

Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

Wed 2 Nov 2022 6.30 pm

Council Chamber Redditch Town Hall



If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact Mat Sliwinski

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PUBLIC SPEAKING

The usual process for public speaking at Committee meetings will continue to be followed subject to some adjustments which allow written statements to be read out on behalf of residents and the virtual participation of residents at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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Notes:

Although this is a public meeting, there are circumstances when Council might have to move into closed session to consider exempt or confidential information. For agenda items that are exempt, the public are excluded and for any such items the live stream will be suspended and that part of the meeting will not be recorded.



Wednesday, 2nd November, 2022

6.30 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs: Sid Khan (Chair)

Imran Altaf

Tom Baker-Price

Timothy Pearman David Thain

- 1. Apologies and named substitutes
- 2. Declarations of interest and of Party Whip

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and / or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests, and any Party Whip.

- 3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2021 (Pages 1 10)
- 4. North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership Update on Work in Redditch 2021-22. (Pages 11 66)
- 5. Anti-Social Behaviour Update on the work of the Partnership (Pages 67 74)

Public Doement Pack Agenda Item 3



Crime and Disorder Scrutiny

Panel

Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Jennifer Wheeler (Chair), and Councillors Imran Altaf, Joanne Beecham, Lucy Harrison and Ann Isherwood

Also Present:

Councillor Nyear Nazir (Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services)

Officers:

Bev Houghton and Judith Willis

Senior Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

1. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any Party Whip.

3. TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Reference was made to the Nominated Neighbour Packs, copies of which had been provided to Members of the Panel in the 2020/21 municipal year. It was agreed that copies of the pack should be made available to Members who had been newly appointed to the Panel in 2021/22.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel held on Wednesday 30th September 2020 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

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4. NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE ON WORK IN REDDITCH

The Community Safety Manager delivered a very detailed presentation updating Members on the work of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership in Redditch Borough. During the delivery of this presentation, the following matters were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- The Community Safety Partnerships for the three districts in North Worcestershire merged in 2013 to create the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership.
- The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership had a relationship with the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), who was held to account by the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel. Redditch Borough Council's representative on the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel was the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Enabling Services.
- The Partnership had a Community Safety Plan for the period 2021 to 2024. This plan, including the priorities within the plan, would be refreshed on an annual basis, taking into account the needs of the community and local data.
- The West Mercia PCC was in the process of consulting on the contents of the draft Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025. As part of this process, the PCC was keen to receive feedback from a range of different stakeholders including the public.
- When updating the content of the Community Safety Plan 2021 to 2024, the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership would need to take into account the proposals detailed in the Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025.
- The PCC provided a significant amount of grant funding to the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership to spend on specific projects.
- In addition, funding had been provided by the PCC since 2017/18 to all the community safety partnerships in the West Mercia region for CCTV. In 2020/21 this grant was spent on digital upgrades to existing systems. Work was in the process of being undertaken in north Worcestershire to determine how this funding should be spent locally.
- Delivery of projects in the Borough was co-ordinated at a local level by the Safer Redditch group, a sub-group of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership. This group was chaired by the local Chief Inspector and supported by the Community Safety team.

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- During the Covid-19 pandemic, a lot of community support and engagement work had been delivered by the Safer Redditch group online, including in respect of specific projects.
- Reducing reoffending and reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol were cross cutting priorities that underpinned the other themes of the Community Safety Plan. Reducing reoffending was also a statutory responsibility.
- The PCC was keen to ensure that all Community Safety
 Partnerships in the region contributed to Integrated Offender
 Management projects and, for this reason, some of the
 funding to the partnerships was top sliced for this purpose.
 The contributions per district for the Integrated Management
 System was calculated on the basis of local need and
 demographics.
- A number of youth projects had been prioritised for funding in 2020/21 due to concerns about the particular impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people.
- Youth projects included:
 - The Respect Programme, whereby young people were referred by schools for one-to-one support. In total, 186 referrals had been made under this scheme between September 2020 and July 2021.
 - The Empowering Young People programme, which was a group activity for young people who had been identified as likely to benefit from training in areas such as life skills, healthy relationships and County lines drug dealing.
 - Youth work outreach and detached youth work with young people considered to be at risk of offending due to being marginalised during the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 2,000 young people had been referred for support under this programme during 2020/21. The Up Foundation CIC, a youth work charity, provided this service on behalf of the partnership.
 - The Virtual Decisions Knife Crime Project, which provided participants with an opportunity to work on a scenario using a virtual reality headset. Follow up workshops took place to provide participants with a chance to reflect on what they had learned. Since the end of the third national lockdown, a Redditch school had started to participate in the scheme and three further places remained available to other schools in the Borough.
 - The Young Citizens Challenge, which provided pupils in Year 6 with an opportunity to visit the fire station and to participate in relevant activities. This project had been coordinated online in 2020/21.
- Funding had been received from the Home Office from the Safer Streets Fund for a project in Woodrow, Redditch, for

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- work on environmental and home security initiatives. This was one of only 50 projects across the country to successfully bid for funding under the scheme. Woodrow Centre and a couple of residential roads close to the centre had been selected for this project based on the lower super output data for the area.
- The Nominated Neighbour Scheme continued to be available
 to residents and evidence suggested that those who signed up
 to the scheme were not subsequently subjected to cold
 callers. Over 120 residents had signed up to the scheme by
 the date of the meeting.
- The Community Safety team undertook home security assessments on people's properties, designed to provide advice on action that could be taken to improve the security of properties.
- There were two members of staff in the Community Safety
 Team who had received training from the College of Policing
 on crime prevention and they used this knowledge when
 commenting on the security of proposed properties in planning
 applications.
- Support continued to be provided to victims of domestic abuse, including through the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) scheme for high-risk cases. The Community Safety Team also worked with the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Group, tackling the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- The national Hate Crime Awareness Week was due to take place on 9th to 16th October 2021. In 2020, the Hate Crime Awareness Week had been accompanied by a social media campaign urging residents to report hate crime incidents.
- The White Ribbon Campaign would be taking place on 25th
 November to 1st December 2021 and would be focusing on the impact of domestic abuse on young people as well as healthy relationships.
- The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Focus Group, comprising a range of partner organisations, met on a quarterly basis to discuss ASB. The focus of this group was on raising awareness of best practice in terms of tackling ASB and supporting the professional officers tasked with undertaking this work.

Following the presentation of the report, Members discussed a number of points in detail:

 The reason why Woodrow had been selected as the location for the Safer Streets project in Redditch and the support that had been received by this community in recent years. Officers explained that the process of identifying a location for the

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Safer Streets project was data led, based on criteria set by the Home Office. Analysis of super output area data for safer street crime types by the Home Office and police had revealed that Woodrow was the area of highest need in Redditch. Further work had been undertaken at a local level to identify the specific streets that should be included in the project.

- The extent to which there were issues with crime and ASB in Woodrow. The Panel was advised that there was a strong community in Woodrow but unfortunately there were some neighbourhoods where significant problems existed.
- The potential for other parts of the Borough to receive Safer Streets funding in future. Members were advised that there would be further opportunities to apply for funding in the future and the criteria was likely to change, depending on the focus of the specific Safer Streets project.
- The basis for the data required in relation to the Safer Streets project and the methods used to gather this data. Officers explained that the data was based on certain crime types reported to the Police.
- The potential for the data that had informed the decision to select Woodrow for the Safer Streets project to be shared with Members. Officers agreed to provide this data for Members' consideration but asked Members to note that this data focused on Woodrow only and comparative data would not be available for other areas.
- The ASB data for different wards in Redditch and the reasons why this did not highlight a particular issue with ASB in Woodrow. The Panel was informed that the ASB data was different to the crime types data that had informed considerations in respect of the Safer Streets project. Members were also asked to note that the ASB data was provided at the ward level and Woodrow formed part of the Greenlands ward.
- The potential for the crime types data underpinning the Safer Streets project to be shared with Members. Officers agreed to provide this information to Members after the meeting.
- The time that had lapsed between gathering data that had informed the identification of Woodrow as the focus for the Safer Streets project and the delivery of that project. Officers confirmed that this data had been gathered two years' previously and there could have been changes in local conditions in that time.
- The West Mercia PCC's consultation in respect of the West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025, the closing date for which was 1st November 2021, and the ways in which the public could participate in this consultation process. Members were informed that residents could participate online in the

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consultation process, though paper copies had also been circulated via Parish Councils and local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups.

During consideration of this item, the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services acknowledged the understandable desire of Members to ensure that projects were delivered in their wards which tackled community safety issues. The reasons for the selection of Woodrow for the Safer Streets project had been questioned at the start of the project but the data available demonstrated that it was the most appropriate location in which this project could be delivered.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

5. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The Community Safety Manager also delivered a very detailed presentation in respect of the work of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership to tackle ASB. This report had been requested as a regular update to the Panel at the meeting of the Panel that took place in September 2020. Members were asked to note that the data provided in the report and presentation covered the period April 2018 to July 2021.

During the delivery of this presentation, the following points were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- There were different types of preventative action that could be taken to deter ASB.
- In Housing, this included the use of Introductory Tenancies, whereby new tenants could be expelled from their properties if they caused ASB.
- There were also specific verbal and written warnings that could be issued again residents involved in ASB. This included Community Protection Warnings (CPWs), which could be elevated to Community Protection Notices (CPNs) if residents did not change their behaviour in response to the warning that had been issued.
- Failure to comply with the terms of a CPN was a criminal offence.
- The Council had issued 23 CPWs between September 2020 and August 2021 and 11 CPNs. Some CPNs had been issued in planning enforcement cases.

