For example, the CSP Analysts use Police data to develop the quarterly KPI reports and annual strategic assessments which is then reported as depersonalised data. Reports are also compiled to inform the monthly Partnership Co-ordinating Group (PCG) about real time hotspot and trend data to enable targeted partnership activity. Personalised data may be shared between relevant agencies under appropriate legislation- for example to ensure that young people are safeguarded and protective measures can be applied to move them away from harm and criminality.

17. **To identify priorities via an annual strategic assessment-** CSP's are required to undertake an annual assessment of the type and nature of crime and disorder, including serious violent crime, that impacts their area. However, a higher prevalence of a crime

type under the CSP Annual Strategic Assessment may not make it a priority for the focus of partnership working. Priorities need to be considered alongside the proportionality/threat/harm/impact to the communities of BCP and where partnership working can bring the best outcomes. The findings of the strategic assessment using the 2024-5 data sets are detailed further in this report in section 63 to 71.

18. To produce a partnership plan and monitor progress against it- The BCP [Community Safety Partnership Strategy](#) and the [Serious Violence Strategy](#) provide the strategic plan for the partnership's priorities and areas of work. These are then broken down into detailed action plans which are reported back to and monitored by the CSP at their Executive Meetings to ensure that progress is being made and to help 'unblock' any areas where we are struggling to make progress. Areas of concerns are discussed and if appropriate added to the risk register for the CSP along with any mitigating actions which we can put in place. The CSP's Strategy is due for a refresh in 2025/6 once further guidance has been received from the Government around their review of the role and function of CSPs.

19. To develop strategies to reduce re-offending, substance misuse and domestic abuse- both the BCP and Dorset CSP's approved the Pan-Dorset Reducing Reoffending Strategy in 2024. Monitoring of the strategy is undertaken by the Pan-Dorset Reducing Reoffending Board which the CSPs have representation on. The Dorset and BCP Combatting Drugs Partnership Board was established in 2022 in response to the Government's 'Harm to Hope' 10 year's drug strategy. The Partnership Board is Chaired by the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset. The '[BCP Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy](#)' is currently being refreshed alongside a 'Safe Accommodation Strategy' and a 'Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Strategy'. These will help to inform our commissioning plans for new services to be tendered in 2026 and will cover the period 2026-30. The strategies have been shaped by our Lived Experience survey work, our Experts by Experience group, a cross party member working group and public consultation. It is anticipated that they will be presented to Cabinet in early 2026 (date to be confirmed). The delivery of the strategies is overseen by the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group which reports to the CSP Executive Board.

20. To commission Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) – since January 2025 we have been notified of four potential domestic homicide reviews for the CSP to commission and report back to the Home Office and appropriate safeguarding boards on the findings and recommendations. These recommendations are then incorporated into the CSP Action Plan. We are unable to provide details at this time of the individual cases as some are still subject to the court process. Once a DHR has been completed it is published [here](#).

In addition to the above, the specified authorities in the CSP also have statutory duties under the Domestic Abuse Duty and Serious Violent Crime Duty. As such, the CSP is the body responsible for coordinating and delivering the CSP's Serious Violence Strategy, which was adopted in January 2024.

Progress against our key priorities over the past 12 months:

21. The following section summarises activity that has taken place over the past 12 months in relation to our key priorities. Many of the initiatives undertaken cover more than one priority, for example domestic abuse and sexual assaults fit under the 'violent

crime' priority, but as the majority of victims are female they also fit under the 'Violence Against Women and Girls' priority. Therefore, where an intervention is 'Cross Cutting', it will have the initial (CC) next to it.

Priority 1- Tackle violent crime in all its forms, including Serious Violent Crime

22. Knife Crime- We have worked with an external video company, Dorset Police and Victim Support to plan and film a short knife crime educational video that can be used in schools as well as with adult and juvenile perpetrators of knife offences. This video was launched in the November Op Sceptre week 2025.

23. Sexual Violence Awareness Week (Feb 25) (CC) - This campaign started off with a webinar for professionals on Essential Insights into Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage delivered by Karma Nirvana. Circles Southwest provided a day of training on working with young people with harmful sexual behaviours and Progressive Masculinity ran two healthy masculinity sessions for professionals which upskilled attendees on the prevalent views of masculinity held by many young people, the socio-cultural influences shaping these views and some evidence-based strategies which promote a progressive understanding of masculinity. Further sessions during this week were delivered by ACTS FAST on sexual trauma, secondary trauma, family members of those arrested for online child sexual abuse and supporting colleagues impacted by lived experience of sexual abuse and sexual violence in the workplace. The week ended with a Domestic Abuse forum on exploring how the internet and online influencers fuel gender-based abuse. '

24. Domestic Abuse (DA) Forums (CC) – We provide a productive learning and sharing space about Domestic Abuse for professionals, focusing on local and national emerging themes. The forums run every other month and can accommodate 45 professionals per time and are usually at capacity. These cover a range of subjects including DA perpetrators, support for Male Victims of DA, DA and Suicidality, learning disabilities and DA and older victims of DA and carer stress.

