
REPORT TO:	Overview & Scrutiny Commission
DATE:	27 September 2021
SERVICE AREA:	Safer Communities
REPORTING OFFICER:	Cabinet Member Housing & Safer Communities, Chair: Harrogate District Community Safety Group (<i>Mike Chambers</i>)
SUBJECT:	HARROGATE DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP & COMMUNITY SAFETY HUB UPDATE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL DISTRICT
FORWARD PLAN REF:	Key Decision No. or N/A

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To receive an update on community safety issues affecting the Harrogate District and the work of the Harrogate District Community Safety Group/Community Safety Hub.

2.0 RECOMMENDED REASONS FOR DECISIONS

- 2.1 A number of partners are named Responsible Authorities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This report demonstrates how as an agency they contribute to meeting their statutory duties under the Act.

3.0 THE REPORT

3.1 Section 17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998

The Crime and Disorder Act was enacted in 1998 and places a statutory duty on all local authorities, Fire & Rescue Service, Probation, Clinical Commissioning Group, together with their partnership agencies to develop and deliver a Community Safety Strategy. This strategy is delivered through



the County North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership. Section 17 of the Act requires responsible authorities to identify community safety implications in all their activities.

3.2 North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership

This Partnership provides the strategic focus for community safety and is responsible for preparing the Community Safety Strategic Plan 2018-2022. The following areas have been identified as priority areas for delivery:

- Partnership Development
- Community Safety Hubs
- Domestic Abuse including sexual abuse and trauma
- Hate Crime & Community Cohesion
- Serious Organised Crime

3.3 Harrogate District Community Safety Group

The Community Safety Group meet twice a year and are provided with an update of activity and feedback from relevant forums.

3.4 Funding Update

The Office of the Fire, Police & Crime Commissioner (OFPCC) has provided a grant of £7,309 for 2021-22. This grant is used to deliver the priorities locally and allows partner agencies to bid for resources to deliver specific projects and activities.

In addition, NYP continues to support the Hub through the allocation of two dedicated Police Officers and one Police Community Support Officer. The latter rotates on a six month basis. The model continues to work particularly well and enables a high level of expertise to be developed, excellent interactions with colleagues across the council and other agencies at the same time keeping close links with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

A Service Level Agreement is in place with NYP in relation to accommodation costs for police staff being hosted at the Hub and there is an additional annual contribution to support admin costs of the Community Safety Hub of £8,600. From April 2022 the funding contribution from NYP towards admin costs will be permanent.

3.5 Community Safety Hub

The Community Safety Hub continues to bring partner agencies together with fortnightly meetings to consider referrals and agree actions. These meetings have continued to take place virtually and continue to have good partner engagement. It is proposed that this meeting model is continued with in person meeting being the exception due to efficiency of time for partners to attend whilst balancing other work commitments.

Summary of Hub Cases	2019-2020	2020-2021	April – Aug 2021
Total Number of Cases	68	47	16
High	19	14	1
Medium	9	10	3
Low	30	22	12
Community Trigger Applications	2	1	2
Referred to Mediation/ Anger Management	12	7	8
Number of Enquiries	47	50	18

The Hub receives a referral from an agency, this is reviewed and discussed at a specific Hub meeting, assessed using a scoring matrix which determines the level. Actions are agreed and recorded on the case management system. Cases are repeatedly reviewed and rescored at regular intervals.

The Hub will also receive a number of enquiries that may not be formally discussed at a Hub meeting however the Hub Team will provide advice and support. These often require less partner involvement and can be considered an early intervention before a case/situation escalates.

Mental health remains a significant factor with the work of the Hub. A specific meeting takes place once a month called Kaleidoscope where mental health is a primary factor often linked to substance misuse. Support from partners for these meetings is a model of good practice with strong links to primary care.

A dedicated adult mental health social worker is also now attached to the Hub which is a significant contribution and provides day to day input to cases. This is a model that other Hubs are exploring and currently exists across the Harrogate and Craven Districts.