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- Residents could request a Community Trigger, in cases where
 residents were concerned that limited action had been taken
 and they therefore wanted a review of their case and the way
 it had been handled. Since September 2020, three
 Community Triggers, which were managed by the Community
 Safety team, had been recorded for Redditch, which all related
 to disruptive neighbour nuisance issues.
- There was an option available for the Council to refer people for mediation and restorative justice.
- Funding had been received for projects designed to tackle youth ASB in the community. In addition, funding had been received for projects related to Covid-19 recovery.
- Representatives of the Community Safety Team attended multi agency meetings to discuss rough sleeping. Members were asked to note that many of the rough sleepers who had been housed during the national lockdowns had remained in their accommodation following the end of the lockdown. Some were being supported through the Housing First scheme.
- The data indicated that there had been an increase in reports of ASB in the period April 2020 to March 2021 compared to the previous 12-month period. This increase had occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic across all parts of the Borough.
- The largest increases in reports of ASB in this period had been in the Batchley and Brockhill and Astwood Bank and Feckenham wards.
- The increase in ASB included a rise in ASB nuisance calls, which appeared to have been influenced by the associated increase in the number of people working from home during the lockdown period who had been exposed to ASB that they might otherwise not have observed during working hours.
- In addition to nuisance ASB, there had been reports of personal ASB cases, involving behaviour targeted at specific individuals.

Members subsequently discussed the report in detail and in so doing raised the following matters:

- The number of CPNs that had been issued which had resulted in the Council taking court action. Officers confirmed that the Council had not taken court action in relation to any of the CPNs, though two people who had been issued with CPNs were appealing through the courts.
- The extent to which CPWs and CPNs could be regarded as a real deterrent to ASB if court action was not taken.
- The position of Council tenants and the extent to which they
 could be assured of a secure tenancy with the local authority
 regardless of their behaviour. Officers explained that if a

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- tenant lost their tenancy as a result of their behaviour they were regarded as being intentionally homeless and the Council did not necessarily have a duty to rehome them under these circumstances.
- The number of Community Triggers that had been launched in Redditch and the reasons why this number was so low relative to the number of ASB cases that had been reported.
- The potential for mediation to be used to address ASB and the types of ASB cases where this might be useful. Officers explained that mediation might be useful in cases of neighbour disputes where no other action had been identified that could resolve the matter.
- The people who would undertake mediation in these circumstances. The Panel was informed that initially mediation would be provided through an external agency, though in the long-term it was envisaged that Officers in the Housing Department would be trained to provide this service.
- The circumstances in which restorative justice might be used.
 Officers clarified that a Police Community Support Officer
 (PCSO) might work with residents on restorative justice in
 cases such as young people causing graffiti in local
 communities.
- The organisations involved in the North Worcestershire
 Community Safety Partnership and the extent to which VCS
 groups had opportunities to get involved with the partnership's
 work. Members were informed that there were a number of
 VCS groups involved with the Safer Redditch group, including
 Victim Support and several mental health charities.
- The £83,000 funding for youth ASB projects received by the partnership in 2020/21 and the extent to which this funding would be available in future years. The Panel was informed that this funding had been secured for a further two years and was likely to be a similar figure.
- The impact of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts on the behaviour of residents. Members were informed that these contracts were voluntary and both parties needed to sign up to the contract. Breaches of these contracts could be used as evidence in court that the Council was doing everything reasonably possible to address inappropriate behaviour and only taking court action as a last resort.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

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The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and closed at 7.45 pm

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Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Panel

To: Crime and Disorder From: Bev Houghton
Scrutiny Panel Service Area: Community Safety
Contact Info: 01527 534187

CC: Cllr Nyear Nazir – Portfolio Holder for Community Services & Regulatory Services Sue Hanley – Deputy Chief Executive & Chair of NWCSP Judith Willis – Head of Community & Housing Services

Review of the work of North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership 2021-22

1. Summary

1.1 This report provides an update on the progress of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (NWCSP) for the financial year 2021-22.

2. Background

- 2.1 NWCSP has been in existence since May 2013, following the merger of the three district CSPs in Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest. Each Council's Community Safety Teams support and administer the Partnership.
- 2.2 Local authority representation on NWCSP is fulfilled through a number of positions. Redditch Borough Council's Elected Member representative is the Portfolio Holder for Community Services & Regulatory Services, Councillor Nyear Nazir. Sue Hanley, the Council's Deputy Chief Executive is Chair of NWCSP and is also Redditch Borough Council's Responsible Authority representative on the Partnership. The Council's Community Safety Manager, Bev Houghton provides support to NWCSP and manages the Council's Community Safety Service.
- 2.3 Scrutiny arrangements for the CSP remain unchanged with local authorities having a statutory duty to scrutinise the work of its local CSP, under Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
- 2.4 Alongside the relationship the Council has with the CSP, there is also a direct role in holding the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to account through the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP). Redditch Borough Council's representative on the PCP is the Portfolio Holder for Community Services & Regulatory Services, Councillor Nyear Nazir. The latest West Mercia PCP meeting was held on 7th September and the public

papers can be accessed here: West Mercia Police and Crime Panel - Wednesday 7th September 2022

3. Current Position

3.1 North Worcestershire CSP Plan 2021-24

NWCSP has a statutory duty to produce a three-year rolling plan outlining how the Partnership intends to address key crime and community safety priorities, as identified through its annual strategic assessment.

The strategic assessment gathers research, evidence and intelligence from national and regional sources, as well as drawing on professional expertise of those working locally. It is designed to be a point of reference and guide to resourcing community safety initiatives working with partner agencies across the area.

Informed by the strategic assessment, the Community Safety Partnership Plan sets out the priorities that the CSP will focus on for a 3 year period. Due to the disruption of Covid-19 and partner agencies prioritisation of community support during the pandemic, the Community Safety Partnership Plan was delayed slightly and has since been agreed for 2021-24.

The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership plan focuses on the following priorities for the year as follows: -

- I. Reducing Violence and Abuse: including violence in public places, sexual offending, domestic abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- II. Reducing Theft and Acquisitive crime: including shoplifting, thefts and burglaries
- III. Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, Damage and Nuisance: including criminal damage, environmental issues and deliberate fires/arson
- IV. **Protecting vulnerable communities:** including reducing targeted harassment and threatening behaviour motivated by Hate
- V. Reducing Offending and Reducing the Harm caused by Drug and Alcohol Misuse are cross cutting themes which impact on all priorities

The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership Plan 2021-24 can be found at **Appendix 1**

3.2 John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner

John Campion was first elected as West Mercia PCC in May 2016 and, following the postponement of national elections due to the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, was re-elected for a second term in May 2021.

The PCC has a duty to co-operate with all CSPs in his geographical area to reduce crime and disorder. There is also a reciprocal duty on CSPs to collaborate with the PCC and both bodies must have due regard for each other's priorities within their respective plans. The PCC closed public consultation on his Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 – 2025 on the 1st Nov 2021 and the final plan can be read here: - Safer West Mercia Plan (westmercia-pcc.gov.uk)

A new Deputy PCC was confirmed at the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel meeting on the 7th September, following Tracey Onslow's decision to step down in May 2022 after six years in the role. In November 2021, the Commissioner also appointed two new Assistant PCCs. Paul Middlebrough and Nicola Lowery work closely to represent the PCC within communities across West Mercia, with portfolios that includes rural, business and cybercrime, victims' services and commissioning. <u>Assistant PCC's Will Reflect The Voice of Communities - West Mercia Police Crime Commissioner</u>

CSPs work closely with the Deputy and Assistant PCCs as the West Mercia PCC model of commissioning expands. Established commissioning areas include CCTV improvement, the collation of funding for Data Analysis support and consolidation of funding for Integrated Offender Management funding. More recently the PCC released a tender for delivery of a Hate Crime Support service across West Mercia and also opened a Fly Tipping fund that CSPs could bid into. These commissioning reviews have led to more funding being provided at a West Mercia force level to deliver activities in these key thematic areas.

PCC's CCTV Capital Fund: In 2017-18 the PCC allocated significant funding to develop and upgrade CCTV across the West Mercia force area. NWCSP first received an allocation of £195,000 of grant funding for improvements to the area's CCTV scheme. The CSP, on behalf of the three Local Authorities, used this capital contribution to modernise the CCTV infrastructure that serves the three district areas. This upgrade introduced Internet Protocol Recording with greatly improved technological capabilities for digital processing. The whole CCTV scheme now has enhanced digital capability, improved image quality and a greater capacity to expand the scheme and/or link up to other digital systems across the region.

The funding amounts involved made this project the most ambitious undertaken by the CSP and the project was also match funded by the three District Councils with additional revenue, capital and in-kind support. A total amount of £339,000 of CSP funding was allocated to the project up to March 2020.

In 2020-21 the PCC allocated an additional amount of £65k capital funding towards CCTV and a further 65k of capital funding was awarded to NWCSP in 2021-22. The Project Team implemented spending proposals agreed by the CSP which have continued to enhance the capability and capacity of the CCTV Monitoring Scheme and improve the technological aspects of the Monitoring Centre and cameras which will have benefits for years to come.