25. Serious Violence Delivery Group (CC) – This group coordinates projects in response to the Serious Violence Needs Assessment, working with a wide range of partners. Examples of the work include training for seafront staff and other frontline staff on handling and responding to disclosures of sexual offences from the public, making it easier for victims to access support quickly and safely. Dedicated Task & Finish groups focus on specific activity such as the Young Person's Serious Violence group which aims to look at safeguarding vulnerable young people from harm and or exploitation.

26. DA Perpetrator work (CC) – We provide a DA perpetrator programme across BCP, which is a behaviour change programme working with both male and female perpetrators of domestic abuse. Each DA perpetrator programme is tailored to the individual following a thorough assessment and specific modules linked to the assessment are carried out with each individual. The victim is offered a specialist support worker whilst the perpetrator is on the programme to manage risk and offer support. 27 individuals completed the programme in 24/25 and desistance rates for individuals completing Up2U: CHR in BCP in 23/24 twelve months after completing the course was 79%.

27. Stalking- We have recently identified a behaviour change programme for individuals who use stalking as part of their offending profile and are piloting this in the coming months.

We are also working with partners across BCP to develop and implement the stalking clinic, this has been in place across Dorset for some years but is struggling to continue due to lack of resource. We are working to establish this in a more sustainable way.

28. Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) in young people – We have worked collaboratively with colleagues in the Police, STARS (a Dorset charity providing support to survivors of sexual abuse), The Shores (Dorset Rape and Sexual Assault Referral Centre), schools and training providers to develop a framework to support schools to deal with sexualised behaviour amongst young people. ‘Do It Right’, addressing children and adolescent sexual relationship was launched to schools and organisations who work with young people on 21st November 2025 and is supported by training and resources packages and a single point of contact worker. This launch phase is initially focussed on 11–18-year-olds and further work is planned specifically around SEND pupil support, provider assistance and the younger ages.

29. Operation Soteria Bluestone - Dorset Police is part of Operation Soteria Bluestone, which aims to improve the response of the police service to victims of rape and sexual offences and their experience of the criminal justice process. Officers actively engaged with universities in the run up to and during fresher’s fortnight, promoting a range of safety initiatives including personal safety awareness and crime reporting options.

30. Domestic Abuse Health Advocates – We fund specialist domestic abuse health advocates who are based in both main hospitals in the BCP Council area. They work with patients in the hospital who are identified as suffering domestic abuse, providing support and safety advice, and referring on to relevant services if required. They also provide training and support to hospital staff, helping them identify domestic abuse more effectively. In 2024/25 the health advocates worked with over 400 survivors of domestic abuse and delivered training to 500 health colleagues.

31. Children and Young People Domestic Abuse Support – We have funded six specialist children and young people domestic abuse advocates across BCP. They provide support, advocacy and therapeutic intervention to children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse in their homes and/or in their intimate relationships. In 2024/25 they worked with over 200 children and young people across BCP who had experienced domestic abuse.

32. Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) (CC) - BCP Council is working toward DAHA accreditation which is the UK benchmark for how housing providers should respond to domestic abuse in the UK. It is the only scheme in the UK offering domestic abuse accreditation for the housing sector. Within DAHA’s eight priority areas, the following outcomes across Housing Services have so far been achieved:

- A Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy is in place
- All frontline housing staff, including repairs teams and contractors receive role-appropriate domestic abuse training, with approximately 200 repair and maintenance operatives receiving annual toolbox talks, reinforcing safe, sensitive responses. 100% of staff in BCP Homes have completed the relevant training, the majority to Level 2 standard. The training plan ensures that staff across Housing Services are committed to a trauma-informed, survivor-focused response.

- We have embedded a team of Domestic Abuse Champions throughout our wider housing services; these are colleagues who have undertaken enhanced Dragonfly training to provide expert guidance and peer support. This specialist knowledge ensures consistency in how domestic abuse is identified, responded to and managed across our services.
- We now provide accessible information through tailored leaflets for older people, people from minority ethnic groups, LGBTQ+ people, and people with learning disabilities. These materials, along with tenant publications, and the internet site, help raise awareness and signpost residents to local and national, as well as By and For, support services.
- Exit buttons are utilised in all BCP domestic abuse-related web pages
- Alerts for victims and reported perpetrators of domestic abuse are used consistently on the case management systems
- A representative from both BCP Homes and BCP Strategic Housing Partnership attends the weekly Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Domestic Abuse Lived Experience groups have contributed to and co-produced training, policy, procedures and all domestic abuse literature.

DAHA outcomes are woven through the forthcoming Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy, Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy and the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Strategy.

33. Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) (CC) – we continue to operate the weekly multi-agency MARAC with 721 cases in 2024/25. The average number of cases per BCP MARAC (14) falls just below the nationally predicted range of 15 to 20 cases per week. During 2025/26 so far, we have seen a significant increase in cases, and it is currently averaging 21 cases per week. BCP MARAC has gained high praise for its comprehensive and trauma informed approach, from national organisations who have represented there including Jewish Women’s Aid and GALOP.

34. Domestic Abuse Strategic Lead (CC) –The DA Strategic Lead has completed the STADA Coordinated Community Response (CCR) Leaders course this year, CCR is the best practice model to ensure local systems truly keep survivors safe, hold abusers to account and prevent domestic abuse.

Priority 2- Keep young people and adults-at-risk safe from exploitation, including online risks

35. Safe Places – a Safe Place Scheme has run in BCP for the last 5 years for people with Learning Difficulties, offering a place of safety in local spaces including shops and cafes if an individual is feeling at risk or needing support. BCP Council and People First Forum have been working over the last two years towards making those Safe Places available to anyone who would need a safe place – including but not exclusively to young people, women and girls. As of October 2025, there are 170 Safe Places across BCP who have signed up to the Safe Place scheme, (102 in Bournemouth, 57 in Poole and 11 in Christchurch). These places have received training on how to support individuals needing sanctuary and future work will look at how we can link this initiative to the Unity Promise.

36. Prevent Week of Action 6th – 10th October 2025- Building on the success of last year’s Prevent Week of Action, activities aimed at promoting and raising awareness of

Prevent across the partnership, education sector, and local community. The key focus was to increase the number and quality of the referrals coming in for Prevent and subsequently increase our conversion rate from referral through to Channel Panel. This year's Week of Action was carried out with high attendance to all events across the week and we opened up access to the activities to the whole Southwest region which proved a huge success. The week covered sessions on prevent referrals, prevent awareness for Governors, an introduction to incels, signs and symbols, safeguarding awareness (exploitation, MDS and prevent), online safety for parents and 'what is Channel'. We also had sessions on autism and radicalisation delivered by Austin Dorrity from the National Autistic Society which saw 120 attendees as well as a session on Misogyny delivered by Dr Sajjan Gohel which also saw 120 attendees.

37. The Pan-Dorset PREVENT Partnership- we have updated the pan-Dorset Prevent Partnership Plan informed by the SW Counter Terrorism Local Plan. The Prevent 'Education and Training' Task and Finish group has created the pan Dorset Training framework and has launched Home Office accredited face to face Prevent Awareness training delivered by BCP Council staff.

38. Channel Panel- led by the local authority, Channel is 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. Information on the numbers in the Channel process is restricted, but there have been active cases in BCP over the last 12 months. Compliance with PREVENT and Channel is monitored by the Home Office and BCP is currently assessed as 'meeting' or 'exceeding' all the requirements under the CONTEST strategy.

39. Safer Internet Day February 2025- We organised two webinars for members of the public and professionals. The first was on fraud, scams and online security facilitated by two Dorset Police officer and the second was a session on healthy masculinity and online influences for parents, carers and guardians facilitated by Progressive Masculinity.

40. Cuckooing Support Programme - In May 2025, BCP Council commenced a pilot cuckooing project aimed at assisting people who have been identified at being at risk of cuckooing but also working with people who are being cuckooed in their own homes. Funding was sourced from a government grant (DATRIG – Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Interventions Grant – Housing Support) for a one-year period. The project has been based on two projects which commenced in Surrey and Peterborough in 2024. The project is a multi-agency partnership with Safer BCP, Dorset Police, BCP Housing, BCP With You, and Adult Social Care working together. The scheme had received just over 60 referrals by October.

The biggest cohort of people being referred to the scheme were aged 50-59 and work is planned to extend the scheme to social landlords, housing associations and to conduct training for council staff and others to raise awareness about cuckooing and the scheme. Work is also planned over the next year to secure further funding and to work with older age groups to make them more aware and safer in relation to the risks of cuckooing.

41. Missing, Exploited and Trafficked (MET) Panel and Youth Cafe– Since 2023 any professional who has a concern that a child or group of children are at risk of exploitation within the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area can refer to the MET Panel. The MET panel, run by Childrens Social Care, consists of multi-agency partners which meet 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.

A MET referral does not replace established processes for all agencies to follow if they have a concern for a child that requires a referral to the Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Professionals completing a referral to MASH where there are concerns regarding child exploitation should also consider making a referral to the MET Panel.

Safer BCP is working with the MET panel and is funding a pilot for a focussed deterrent worker to provide targeted work with a cohort of young people at risk of carrying knives, to try to reduce their risk. This work commenced in October 2025 and is in early stages of development, but the worker has already completed two short pieces of targeted work with identified young people.

