

CSP Annual Report 2017/18

General

This year has seen a continuation of the transformation in the way Sussex Police work and they have replaced Neighbourhood Policing Teams with Prevention and Enforcement teams. There is an emphasis on prevention and detection of crime and better engagement with victims. Acquisitive crime has continued to increase all be it at a slower pace than the previous year. Total crime is now reducing having spiked at the beginning of the year. Partnership work with Sussex Police remains strong particularly in our response to pedal cycle thefts, rough sleeping and tackling exploitation. The joint CSP is working well and has identified 4 key priorities which are CSE, Street Community Mental Health and serious Organised Crime. Much of this work will now be delivered by the newly set up Serious organised crime group which covers both areas.

JAG (Joint Action Group)

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Crime-

ASB continues to involve mainly neighbour disputes with general nuisance behaviour especially amongst young people reducing; we still manage youth ASB at the earliest opportunity which generally stops it escalating. Neighbour disputes are much more difficult to resolve as they usually stem from a civil matter and can end up with criminal investigations. We continue to have no community trigger activations since their implementation in 2014 suggesting complainants are satisfied with the handling of their cases. Sussex Police mainstreamed the ASB and Hate Crime Co-ordinator role in September 2017 this role has changed and now covers both Chichester and Arun which has led to capacity issues and a potential gap in ASB case management for Chichester (Arun DC have their own ASB team). I have permission to recruit a part time ASB caseworker for Chichester from April 2018; they will be based out of both CDC and Chichester Police Station.

Burglary is no longer separated and is recorded as Burglary residential and includes both dwelling and outbuildings. We set a target of no more than 625 crimes on the rolling year and in Q3 we are running at 635, 10 over our target. Burglary is spread across the district and there are no particular patterns. The district is vulnerable by nature of its borders with other districts and Counties and the road network can facilitate offenders travelling in and out of the district. We can authorise Designated Patrol Areas (DPA's) and these can be used to good effect when detecting crimes. We continue to work cross border with Surrey and Hampshire .Theft of vehicles has remained fairly static, however theft from a vehicle has almost doubled to 94 in Q3 and can be almost entirely accounted for by two prolific thieves who have since been detained.

Theft of pedal cycles peaked in Q1 but has reduced in Q's 2 and 3. The JAG continues to tackle the issue and held a bike security and safety event prior to Christmas in the City. 16 cycles were security marked, 45 sets of lights and 45 quality D locks were given out. We gave advice to over 100 people.

Public Place Violent Crime figures continue to rise, there are no set patterns or locations to these crimes and will also include reports of Domestic abuse. This is a national trend but at 24% increase is higher than the national 20% increase. It is not clear how the rise is being accounted for and JAG continues to monitor and liaise with night-time economy partners.

Hate crime figures remain low compared with other areas running at around 8 crimes per month with Race continuing to be the main category, although complaints around sexual orientation are rising and we have asked for some analysis of these figures to understand the nature of the abuse and look to tackle it. A recent Observer headline stating that racist crime had doubled in Chichester since Brexit was misleading. The figures had indeed increased and were linked to a spate of graffiti which was perpetrated by one individual and actually turned out to have no racial or radical incentive despite the content. We continue to monitor the figures monthly at JAG.

Cyber -Crime

Cyber- crime is one of the fastest growing crime types of our time and with more people using technology and utilising online systems there are ever more opportunities for offenders to target the general public and businesses. We have been working with WSCC to develop and promote a community led campaign around online security, the campaign focuses on 2 main areas, passwords, and patching (software updates). We have hosted a number of digital tea parties with partners promoting online safety. WSCC also have developed a dedicated webpage (see link below) We continue to support schools with internet safety advice, particularly through 5 ways to wellbeing.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/staying-safe-online/>

Scams have been a focus and we have supported Sussex Police by printing extra leaflets that can be given out at awareness raising events. We also purchased 1500 small wallets that can prevent bank cards being skimmed which Sussex Police are currently giving out.

Exploitation

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The exploitation sub group has continued to meet quarterly and Arun CSP is now represented at the meetings and a joint approach developed.

We have delivered awareness training to Home-start volunteers, CDC volunteers and supported the WSCC helping hands campaign during safeguarding week in November 2017. In addition Safeguarding training has been given to students at Chichester University, all Stonepillow staff and volunteers and also Youth club workers from Swanfield. This training included CSE and other types of exploitation.

We represent the Districts and Boroughs \on the multi- agency CSE group which makes for better information sharing around those identified as at risk of CSE and locations relating to it. We also incorporated CSE in our level 2 and 3 safeguarding training to CDC staff which was delivered in the Summer of 2017.