Details of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 allocations can be found in **Appendix 2** and a further funding allocation of £20,000 was given to NWCSP for 2022/23.

PCC's Fly Tipping Fund: In Sept 2021, the PCC released a £100K grant fund available over 2 years in order to work with CSPs to address the problem of fly-tipping on private land. The grant fund was launched with a closing date for applications on the 4th October. The PCC's Office approved 5 applications – one each for North Worcestershire, South Worcestershire, Telford & Wrekin, Herefordshire and one West Mercia wide bid (for a SmartWater tyre tagging scheme) allocating the total £100K funding pot - West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner to invest £100k to tackle fly-tippers and introduce tyre-tagging scheme

The NWCSP allocation of £22,000 is supporting the work of a new NW District Council Fly Tipping Prevention Group and the grant funding is being managed by the three district council environmental services teams in order to: -

- a) Develop a land owners' charter across North Worcestershire reflecting guidance of best practice amongst land owners as set out by the National Flytipping Prevention Group (NFPG).
- Introduce a co-ordinated prevention and enforcement scheme which will include:
 - the use of covert CCTV (to be managed by the Councils)
 - signage
 - target hardening advice from the Councils
 - following up on any evidence gathered from fly tipped waste and/or captured on CCTV and issue Fixed Penalty Notices or prosecute.
- c) Establish and manage a network of landowners who are signed up to the charter where best practice, convictions and information can be shared.

3.3 CSP core grant funding from the PCC 2021-22

In addition to the CCTV Capital Grant and the Fly Tipping Fund, NWCSP is allocated an annual ring-fenced amount from the PCC. Due to the disruptions of COVID-19 there was an underspend against certain projects during 2020/21. However, the PCC allocated the same ring-fenced amount of £139,250 for 2021/22 and details of the CSPs agreed project spend can be found in **Appendix 2** alongside details of other grant funding drawn down by the Council's Community Safety Team on behalf of Safer Redditch

The progress of these grant funded projects is reported quarterly to the PCC and other grant funders and at the end of the financial year there is a requirement to provide a comprehensive evaluation of all the funded projects. This includes a full breakdown of project expenditure and the outputs/outcomes that the funding has achieved.

3.4 Local Delivery, Key Projects and Progress

Local delivery of community safety projects and initiatives falls under the remit of the Community Safety Operational Groups. The Safer Redditch group is chaired by the District Police Inspector and the activities and interventions of the group are supported by the Council's Community Safety Team.

The RBC Community Safety Team also monitor and respond to district community safety issues, co-ordinating local operational delivery with wider partners. The team is often a first point of contact for residents and partners with concerns about local crime and community safety issues and our officers are able to call upon other community safety partners when local concerns require a multi-agency response.

Redditch Community Safety Project Officers

Community Safety Project Officers Richard Waterhouse and Sarah McIntosh work on behalf of the Council and NWCSP, delivering a variety of community safety projects and initiatives across the Borough. The wider team are also available to provide information, support and guidance to residents, council colleagues, external partners and elected members on a variety of crime prevention and community safety concerns and issues. **Appendix 2** provides an update on some of the key community safety project activity that has taken place in 2021/22.

3.5 ASB, Problem Solving and Partner Engagement

ASB in Redditch

Following the presentation of the Council's updated ASB Policy in June 2020, Elected Members requested that an update on activity to address ASB issues be presented at the annual Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Panel.

Working with our partner agencies there are a number of tools and remedies available when dealing with cases of ASB. Support is provided throughout each process with referrals to other organisations made as and when it is appropriate.

Attached at **Appendix 3** is a brief overview of reported ASB in North Worcestershire and Redditch to date. Data for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 (up to July) has been included to provide a true picture of ASB reports to the Police across the Borough factoring in the impact Coronavirus restrictions had on reporting during 2020/21.

Use of ASB Tools and Powers

The Council, the Police and Social Landlords can issue verbal and written warnings to address unacceptable behaviour and reinforce that ASB will not be tolerated in our communities. The Police, Council services and Social Landlords can also issue Community Protection Warnings (CPWs) to remind residents of their obligations under their tenancy/lease or the rule of law and the warnings set out the specific clauses, conditions or legislation that have

been breached. When issuing warnings, partners clarify the issue, advise the individual that their behaviour is being monitored and warn the individual or business that further enforcement action will be taken if their anti-social behaviour continues.

To date **9 Community Protection Warnings** have been issued by Council service areas in 2021/22. **6** CPWs were issued by Planning to address the problem of waste deposited or accumulated on land and **1** CPW related to an insecure property which was attracting ASB and crime, including arson attacks. **2** CPWs were issued by Housing Tenancy for noise disturbances, loud music, shouting and abusive/threatening behaviour toward neighbours. There were no Community Protection Notices issued in 2021/22

There was 1 Community Trigger/ASB Case Review within the scrutiny period, which was carried out in June 2021. The Community Trigger/ASB Case Review is a process that was introduced as part of the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014 and provides a facility for victims of ASB to request a review of their reported case, if they feel that no action has been taken. Relevant agencies have to come together to review their responses to the reported problem and identify if there is any further action that can be taken. The process is owned by NWCSP and is administered by the Council's Community Safety Team. The ASB Case review process as laid out in the 2014 Act has a number of timescales that need to be met to ensure that the applicants receive timely responses to their concerns.

The Community Safety team also keeps an overview of local ASB activity and provides advice and guidance on ASB Enforcement to various services and partners with enforcement capabilities. The team coordinates and funds membership of a nationally recognised consultancy network which provides access to a leading ASB Barrister to ensure that any information and guidance shared is accurate and up to date with current legislation and practice.

Alongside this, the Community Safety Team receives a number of calls for advice and assistance from other council service areas and partner agencies requiring expertise in crime & ASB prevention, problem solving or community safety interventions to assist in resolving complex issues and cases.

Requests for support and information are also received from members of the public, Elected Members, voluntary and community groups and other external agencies. Between Sept 2021 and Aug 2022, the Community Safety Team received multiple requests for service in Redditch and these were broken down as follows: -

- 22 requests from Residents
- 12 requests from Elected Members
- 23 requests from Partner Agencies
- **38** Requests from internal services

Subjects Included: -

- 42 Domestic Violence & Sanctuary incl. MARAC Home Security Assessments
- 18 ASB related to Neighbourhood Issues

- 17 Nominated Neighbour Scheme
- 15 Youth ASB
- 3 Safeguarding Queries
- 3 Road Safety referred to the West Mercia Safer Roads Team

3.6 Communications and Social Media Campaigns

The Community Safety Team supported various national and local campaigns throughout 2021-22 to promote key safety messages and the work of NWCSP. Partnership projects such as Nominated Neighbour, the Respect Programme and Awareness of Hate Crime Reporting are regularly promoted to residents.

In addition to the annual Hate Crime Awareness Week and Domestic Abuse White Ribbon campaign supported each year, in August 2022 the Community Safety Team led on promoting national ASB Awareness Week with local activities organised for the second year running. This campaign was successful in coordinating a range of partners and gathered significant media attention. As such ASB Awareness week is likely to become one of the main awareness campaigns in the NWCSP annual campaign calendar going forward. Other campaigns and local community events supported throughout the year, included: -

Loan Shark Awareness
International Women's Day
Child Exploitation Awareness Week
Mental Health Awareness Week
Ask for Angela (NTE Safety Campaign)
Drowning Prevention Week
Young Citizens Challenge
Nominated Neighbour
Talks to Community groups about Home Security and Scam Awareness
Opening of the WISE Youth Centre

The RBC Community Safety team raises awareness of community safety issues and keeps residents and partners informed of work being delivered by partners on social media via @SaferRedditch account and via the Councils' own Facebook pages.

Awareness and information messages promoted from the Safer Redditch Twitter account were seen by 13,363 people and directly interacted with by 1,863 people. The @SaferRedditch account has 668 followers in 2021/2022 (an increase of 33 followers from previous year).

The Community Safety Partnership's work is also widely promoted across North Worcestershire using other CSP Twitter accounts such as @nworccsp, @NWHateIncident and @SaferBromsgrove.

Total Twitter impressions for community safety promotional campaigns and awareness messages across North Worcestershire reached 23.5k, with 3686 direct engagements.

The breakdown for the main awareness campaigns for all North Worcestershire twitter account impressions is:

Hate Crime Awareness Week – 1.4k White Ribbon Domestic Abuse Campaign – 4.5k CSE Awareness Day – 1.7k ASB Awareness Week – 6.1k

Community Safety awareness messages and projects are also promoted via the District Council's Facebook page and up-to-date information about Community Safety projects and general crime prevention work is available on the RBC website and on NWCSP website at North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (nwcsp.org)

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the progress made by the North Worcestershire CSP be noted.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1: NWCSP Plan 2021-24

Appendix 2: NWCSP Project Review 2021-22 Presentation Appendix 3: ASB in Redditch Data Comparison Report 2021-22

6. Background Papers

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel - <u>Committee details - West Mercia</u>
Police and Crime Panel - Worcestershire County Council (moderngov.co.uk)

PCC's Safer West Mercia Plan 2021-25 - <u>Safer West Mercia Plan</u> (<u>westmercia-pcc.gov.uk</u>)

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Partnership Plan 2021-24

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FOREWORD

I am pleased to present North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership's (NWCSP) Community Safety Plan for 2021-24. It outlines our priorities over the next three years and the actions we will take to address them.