In March 2025, the Early Help and Targeted Intervention Service launched a diversionary initiative to improve outcomes for vulnerable young people. Initially funded by the National Citizenship Service and the Community Safety Partnership Board, the project is now embedded within the Youth Cafés at Muscliff and No 18 Young People's Hubs. These cafés offer:

- Work experience and volunteering opportunities
- Accredited Barista and Food Hygiene training
- Tailored advice, guidance, and support
- A safe, inclusive space to build confidence and community connections

To date, 30 young people—including young carers, those at risk of NEET, and those with additional needs—have successfully completed training and gained valuable employability skills.

Priority 3- Work with communities to deal with antisocial behaviour (ASB) and crime hotspots, including ASB linked to substance misuse

42. CCTV (CC) – We have installed additional CCTV through the ‘Safer Streets’ fund for additional cameras in both Westcliff and Horseshoe Common in Bournemouth as a direct response to concerns around ASB, sexual assaults and other crimes. Our team works around the clock to consistently improve safety measures with nearly 1,300 permanent CCTV cameras monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and have already installed more than 150 new CCTV cameras at bus shelters and stations.

43. ASB hotspot mapping- Our analysts map ASB data to identify any hotspot locations or emerging areas of concern. Where hotspots are identified, multiagency Task & Finish (T&F) groups are established to work together to address ASB with the local community. An example of this over the last 12 months is a T&F group for the Lansdown area of Bournemouth in response to concerns about ASB.

44. Multi-agency working- The ASB team have officers working across BCP and work closely with both internal and external and external partners, such as Licensing and Trading Standards teams; Community Safety (CSAS) Officers; Dorset Police; Bournemouth Town Centre BID (Business Improvement District) Rangers; WISE Litter Enforcement Officers and BCP With You Drug & Alcohol Services for early intervention, engagement, education and enforcement focus to tackle anti-social behaviour.

45. Youth ASB prevention- The ASB team holds a youth specific role, focusing on joint working with Dorset Police and Children's Social Care to prevent anti-social behaviour and encourage suitable support. This positively shows that early intervention has been a benefit in reducing ASB cases from escalating through our scheme. The team undertake early intervention home visits to identify needs early for our families and work with our partners to offer support.

46. The Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS)- CSAS provides uniformed patrol officers across key locations. The officers undertake visible uniformed patrols to tackle street related anti-social behaviour, using 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 additional needs. Throughout our three towns we have seen a year-on-year reduction in anti-social behaviour and violent crimes - thanks, in part, to more than 13,000 hours of visible foot patrols per year.

47. Purple Flag accreditation- this year we supported Bournemouth BID and partners in gaining our purple flag accreditation once again for Bournemouth Town Centre. Community Safety analysts supported with data on nighttime related Serious Violence and ASB related to the town centre and supported the visit and assessment with the Purple Flag assessors.

48. Safer Businesses Action Week 10th – 14th November – ASB and CSAS officers are visiting all business in our towns to ensure they know how to report and encourage the use of Sentrysis.

49. BCP Homes inspection- The Regulator of Social Housing has reported no weaknesses in BCP Homes ASB delivery. This was a key focus for the last 12 months where an improvement plan was put in place along with the development of a new ASB Policy and a Good Neighbourhood Policy.

50. ASB Forum- A new ASB forum has been launched to create the ASB Strategy and to formulate our responses to the new legislative changes coming through the Crime and Policing Bill which will introduce new criminal sanctions, expand powers for law enforcement, and change how ASB is addressed, including new legislation related to begging and vaping.

51. Shoplifting- the ASB team work jointly work with the BID, introducing a new procedure for issuing Exclusion Notices for repeat shoplifting. CSAS officers support with serving notices and gathering evidence in the event of breaches.

52. Enforcement activity- In recent months, enforcement activity has resulted in the closure of multiple business premises found to be selling illegal vapes and cigarettes. This demonstrates the ongoing commitment to tackling unlawful practices and safeguarding community wellbeing.

Daytime and evening enforcement actions have been carried out across the BCP area as part of a coordinated approach to tackling anti-social behaviour and associated criminality. These operations have involved joint working between the ASB team, Dorset Police, and other key partners, focusing on hotspot locations and priority concerns. Activities have included high-visibility patrols, engagement with local businesses, and targeted interventions to address issues such as street drinking, begging, and the sale of illegal goods.

Priority 4- Tackle issues relating to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

53. White Ribbon Day and United Nations 16 Days of Activism (Nov-Dec 25)- We have a full programme of events throughout this period. Working with more than 10 local and national partners the events include an art and community support exhibition, healthy masculinity workshops for schools and professionals, community engagement events and online webinars.

54. Unity Promise (CC) – We launched the Unity Promise which is practical steps for venues, services, operators and businesses to take to help make Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole a great and safe, place for women and girls to live and visit. It looks at removing the responsibility from women and girls to keep themselves safe and instead looks at how we can support venues to best respond to disclosures and identify risk areas and predatory behaviour. So far, 30 businesses have successfully received training and are now pledged and fully qualified members of the Unity Promise, helping to create a safer environment for all women and girls.

