



North Worcestershire **Community Safety Partnership**

Review of the work of the
Community Safety Partnership in 2022/23

Bev Houghton
Community Safety Manager
1st November 2023

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 Community Safety Partners for 2021-24

Priority	Aims to Reduce
Violence and Abuse	Violence in Public Places
	Domestic Abuse
	Child Exploitation
Theft and Acquisitive Crime	Burglary and
	Theft From Stores
	Doorstep Crimes, Scams & Rogue Traders
Anti-Social Behaviour, Damage and Nuisance	Neighbourhood Nuisance
	Criminal Damage
	Problems facilitated by Environmental Factors
Protecting Vulnerable Communities	Hate Crime & Targeted Harassment
	Criminal Exploitation, County Lines & Modern Slavery
	Violent Extremism
Reduce the Harm caused by Drug Alcohol Misuse	
Reduce Offending and Re-Offending	

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.

[Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance](#) - 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 \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/serious-violence-duty-draft-guidance-for-responsible-authorities)

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 Combating 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.

North Worcestershire CCTV Funding between Apr 2020 and Mar 2022

Allocation	PCC Grant
1 additional camera on Town Hall roof and upgrade of 24 cameras in Redditch Borough	£48,403.41
Install 1 x new camera and pole in Sanders Park and upgrade of 9 cameras in Bromsgrove District	£32,135.57
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 was allocated a further £20,000 capital for CCTV for 2022-23

North Worcestershire CCTV Funding for 2022 / 2023

Area of Benefit	PCC Grant
Purchased additional moves of the 9 existing re-deployable cameras and associated signage	£17,152
Purchased a digital sign in system to improve compliance processes for the Monitoring Centre	£ 1,350
Contribution towards a new camera in Bromsgrove to support surveillance of the NTE	£ 1,500
Total	£20,000

NWCSP Core Funding - 2022/23

Area of Benefit	PCC Grant
West Mercia CSP Analyst Team (Top Sliced)	£20,000
West Mercia Integrated Offender Mgt. (Top Sliced)	£ 5,000
West Mercia Hate Crime Project (Top Sliced)	£11,000
West Mercia Crimestoppers Initiative (Top Sliced)	£ 1,700
Bromsgrove Youth Outreach	£13,534
Bromsgrove Tasking Projects	£10,649
Redditch Youth Outreach	£13,534
Redditch Tasking Projects	£13,650
Wyre Forest Detached Youth Team	£20,000
Wyre Forest Tasking Projects	£10,183
NW Domestic Homicide Reviews	£20,000
Total	£139,250

Safer Redditch – Tasking Fund 2022/23

Funded Projects	Amount
Redditch Pubwatch Insurance	£316.20
Sanctuary Improvements to Property of a DA Survivor	£612.00
Pilot of ASB App for Neighbourhood & Tenancy Team	£1500.00
Contribution to Mobile Metal Detector (Knife Arch)	£2,694.00
College of Policing DOC Training Event for Planning Services	£450.00
Hate Crime Awareness Week Conference/Resources	£6410.13
CCTV Technical Consultancy - Woodrow Centre	£1668.00
Total	£13,650.33

Community Safety Project Updates

2022-23



The Respect Programme provides community safety awareness sessions as part of school PHSE drop down days and bespoke classroom sessions on various 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.