NWCSP is committed to building on the progress made in recent years and will continue to drive down crime and disorder across Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest. Our partnership is innovative and full of people who are passionate about creating a safe environment for our communities.

Our aim for this plan is to continue to build safer, stronger and more confident communities whilst navigating and adapting to the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 global pandemic.

We will do this by working together to decrease crime, improve community safety and address the threats, harms and risks associated with criminality; and at the same time implementing and responding to the requirements and regulations necessary to support our communities to move toward post-Covid recovery.

In the following pages, we have captured the areas of work that we will focus on as a partnership and the actions we will take to achieve our aims. I hope by reading this plan, you will see how NWCSP works together toward these aims, for the benefit of all who live, work in and visit our towns and villages.

Sue Hanley Chair of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership

INTRODUCTION

This partnership plan has been prepared by NWCSP to help set out its community safety objectives and aims for 2021-24 in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Since the first national lockdown implemented in March 2020 Covid-19 has continued to pose significant challenges to public agencies, local businesses and voluntary & community sector organisations as they work to support, protect and maintain services to our local residents.

Our partners continue to meet the ongoing challenges of redesigning processes and altering ways of working to provide services that are Covid-safe for both customers and employees alike and this has meant significant change, at an extraordinarily quick pace. Despite this, there also remains a consistent level of customer service and support offered by all partner agencies whilst adapting to and working within the various restrictions and requirements of national Coronavirus policy and regulation.

Both individually and collectively, Community Safety Partnership members are managing the effects of this unprecedented situation, constantly adapting service delivery and working practices in order to continue to support customers and clients, many of whom have been deeply affected by the many and sometimes life-changing consequences of the coronavirus pandemic.

Whilst the long term effect Covid-19 will have on crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour is unknown; this Partnership Plan is intended to inform residents, parish and town councils, and other stakeholders including the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner of the specific community safety actions NWCSP will carry out during the forthcoming years.

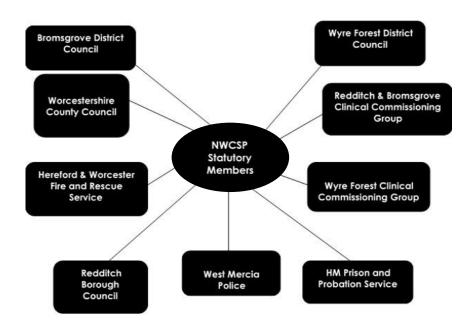
The Partnership vision for North Worcestershire is: -

'to keep North Worcestershire a safe place to live, work and visit'.

NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (NWCSP)

NWCSP is a strategic partnership, bringing agencies together to reduce crime and offending in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The Partnership is made up of the following statutory organisations, together with a wider range of local agencies such as victim support services, housing associations and voluntary & community sector organisations. NWCSP aims to provide added value to the individual partnership agencies' day to day functions; working together to reduce the risks and harms associated with crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.



NWCSP could not achieve its objectives without help from the public. It is the responsibility of everyone to play their part in helping to make themselves and their communities safer. Anyone can contribute to crime reduction and prevention by reporting crime and disorder when it happens; supporting criminal justice agencies by providing information and intelligence about offences that have taken place; and by taking responsibility for personal safety and the safety of others, particularly the most vulnerable in society.

For ideas on other ways to get involved, please visit www.nwcsp.org

HOW WE WORK TOGETHER

The Partnership has a statutory duty to produce an annual Strategic Assessment which provides the data and evidence for proposed community safety activities and actions, as set out in the Partnership Plan. The Strategic Assessment also provides the framework for the CSP to measure performance and progress towards meeting its agreed outcomes for each of the community safety priorities.

Usually the Strategic Assessment collates the latest information and data, detailing recent levels of crime and ASB. This allows the CSP to consider the current position and assess any changing circumstances or emerging issues that could require multi-agency approaches or interventions. However, this year Covid-19 has had a significant effect on crime figures and data reporting.

Following a report by the Office for National Statistics Centre for Crime and Justice (ONS) released on 3rd Feb 2021, statisticians stated that:

"The coronavirus pandemic and related lockdown restrictions have resulted in fluctuations in the level of crime experienced in England and Wales. Data from the survey [Telephone operated Crime Survey for England and Wales 2020] showed decreases in crime at the start of the pandemic, with rises seen over the summer months, specifically in theft, following the easing of lockdown measures, with overall crime now back at pre-lockdown levels of January to March 2020. There were also fluctuations in police recorded crime, but total recorded offences for July to September 2020 were below that seen in the same period in 2019."

ONS - Crime in England and Wales: year ending September 2020

In light of the challenge of 2020/21 crime data, the Partnership has also utilised Strategic Assessments and other CSP data products from previous years to inform priority setting for the refreshed Partnership plan. Alongside this, certain other considerations are also taken into account, such as:

 Level of harm – the impact offences have on victims and wider communities.

- Community concern the level of priority that local residents attribute to a particular offence.
- Partnership added value the extent to which multi-agency working can enhance the ability of agencies to tackle a particular pattern of offending behaviour.

This year's priority setting has also been developed with due regard to:

- Existing and emerging national priorities
- NWCSP's statutory duties and obligations
- West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Plan Safer West Mercia
- Policing priorities included in the West Mercia Force Control Strategy
- Worcestershire Safer Communities Board's Community Safety Agreement

West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner

John Campion was re-elected as the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia on 6th May 2021. Mr Campion's focus will be on increasing the number of police officers on the streets and ensuring the are visible and accessible to communities. He has also prioritised the fight to reduce crime, bring criminals to justice and spend the public's money on efficient and effective policing. The PCC will be producing a new Police and Crime Plan, which will set out the strategic aims and priorities for his second term in office.

The PCC has a duty to co-operate with CSPs to reduce crime and disorder and there is a reciprocal duty on CSPs to collaborate with the PCC. The PCC and the CSP must also have regard for each other's priorities within their respective plans. PCC's vision has focused on four key areas:

- Building a More Secure West Mercia
- Reassuring West Mercia's Communities
- Putting Victims and Witnesses First
- Reforming West Mercia

This North Worcestershire CSP Plan has been developed to ensure that it aligns with the PCC's vison for policing across West Mercia and will continue to support the aims and objectives of the next West Mercia Police and Crime Plan.

Serious Violence Statutory Duty

In July 2019, the Government announced plans for a new legal duty on public bodies to prevent and tackle serious violence. The new 'public health duty' will cover the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services.

The Home Office's intention is that the duty will ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime. It will also allow those services to target their interventions to prevent and stop violence altogether.

The Government intends to amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, by making sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

At the time of writing, NWCSP is still waiting for further information about what this new duty will mean in practice for the Partnership and will respond accordingly to any requirements emerging from the government's Serious Violence Strategy and any related legislation.

Delivering the Partnership Plan

The key to delivering North Worcestershire's priorities is effective and strong partnership working, as no individual agency alone can deliver the objectives of the CSP.

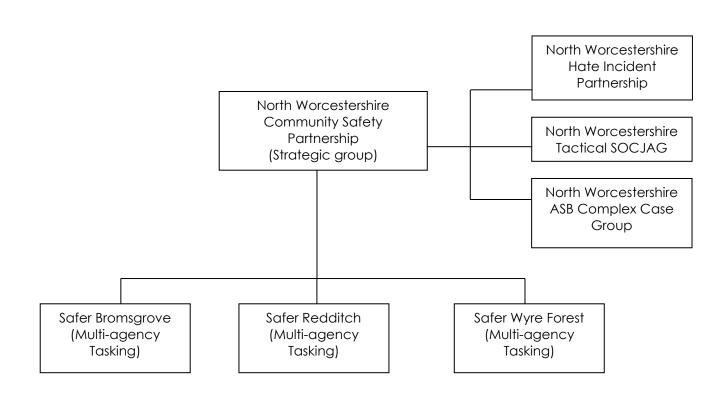
As a partnership we will set and monitor performance indicators that reflect the priorities, in order to measure progress toward the Partnership's delivery outcomes. We will measure and assess our activities a minimum of four times a year to check that we are achieving positive outcomes and making progress toward the aims of the plan.

Effective crime reduction relies on understanding what and where our problems are. This enables us to direct partnership resources efficiently and effectively - to the right place at the right time. Crime trends and patterns are regularly monitored and NWCSP receives regular reports from key officers to enable collective monitoring of actions, performance and outcomes.

The Partnership consists of senior managers from the statutory Responsible Authorities alongside co-operating organisations and the Elected Councillors with responsibility for community safety, from each of the member Local Authorities. To provide oversight of the work of the Partnership, Elected Councillors hold community safety specific scrutiny committees which inspect the Partnership's performance. West Mercia's PCC is the public's elected representative for all policing matters and as such Community Safety Partnerships and the PCC have a duty to collaborate and pay due regard to each other's action plans. In fulfilling this duty, the PCC maintains strong links with each of the Community Safety Partnerships within the West Mercia force area.

Operational delivery of the partnership plan is carried out by a number of community safety sub-groups and forums. Safer Groups in each of the district areas are the core delivery arm of the CSP, where much of the on-the-ground activity is developed and undertaken. These groups co-ordinate partnership activity at an operational district level to solve current and emerging local problems.