55. Women Only drop-in service (CC) – We run a drop-in one evening a week in Bournemouth for women at risk of abuse or homelessness in partnership with St Mungo's. This is staffed by BCP Council staff, volunteers and other partnership agencies. We aim to provide a safe space for women and practical help as well as providing other support services such as a clothes swap, mindfulness, health and fitness.

56. Street Workers Risk Assessment Conference (SWRAC) (CC) – We hold a multiagency risk assessment meeting, chaired by BCP Council staff, each month to assess risk and coordinate a response for all known street sex workers. Working closely with the Dorset Working Women's Project, outreach workers and accommodation providers, work is carried out to ensure that we work together to reduce the likelihood of violence and other offences against these women.

57. Support and programmes for domestic abuse (CC) – We have a domestic abuse outreach service and offer two programmes for female victims/survivors on a weekly basis- these are Power to Change and the Freedom Programme. An example of the work undertaken is where The Shores and BCP staff visit local traveller sites to offer support and advice to female travellers and make them aware of services available to them in the local area.

We have designed and delivered the new domestic abuse level 1 and 2 professionals training, across 16 sessions to date, which are always at capacity and three standalone MARAC training sessions. We run domestic abuse professionals training twice per month.

We have designed and printed new domestic abuse leaflets for the BCP community, producing a generic leaflet and more specialised leaflets to reach into communities which have protected characteristics.

58. Town Watch (CC)- Both BCP Council and Dorset Police are active members of Town Watch where members recently worked with officers to promote a sense of security in licensed venues. Local policing teams actively work with partners on a range of initiatives to ensure the safety of women and girls in Dorset including Operation Vigilant to identify potential perpetrators.

59. Experts by Experience (CC) - We have established an Experts by Experience Board, who are a group of female survivors of domestic abuse who meet monthly to assist BCP Council in responding to the local domestic abuse need. They have reviewed strategies, policies, training and other materials, as well as being involved in the future commissioning of domestic abuse services for BCP by taking part in a service specification exercise with the commissioning team.

60. White Ribbon Accreditation (CC) - BCP Council has gained White Ribbon Accreditation which provides organisations with a structured approach to creating positive cultural change. Becoming accredited shows our commitment to preventing harassment, abuse and violence against women and girls through promoting gender equality, raising awareness and ensuring that men as well as women are part of the solution. We have had the White Ribbon three-year action plan approved and are working to complete these actions.

61. Love Grace Handbag Appeal- In 2025 the Love Grace campaign has continued, with three donation points in the BCP area. Since January, 264 handbags filled with toiletries, makeup, and other small items have been donated to domestic abuse survivors, street sex workers, and homeless women. These donations were distributed via BCHA (refuge and pattern changing courses), BCP Homes (temporary accommodation and respite rooms), Dorset Working Women's Project, CSAS, Waterlily Project, and St Mungo's. Longer-term storage for donations has been sourced, and some initial work has started around corporate volunteering partnerships with JP Morgan and DWP.

62. #JustDont Campaign- In June 2025 the BCP CSP launched the [#JustDont](#) campaign which is a behaviour change campaign aiming to educate and empower men and boys to call out incidents of street harassment towards women and girls. So far, we have run a bespoke bystander awareness session for BCP professionals and residents as part of the campaign launch and ran a focus group with Bournemouth and Poole college students where they were filmed talking about the #JD campaign and what they would say to their friends to call them out. We have also attended numerous engagement events to promote the campaign including a session for foodbank volunteers, Lifeline engagement day, RSE day, family fun days, Turlin Moor Family hub day, Bournemouth and Poole college welcome fair and BU Freshers Fair as well as an input to Dorset Probation development day. Over the summer, we supported STARS in their beach campaign where they promoted #JD and spoke to members of the public about consent and staying safe whilst out during the summer months. More recently, we have been delivering the '16 days of action against

gender-based abuse' campaign and have worked with our BCP owned leisure centres to set up #JD displays and suggestion boxes to engage their customers.

The CSP were awarded the winning Gold award in the national leSE Public Sector Transformation Awards in March 2025 under the Customer & Community Focus category for its outstanding partnership working.

Summary of Crime and Disorder in 2024/5

63. The following is a summary of the findings of the BCP CSP Strategic Needs Assessment which looks at all recorded crime across the BCP area between the 2024-25 financial year. Monitoring and scrutiny of Key Performance Indicators take place at the CSP Executive Board on both a quarterly and annual basis.

64. Using the CSP's definition of Serious Violence, the most common types of serious violence offending in BCP in financial year 2024/25 were sexual assault on a female, rape of a female aged 16 or over, personal robbery and GBH Section 18. It is worth noting that some of this data will include historical offences, so may not be a true reflection of actual offences committed during each year.

Figure 1 of the report uses data from April 2022-March 2025 for six key serious violent crimes.