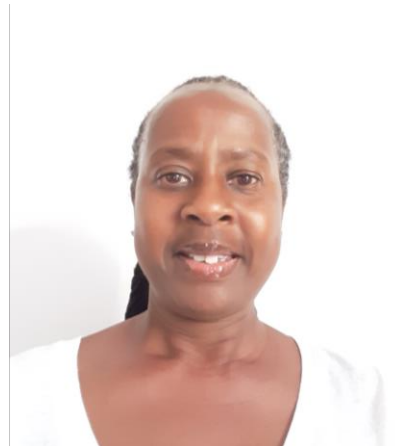
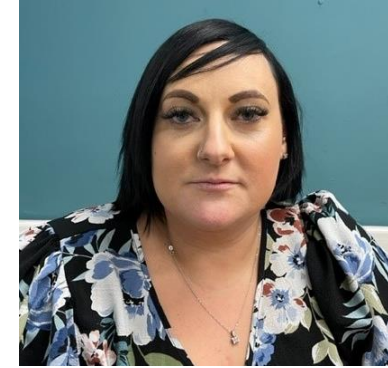
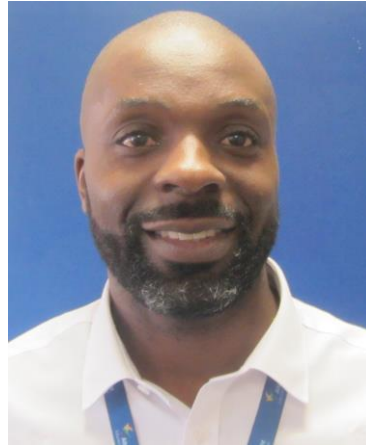
2022–23 saw the largest growth in the referrals to the service. The team received between **30 to 60 referrals** each half term, with our team of mentors holding around **155 open cases** at any time.

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 real risk of being affected by criminality, both as potential victims and potential perpetrators.



Following year-on-year increases in referrals to the Respect Programme, we have been very fortunate to be able to expand our current team of experienced, qualified mentors.

We now have a well-established team of youth workers who support the delivery of the Respect Programme across Redditch and Bromsgrove



Community Safety Enhanced Youth Support Workers – Redditch

In 2021/22 the Council's Community Safety Team were successful in obtaining a 3-year Public Health grant of £83,837 pa from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF). This has now been extended for a further year (2024-25) from the WCC Public Health Ring-fenced grant.

This funding has been used to provide dedicated youth workers in Redditch, working in partnership with Young Solutions Worcestershire. The focus for the youth workers is to provide outreach/detached support in identified areas of concern, to deliver Empowering Young People group work sessions and provide one to one mentoring to local young people at risk of being victims or perpetrators of crime and who have been detrimentally affected by the Coronavirus Outbreak.



The Empowering Young People Programme

This 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 sixth year and goes from strength to strength with tailored sessions delivered to groups of young people based on their specific needs. During this year, the programme has had more of a focus on male only groups and has been successful in addressing some of the more negative male stereotypes that young boys are exposed to. Other EYP content delivered over the year has included ASB, County Lines, CSE, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Misuse and Hate Crime Awareness

Over the year (2022/23) 5 Empowering Young People programmes have been delivered in Redditch, taking place in both school and community settings.



Redditch Youth Outreach

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

Up Foundation youth teams patrol local neighbourhoods twice a week, depending on the weather. At the height of summer, workers were engaging with between 200 to 250 hundred young people per month.

Outreach delivery is also supported by or Enhanced Youth Support team, who also deliver two session a week.

The Community Safety Youth Outreach Teams are now being seen as a model of best practice across the County. The achievements of these teams in delivering this type of on the ground, responsive youth provision has directly led to discussions about how to reshape the delivery of youth provision across Worcestershire.



Youth Scape Project in Redditch

Following a successful bid by Young Solutions Worcestershire to the Big Lottery fund for countywide Youth Scape project, the Community Safety Team are hosting the project for Redditch and are working with local youth provider Your Ideas to provide a youth worker post for three years.

The youth worker is delivering outreach, therapeutic one to one mentoring, open access youth club support and targeted group sessions. Through this project, a new youth club has been established in Woodrow Centre with well over 30 young people attending each week.



In May 2023, the Annual Redditch and Bromsgrove Young Citizen's Challenge (YCC) was held at the Bromsgrove Police and Fire Station from 22nd - 26th May

YCC offers all Year 6 students from Redditch and Bromsgrove the opportunity to take part in a series of scenarios and take quizzes on what to do in various situations, when exposed to different risks. Each partner-led session promotes experiential learning as each scenario is interactive and designed around student participation.