The serious organised crime (SOC) group will have ownership of all exploitation and will have its own bespoke action plan.

Modern Slavery

As a local authority we have a duty to notify the Home Office if we believe there are victims of Modern slavery in our district. We have raised awareness through training as already mentioned and modern slavery like CSE will be a focus for the SOC group moving forward. There were some concerns re the company that offered car washing out of CDC car parks and it was decided not to extend their contract and we no longer offer this service.

KSI- (Killed and Seriously Injured)

The local working group has now been integrated into an Arun and Chichester Road Safety Action Group (RSAG). The group is working well, we have agreed funding for 25 older driver assessments to be undertaken by WSCC. We continue to see high numbers of older drivers involved in collisions than other districts 18 so far this year. We had 8 fatal collisions in Chichester from Jan –Dec 2017 compared to 1 in Arun. We have visited Barfoots horticulture company following a serious collision with one of their workers walking along the road and more visits to other horticultural nurseries are planned. We supported the Operation Edward (European Day Without A Road Death) campaign and signed up over 150 people to the driving pledge. We are also developing a campaign aimed at distraction i.e. Mobile phones, headphones. Through Ideas into action we will be supporting Selsey Academy students to hold a road safety event in Selsey.

Community Tensions / PREVENT

Community Tensions continue to be monitored in a multi-agency way at the JAG . The county wide Tactical Tasking and co-ordination Group identifies whole county tensions and is a mechanism for reporting and monitoring these. Gypsy Traveller incursions have reduced and those that did occur were swiftly advised to go to the transit site or move on. The transit site has generated few issues and the complaints have been low level. Regular meetings with the chair of the Parish Council have ensured good communication links and a quick response to any issues arising. Following a number of incursions on the verge adjacent to the transit site we have funded wooden posts from the Parish fund which will prevent parking on the verge in future. These have been put in with the support of WSCC Highways and their volunteers.

The PREVENT duty became law on July 1st 2015 and as a Local Authority we must pay “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” we are continuing to raise awareness through safeguarding training as discussed previously.

Domestic Abuse

We have a priority in the business plan to reduce the effect of domestic abuse particularly in relation to young people. The JAG funded Options to deliver another two “Healthy Relationships “ projects one Chichester/ Brinsbury College aimed at their 14-16 year old cohort and the other at the Alternative Provision College in North Mundham where we know children at higher risk of abuse attend. .The project continues to emphasise what healthy looks like and promoted resilience amongst participants to challenge their own relationships and those of their peers. We are also hoping to deliver something at Midhurst Rother.

Neighbourhoods

This year has seen a continued concentration of effort in Chichester East and getting the foundations right to sustain the changes and work being undertaken. The Swanfield youth centre has been completed and there are over 215 young people enjoying the youth club. The plans for a community hub in Charles Avenue were moving forward but there is now a question mark over the ownership of the building which is being investigated. The Charles Avenue Residents Association (CARE) is still running well and they have held a variety of events over the last year. Ideas into action has been delivered into all primary schools in Think Family Neighbourhood areas. This project continues to support communities and promotes the voice of the child within those communities. The opportunity for young people to be involved in the democratic process and understand how they can be empowered to make change in the area they live cannot be underestimated. We still have funds in the neighbourhood budget and have just agreed future funding from Clarion Housing and WSCC that will enable us to extend the neighbourhoods work further across the

district using our community assessment to identify those areas of need. We are already focussing on the Holmbush area of Midhurst which is in need of some tidying up and community support. Chichester South will also be a focus in the coming year and this will be supported by the Community warden who is moving from Selsey to cover this area. There will be an emphasis going forward of ensuring the neighbourhoods work is focussed on supporting Parish Councils to support their own communities by providing a digital platform for them to share issues and solutions. We will also be supporting the implementation of the social prescribing project as it moves forward.

Public Confidence and Reassurance

The CSP continues to make better use of social media in promoting the work it is doing and ensuring the public are made aware of key campaigns and activity. There have been media releases around Neighbourhoods work, Ideas into Action and CARE support. We share communications with other partners so they can put them on their social media sites and we do the same for their campaigns. Regular input on the Members bulletin board ensures Members are kept up to date. At the October 2017 CSP a discussion was had around public consultation, year on year we have had less public participation despite trying a variety of methods of consultation. It was decided that the limited data collected during this process was not useful or representative of the public at large. Emily King from WSCC Community Safety spoke about the public consultation they were undertaking and it was agreed that Chichester CSP discharge their duty to consult to WSCC and ensure a local steer was applied.

Pam Bushby

Divisional Manager Communities