NWCSP Structure



OUR PRIORITIES

Partners use the Strategic Assessment and other sources to assess and prioritise the key crime and disorder issues that require multi-agency action within the Partnership's area of focus. When setting and reviewing CSP priorities consideration is also given to the local Policing objectives in the area. Partnership priorities are reviewed regularly and refreshed annually to ensure the CSP is always focused on addressing the issues that affect local communities the most.

The following priorities have been agreed by partners for 2021/22:

Priority	Aim: To Reduce/Prevent	
Violence and Abuse	Public Place Violence	
	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	
	Child Sexual Exploitation	
Theft and Acquisitive Crime	Theft from Stores	
	Burglary, Doorstep Crimes & Scams	
	Rural & Business Crime	
ASB, Damage and Nuisance	Neighbourhood Nuisance	
	Criminal Damage	
	Environmental Problems and Deliberate Fires	
Protecting Vulnerable Communities	Hate Crime & Targeted Harassment	
	Criminal Exploitation, County Lines & Modern Slavery	
	Violent Extremism	
Reducing the Harm Caused by Drugs & Alcohol		
Reducing Reoffending		

A summary of the type of activity the Partnership will undertake to address these priorities is provided below.

Priority: To Reduce Violence and Abuse

Public Place Violence - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Work with local businesses, regulatory services and public health to develop further understanding and intelligence around public place violence; particularly related to the Night-time Economy as town centres and licensed premises move toward post Covid recovery.
- Respond to and implement any requirements emerging from the government's Serious Violence Strategy and any related legislation.
- District Safer Groups to develop and co-ordinate specific actions and initiatives in response to local public place violence issues.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Through MARAC and commissioned Domestic Abuse services, continue to develop and improve agency responses to high risk victims.
- Work with Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence support services to develop and promote initiatives that focus on increasing reporting, early help and education.
- Increase and promote training opportunities to ensure all services are able to identify and offer support to customers at risk of or experiencing Domestic Abuse or Sexual Violence.
- Work with services to ensure all victims are able to access the right support to meet their needs, including male victims, victims from Black Asian and Minority Ethnic communities and victims of historical sexual violence.
- Through Drive, the Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme work with services to reduce offending and prevent risk and harm.
- Respond to any legislative requirements emerging from the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020 and the Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2021-2024.
- Implement learning and recommendations from Domestic Homicide Reviews

Child Sexual Exploitation - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Support and expand the community safety Respect Programme in partnership with local schools to continue to provide therapeutic support to young people at risk of exploitation.
- Promote and deliver training and awareness raising to ensure parents, support workers and service providers are able to identify and support young people vulnerable to exploitation.
- Through work with schools, the local Respect Programme and other providers, to ensure children and young people have access to education on healthy relationships.
- Work with the Children's Safeguarding Partnership to promote Get Safe, the countywide safeguarding approach to addressing issues of Child Exploitation. [GET SAFE = Gangs, Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking, Modern Day Slavery Absent or Missing, Forced Marriage, Criminal Exploitation]

Priority: To Reduce theft and acquisitive crime

Theft from Stores - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Work with partners such as the North Worcestershire Economic
 Development and Regeneration (NWEDR) Unit, business networks and
 retail partnerships to identify opportunities for crime prevention, improving
 store security and improved data collection and analysis.
- Work with Integrated Offender Management (IOM) partners in the criminal justice system, to ensure prolific and persistent offenders are brought to justice.
- Work with commissioned Drug and Alcohol services and IOM to promote support options and interventions to reduce reliance on theft to support addictions.

Burglary, Doorstep Crimes and Scams - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Raise awareness of criminality and provide residents with the tools and information to protect their homes and property.
- Offer support, information and advice to Burglary victims to reduce the risk of re-victimisation.
- Promote and expand the CSP's Nominated Neighbour scheme to encourage residents to look out for and protect the most vulnerable members of their local communities.
- Promote the PCC's SmartWater Village Scheme and the Police We Don't Buy Crime initiative to support a co-ordinated approach to protecting local rural areas.
- Raise awareness of scams, fraud and cyber-crime, focusing on the most vulnerable and those most at risk of being targeted.
- Deliver seasonal initiatives to raising awareness and provide advice to the public on how to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of these crimes.
- Targeted joint-agency work to engage with and raise the awareness of residents/communities in areas where issues such as scams and distraction burglary are more prevalent (e.g. elderly residents).

Rural and Business Crime - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Promote the PCC's SmartWater Scheme and the Police We Don't Buy Crime initiative to support a co-ordinated approach to protecting local businesses communities and rural areas.
- Support and promote business community and rural area networks, such as Farm Watches and Business Links, providing crime prevention information and sharing intelligence to prevent victimisation.
- Support West Mercia PCCs Busines and Rural crime strategies and work with local affected communities to understand and address the issues they are facing.

Priority: To reduce antisocial behaviour (ASB), damage and nuisance

Neighbour Nuisance - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Promote and utilise the powers and legislation available to the Police,
 Councils and other partners to tackle ASB and nuisance.
- Raise awareness of support services and provide residents with pathways to raise concerns and request action i.e. Tenancy Panels, Complaints processes, Community Trigger/ASB Case Review etc.
- Offer support, information and advice to vulnerable victims of ASB victims to reduce the risk of continued re-victimisation or escalation.
- Respond to any legislative requirements emerging from the Social Housing White Paper 2020 in relation to ASB and Safer Homes & Neighbourhoods.
- North Worcestershire ASB Complex Case Group to develop and coordinate specific actions and initiatives in response to local concerns about ASB issues.

Criminal Damage - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Utilise improved CCTV capabilities across North Worcestershire to identify and take action against perpetrators.
- Utilise and support the work of established Detached Youth Work teams in each district area to engage with young people in local neighbourhoods at risk of becoming involved in ASB and criminality.
- Make use of opportunities for community resolution and restorative justice with offenders to repair damage in public spaces.

Environmental Problems and Deliberate Fires - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Promote and utilise the powers and legislation available to the Councils,
 Regulatory Services and other partners to tackle environmental problems and crimes.
- Publicise environmental crime prosecutions and enforcement action taken against offenders in order to prevent and deter further offending.

- Work with partners to improve data collection and shared intelligence around environmental problems and deliberate fires in order to identify patterns of behaviour and target resources more effectively.
- Raising awareness of the dangers of fire raising and deliver fire safety messages within local communities.

Priority: Protecting Vulnerable Communities

Reducing Hate Crime and Targeted Harassment - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Through North Worcestershire Hate Incident Partnership continue to raise awareness of hate crime in all its forms, providing appropriate support information and increasing opportunities to report incidents securely and safely.
- Offer support, information and interventions to vulnerable victims of Hate Incidents/crimes to reduce the risk of continued re-victimisation or escalation.
- Increase and promote training opportunities to ensure all services are able to identify and offer support to customers at risk of or experiencing Hate Crime and Targeted Harassment.

Reducing Criminal Exploitation, County Lines & Modern Slavery - Summary of CSP Activity:

- Through North Worcestershire Serious Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG) continue to raise awareness of organised crime and exploitation across agencies and with the public.
- Support and engage with the SOCJAG and MATE processes to identify areas of concern, share intelligence and take joint action to disrupt Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) operating in our areas.
- Further develop our knowledge and understanding of criminal exploitation, county lines and modern slavery locally, including areas and communities that may be more vulnerable to targeting by criminals.
- Raise awareness and provide support and information to services, businesses and organisations likely to come into contact with those vulnerable to exploitation.

Preventing Violent Extremism- Summary of CSP Activity:

- Through Worcestershire Prevent Strategy Group to raise awareness of Prevent and organisations statutory duties under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (as amended)
- Support and engage with the Channel Process and ensure that support is available for young people and vulnerable adults at risk of radicalisation. SOCJAG and MATE processes to identify areas of concern, share intelligence and take joint action to disrupt Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) operating in our areas.
- Further develop our knowledge and understanding of terrorism and risks of radicalisation locally, including areas or communities that may be more vulnerable to targeting by extremists.

Cross Cutting Themes

Reducing the Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol and Reducing Reoffending remain cross cutting areas of work for partners that impact on all CSP priorities. NWCSP works closely with Public Health and Commissioned Drug and Alcohol Services and is also represented on the Worcestershire Reducing Reoffending Strategy Group.

NWCSP activity in these areas as part of the plan will include:

- Support and encourage joint Police and Licensing Team visits to licensed premises in North Worcestershire to ensure adherence to licensing conditions and to encourage the responsible sale of alcohol as premises move toward post Covid recovery.
- Support and facilitate the referral of vulnerable individuals at risk of exploitation to local support services to safeguard them against harm e.g. risk of cuckooing of a vulnerable tenant's property due to substance dependency.
- Use of enforcement powers e.g. Criminal Behaviour Order, to take action against identified persistent offenders engaging in ASB where behaviour is alcohol-related.
- Support and resource targeted outreach work delivered by youth workers to engage with young people at risk of drug or alcohol-related ASB.