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 926 young people.



During 2022-23, the Community Safety Team has supported several voluntary youth providers with funding applications. This is with a view to securing the future of local community projects that are the most needed by young people in our neighbourhoods.

- Working with Community Safety Team and the Leisure Services team, Young Solutions – Worcestershire was granted £2,200 to support local summer holiday activities in Redditch through the Worcestershire County Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) funding
- The Community Safety Team supported local youth providers Your Ideas with their successful Youth Endowment capital funding to redevelop their building in Woodrow.
- The Community Safety Team has been supporting the YMCA by providing Enhanced Youth Support Officers to help with their delivery of the Churchill Youth Club
- Community Safety Officers have been working closely with the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) officers in Abbeydale and Woodrow since they started in post, helping them to co-ordinate activities and support initiatives designed and developed by local community members

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

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

126 vulnerable Redditch residents are now signed up to the scheme, which is further promoted with partner agencies including Trading Standards and Age UK. Also, several presentations and promotional events have been delivered this year and during these events there were 125 positive engagements with residents who directly received advice about keeping safe from scams, rogue traders and other doorstep crime offences. Redditch venues included Ecumenical Centre Older Person's Forum, Millward Place Older Person's Complex, Archer Road / Other Road Community Meeting and Redditch Green Fair at Arrow Valley Lake

The Community Safety team also monitors and circulates information on current national, regional and local scams that may target residents.



Planning Consultations



The Community Safety team has two College of Policing qualified, Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCO) who can review planning applications, making appropriate crime prevention and security recommendations with the aim of making future building developments less vulnerable to crime and disorder

In 2022-23 officers examined 34 applications totalling 1052 residential units, 10 Commercial Units and 1961 Sqm. of commercial development.

22 of these applications related to Redditch developments. For example, DOCO advice was provided regarding the Council's own re-development of the Redditch Town Hall and advice was also provided for youth organisation Your Ideas' development of their youth centre in Bengrove Close following a successful bid to the national Youth Endowment Fund.

As part of wider development of this area of work the team organised a Designing Out Crime Conference on 8th February 2023 for Planners, Elected Members, Partner Agencies and the Police.

Crime Risk Surveys



Home Security Assessments

The Community Safety team has carried out 32 Home Security Assessments at the properties of residents vulnerable to crime with many households receiving upgrades and improvements to the physical security of their properties.

Some security assessments were made following discussions about the safety of domestic abuse victims held at MARAC meetings. Other assessments were carried out at the request of community safety partners such as the police and council services such as the Neighbourhood & Tenancy team.

Domestic Abuse support including Sanctuary and MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

The Community Safety team attends the local MARAC meeting which is a nationally recognised process for managing high risk domestic abuse cases. Vulnerable residents who are assessed as being at high risk of serious harm from an intimate partner or family member are referred into MARAC for the purpose of coordinating safeguarding activities across all organisations that can offer support and assistance.

Between September 2022 and September 2023 Community Safety officers completed 19 Sanctuary assessments at the properties of our most high-risk victims. The security upgrades provided have allowed the tenants to remain safely in their homes.

Redditch Town Centre Environment Visual Audit

A sub-group of Safer Redditch has been set up to look specifically at issues in the within Redditch Town Centre. This multi-agency group has made recommendations for changes to the local environment that will help to reduce incidents of ASB within the town centre.

Recommendations have included changes to lighting, maintenance of tree and shrubs, review of different access points into the centre and work to provide more security to the area around the bandstand.