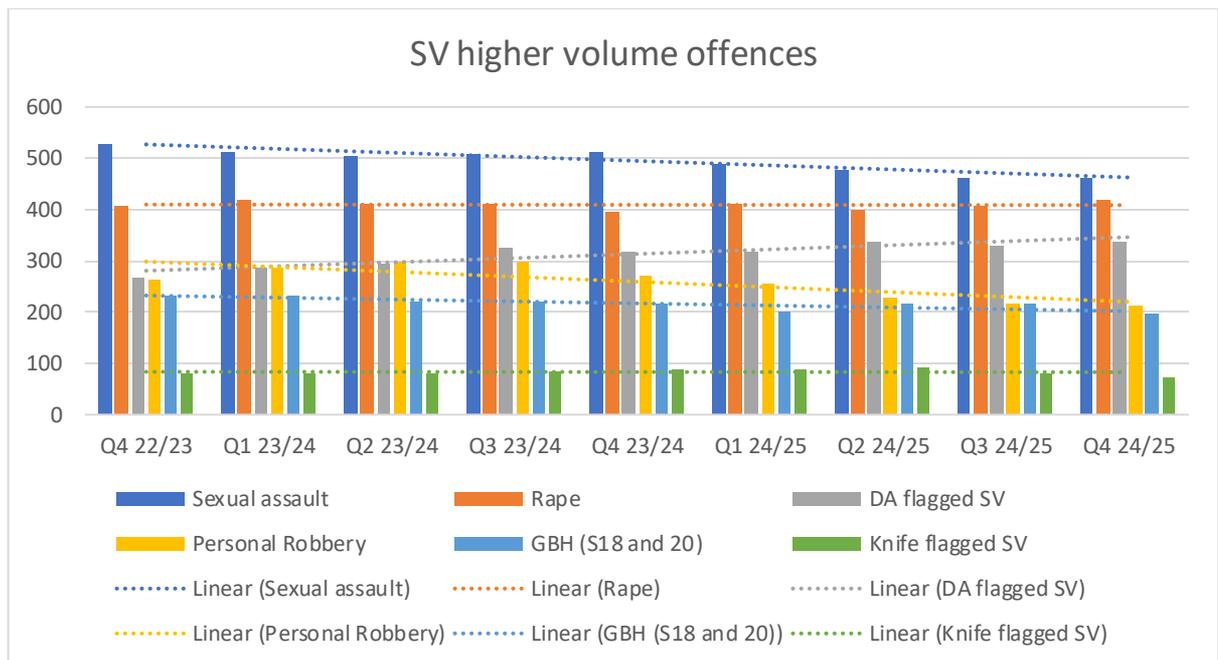


Figure 1- Serious Violence higher volume offences showing a rolling 12 quarterly data – each quarter is reflective of a 12-month period. For example, Q4 22/23 contains data from Q1 22/23- – Q4 22/23. Data period 1st April 2022- 31st March 2025.

65. Figure 1 shows that the most common types of serious violence in BCP are sexual offences (sexual assault followed by rape), domestic abuse and personal robbery. There has been a statistically significant decrease in knife crime in Q4 2024-25, despite an increase in knife flagged occurrences in Q2 last year. Knife flagged occurrences are on an overall slight downward trend. Personal robbery has seen a consistent decrease, albeit not

statistically significant. Business robbery has also increased. Numbers of sexual assault offences have seen a consistent but slow decline, with little change over the last 5 months.

66. The trend for rape offences has shown no notable improvement, and attempt murder occurrences have consistently increased. Domestic abuse occurrences have also increased, with a large proportion of this being attributed to an increase in reported domestic abuse flagged rape occurrences. More positively, domestic abuse flagged GBH occurrences (both section 18 and 20) have shown a steady decline.