- Promote use of Dispersal Orders and Community Protection Warning letters/Notices for those individuals repeatedly involved alcohol or drugrelated crime.
- Continue work with Integrated Offender Management (IOM) partners in the criminal justice system, to ensure offenders are brought to justice.
- Seek to publicise prosecutions and enforcement action taken against offenders, where appropriate, in order to prevent and deter further offending.
- Make full use of both permanent and deployable CCTV camera systems in our district areas to deter offending behaviour, capture evidence and improve public safety.
- Share intelligence through the district Safer Groups and other CSP subgroups to help bring offenders to justice.

CONTACT DETAILS

North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership www.nwcsp.org.uk

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111 www.crimestoppers-uk.org

West Mercia Police non-emergency number 101 www.westmercia.police.uk

Hereford and Worcester Fire & Rescue Service www.hwfire.org.uk

Bromsgrove District Council www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

Redditch Borough Council www.redditch.gov.uk

Wyre Forest District Council www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Worcestershire County Council www.worcestershire.gov.uk

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group www.redditchandbromsgroveccg.nhs.uk

NHS Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group www.wyreforestccg.nhs.uk

HM Prison and Probation Service www.gov.uk

Warwickshire and West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company www.westmerciaprobation.org.uk





North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership

Review of the work of the Community Safety Partnership in 2021/22

Bev Houghton Community Safety Manager November 2022

NWCSP Responsible Authorities

- West Mercia Police
- Bromsgrove District Council
- Redditch Borough Council
- Wyre Forest District Council
- Worcestershire County Council
- Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
- The Probation Service
- Redditch, Bromsgrove and Wyre Forest Integrated Care Board (replacing Clinical Commissioning Groups)

NWCSP Priorities

The following priorities were agreed by partners for 2021-24

Priority	Aim: To Reduce/Prevent		
	Public Place Violence		
Violence and Abuse	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence		
	Child Sexual Exploitation		
	Theft from Stores		
Theft and Acquisitive Crime	Burglary, Doorstep Crimes & Scams		
	Rural & Business Crime		
	Neighbourhood Nuisance		
ASB, Damage and Nuisance	Criminal Damage		
	Environmental Problems and Deliberate Fires		
	Hate Crime & Targeted Harassment		
Protecting Vulnerable Communities	Criminal Exploitation, County Lines & Modern Slavery		
	Violent Extremism		
Reducing the I	Harm Caused by Drugs & Alcohol		
R	educing Reoffending		

New & Emerging Initiatives

In April 2021 **the Domestic Abuse Act** received royal assent and statutory guidance was issued in July 2022. Section 84(4) of the 2021 Act requires relevant agencies exercising public functions, to have regard to the Domestic Abuse statutory guidance in the exercise of those functions. Some organisations e.g. Housing Authorities also have specific statutory duties to safeguard victims of domestic abuse.

<u>Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance</u> - This statutory guidance sets standards and promotes best practice for those **responsible authorities with statutory duties to support and assist victims of domestic abuse.**

In line with the guidance, an upper tier domestic abuse partnership board has been established at county level and a **Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Strategy** has been developed which focuses on the key strategic responses of prevention, provision of services, partnership, pursuing perpetrators and criminal justice.

The Worcestershire Strategy can be found here - Domestic Abuse | Worcestershire County Council

New & Emerging Initiatives

On the 28th June, the Government introduced a number of law changes as part of the **Police, Crime, Sentencing** and **Courts Act 2022.** The PCSC Act 2022 focuses on; an overhaul of sentencing laws to make streets safer, ensuring serious violent and sexual offenders spend longer behind bars, implements measures to help cut crime and better protect the public and equips the police with the powers and tools they need to combat crime.

Draft guidance placing a new duty on specified authorities to address Serious Violence was issued by the Government on the 9th June 2022. The draft guidance aims to support specified authorities and PCCs in the exercise of their functions in relation to the **Serious Violence Duty**; as laid out in the PCSC Act 2022.

Serious Violence Duty: Draft guidance for responsible authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

The Serious Violence Duty guidance sets out how the PCSC Act 2022 amends the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and places a requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to formulate and implement a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence.

Worcestershire CSPs are currently working together to establish how best to exercise this duty in a consistent and collaborative manner across the partnership areas of operation.

New & Emerging Initiatives

On 15th June 2022, the government announced their vision for establishing **Combating Drugs Partnerships** in local areas as part of the next phase of their 10-year strategy to **reduce supply and demand for illegal drugs.**

Guidance for local delivery partners - Combating Drugs Partnerships - provides the framework for how partners in each locality in England should work together to reduce drug-related harm in their area, with each Combating Drugs Partnership appointing a single Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) to act as chair and take responsibility for reporting back to central government.

Locally, discussions are underway to establish the Combating Drugs Partnership that will cover the Worcestershire area. West Mercia Partners have agreed that the PCC will be the Senior Responsible Officer for a new Combatting Drugs Partnerships which will be aligned to Integrated Care Board boundaries: Integrated Care Board - Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care System

The PCC has announced £100,000 of additional funding to support the work of the Partnerships and further details on the Combating Drugs Partnership will be shared as the structures and local strategies develop.

CCTV - Funding between 2020 and 2022

Allocation	PCC Grant
Install 1 x new camera and pole in Sanders Park and upgrade of 9 cameras in Bromsgrove District	£32,135.57
1 additional camera on Town Hall roof and upgrade of 24 cameras in Redditch Borough	£48,403.41
Upgrade of various cameras in Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport	£36,458.00
Monitoring centre equipment and signage for the benefit of Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest areas	£12,766.60
Total Grant Allocation	£130,000.00

NWCSP has been allocated a further £20,000 capital for CCTV for 2022-23 and proposals are being developed by the CCTV Project Team

NWCSP Core Funding - 2021/22

Area of Benefit	PCC Grant
West Mercia CSP Analyst Team (Top Sliced)	£20,000.00
West Mercia Integrated Offender Mgt. (Top Sliced)	£ 5,000.00
Bromsgrove Projects	£29,084.22
Redditch Projects	£31,083.55
Wyre Forest Projects	£33,083.23
North Worcestershire Projects	£21,000.00
Total	£139,250.00

NWCSP Core Funding - 2022/23

Area of Benefit	PCC Grant
West Mercia CSP Analyst Team (Top Sliced)	£20,000.00
West Mercia Integrated Offender Mgt. (Top Sliced)	£ 5,000.00
West Mercia Hate Crime Project (Top Sliced)	£11,000.00
West Mercia Crimestoppers Initiative (Top Sliced)	£ 1,700.00
Bromsgrove Projects	£24,183.33
Redditch Projects	£27,183.33
Wyre Forest Projects	£30,183.34
NW Domestic Homicide Reviews	£20,000.00
Total	£139,250.00

Community Safety Project Review

2021-22



The Respect Programme provides community safety awareness sessions as part of school PHSE drop down days and bespoke classroom sessions on a number of subjects such as recognising and reporting hate crime, understanding healthy relationships/domestic abuse, the dangers of substance misuse and promoting respect and community responsibility.

The programme also provides a therapeutic mentoring scheme which provides weekly support and guidance sessions to young people at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of crime.

2021-22 saw the Respect Programme return to providing face to face sessions in all schools and this year also saw the largest growth in the referrals to the service. The team received between **30 to 60 referrals** each half term with our team of mentors holding around **135 open cases** at any time.

The referrals into the programme continue to increase in complexity with support required for young people who are at a high level of need and are at risk of becoming involved in criminality, both as potential victims and potential perpetrators.

In 2021/22 the Council's Community Safety Team were successful in obtaining a 3-year Public Health grant of £117k pa from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)

This funding allowed the team to appoint two full time youth work posts working in partnership with Young Solutions Worcestershire. The focus for the youth workers is to provide outreach/detached support, deliver Empowering Young People group work sessions and provide one to one mentoring to young people at risk of being victims or perpetrators of crime.





Volunteer It Yourself (VIY) Project

The VIY programme combines DIY and volunteering, challenging young people to help repair and refurbish community facilities while learning vocational trade skills on the job. As a result this helps the young people become more employable in the construction sector

During delivery of the VIY construction project in Redditch, 12 Entry Level 3 City & Guilds Accreditations were awarded in Carpentry, Health & Safety and painting & decorating

The initiative helps young people to learn DIY and trade sector skills and to consider a career in the construction and building industry and the Community Safety team are working with other voluntary and community agencies to develop further projects across the Borough





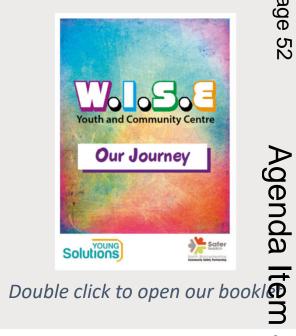
The Launch of W.I.S.E Youth Centre

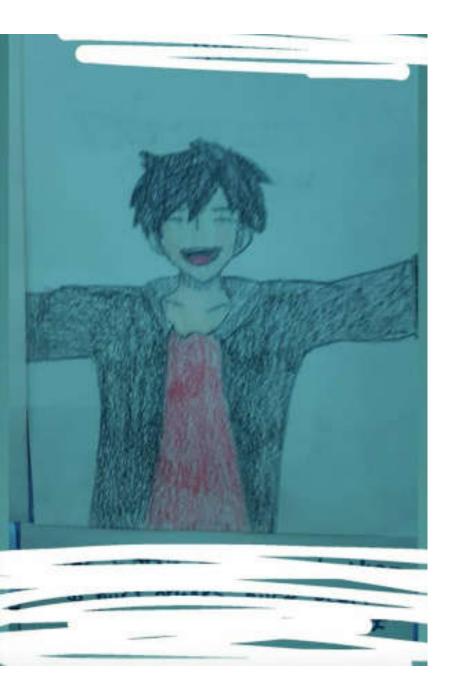
(Wear smiles, Ignite souls, Serve & Encourage)

W.I.S.E Youth Centre located at Market Walk in Redditch Town Centre, officially opened its doors to on Monday 15th August

The VIY renovation project began on July 18th and was delivered in partnership Young Solutions Worcestershire and the Safer Redditch Group.