Proposed Town Centre PSPO

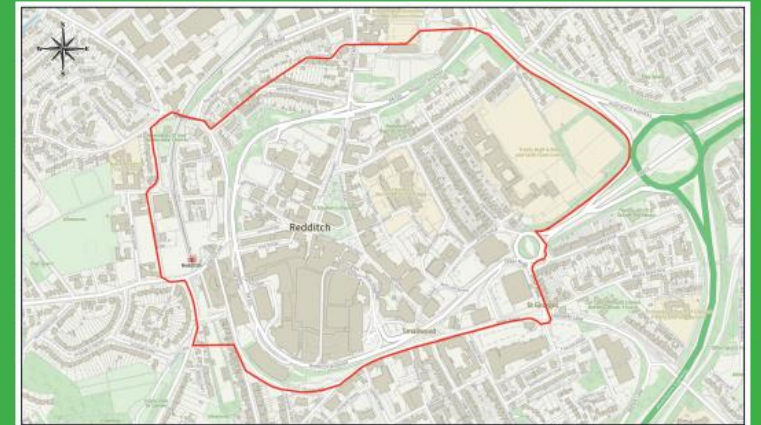
Another of the recommendations from the Town Centre sub-group is to propose implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Redditch Town Centre.

The aim of the PSPO is to stop problems like:

- Alcohol related ASB in open spaces
- Possession and use of Psychoactive Substances e.g., Nitrous Oxide
- Public urination, defecation and other offensive, indecent or threatening behaviour
- Abusive, obscene and threatening language

If agreed by the Council, the PSPO will allow officers to ask people to stop drinking alcohol in the restricted area and ask them to surrender their drink and all containers. Anyone using intoxicating psychoactive substances could have their items confiscated and anyone behaving in a threatening, abusive or offensive manner could be asked to leave the area for a set period of time. A breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence and if a person refuses to comply with a request, they can be issued a fixed penalty notice of up to £100 or they could be arrested. On conviction, the fine for breach of a PSPO is up to maximum of £1000.

Redditch Borough Council wants your views on a proposed **Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)** that would restrict alcohol related anti-social behaviour, stop misuse of intoxicating substances and prevent abusive and offensive behaviour in an area of the town centre marked in red on the map below.



View the proposals in full and have your say at www.redditchbc.gov.uk/TownCentrePSPO

Paper questionnaires are available at Redditch Town Hall and Redditch Library.

Closing date for comments: Midnight on Sunday 29th October, 2023.



If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs, on equalities@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk or 01527 548284.

Environmental Visual Audit Archer Road / Other Road

Following concerns raised by residents, the Community Safety Team carried out an initial Environmental Visual Audit of the area accompanied by the Ward Member, officers from West Mercia Police and RBC Planning dept. EVA is a process that looks for any environmental opportunities to reduce criminal activity.

As a result of this joint audit, RBC Environmental Service Team carried out landscaping work in the area to cut back overgrown hedges. Residents and the nearby High School also assisted with a general tidy up. Other improvements in the area included the setup of a resident's group, improvements to lighting and increased police patrols.



Operation Sceptre – Knife Crime Awareness Campaign 15th to 21st May 2023

‘Op Sceptre’ is a week-long national campaign aimed at tackling knife crime. During the week members of the public were encouraged to hand-in unwanted knives to prevent them from getting into the wrong hands and being used in crime. Knife Surrender bins were placed at key locations and the Community Safety Team supported Safer Neighbourhood Officers at key community events to raise awareness of the topic and encourage people to take the opportunity to surrender any knives causing concern.