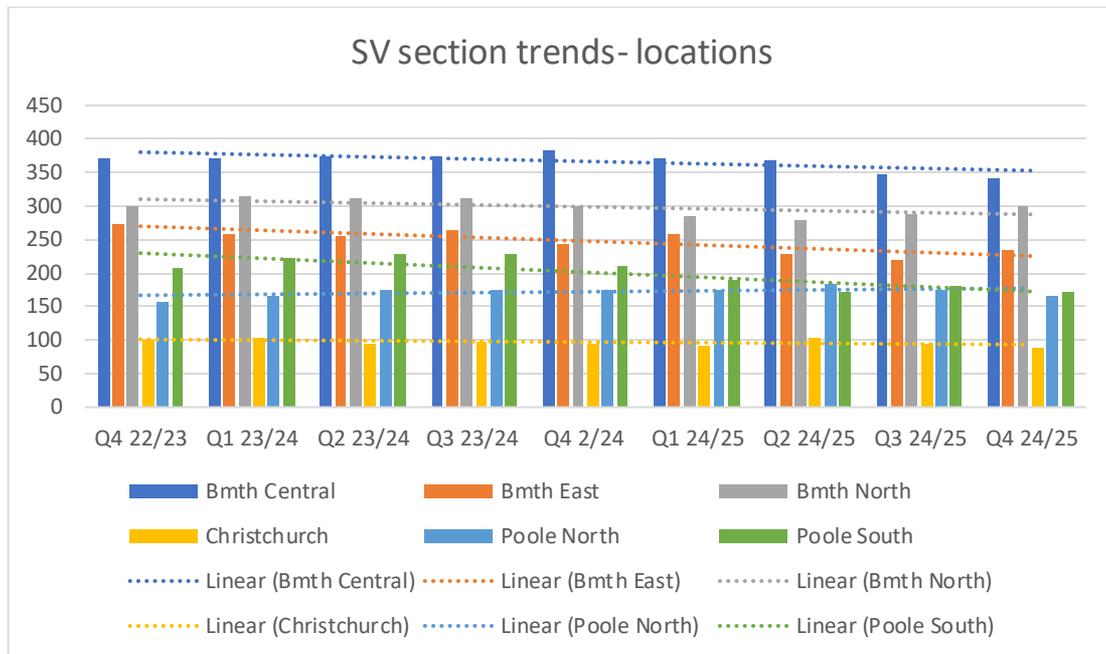


Figure 2 - Quarterly serious violence section trends using rolling 12-month quarterly data. Data period Q4 2022/3- 2024/5

67. Figure 2 shows that serious violence occurrences in BCP are most common in Central Bournemouth, followed by Bournemouth North. Central Bournemouth, Bournemouth North, Bournemouth East and Poole South are all on decreasing trends, whilst Poole North is on a slight upward trend and Christchurch is stable.

68. Domestic Abuse

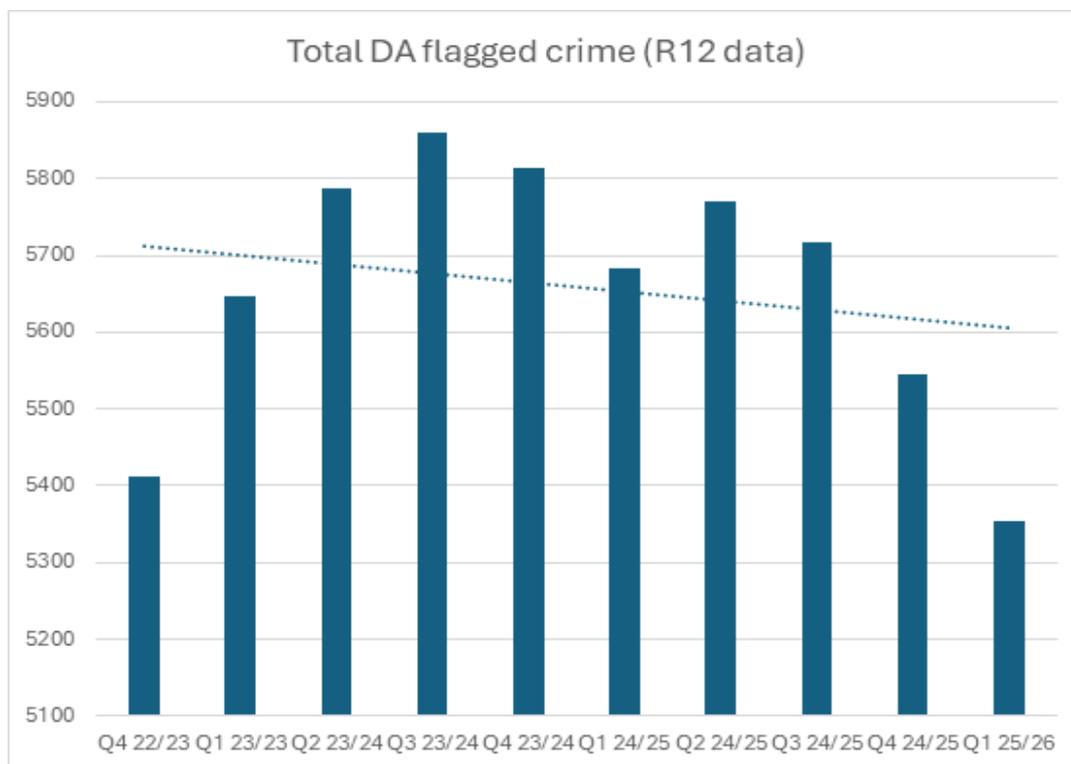


Figure 3- DA flagged crime reported to Dorset Police between Q4 2022- Q4 2025 grouped in to rolling quarterly data.

69. Figure 3 shows that the number of domestic abuse flagged crimes are on a downward trend and have been decreasing since quarter 3 2024/5. Quarter 1 2024/5 has shown a noticeable decrease in numbers, however these numbers may increase slightly as historic records are reported to the police.

70. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

BCP's Weekly MARAC is a multi-agency meeting to discuss and take action on cases of domestic abuse where there is a 'high risk' of death or serious injury. There were **52 conferences** for the financial year 2024/25. There has been a decrease of 13 in the total number of cases from 2023/24-2024/25. In the financial year 2023/24 there were 734 cases, in comparison to 721 cases in 2024/25. The repeat case rate (116) for the financial year 2024/25 is 16%. This was a significant decrease comparing to the previous financial year – 160 cases (22%).

71. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

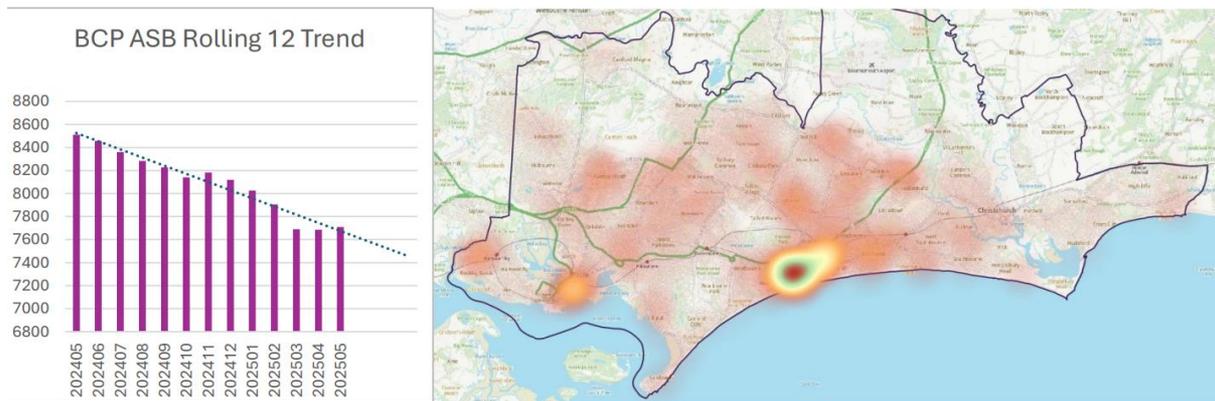


Figure 3- all police recorded ASB between June 2024 and May 2025.

Figure 3 shows levels of police recorded ASB in a 12 month Rolling Period to mitigate seasonal spikes. The graph shows a consistent overall decline in ASB over a Two-year period. Overall rates of reported ASB have declined by 6% from 2023/24 to 2024/25. The same decline in numbers is seen in Bournemouth Town Centre as well, which is positive as this is often perceived as an area of high ASB due to its high footfall and night time economy. Higher levels of ASB are seen in the summer months, coinciding with increased visitor numbers and increased footfall in public spaces.

72. Future work for the Community Safety Partnership

Key areas of work for the CSP in 2026 are heavily reliant upon the Local Government Financial Settlement, which is usually announced in December. The commissioning of Domestic Abuse services as part of our statutory duty under the Domestic Abuse Act is reliant upon funding from Central Government. The settlement going forward will be ringfenced along with other dedicated housing funding rather than a standalone item. We will therefore need to work closely regarding the delivery of these grants to ensure that the level of funding for specialist commissioned domestic abuse services meets the requirement and levels of aspiration attached to the duty.

The second area of concern relates to the unconfirmed status of the Serious Violence Funding which is currently only committed until the 31st March 2026. The funding has been provided to help the delivery of interventions which tackle serious violence in each police authority area. Without additional funding to continue to deliver interventions it will be harder for us to deliver against the duty which sits with the specified authorities.

We are awaiting further guidance from the Government regarding the role of Community Safety Partnerships following a national consultation in 2024. There may be changes to the CSP as a result and therefore the development of a new Strategy for the CSP will need to follow on from the new guidance.

The Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 is also anticipated to provide additional work for the CSP and we are awaiting further guidance. The Crime and Policing Bill which is currently progressing through Parliament contains a commitment to halving levels of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), including stalking, in a decade.

Many of our current programmes of work will continue and we will look to expand and develop new areas of work including Modern Day Slavery, community cohesion, enhanced domestic abuse services. Dorset Policing Authority area is the eighth safest

policing authority area in England when comparing all police reported crimes per 100,000 population.

Finally, we will welcome a new Chair for the CSP in 2026, Chief Superintendent Julie Howe. We would like to express our thanks to our current Chair, Chief Superintendent Heather Dixey, for all her work and support over the past two years.

73. Summary of financial implications

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 and Serious Violent Crime grant. Future grant funding models are currently unknown.

74. Summary of legal implications

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.

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,

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Serious Violence Act 2023 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.

75. Summary of human resources implications

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.

76. Summary of sustainability impact

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.

77. Summary of public health implications

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.

78. Summary of equality implications

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 people from minority ethnic groups, 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. The work of the partnership looks to identify cohorts most at risk and put in place interventions to address this.

79. Summary of risk assessment

Resources and the unconfirmed nature of future funding pose the greatest risk to the effective functioning of the Partnership. The circulation of misinformation and disinformation on social media can perpetuate a sense of fear which can influence people's perceptions of BCP.

Background papers

None.

Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.