The project took 20 days to complete and the work was carried out by 17 youth volunteers identified by local youth providers.





The Empowering Young People Programme

This CSP funded project provides an 11-week programme of arts and crafts, issue-based activities and interactive workshops addressing issues such as life skills, confidence building and self-esteem work.

The project is now entering its fifth year and goes from strength to strength with tailored sessions delivered to groups of young people based on their specific needs. Content delivered over the year has included a focus on ASB, County Lines, CSE, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Misuse and Hate Crime Awareness

Over the year (2021/22) 8 Empowering Young People programmes have been delivered, taking place in both school and community settings.

Youth Outreach

The Community Safety Team are working with local youth provider UP Foundation to deliver outreach and detached youth sessions across the Borough.

Up Foundation youth teams patrol local neighbourhoods two to three times a week depending on the weather and at the height of the summer, workers can engage with between 200 to 400 hundred young people per month.

The Community Safety Outreach Teams are now being seen as a model of best practice across the county and discussions are being held to reshape the delivery of youth provision as a result of the achievements of this type of youth provision.



In May 2022, Young Citizen's Challenge returned to being delivered face to face and was held at the Bromsgrove Police and Fire Station from 23rd - 27th May

Key partners such as the Community Safety Team, Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Safer Roads Team, SARA (Water Safety) and Western Power were in attendance to get across key safety messages across to Year 6 students. Across the week Community Safety Partners engaged with 856 young people.

The Safe Zone package, developed by the Fire Service, was also promoted as part of Young Citizen's Challenge week: https://www.safe-zone.uk.









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Virtual Decisions - Round Midnight

Virtual Decisions Knife Crime Project

Delivered by Round Midnight Ltd, a Birmingham based theatre in education company

Virtual_Decisions is a one-of-a-kind, innovative, exciting VR in Education program that is helping to support thousands of young people who are at risk of criminal exploitation.

By wearing a VR headset, each participant is placed in a real world scenario where they are faced with multiple dilemmas in which they must make a choice. Each choice results in various outcomes, showing that every action has a consequence. The production uses real world actors aged 14 – 25 to give authenticity to the piece.

Following the immersive 8 minute VR film, a creative arts workshop then explores the issues raised in more depth. Through discussions and drama exercises the young people are able to reflect on their own personal journey within the VR and compare it to that of others, making it a user led – and user shared – experience.

As a result of the successful project the Office of the PCC is looking into the potential to commission delivery of the project across West Mercia.

During 2021-22, the Community Safety Team has supported a number of Youth & Community Voluntary groups with funding applications. This is with a view to securing the future of some of the local support projects most needed by young people in our communities.

- Supported by a Community Safety Project Officer, Young Solutions Worcestershire was awarded £10,000 of Big Lottery funding to support targeted youth work which will now be delivered through the W.I.S.E Youth Centre
- Working with Community Safety and the Leisure Team, Young Solutions was granted £4,755 to support local summer holiday activities through the Worcestershire County Council HAF Funding
- Again working with Young Solutions, the Community Safety Team has been successful in securing a three-year Reaching Communities grant from the Big Lottery. This funding will provide £20,000 per year to the Borough and will be used to support youth delivery through local providers, Up Foundation and Your Ideas
- The Community Safety Team has been supporting the YMCA by providing Enhanced Youth Support Officers to help with the delivery of the Abbeydale Youth Club
- Community Safety Officers are working closely with the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) officers in Abbeydale and Woodrow since they started in post, to co-ordinate activities and initiative designed and developed by local communities

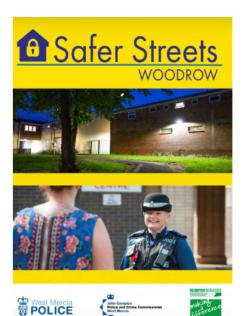
Safer Streets 2 Woodrow

Safer Streets 2 – Woodrow is a £430,000 crime-fighting project to tackle neighbourhood crime in the Woodrow area in Redditch.

The Home Office funded scheme supported multiple works to improve the safety and security of every home in Woodrow Centre, Ombersley Close and Rushock Close.

This Safer Streets – Woodrow electronic photo booklet highlights the many security improvements that were put in place by partners during 2021/22:

Safer Streets Woodrow - redditchbc.gov.uk

















Nominated Neighbour Scheme

The Nominated Neighbour scheme, which aims to protect vulnerable residents from door step crime and rogue trader offences, continues to be a successful local initiative.

124 vulnerable Redditch residents have now been signed up and during the Covid-19 restrictions the scheme was fully evaluated, with every beneficiary being contacted to assess its success. The evaluation identified that not one scheme member had issues with cold callers since signing up to the initiative. Many stated that they had previously experienced multiple cold calls and all participants stated that the scheme made them feel safer in their homes. There were many examples where residents had seen someone approach their door, but on seeing the Nominated Neighbour notice and the caller had walked away without attempting to make contact with the resident.

Since its inception the scheme has been rolled out to Wyre Forest and is supported by Police SNT's who assist in delivering the project. With Covid restrictions lifted, many vulnerable adult groups are now resuming their resident meetings and Community Safety Officers are re-engaging with these groups to provide personal safety information and crime prevention advice including promotion of the Nominated Neighbour scheme. The team also monitors and circulates information on current scams targeting residents, the most recent being an insulation scam highlighted by the Private Sector Housing Team.

Planning Consultations



Community Safety Project Officers David Rischmiller and Sarah McIntosh are qualified, College of Policing trained Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCO)

Using Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPtED) methods, they review planning applications to make appropriate crime prevention and security recommendations, with the aim of making future developments less vulnerable to crime and disorder

In 2021-22 officers examined 34 applications totalling 1052 residential units, 10 Commercial Units and 1961 Sq.m of commercial development

23 of these applications related to Redditch Borough, covering 688 residential units and 1 commercial unit





ASB Awareness Week 18th to 24th July 2022



The Community Safety Team organised a programme of events to publicise the National ASB Awareness Week and encouraged a focus on the issue of ASB including a media campaign that ran throughout the week.

Events commenced with a stand at the Redditch Green Fair and Lions Funday at ∇ Arrow Valley on 17th July where attendees were canvassed on their experience of local ASB. Following an engagement stand at Bromsgrove Market on Tuesday 19th July, officers then joined partners including the Police and Housing Providers at an ASB dop-in session Redditch Town Centre on the 21st July where advice on measures to address ASB was provided.

Both an internal and external communications campaign was conducted with articles in the Orb, in the local press and messages shared daily via social media. These matched the national daily themes suggested by the national organisers www.resolveuk.org.uk and, particularly on the 19th July, promoted the Community Trigger ASB case review process.

Also during the course of the week, the Community Safety Team promoted its ASB Powers training event, designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of partners in using legal tools and powers available to address ASB in communities. The training course will take place on 22nd September and has already received substantial sign-up from partners

Hate Crime Awareness Week 2022







North Worcestershire
Hate Incident Partnership
Hate Crime
Awareness Conference
14th October, 10am - 1pm
at Parkside, Bromsgrove

Guest Speakers

AZEEM RAFIQ

Inspiring anti-racism campaigner and former professional cricketer at Yorkshire County Cricket Club.



NAUGHTY BOY

Award-winning music producer Shahid Khan, aka Naughty Boy.



RT. HON. STUART LAWRENCE

Coach, Motivational speaker and brother of Stephen Lawrence.



Hate Crime Awareness Week in 2021 was held between the 10th and 14th October, which the Community Safety Team supported with community information stands in each district and an in-person HCAW Conference focusing on the theme of Racism.

In addition to promoting the annual Hate Crime Awareness Week campaign, the Team works with a range of partners to monitor hate crime and hate incident reporting and the Partnership reviews reports to ensure they are actively investigated and victims are supported.

Partner agencies and those reporting incidents are advised on the best ways to try and achieve a resolution and prevent further incidents occurring.





Safe Places Scheme

The Safe Places Scheme has been relaunched since Covid restrictions were lifted

Safe Places give the elderly, people with a disability, illness or learning difficulty, or anyone who feels in danger, a range of safe places where they can go to for help if they feel they are being bullied, abused or harassed while out and about.

All Safe Places are identified by a Safe Place sticker and the organisations employees receive training, so that they are able to give reassurance and help people contact appropriate support, as needed.