NWCSP Funded Knife Arch



Date	Purpose
13/10/2022	Joint operation with SNT, BTP and West Midlands Safer Travel Team at Redditch Train Station to prevent people from using knives and to counteract cross border County Line drug activity.
16/12/2022	Operation Prescence - Knife Crime Operation. A local seasonal operation including Kingfisher Centre and areas of concern in Woodrow.
20/01/2023	Night-Time Economy deterrent activity outside Licensed Premises in the Town Centre
03/03/2023	Ongoing operation regarding knife crime prevention at various locations within the Town Centre
12/05/2023	Supporting national Operation Sceptre Knife Crime Awareness and Surrender campaign
06/07/2023	Joint operation with SNT, BTP and West Midlands Safer Travel Team at Redditch Train Station
26/07/2023	Joint operation with SNT, BTP and West Midlands Safer Travel Team at Redditch Train Station
11/10/2023	West Mercia Police County Lines Intensification Week at Redditch Train Station

MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

#ASBAwarenessweek



North Worcestershire
Community Safety Partnership

3rd to 9th July 2023



For this national week of focus on ASB, the Community Safety Team organised a programme of events incorporating a media campaign and community events that ran throughout the week. Community Safety Officers joined partners including the Police and Housing Providers to provide advice on measures to address ASB and discuss with residents their experiences and concerns about ASB locally.

Both an internal and external communications took place with articles on the Orb, in the local press and messages were shared daily via social media. These matched the daily themes suggested by the national organisers www.resolveuk.org.uk

Hate Crime Awareness Week 2023

This year's Hate Crime Awareness Conference took place on Thursday 19th October and was delivered in partnership with Victim Support and West Mercia Police with a focus on Disability. North Worcs. Hate Incident Partnership (NWHIP) was fortunate to have Lorraine Kelly open and close the event and Sir Lee Pearson shared his experiences of being a victim of hate crime via a pre-recorded video.

Throughout the day, multiple sessions were held with attendance from local schools and community groups that support residents who have a disability. The About Face Theatre group delivered a performance which engaged the audience, asking key questions about what they were seeing and what could have been done differently to prevent the incident of hate crime being enacted on stage.

NWHIP members also generated and shared relevant Hate Crime Awareness Week content via social media.



Annual White Ribbon Domestic Abuse Campaign 25th Nov to 10th Dec

The 2023 campaign is currently being planned and will again feature various community events and social media promotion, with the 16 Days of Action again being supported by our partners and the local press.

Last year, officers were able to move back to face-to-face delivery with the Community Safety team and partners hosting a publicity stand in Kingfisher Centre to support the campaign and promote the work of support services.

Alongside in-person promotion, the team also had a strong social media campaign, engaging with local sports teams and the full 16 Days of Action were supported by our partners and the local press.



White Ribbon UK



















Safe Places Scheme






The Safe Places Scheme gives 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 can give reassurance and help people contact appropriate support, as needed.

A full directory of the Safe Places in Redditch is available here: [Safe Places | Our Way Self Advocacy](#)

Directory of Safe Places 		
Redditch		
Coffee #1	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre B97 4HJ	
Age UK	85 Mason Road Headless Cross B97 5DQ	
Barclays Bank	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre B97 4HJ	
Connect	6 Evesham Walk B97 4EX	
Emmanuel Church	The Ecumenical Centre 6 Evesham Walk B97 4HJ	
Kingsfisher Reception	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre Walford House B97 4HJ	
Palace Theatre	Alcester Street B98 8AE	

Redditch Borough Council	Town Hall Walker Stanz Square	
Shopmobility	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre Kingsfisher Walk B97 4HJ	
St Stephen's Church	Church Green B97 4DY	
The Library	15 Market Place B98 8AR	
Where Next Hub	Unit 24 Millsborough House Ipsley Street B98 7AL	
Where Next Nurseries	Wellesbourne Close Easemore Road B98 8ER	
Wilkinson	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre B97 4HJ	
Batchley Support Group	21/21a Salters Lane Batchley B97 6JY	

Head of Wellbeing	9 George Walk B97 4HB	
Youth & Community Enterprise	The REDI Centre, South Street, B96 7DQ	
Nesta' Café	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre B97 4HJ	
Bono Tea Room	Kingsfisher Shopping Centre B97 4HJ	
British Heart Foundation	3 Market Place B98 8AA	
The Wetherspoons Pub	Unicorn Hill, B97 4QR	