Following joint working with colleagues across the county a review of police resources for all Community Safety Hubs has taken place. This work will see the introduction of a sergeant into the Harrogate District Community Safety Hub. This builds on the strong links already in place with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

Harrogate Borough Council and North Yorkshire Police as lead Hub partners led on the successful closure of three properties (Mayfield Grove, Harrogate & Avenue Grove, Starbeck) under Section 80, Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014. The work in relation to these premises remains including support and engagement with the local community and dialogue with the landlord.

The Hub has recently purchased a deployable camera which is managed through the CCTV service. The deployment of this camera is based upon problem solving and will be in place for a minimum period of 6 weeks. It is not a long term deployment. NYCC install on behalf of the Hub and a charge is made for this service.

3.6 Case Management

The Orcuma case management system has proved an asset to the Hub and we continue to develop the product and the use to enhance how the hub works. Licences have been extended to members of the Housing Options where strong working relationships exist as the Hub often deals with the same clients.

Links to Other Thematic Work

The Community Safety Hub continues to link in to a number of other thematic work areas these include:

MACE – Multi Agency Child Exploitation. These meetings take place monthly and bring partners together to discuss Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) including County Lines, Missing from Home (MFH), Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB), Online Child Exploitation, Wider Contextual Safeguarding

Hate Crime - Preventing hate crime by challenging beliefs and attitudes, responding to hate crime in our communities, increasing the reporting of hate crime, improving support for the victims of hate crime, building our understanding of hate crime.

Modern Slavery, Exploitative and Illegal Working – identification, support and enforcement, working in partnership to identify and take appropriate action.

Channel Panel – the panel is a multi-agency approach to identify and support individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism. The panel meets monthly Chaired by NYCC and works with multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risk to an individual and decide whether an intervention is necessary. If a Channel intervention is required, the panel works with local partners to develop an appropriate tailored support package.

Disruption Panel – partnership working to tackle specific issues across the county including fly tipping & organised crime.

Domestic Abuse – delivery against a county action plan and more recently reviewing the recommendations from Domestic Homicide Reviews. Links to the Harrogate & Craven Domestic Abuse Forum.

Safeguarding – Safeguarding underpins the majority of the work undertaken within the community safety environment. This work covers both adults and children. The Harrogate & Craven Safeguarding Group has identified county lines, cross border links and training as priorities. These priorities are fully integrated in to the activity of the Community Safety Hub.

Internal HBC Links – The links within the Council and the Community Safety Hub strengthen all the time with particularly strong links with staff

within the Housing. Joint visits and daily sharing of information are well established and allow efficient and timely responses to take place.

Street Aid – since the introduction of the project there has been a total income of £15,044, grants of £7,825 with a balance of £7,113. There have been 25 applications for grants and 27 people assisted. A second terminal has been installed at the Victoria Shopping Centre in Harrogate and venues in Ripon and Knaresborough are also being considered. The team are also working closely with the Harrogate BID.

SAFE Project (Services for Adults facing Exclusion) – A joint review of the project is being finalised. The project remains to support complex cases and individuals who are often particularly vulnerable (trauma, exploitation, substance misuse, mental health)

3.7 Police, Fire and Crime Panel

The most recent meeting of the Police & Crime Panel was 22 June 2021 where the Panel considered the following:

- Preferred candidate Chief Fire Officer
- Draft Annual Report for Policing 2020/21
- Draft Annual Report Fire & Rescue 2020/21
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Panel and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
- Programme of work for the Panel
- Further details are available via <https://www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pcp>

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The Harrogate District Community Safety Group continues contribute to the statutory countywide Community Safety Partnership and assist in the delivery in the overarching strategy. Local problem solving and targeted interventions remain a core function of the Group.

4.2 The Hub will continue to make use of tools and powers, local services and referral mechanisms to ensure that individuals are dealt with effectively and supported when required. Effective partnership working is crucial and remains a priority.

OFFICER CONTACT: Please contact Julia Stack, Community Safety & CCTV Manager, if you require any further information on the contents of this report. The officer can be contacted at *Safer Communities, PO Bo 787, Harrogate, HG1 9RW*) 01423-(500600) (Ext 58190 or by e-mail – Julia.stack@harrogate.gov.uk