A directory of the Safe Places in Redditch can be found here:

Directory of Safe Places						
Redditton						
Coffee #1	Kingalulur Shapping Certin 557 druj	CONTRACT.				
Age UK	85 Mason Road Headless Cross 897 SOG	THE !				
Sorcieys Sonk	Kingfalor Shapping Contro 857 Arci	Total Control				
Connect	1 Constant true. 207 ACX	De E				
Emmanuel Church	The Courserscal Centre 6 Eventum Walk 897 AHJ					
Kinghuler Reception	Kingflisher Shapping Central Washinst Hause 8557 eHU					
Patace Theatre	Aicoder Street grid SAC	师				



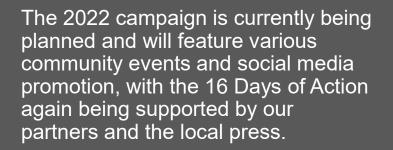
White Ribbon Domestic Abuse Campaign Nov - Dec 2022

It happened at a young age when he hurt me it was scary. I said sorry it wasn't enough though 'cause apologies aren't enough.

Chorus: I'm not invisible anymore 'cause I let you hurt me. He has got the same size fist as my heart.

He hit me one time and I could have got away, He wouldn't let me go so I tried to not go Because my pain is so hard.

#WhiteRibbonDay #NoExcuseForAbuse



Media from the 2021 campaign: White Ribbon UK

Redditch on the frontline of drive against domestic violence - The Redditch Standard

<u>Domestic abuse campaign launches</u> in Redditch | Redditch Advertiser

Wear a ribbon: speak out against domestic abuse - redditchbc.gov.uk

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GS Classification	OFFICIAL
Reference number	SPI/2022/259
Version	Version 1
Purpose	To inform the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in relation to anti-social behaviour incidents recorded for Redditch and wider in North Worcestershire between 1 April 2019 and 31 July 2022.
Author/s	Charlie Leatherby, Partnership Analyst
Peer review	N/A
QA	Julia Stiff, Senior Crime Intelligence Analyst
Owner	Redditch Borough Council
Publication date	01/09/2022
File path	J:\A&SI\SPI West Mercia\SPI Shared Area\Registry of Products\2022 Completed Products

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Our values: Public first | Compassionate | Courageous | Ownership | Inclusiv

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Aim and Purpose



Aim

The aim of this Community Safety Partnership (CSP) product is to develop a common understanding among partner agencies of anti social behaviour (ASB) incident recordings in relation to Redditch and wider into North Worcestershire.



Purpose

To provide the CSP with an updated overview into ASB incidents recorded in Redditch between 1 April 2019 and 31 July 2022, identifying any trends in recordings, incident types and key locations.



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Incidents of Antisocial Behaviour **Type**

Location

Data and Methodology

Data

North Worcestershire

Period

1 April 2019 to 31 July 2022

Source

Incidents - WMP OIS/Safe

Extraction

Incidents – BI 4.2



Where an incident did not indicate a precise offence location (postcode), an approximate postcode based on the information available was obtained and grid references obtained in order to establish the appropriate ward.

A small number of offences were identified as falling under the Redditch district but did not fall within a Redditch ward when mapped. This will account for the difference between the Redditch incident totals on slide five and slide seven.



Methodology

Incident Types

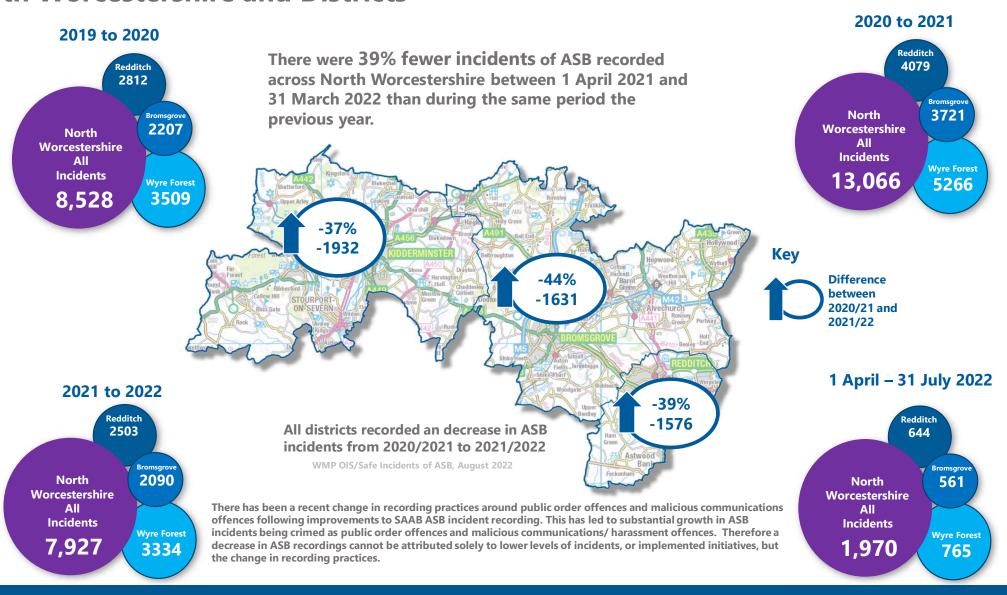
ASB Incidents for North Worcestershire were identified by final incident class – AS Environmental, AS Personal and AS Nuisance. These were then filtered to those with a district of Redditch.

Incidents of ASB for Redditch were then mapped using Northgate XD and an export obtained identifying totals for the twelve wards of Redditch.

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North Worcestershire and Districts

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Overall, activity has decreased since 2019, particularly from the end of the last national

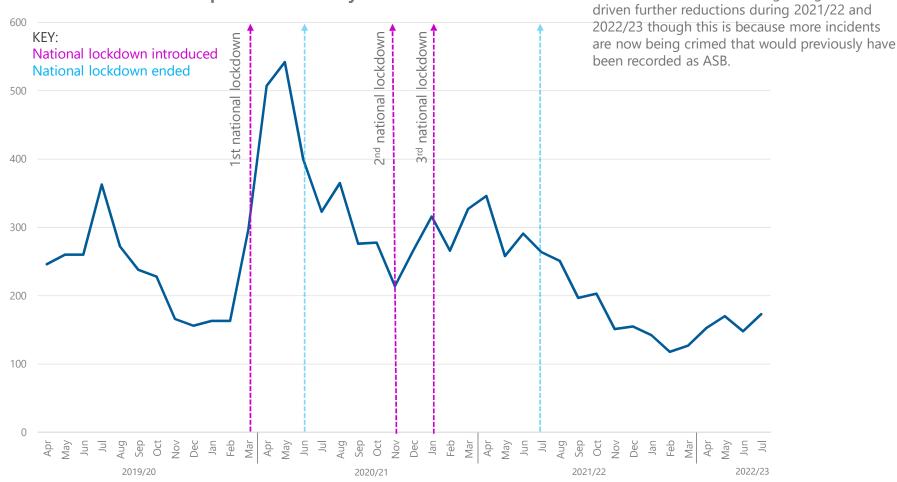
Covid-19 lockdown. Recording changes have

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Redditch Seasonal Distribution

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ASB in Redditch between 1 April 2019 to 31 July 2022



WMP OIS/Safe Incidents of ASB, August 2022

Redditch Wards

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ASB in Redditch between 1 April 2019 to 31 July 2022

Ward	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	Difference	Percentage Change	1 April to 31 July 2022
Abbey	592	555	433	-122	-22%	111
Astwood Bank and Feckenham	67	136	77	-59	-43%	15
Batchley and Brockhill	246	539	315	-224	-42%	68
Central	231	434	305	-129	-30%	61
Church Hill	338	468	192	-276	-59%	45
Crabbs Cross	101	151	58	-93	-62%	16
Greenlands	406	551	318	-233	-42%	124
Headless Cross and Oakenshaw	255	259	150	-109	-42%	51
Lodge Park	126	225	139	-86	-38%	49
Matchborough	159	198	182	-16	-8%	41
West	69	138	55	-83	-60%	15
Winyates	222	402	264	-138	-34%	47
Grand Total	2,812	4,056	2,488	-1,568	-39%	643

Despite seeing an overall decrease in recordings, **Abbey** ward had the highest number of ASB incidents recorded in 2021/22, which is consistent with previous years. However, current recordings for 1 April – 31 July 2022 place the ward as second highest, Greenlands having the highest total with 124 incidents so far this financial year.

The largest percentage decreases from 2020/2021 to 2021/2022 were observed in **Church Hill**, **Crabbs Cross** and **West** wards.

ASB incident recordings remain low between 1 April and 31 July 2022.

WMP OIS/Safe Incidents of ASB, August 2022

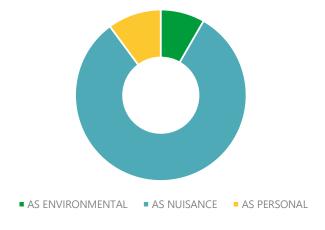
Redditch Incident Types

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ASB in Redditch between 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2022

Final Incident Class	2020 - 2021	2021 – 2022	Increase or Decrease?	Mean	Mean Percentage
AS Environmental	549	208	- 341	379	12%
AS Nuisance	3,181	2,041	- 1,140	2611	79%
AS Personal	349	254	- 95	302	9%

Redditch ASB by Final Incident Class 2021 - 2022



WMP OIS/Safe Incidents of ASB, August 2022

ASB has three main headings according to the type of behaviour committed:

- Personal when a person targets a specific individual or group e.g. Trespassing.
- **Nuisance** when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community e.g. Nuisance Neighbours.
- **Environmental** when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings e.g. Littering.

West Mercia Police, 2021 www.westmercia.police.uk